

MWO DISTRICT BULLETIN

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MWO Governor

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Message from Governor Ken

Greetings Fellow Optimists,

I hope everyone has been enjoying this great string of summer weather. The BBQ's are getting a good workout!

Joan and I continue to visit clubs throughout our District. Please keep us informed of your upcoming interclub meetings and events. It makes us very proud to be an Optimist as we witness first hand the great work you are doing in your communities!

I can't believe we are already heading into the final quarter of our year! Where did the month of June go! As we move on to the final months of the "Encourage Youth – Secure Our Future" year I would like to encourage our members to continue to focus on growth. In order for our Organization to survive we must continue to bring new members and new clubs into our District. Many of our clubs are within one or two members of achieving honour status. I encourage you to support your Lieutenant Governor and help them boost the membership within your zone. Our District Team is here to help you achieve your club goals!

New club building is still focusing on clubs in St. Clements, Kincardine and Markdale. We also currently have a stake in Woodstock. Bringing Optimism into these communities will benefit their children and will support a stronger and healthier District.

Congratulations to the South Grey J.O.O.I. club for making the trip to Milwaukee for their International J.O.O.I. Convention. I know many of you worked hard fundraising and supporting your trip. I hope you had a great time and came home with some new friends and gathered more knowledge of the J.O.O.I. Organization. I would also like to thank your mentors and volunteers for making it possible.

I encourage our members to come out and enjoy some fun and fellowship at our District Convention in Owen Sound on August 17, 18 & 19th. Each of our clubs within the District has a seat on the Board of Directors. It is important to have your input when we are making decisions which will affect the future of our District. This year we will have an election to select a new Governor Elect...come on out and support your candidate!

During the past few months we have been saddened by the loss of some longtime and dedicated members in our Optimist Family. Please keep those families and friends in our thoughts and our prayers. These Optimists will be sadly missed in their communities and by their Optimist friends and family.

Joan and I look forward to seeing you at the District Convention in Owen Sound.

Have a safe and happy summer!!

Sincerely,

Ken Hayward

Governor 2011/2012

— Optimist International
Midwestern Ontario District

District Convention

Plan to attend our District Convention August 17-19 2012 at the Day's Inn in Owen Sound. The weekend will be filled with lots of fun, fellowship, and great training sessions.

Please get your registration forms into Optimist Anne Van Niekerk as soon as possible.

Hope to see everyone in Owen Sound for a great Optimist weekend.

**Ann Tosheff
Convention Chair**



Information this Editor Learned from Recent Club Newsletters

The Optimist Clubs of Mitchell, Stratford and Mornington all report successful Bike Rodeos.

At St. Jacob's Home Hardware Car Show the St. Jacob's Optimist Club raised over \$800 and collected 161 bears for Grand River Hospital.

The Kitchener – Waterloo Optimists have a “Moparfest” scheduled for August 18 & 19. Do you know what this is?

London-Fanshawe staged its 27th annual Fireworks on May 21.

The Mornington Optimists have achieved the Midwestern Ontario District, Highest Lifetime Donation to the Optimist International Foundation [Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation] totaling \$38,954.50.

What news does your Club have to share with us?

On the Lighter Side

A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing , the birds are singing and the lawn mower is broken.

You're Drinking too much coffee when: 1. You speed walk in your sleep 2. You answer the door before people knock 3. Your eyes stay open when you sneeze.

Candidates for Governor-Elect 2013-2014

Dear fellow Optimists,

I am delighted to tell you that we have two dedicated and qualified candidates for the position of Governor-Elect.

I hope that you will find the time to connect with both of our candidates, before the election at our annual convention, August 17 to August 19 2012.

Both Karen Scott and Eric Thomson have an extensive volunteer background, as well as a true passion for 'Bringing out the Best in Kids'.

Please reach out and invite them to an upcoming event or meeting, get to know them and let them get to know you.

Contact our Candidates:

Optimist Karen Scott from the Optimist Club of Lucan ~ phone: 519-227-1443 or email:teddywalterpan@sympatico.ca

Optimist Eric Thomson from the Optimist Club of Byron ~ phone: 519-657-9700 or email: eric.thomson@bell.net

Yours in Optimism,

Catherine Herdman,
Immediate Past Governor, Candidates Qualifications and OI Convention
Ambassador

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Catherine Herdman

Phone: 519.642.1879

Email: optimistcatherine@gmail.com



When you read this, you will never think of thunderstorms the same way again.

This will make you smile! Received from Greg & Helma Luyten

A Child's View of Thunderstorms

A little girl walked to and from school daily. Though the weather that morning was questionable and clouds were forming, she made her daily trek to school. As the afternoon progressed, the winds whipped up, along with lightning.

The mother of the little girl felt concerned that her daughter would be frightened as she walked home from school. She also feared the electrical storm might harm her child. Full of concern, the mother got into her car and quickly drove along the route to her child's school. As she did, she saw her little girl walking along.

At each flash of lightning, the child would stop, look up, and smile. More lightning followed quickly and with each, the little girl would look at the streak of light and smile

When the mother drew up beside the child, she lowered the window and called, "What are you doing?"

The child answered, "I am trying to look pretty because God keeps taking my picture."

May God bless you today and every day as you face the storms that come your way!

Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation

We are now in the last quarter of our Optimist year "ENCOURAGE YOUTH, SECURE OUR FUTURE"

It is that time of year when we ask the clubs and members to look at their donations to the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation and ask to help in their support, by matching or exceeding previous years donations. The scholarships and support the Foundation gives to the kids continues this year as strong as in the past.

To those clubs and Optimist members that have already made their donation, thank you very much for your generous contribution to our Foundation. **Consider your donation as an investment in our Canadian children.**

Our Golf tournament on June 9th. brought us plenty of rain, but we survived it. We only has 24 golfers out, but we were able to raise \$3,181.00. **GREAT WORK!** Thank you to the golfers and sponsors.

PLEASE remember that the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation is our own Charity and your annual donation is appreciated to help run the programs that the Foundation proudly supports.

YIO,
Past Gov. Sharon Ball,
District Foundation Representative



From a letter sent to Lt. Governor Keith North , Zone 6

I believe that I have talked to you about the gold ribbon Campaign (GRC) previously, and you may have read the article that I wrote in the summer OI magazine. I understand that there are a number of families in your area who would love to go to Toronto for this year's Light Up the CN Tower in Gold event, to be held on Saturday, September 15. The Badder Bus Co. could send a bus to Owen Sound to pick up families there and there would no doubt be room for some Optimists to come too. I was able to go last year and it was a wonderful event.

<http://youtu.be/gVYCMjB5aQ> is the link to a video on last year's event (only 4 minutes and well worth watching!) and the attached letter is from Stephanie's sister which further explains the request. The cost for the bus is approx. \$1000 and I am asking you to forward this email to your clubs to see if they would consider helping to fund a bus from Owen Sound. If any club would be willing to sponsor or contribute toward sponsoring a bus, I would ask that they contact me by phone or email so I can give them further info re where to send the cheque

Yours in Optimism,

Jackie CCC District Chair 519 680 7182

PS: I am pleased that Stephanie and her family will be speaking at our Saturday Fellowship breakfast at the Convention. Hope you can be there.

May 30, 2012

Dear Community Member,

I am writing on behalf of the Gold Ribbon Campaign (GRC), and I thank you for taking a minute to read this request.

First I would like to tell you a bit about the GRC. It was created in 2004 when my little sister, Stephanie, was diagnosed with a brain tumour at the age of nine. Since then; Steph has had three brain tumour resections, seven VP shunts, and thirty doses of cranial radiation, twenty-four months of chemotherapy, and countless other pokes, transfusions, and procedures that have left her with many side effects.

This experience really opened our eyes to how little childhood cancer is recognized in our country. This disease kills more children than AIDS, diabetes, cystic fibrosis, and asthma combined. With 10,000 kids fighting daily in Canada, we decided that they needed a voice, and so the Gold Ribbon Campaign was born.

Last year on September 15, we held our first annual Day of Action and Awareness for Childhood Cancer in Toronto. After many emails, we were successful in getting the CN Tower to light up in Gold in honour of all the childhood cancer victims and their families in our country. There was also a massive block party, BBQ, singing, dancing, a wall of heroes and many other organizations in the paediatric oncology world present.

Last year we had four coach buses sponsored to transport patients, their families, nurses and other staff, media and friends from Victoria Hospital to HTO Park in Toronto where the festivities took place. We are aiming to get the buses sponsored again this year in hope that we can ensure everyone can make it to the event. We are very grateful to Badder Bus Lines for giving us the price of \$1017.00 per bus which leaves them with no profit, and we would be even more grateful if you could assist us by sponsoring a bus, or half of a bus.

Thank you for your time, we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely, Pie Simmons

www.goldribbcampaign.com p-simmons@hotmail.com

Optimist Projects to Support:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Childhood Cancer Campaign | 2. District Convention |
| 3. New Club Building | 4. Membership Increases |
| 5. President's Pride | 6. Scrapbook Competition |
| 7. CPA Book | 8. P. G. I. |

Childhood Cancer Campaign

Hello fellow Optimists and thank you to all that you do to assist families and children with cancer. Recently a number of London clubs were able to step up and help to fund an experimental drug therapy program for a wee three year old with an inoperable tumour.

The CCC funds are held in trust by the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation. In December the CCOF proposed that the funds be set into an endowment. A motion at the International Board meeting directed the Canadian Foundation to establish an endowment and work to grow the funds to \$1 000 000. This will provide perpetual funding for the Canadian Childhood Cancer Campaign.

Several clubs in our District have received matching grants for very worthwhile projects. Please note that in January 2012 the Board of Directors of Optimist International moved that matching grants were to be the first priority for the CCC funds up to **\$1 000** per grant. *This is a change from the existing ceiling and will be effective with all new applications.* The application form for matching grants can be found on the OI website.

I am very pleased to announce that **Stephanie Simmons** and her family will be attending the Opening Ceremonies at our District Convention and a family member will speak at the Saturday morning Fellowship Breakfast. Be sure to reserve your breakfast tickets to hear the story of Stephanie and the Gold Ribbon Campaign. (Please see Pg. 9 of the Summer edition of the OI magazine for more information.)

Please contact me at jackie.kinder@rogers.com or at 519 680 7182 and let me know how I can help you with your club's Cancer Campaign fundraising.



*There's no thrill in easy sailing
When the sky is clear and blue.
There's no joy in merely doing
Things which anyone can do.
But there's a real fulfillment
that is mighty sweet to take
When you reach a destination
That you thought you might not make.*

Optimist Websites:
Midwestern Ontario District: www.optimismwo.on.ca

Optimist International: www.optimist.org

Optimist Leaders: www.optimistleaders.org.



Optimist International
President: Jack Creswell
1st Lady: Sue Creswell

Optimist International
Vice President: Dwight
Phillips
Lady: Marlene Phillips

MWO Governor: Ken
Hayward and 1st Lady Joan



Optimist International at a glance

Membership: 93,029*

Total Clubs: 3,233*

Founded: June 19, 1919

* As of April 15, 2012: figure includes JOOI Clubs

Dates to remember:

Aug. 3 Deadline to submit "Memorial Service Information" form to District Secretary/Treasurer Past Governor Gerry Savage

Aug. 17—19 District Convention Days Inn, Owen Sound

Sept. 30 Deadline to submit President's Pride Report

Sept. 30 Deadline to submit C.P.A. Book

Sept. 30 Celebration of 2001-2012 "Encourage Youth...Secure Our Future" year

The Optimist Creed

Promise Yourself –

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

To let all your friends know that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and let your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and to press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

Optimist International