



# Central Ontario District



## Message from Governor Paul Thomson

Hi all

I hope everyone had a happy and safe new year. Sheril and I were off to the governor's conference in Myrtle Beach in January, where we spent time meeting and networking with fellow governors. During the conference I was proud to report that the Central Ontario District was plus in membership.

Hats off to the following Optimist clubs who were the leaders in membership during the first quarter: Grantham St. Catharines, Ancaster, Stoney Creek, Milton, Puslinch, Scarborough, Aurora, Keswick, Georgetown, Douro and District, Kemptville and Nepean. Due to your outstanding commitment to growth the district finished the first quarter with a plus in growth and a plus 6 by January 31st.

It has been a long cold winter, but spring is just around the corner, so don't let the winter blahs get you down. I look forward to meeting as many Optimists as possible at our upcoming District Conference February 20-21 at the Holiday Inn, Markham, where Past Governor Brian Wick will be presenting his awards and recognition for last year. If you have not already done so please pre-register. It is important for our ongoing updates with the hotel for meals, etc.

Governor Paul



## Reports from Committee Chairs

### Junior Golf Program

District Chair Dennis Kwasnicki advises that the District Qualifying Tournament will once again be at Caledon Country Club. Sponsorship of a young player is \$75.00 each. In addition Dennis will need funding, so he is asking for your financial support. Each Club that donates \$200.00 or more will receive an exclusive Hole Sponsorship. Contact Dennis at [kwas@rogers.com](mailto:kwas@rogers.com). Cheques should be made payable to Dennis Kwasnicki for Junior Golf.

### C.C.C.D.H. (Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing)

District Co-Chairs Jim Dallimore and Gray Cunningham need your financial support. You can donate to the O.I. Foundation and designate for C.C.C.D.H. scholarships or send cheques to CENON to help alleviate some of the expenses. Contact either Jim or Gray respectively at [texashoustonjim@yahoo.ca](mailto:texashoustonjim@yahoo.ca) or [gcunning@kingston.net](mailto:gcunning@kingston.net).

### Oratorical

Chair Linda Mitchinson wishes to remind everyone that the District final will be at the third quarter board meeting on Saturday May 23<sup>rd</sup> in Kingston. Contest will be in the morning and winner announced at the luncheon. Time to start arranging your Club contests. Contact Linda at [lmitchinson@quickclik.net](mailto:lmitchinson@quickclik.net) if you need some information.

### Essay

The essay contest is a very easy program to conduct. Not a lot of expense or manpower needed. Essay chair Kelly Martin will be accepting one winner from each club, but the essay must be in her hands by February 28<sup>th</sup>. Contact Kelly at [kelly03@rogers.com](mailto:kelly03@rogers.com) for any information.

### JOOI & College Clubs

District Chair Susan Montgomery was telling me how excited she was looking forward to taking on this project. Obviously, the younger ones are the future of Optimism. Still lots of time this year. Contact Susan at [suemontgomery@live.ca](mailto:suemontgomery@live.ca) for any information.

### Candidates Qualifications

Chair Brian Wick advises that one person has thrown their hat into the ring to stand for Governor Elect 2009/2010. From what I understand, the candidate is an outstanding individual and the pillar of the community.



## Reports from Committee Chairs

### Website

Congratulations to Past Governor and Webmaster Brian Wick who has kept this website going for the last few months. Log on to [www.cenon.org](http://www.cenon.org) and check it out. **Note: .org, not .ca** (the old site). Contact Brian and broadcast any upcoming Club events.

### Bulletin

Keep those bulletins coming. Email to [jimlynge@rogers.com](mailto:jimlynge@rogers.com) or mail to me at 19 Shieldmark Cr., Thornhill, Ont L3T 3T6. The submissions already received are very impressive, but I would like to see more. They will be judged by year end by Susan and I and one other (any volunteers)? We will show no favouritism. But it should be noted that we enjoy fine wine.

## Central Ontario 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter District Conference February 20-21, 2009

Holiday Inn & Suites, 7095 Woodbine Ave, Markham, On, L3R 1A3

For Reservations contact Reservations Coordinator at ~ 1-905-474-0444 or 1-800-387-3303 or [www.holidayinn.com/yyz-markham.com](http://www.holidayinn.com/yyz-markham.com)

Executive Class ~ \$119.00 + taxes per night.

Please indicate **Optimists, Central Ontario District of Optimist International** when booking rooms.

## Future District Conferences and Convention

May 22-23, 2009 at Ambassador Hotel, 1550 Princess St., Kingston

Governor Paul has established the Community Service Project for the 2nd Quarter District Conference. It will be an Easter Food Drive to help those in need. Please assist Governor Paul by bringing your donations to the meeting. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

August 14-15, 2009 at Best Western Orangeville Inn, 7 Buena Vista Drive, Orangeville



### Jimbo's Jottings.....

If 7 out of 10 people suffer from hemorrhoids, does that mean the other 3 enjoy it?

If you think nobody cares, try missing a couple of payments.

How many of you believe in psycho-kinesis? Raise my hand.

How much deeper would the ocean be without sponges?

What happens when you get scared half to death twice?

Inside every older person is a younger person wondering, "What the heck happened?"

Why do people go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?

42.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.

Change is inevitable, except from vending machines.

Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.

I have the perfect body! But it's in the trunk and it's starting to smell.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Optimist International has extended the special Spouse Membership plan. If spouses of existing members wish to join, they can become Optimist members at a discounted rate. International quarterly dues will be reduced by half for the billing dates of April 1 and July 1, 2009. Those members added after July 1 to September 30, 2009, will only get the 1st quarter dues half off. In addition, the processing fee will be waived.

A special application form is available on the Forms page of the Optimist International website [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org). This does not apply to charter clubs.

Did you know that "Hail to Optimism" that is "chanted" at some Club meetings is strictly a Canadian thing? As far as I know it is not used in the States. A fellow member and I found that out in an International Convention workshop a couple of years ago. If I recall, we received an ovation after it was sung. I would love to find the origin. Perhaps Mac can get on that!!

## 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 make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make 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 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.

## HAIL TO OPTIMISM

Hail to Optimism

Inspiration Blessed

Spreading smiles and gladness over all the rest

Rally 'round our standard

It shall sure prevail

Optimism on forever

Hail, Hail, Hail