



Central Ontario District

Summer Message from Governor Paul Thomson



Sheril and I just returned from the Florida convention where once again we met with Optimists from several countries we serve and were amazed by the enthusiasm present despite the economic meltdown we find ourselves in.

We are currently no 6 in all of O.I. and I believe we can reach number 1 with a commitment from all our clubs. We are still active in our effort to build a club in Shelburne as is the building project in Brock University with the help of Southwest District Governor Doug Kinchen and his team. I believe that in these troubled times the youth we serve need us more than ever and our purpose becomes more important. Please take advantage of the incentives provided by O.I. and by our own district and increase our membership insuring our organization's survival. Remember for every member 31 kids are served in our community.

O.I. voted for a dues increase at this convention which will hurt many clubs but was made necessary as was explained by the finance committee and no doubt will be explained in detail in the O.I. magazine. Without this increase our future was in jeopardy because of rulings made in the U.S. regarding pension funding in which we here in Canada bear partial responsibility. The employees of O.I. work for us too and there is no more cutting to be done without losing service projects, including the Montreal office which serves as our Canadian service centre.



I am confident we will survive this crisis and our youth will continue to be served by enthusiastic clubs throughout this great district. One of my goals as Governor was to leave this district in as good or better shape than I found it and I am confident that with your help and support this will be accomplished by Oct 1st.

I am pleased that we have Governors in waiting. This has not been the case in years gone by. I still believe we are the best service organization this country has to offer and I encourage you to “Just Ask” your friends and family to share our enthusiasm for our youth. They are our future and the hope for the survival of our organization.

Many of our clubs are celebrating milestone anniversaries this year and we wish them all our best for the future and thank them for their service in the past. My own club of Keswick reaches 60 years, Hamilton Inc 85 years, Oakville 60 years and Windsor in Southwest District 75 years, which proves Optimism is alive and well throughout Ontario and in many countries around the world as was evidenced at the convention in Orlando.

Next year we will meet in Denver, Colorado and I look forward to it as this is one State my travels have not taken me into and there are many friends there I have yet to meet. Thanks for your support this year and let’s give a huge push to the finish line and be number 1 in Oct 1st. This district deserves it and it will give Tom A HUGE burst for next year.

Welcome one and all to our 30th convention and hoedown in beautiful downtown Orangeville. It’s sort of déjà vu for me as I was on the Junior Farmers committee in 1963 for the Orangeville Centennial a mere 46 years ago. We have an exciting agenda planned for this week end and I believe there is something for everyone to involve and enjoy. I am proud of our accomplishments this year and look forward to meeting Tom’s team for next year, but we still have three months to go and much to accomplish.

We are proud to welcome O.I. rep Sam Keiffer and Mary to our district from Pueblo, Colorado, surely a western state, adding to our theme of a Wild West family hoedown. I look forward to greeting as many optimists as possible during that weekend as that will be my first weekend as an official senior citizen and can officially go on the government payroll. Yee Haw!

Governor Paul



Reports from Committee Chairs

Junior Golf Program

The District Qualifying Tournament was held on June 22nd at Caledon Country Club. As usual, this event was a huge success mostly in part by the hard work of Past Governor Dennis Kwasnicki. A huge thank you to those clubs who contributed sponsoring the young golfers....and also to those who contributed financially with hole sponsorships.

Oratorical

At the Third Quarter Conference in May, many of you were able to witness seven young contestants from across our District compete in the finals. The following were our top three:

1st Place: Anikha Palissery...representing the Etobicoke Club

2nd Place: Ivreet Kaler...representing the Bolton Club

3rd Place: Bradley Veit...representing the Puslinch Club

All three have earned scholarships from the O.I. Foundation....\$1,500.00, \$1,000.00 and \$500.00 respectively.

Congrats to Oratorical Chair Linda Mitchinson for a fine job. I heard the comment `I`m glad I wasn`t a judge `` so many times that morning.

Candidates Qualifications

Chair Brian Wick advises still that only one outstanding one person has thrown their hat into the ring to stand for Governor Elect 2009/2010.

Website

A reminder from Webmaster Brian Wick (as mentioned in the last bulletin) who advises that a new administration page has been added with a copy of the District policies and expense claim forms. These are provided for the members of Central Ontario District as a convenience and shouldn't be used by any others or for any other purpose. Link to the page on the left under the title Resources. Log on to www.cenon.org

Bulletin

Keep those bulletins coming. Email to jimlynge@rogers.com or mail to me at 19 Shieldmark Cr., Thornhill, Ont L3T 3T6. I still need one volunteer to help with judging. NOTE: As mentioned at the last quarter board, it is imperative that the name of the bulletin editor is shown on the bulletin.



Convention

4th Quarter District Convention - Wild West Family Hoedown

To be held at Best Western Orangeville Inn & Suites, Orangeville, ON – August 14-16, 2009

Get ready for a great ride with your fellow Optimists as we take over the Best Western in Orangeville for a rompin' good time. The weekend includes Wine & Cheese Reception, Old Timer's Breakfast, Educational Seminars, Election of next year's Board and a special Theme Buffet dinner.

Note: The deadline for the reduced rate has been extended to July 31st. Please log on to the website www.cenon.org. Do it now!

Gift Basket Auction: Clubs and/or members are invited to participate in a silent auction hosted by the convention committee (Optimist Clubs of Zone 6). Baskets of any shape, size or theme are accepted and will be on display throughout the convention. Proceeds will be used to offset the cost of the convention.



From the Barrie Club

Newly retired Past Governor George Clarke (welcome to my world, George) has asked me to include the following:

The Barrie Soccer Club and the Barrie Optimist Club are proud to present our...
4th Annual "Give to Our Youth" Golf Tournament
Saturday, September 12, 2009
Orr Lake Golf Club

General Information:

- ~ 1:00pm Shotgun Start
- ~ Scramble Format
- ~ Orr Lake Golf Club

- ~ Dinner and Awards to follow
- ~ Cost: \$100/golfer
- ~ Includes green fees, cart, dinner, welcome gift bag

Sponsorship Information:

We are also looking for sponsors...welcome bag items; hole sponsors; silent auction items; passport prizes, etc.

Limited space available, so don't delay!!!!

Remember this tournament is used as a fundraiser for the Barrie Optimist Club to cover the cost of programs that we provide for the youth of our community.

From the Oakville Club

28th Anniversary SHRIMP FEST

Date: Friday, September 25th, 2009

Place: Le Dome Banquet Hall,
1173 North Service Road East, Oakville
Cocktails: 6:30 p.m.; Dinner: 7:30 p.m.

All you can eat Shrimp Dinner
(or roast beef alternate)

Silent Auction, Door Prizes & Raffle Draw

Dance to the music of "Freedom Train"

Tickets: \$50.00 per person

Take a table for 10 by September 1st,
and receive a \$30 wine voucher

Support the youth work of the Optimist Club of Oakville in our
community, including the Halton Police Children's Safety Village.

For tickets call Carilyn 905-827-1828 or visit our website

Optimist Club of Oshawa

The Oshawa Club of Oshawa is conducting an auto raffle fundraiser in support of their annual Christmas Food Hampers and Children's Toys. The vehicle is a 2009 G.M.Vibe filled with groceries. They hope this raffle will replace the revenue from their lost bingo.

Cost is a onetime special of \$100.00 specially discounted ticket (normally \$125.00) for CENON Clubs and members. Send your cheques payable to the Optimist Club of Oshawa, 500 Rossland Road West, Box 58031, Oshawa, ON, L1J 3H1. Tickets and receipts will be sent via return mail.

NEW SLATE OF OFFICERS

Hopefully all your clubs have your new slate of officers for the 2009/2010 year. Just a reminder that your report should have been in by May 20th. You can reports via www.optimistleaders.org website...or let Gov Elect Tom or Secty Treas Elect Ian Carter know ASAP. Or reply to me and I will pass on the information.

Governor Elect Tom has mentioned that there are two remaining Committee Chair positions still vacant. One is Childhood Cancer, the other is a new Optimist Program concerning Internet Safety. This is a new "thrust" from O.I. and it is hoped that at the convention there can be a workshop on this importnat new program. Hopefully a chairperson will be in place by that time.

Road to Honour Club in the year of "High Five"

All clubs are challenged to achieve Honour status by following the rule of five (5).

- Membership: Members net +5 (over Oct 1/08 roster)
- Finances: to Optimist International by September 30, 2009
- Complete three service projects
- Submit at least one CPA entry
- Submit Officer-Elect Report by May 20, 2009
- Submit President's Pride report by September 30, 2009
- Club President or Board Member attends 50% of District Meetings (i.e. 2)

Jimbo's Jottings.....

In the hope that our members can obtain a healthy lifestyle, the following tidbits are being offered in place of the usual inane comments:

1. Walking can add minutes to your life. This enables you at 85 years old to spend an additional 5 months in a nursing home at \$7,000 per month.
2. My uncle started walking five miles a day when he was 60. Now he's 97 years old and we don't know where he is.
3. I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me.
4. I have to walk early in the morning, before my brain figures out what I'm doing.
5. I joined a health club last year, spent about 400 bucks. Haven't lost a pound. Apparently you have to go there.
6. Every time I hear the dirty word 'exercise', I wash my mouth out with chocolate.
7. I do have flabby thighs, but fortunately my stomach covers them.
8. The advantage of exercising every day is so when you die, they'll say, 'Well, he looks good doesn't he.'
9. If you are going to try cross-country skiing, start with a small country.
10. I know I got a lot of exercise the last few years,..... just getting over the hill.
11. We all get heavier as we get older, because there's a lot more information in our heads. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.
12. Every time I start thinking too much about how I look, I just find a Happy Hour and by the time I leave, I look just fine.

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