



Central Ontario District

Message From Governor Anne Donkers



A warm welcome to all Central Ontario Optimists...

Welcome to a new year, and welcome to our presidents. Without you our clubs would have no direction, no goals would be met and no children would be served. You are key to our organization.

We have just finished five training sessions for the presidents, secretaries and treasurers across our district. A lot of good information was shared. It is always great to see the wonderful things that the clubs are doing and share them with other clubs. We all learn. I thank you all for participating and adding your knowledge and expertise to the discussions. You are our leaders.

We have a wonderful team put together this year, all strong optimists with loads of experience just waiting to work with you. Their info will be in the directory which will be available at our first quarter board. I really hope that you make an extra effort to come to the board meeting this year. They have been spread across the district to make it possible for everyone to get to at least one. We have a great line up of training sessions and workshops. A few new things added and some tried and true things that we must keep.

The community service project for the first quarter will be toys for the St.Catharines Police Force annual toy drive. So please encourage everyone to bring new toys so that no child goes without this Christmas. Remember we are in it for the children, but let's have fun while doing this project. A scale will be on hand for the weighing of our donations, with a thermometer to show our generosity. So here is the challenge, which club will bring in the most toys???

Also at the first quarter we will be wearing hats! We already wear many different hats in everything that we do, but here I want you to wear your craziest, most elegant, tallest, smallest, most ingenious, best theme representation, whatever hat you want. Just wear a hat. There will be prizes for the best hat in the above categories. Our Vice President Dwight Phillips and his wife Marlene will be joining us and I know he has his hat ready.



Sowing the seeds





Speaking of themes... my theme for the year is sunflowers! My logo is a sunflower with a little boy on one side and a little girl on the other. My slogan is "sowing the seeds for the growth of tomorrow". We are the sunflowers and those little boys and girls need us, so let's help them grow.

A new feature added this year is "**good morning Optimists**". This will take place at 8:30 on Saturday morning. I promise it will be a fun and informative way to start your day. I trust you all will be there! This is where the "HIP" award will be announced. What is that, you say?? You have to be there to find out! You won't want to miss it.

Our Convention this year will be in Ottawa. A vibrant city with lots to do and see, a great place to visit for more than just a few days. So plan a holiday out of it and bring the family to Ottawa in August 17, 18,19,2012 for the CENON Convention. We're planning a great time for all.

I look forward to meeting with each and every one of you. Please feel free to call me or e-mail with good or not so good info. I will do my best to get in touch with you just to chat or help solve any issues that may arise.

Let's have a great year. Read the creed, live by the creed and we will do what is best for the children, our communities and those we hold dear.

Please share this letter with all your club members. Remember the quarter boards are for everyone, I hope to see you there.

Anne Donkers
Governor
CENON 2011-2012



Jack Creswell
International President 2011-2012

My fellow Optimist,

This is the year “it” is finally going to happen! So what is “it,” you are asking?

My reply is quite simple. GROWTH! That is what we are and must be all about for the foreseeable future. For far too long now, we have suffered under the burden of negative growth. Shrinking numbers mean financial problems, fewer projects and, finally, less service for our young people. Not a pretty picture.

These are certainly not any of the reasons you or I joined this great organization!

The groups of leaders and Members who have come together this year have rededicated themselves to making us grow! No longer will you hear, “We can’t,” but rather, “What can I do to make ‘it’ happen?”

Now that you know and understand just what your job is (growth), we need to tell you where your resources and support are going to be coming from.

Our staff in St. Louis and Montreal stands ready to guide and direct you. Our website is just filled with information for your use. Also, never forget to call upon the current or, for that matter, the past leaders of our organization. All stand ready to serve.

Our theme this year, “100% and then some,” really says it quite nicely. It is, after all, that little bit of extra effort that will make all the difference.

“And then some” will make this the year others will talk about for years to come.

I ask of you most sincerely step forward today so that tomorrow there will be an Optimist to hear a child’s call for help.

100% and then some ...



International Recognition Program



A. Club Recognition:

1. "Bringing Out the Best" Club

(banner patch then year bar thereafter)

Sponsor at least two service projects a year

Add at least one member

Be current on District and OI dues

Recognize Club member or local community individual

2. Honour Club

(banner patch, year bar with Club President's name and year and a \$100 credit on the next dues billing - as soon as administratively possible after the end of the fiscal year; thereafter a year bar with Club President's name plus the cash award)

Sponsor at least three service projects a year

Recognize a Club or community member

Grow Club by net plus 1

Be current on District and OI dues

3. Distinguished Club

(watch for club President and secretary and/or treasurer, a banner patch with the Club President's name, and a \$250 credit on the next dues billing - as soon as administratively possible after the end of the fiscal year; thereafter a year bar with club President's name plus the cash award and watch)

Meet Honour Club Criteria plus:

Net of 15 OR Charter a New Club



B. District Recognition:

1. Distinguished Lt. Governor:

(Desk clock)

All Clubs in zone are honour clubs OR

Net plus one in membership and charter one new Club

2. Distinguished Governor:

(Governor's Ring plus a District banner patch with the Governor's name and year)

Grow District by net plus 1 in membership

District to build at least one new Club

All Clubs are current on District and OI dues (all financial obligations paid by September 30)

All reports filed with Optimist International in a timely manner

3. Distinguished District Secretary Treasurer:

("Bringing Out The Best In Kids" logo folder with ink pen)

CENTRAL ONTARIO
1st QUARTER DISTRICT CONFERENCE
November 18/19, 2011

Holiday Inn St. Catharines
327 Ontario Street
St. Catharines, ON L2R 5L3
Tel. 905-688-2324
Tel : 1-877-688-2324

Full agenda posted on our website www.cenon.org

FUTURE DISTRICT CONFERENCES AND CONVENTION

SECOND QUARTER

February 17-18, 2012
Markham Holiday Inn
7095 Woodbine Avenue
Markham, ON L3R 1A3
Tel. 905-474-0366

THIRD QUARTER

May 4-5, 2012
Holiday Inn Waterfront
150 George Street
Peterborough, ON K9J 3G5
Tel. 705-743-1144

FOURTH QUARTER & DISTRICT CONVENTION

August 17-18-19, 2012
Lord Elgin Hotel
100 Elgin Street
Ottawa, ON K1P 5K8
Tel. 613-235-3333
Tel: 1-800-267-4298

Message from Past Governor Jim Lynge

I am pleased to advise that the following clubs have attained Honour Club status for 2010-2011. Recognition will be given at the 2nd Quarter Conference.

Zone 1	Niagara Falls
	Port Colborne
	Garden City
Zone 2	Hamilton
	Hamilton East
Zone 3	Burlington
	Greensville
	Oakville
	Strabane
Zone 4	Rouge Valley
	West Toronto
Zone 5	Aurora
	Newmarket
Zone 6	Caledon
Zone 8	Brooklin
	Oshawa
	Uxbridge
	Whitby
Zone 10	Cornwall

WELL DONE ALL!

Message from Essay Chair Terry Twocock

This year's topic is: "How my Positive Outlook Benefits my Community". The contest is open to youth under the age of 18 as of December 31, 2011 and those who have not yet graduated from high school or the equivalent. All essays are due by February 29, 2012.

Please contact Terry at 905-935-5724 or email at telyka@sympatico.ca

Message from Oratorical Chair Gus Amodeo

This year's topic is: "How my Optimism Helps Me Overcome Obstacles". The contest is open to youth under the age of 18 as of December 31, 2011

Please contact Gus at 416-620-9658 or email at tva24@yahoo.com

Message from Bulletin Editors

Please send your club bulletins via mail to susanlynge@rogers.com or mail to 19 Shieldmark Cres, Thornhill, ON, L3T 3T6. There will be awards for the top three bulletins after the end of the fiscal year.

Also, if you have items of note, or projects, that you wish to be published, please forward to us.

Jim and Susan Lynge

District Chairs for 2011-2012

The following are the new chairs. We encourage you to seek them out for any guidance.

Secretary Treasurer	Susan Lynge
O.I. Foundation	Brian Wick and Mary Cooper
Gov Assistant	Terry Twocock
Activities/Recognition	Lauralee Reily
Candidates Qualifications	Jim Lynge
C.C.C.	Ted Simmonds
CCDHH	Jim Dallimore
Club Services	Gord Holly
C.O.L.S.	Janet Lewis
Conferences	Sheril Thomson
Essay	Terry Twocock
Finance	Paul Thomson
Growth	Don McConnell and Committee
Historian	Mac McDonald
Internet Safety	Susan Montgomery
JOOI	
Junior Golf	Dennis Kwasnicki
Leadership Development	Denise Nacev
Oratorical	Gus Amodeo
Parliamentarian	Alex Ansell
Sgt at Arms	Floyd Smelser
Webmaster	Brian Wick
O.I. Convention and Ambassador	Linda Mitchinson
Hospitality	Jody Caperchione and Marijke Coffa
Bulletin	Jim and Susan Lynge
Governor Elect	Gord Holly

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