



OPTIMIST CLUB OF ILBERTON NEWSLETTER

PROVIDING HOPE AND POSITIVE VISION
OPTIMISTS BRING OUT THE BEST IN KIDS !



January 2010

JANUARY DINNER MEETING:

January 27th
Ilderton Community Centre
6:30pm - Social
7:00pm - dinner
7:45pm - meeting and discussion

Please let Mary Dalglish know
whether you plan to attend or not.

e-mail: m.dalglish@sympatico.ca
phone: 519-666-1318

If you know someone who is interested in the club and possibly becoming a member, invite them to the dinner meeting as a guest. The club will cover the cost. Just let Alberta Wood (awood@mun.ca) or Denise Everett (denise.everett@sympatico.ca) know that you will be bringing a guest.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year and Greetings from New Zealand! We had hoped to find an Optimist Club here in Wellington, but there do not seem to be any, though there are other service clubs. Will have to talk Optimism up and maybe a Club will be organized! While we are not exactly in the tropics, it has been warmer than in Ilderton. We have explored the city and vicinity by driving and walking to see the many hills and numerous picturesque houses. By the time that you read this we will be travelling the South Island to view fjords, glaciers, beaches, wineries, gold mines, etc. We send our best wishes for a grand Optimist Year and will look forward to resuming participation at the end of March.

NOVEMBER DINNER MEETING REPORT:



Our Guest and member Dr David Colby gave a talk on the H1N1, for those of you who missed it, we had a quick lesson in the chemistry of the body and the flu with words such as Hemagglutinin, N-acetylneuraminic acid – a2,6 galactose. We visited flu strains of the last century, and the recent pandemics including H1N1, Swine and Avian flues. The talk was very informative and entertaining, thank-you David.

The 50/50 Draw of \$43 was won by Paul Massé.

Marlene was presented with a cake in recognition of 3 years as President.



It was reported that approximately \$1200 was raised from the frozen food fund-raiser.

A motion was passed to use the Komoka Optimist Club's BBQ catering trailer at events, money raised initially will go to the Ilderton splash pad. Our first event will be Good Friday, training and information will be provided shortly.

Induction of new members.

We welcome Betsy Holbert and Sabrina Lawton who were inducted by Alberta with their sponsors Laurie Thornton and Nancy Hanlon



FORTHCOMING EVENTS (Mark your calendars!):

January 2010


27 th 10:30am	Oxbow School citizenship ceremony
27 th 6:30pm	Monthly dinner meeting, Ilderton Community Center

February 2010

2 nd 6:30pm	Zone Meeting – Port Franks Community Centre
5/6 th	Quaterboard Meeting – Oaks Inn, Wallaceburg
19 th	Bingo
24 th 6:30pm	Monthly Dinner Meeting, Ilderton Community Centre
End of February –	Spelling Bee – date to be confirmed

BINGO DATES:

Bingo is our biggest fund-raiser allowing us to run many of our events, please sign up for a fun-filled evening; whilst raising money to help the kids.

Monday January 18th	Friday February 19 th Sunday March 28 th Tuesday April 20th	
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Sign up at the dinner meeting or contact Brad or Michele Polley (mpolley@execulink.com or 666-2467) to volunteer to help with the Bingo games.

Meetings: If you wish to attend any of the meetings below, please let Denise know ASAP.

Quarter Board Meeting, to be held at the Oaks Inn, Wallaceburg, Ontario, on Friday, February 5 & Saturday, February 6, 2010 and will be attended by Brad and Marlene.

Zone Meeting, Feb 2, 2010: It will be held at the Port Franks Community Centre in the downstairs hall. Fellowship starts at 6:30 and dinner is at 7pm. Barb McDougall will be attending, we need one person to accompany her.

News from the Executive Meeting and upcoming events

Cash Calendar

A committee for the Lottery Cash Calendar needs to be formed, this will not be a time consuming committee, so anyone interested please let Denise Everett know. The initial meeting will be sometime late February.

Spelling Bee

Janet Smith is the Chairperson and will be coordinating the dates and judges. We need more helpers (don't worry you don't have to spell), so please let Janet Smith or Denise Everett know if you are interested or need more information.

Internet Safety

We have received an information pack from Optimist International on internet safety; it is on two levels, one for the children and one for parents. Anyone wishing to help in looking into options on how to best present / provide this information to the children and parents please talk to Denise Everett.

Ilderton Fair

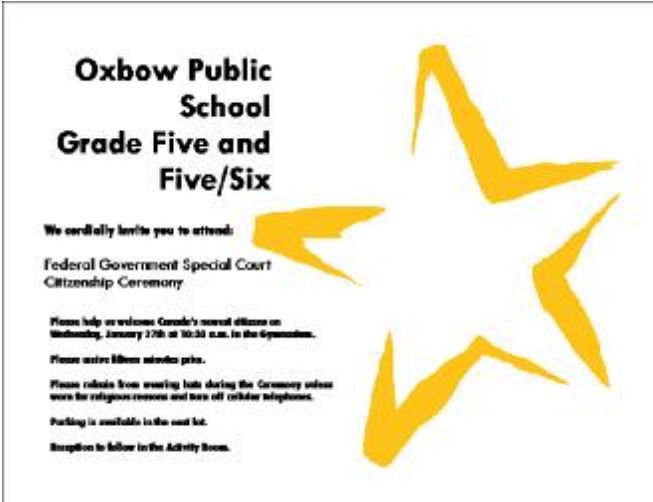
We have been approached by the fair board to sponsor an art award for children in grade 8, this will be discussed at the January dinner meeting.

Citizenship Ceremony

"We are extending to your members to attend a Citizenship Ceremony at our school. We would be delighted to have you attend and welcome Canada's newest citizens to our country."

January 27th 10:30am

Oxbow Public School



Oxbow Public School
Grade Five and Five/Six

We cordially invite you to attend:
Federal Government Special Court
Citizenship Ceremony

Please help us welcome Canada's newest citizens on
Wednesday, January 27th at 10:30 a.m. in the Gymnasium.

Please arrive fifteen minutes prior.

Please refrain from wearing hats during the Ceremony unless
worn for religious reasons and turn off cellular telephones.

Parking is available in the east lot.

Reception to follow in the Activity Room.

RECENT EVENTS

Santa's Breakfast



Santa's Breakfast was well attended, with 535 guests in attendance and 40 helpers. \$2140 was taken at the door and expenses were set at \$1950. 3 clowns attended this year, which greatly helped with crowd control and shorter line ups, for those of you who don't know their fees are sent to Rorab Klown Unit, raising money for children with varying disabilities.

Xmas Party



The Optimist Xmas party is always held on the evening of the Santa's breakfast, typically the first Saturday in December, so mark your calendars for this year. With about 30 in attendance it was a great evening, full of food, drink and merriment. It seems that Janice Fink could not resist arts and crafts with the kids at the party either !



New Years Eve Skate

Once again this was a busy night, with 55 families through the door contributing \$550 . Food was donated by Alicia Vandewetering, New Orleans Pizza and Deb Hunter from The King Edward, thank-you for the tasty treats, they were most appreciated by all who attended. Thank-you to Todd Denny and Josh Campbell who co-chaired this event for the first time, they did an amazing job and thank Cliff Wood for his detailed instructions which made running the event so much easier. Also thank-you to the Ilderton Firefighters Association for their contribution of hot chocolate and for rigging the balloon drop as well as all the Optimists and friends who helped fill the balloons.

SPLASH PAD Progress

New Orleans Pizza raised \$731.85 from the November splash pad fundraiser – thank-you Alicia
Brian Hanlon attended the Lions Club dinner meeting on the 8th December and stayed for dinner, the raffle draw and some live music. A lot more singing at their meetings as everyone has to sing for their supper. That night it was Christmas carols. 3 of the 4 raffle tickets drawn were sold by Lions members, but the \$200 winner was a ticket sold by Josh Campbell. A quick estimate indicated that the Lions profit for the raffle would be about \$5700 and they were much appreciative of our help.
The Optimist funding letters have received the following donations so far:
\$1000 from Meadowcreek Estates
\$1000 from Auburn Homes
\$1000 donated from Excel Pharmacy.
Stones sold to date: personnel 22, and 18 business.

HELPING OTHERS

Outreach - Recycled Milk Bags

Some of you may already participate in this program through schools or churches, but Ilderton Sparks will be collecting the outer bag of the 3 litre milk bags.

These bags will be recycled and made into sleeping mats for those in foreign countries.

Please bring your bags to the dinner meeting and they will be passed along.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT MARK SHRIVER ABOUT HAITIAN DISASTER RELIEF
Dear Optimists,

I'm sure all of us have been deeply touched by the plight of the residents of Haiti following the disastrous earthquake last week. Many Optimists and Optimist Clubs are asking how they can support relief efforts. I am encouraging all Members and Clubs to direct their donations to the Red Cross if they wish to help.

The Red Cross is already providing food, water, shelter, medical support and counseling to those affected by the earthquake and are in a position to immediately maximize the impact of our donations to this relief effort. For more information on making donations please visit www.redcross.org, www.redcross.ca or www.icrc.org.

While we do not currently have any Optimist Clubs in Haiti, please remember that we have a strong presence in neighboring countries of the Caribbean where we are known for our strong community youth-serving efforts.

Your generosity is appreciated.

Mark Shriver
Optimist International President

50/50 draw. This month draw tickets will be \$4 each or 3 for \$10. The proceeds will go to Haiti Earthquake victims via the Red Cross.

If you have any clothes or shoes (Adults and Children's) please also bring in your donations and they will also be passed on for shipment to Haiti.


BIRTHDAYS – January / February


<p>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</p>	<p>Kara Muller Alberta Wood Jannine Jenken</p>	
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REMINDER RE WWW....

Don't forget to check out the Ilderton Optimist Club on the web-site: www.ilderton.ca (under the Community heading) or directly at: www.ilderton.ca/optimists . This page, prepared by Denise Everett, is on the site set up by Rich Hunter of the King Edward Restaurant & Pub for your information and to develop and promote a sense of community in our village. If you have suggestions for additions or changes, please let us know. For some past issues of our newsletter see the Southwestern Ontario Optimists (SWONT) site at <http://www.swontoptimist.org/clubnewsletters.htm>. The Optimist International website may be found at: <http://www.optimist.org/>. Our general e-mail address is optimists@ilderton.ca. The webpage with news on the splash pad is www.ilderton.ca/splashpad

Club Officers:	Directors:
President – Alberta Wood (519-666-3282)	Barb MacDougall (519-646-2196)
Vice President – position vacant	Paul Massé (519-666-1175)
Secretary – Denise Everett (519-666-0841)	Brad Polley (519-666-2467)
Treasurer – Todd Denny (519-666-3595)	Michele Polley (519-666-2467)
Past President – Marlene Ritchie (519-474-2828)	Janet Smith (519-227-1618)
	Keith Cullion (519-666-0951)

	<p>Southwestern Ontario Optimists (SWONT)</p> <p>Governor – Marty Quenneville Governor-Elect – Gordon Brownlee Secretary Treasurer - John Ewanick Lieutenant Governor Zone 8 - Lorie Scott Past Governor - Doug Kinchen</p>
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	<p>OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL</p> <p>President - Mark Shriver President Elect – Danny Rodgers Immediate Past President - Donald R. Sievers</p>
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THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH:

“Snowflakes are one of nature’s most fragile things, but just look what they can do when they stick together.” – Vesta M. Kelly

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Denise Everett
Ilderton Optimist Secretary