



THE HARD OIL NEWS  
From  
The Optimist Club  
Of  
Lambton Central-Petrolia



## PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE for DECEMBER



*Fellow Optimists, Thanks to all those who helped with the Chili Cook-off, the Angel Tree Presentation or the Christmas parade. The angel tree is now available for viewing in Maagermans & Raes window. The board is reviewing our club bylaws please read your copy and let a board member know if you have questions or concerns if you do not have a copy please contact me. Our next dinner meeting will not be until Jan 27, 2010 which will be our Christmas Dinner meeting at LCDS more details to come in the New Year. At that meeting we are changing from collecting can goods for the Food Bank to collecting spare change for the Bravery Bead Program at the Children's Hospital. What is this new program you ask? Well come out to our meeting in January to hear our speaker Ron Huxley on this topic. Have a happy holiday.*

Yours in Optimism President Carol

## CLUB ACTIVITIES

### MEAT RAFFLES

We just had our last Meat Raffle at the Pumpe House this past Thursday. Jeff was forced to finally close his doors. Optimist Cheryl and Lion's member Art Park are presently talking to Randy Clark at Street's Eatery & Pub about holding our raffles there. It might mean a change to Wednesday evenings with us hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month. More information will be in the next newsletter.

### WEB SITE UPDATES

Optimists Ellie and Bryan are looking after our new Club web site. Remember to check it out at [www.petroliaoptimist.org](http://www.petroliaoptimist.org). They have asked me to remind the membership that to keep it current they need to know about any changes or updates in programs or individuals. So if you have information for the web site please contact them with it.

### ANGEL TREE

Optimists Pam C and Al D report that this annual project was a great success. They report that over 251 angels were sold with a profit of approximately \$2050.00 to be split between the Petrolia Food Bank and the Petrolia Breakfast Program. The reading of the names on the tree at the Friday night tree lighting in the Park were well received. The male voices were especially good to hear over the microphone. They would like to express their thanks to all the membership who have helped to again make this annual project such a success

### CHILI COOK-OFF

Optimist Bruce and his volunteer servers were a hot commodity at the Chili Cook-off and tree lighting in the Park last Friday night. He would like to thank Corinne Wilkinson and her Special Needs Class at the High School for preparing the chili for us as well as Optimists Luanne W and Vicky H for serving. He would also like to point out that we were chosen as the best yet again this year. Sorry about your weak efforts Lions!

## **CHRISTMAS PARADE**

Optimist Vicky reports that our annual float in the Petrolia Christmas Parade was both a lot of fun to construct and to be with during the parade. She would like to thank all who helped decorate the float and especially those who were able to be on or around the float on Saturday to hand out candy. Great job everyone!

## **THE 'RUN FOR THE GROCERIES' FUNDRAISER**

Optimist Ted has arranged with the local grocery store, Heidi's Y.I.G. to co-sponsor this year's ticket draw. We will be selling \$2.00 tickets on a chance to race around the grocery store filling shopping carts. First prize is a 5 minute run, second prize is a 3 minute run, third prize is a \$200 gift certificate and fourth prize is a \$100 gift certificate, both to be used at the store. The tickets are now available from Ted and he will have more to hand out at next month's meeting. The draw and run will be in March. Ted has signed us up to sell in the foyer of the grocery store on Thursday, Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> & Friday, Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> & Friday, Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. He has also signed us up for Saturday, Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 a.m. until noon, from noon until 2:00 p.m., then 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. If you can man one of the evening shifts or sell for 2 hours during one of the 3 Saturday shifts please call him a.s.a.p.

## **BRAVERY BEADS PROGRAM**

The executive with the recommendation of President Carol has decided that we will no longer be collecting can goods at our dinner meetings. Instead, we will have a drop bucket available for any spare change the members would like to donate. The money will be collected and presented to the District Chair for the new Bravery Beads Program. What is this new program about? We, the Optimists of South Western Ontario, have committed ourselves to helping with an honours & recognition programme at the London Children's Hospital. These beads will be part of this programme. If you can come out to our January Dinner meeting, you will hear more about it from one of the originators, past International vice-president and past governor of Southwestern Ontario District, Ron Huxley.

## **OUR BELATED CHRISTMAS DINNER**

We will be having our Christmas Dinner in January as is our custom, on the 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. This year our Dinner Meeting will be catered by the LCDS at their facilities. This will be a buffet meal with 2 meats and all the trimmings. The cost will be \$5.00 per person and remember guests are always welcome.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

We would like to congratulate Optimists Al Dewhirst, Carol Graham, & Patti McKinlay who celebrate a birthday this month. Congratulations to Optimist Janet Hardy and spouse Gary who will celebrate the anniversary of their marriage in December

Our next business meeting will be on January 6th at Queen Elizabeth II School at 7:00 p.m. The Dinner Meeting will be held on January 27<sup>th</sup> at the LCDS building at 7:00 p.m. This will be our annual Christmas Dinner and will cost \$5.00 per person.

## **ADDING TO THE NEWSLETTER**

If you have any information to add or if you want to make an announcement to the Club please feel free to contact me at 882-1255.