



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



PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE for NOVEMBER

Hello Fellow Optimists.

Since Ted forgot to mail out the October Newsletter this Presidents Prattle is a combination of both so I promise to be shorter next time. **From October:** Welcome one & all to a new year in Optimism! As your new president I want to thank everyone who participated in any way, shape or form last year. All these efforts combine to help the youth in our community in ways you may never see (helping the sports groups could keep a kid too busy to do vandalism, supporting the cross country may encourage a child to be active saving health issues later, or a career day speaker could determine our future's development by a student becoming a scientist). Whether we see immediate results or not we are all helping fulfill our mandate of being "Friends of Youth" by volunteering. Committee's are being formed for activities for the upcoming year and the sign up sheet will be at the dinner meeting. Please consider chairing an event or signing up as a helper to ensure these activities continue in our community. For November: Please join me in welcoming our new Optimist Cheryl Brandon to the club. I want to thank all that helped with the Cross Country and ask that you call Ted to volunteer for Career Day on the 17th or Bruce for the Chili Cook-off, or Vicky to help with the Christmas parade. The angel tree committee is in full swing and I have attached a form if you haven't been able to pick yours up at Heidi's or the Post Office. The board is reviewing our club bylaws please read the attached copy and let a board member know if you have questions or concerns (we are listed on the attached Executive List)

Yours in Optimism President Carol

CLUB ACTIVITIES

MEAT RAFFLES

We continue to work with the Petrolia Lions' Club to run a Meat Raffle at the Pumphouse Bar on Thursday evenings from 5:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Our next two turns running this event are Dec. 3rd and Dec. 10th. Optimist Cheryl is always looking for more help with this activity and it is an enjoyable time as well. If you can help, please contact her, as this is a very important fund raiser for us, and your support is needed.

WEB SITE UPDATES

Optimists Ellie and Bryan are looking after our new Club web site. Remember to check it out at 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.

CROSS COUNTRY RUN

Our annual Cross Country Run for elementary students across the 2 Boards of Education in Lambton & Kent counties was held at Petrolia Discovery on Wednesday, October 7th. There were 478 runners with Centennial school declared the overall winner and Queen Elizabeth II coming second. Ted would like to say thank you to the 8 Optimists and their families who helped make this day a success.

ANGEL TREE

Optimists Pam C and Al D report that this annual project is off to a flying start. Money has already begun to arrive. The profits this year will be going to the Petrolia Breakfast program and the Petrolia Food Bank.

CAREER DAY

Ted reports that the annual Career Day for the grade 7 & 8 classes at Centennial, St. Philip's & Queen Elizabeth will be held on November 17th at New Life Assembly Church. There are 19 presenters who have volunteered their services to speak to these youngsters about their futures. Special thanks to Optimists Bruce C, Steve M & Vicky H for helping with the sorting needed to place the students in the various careers.

CHILI COOK-OFF

Optimist Bruce is looking for volunteers to help man our booth at the Friday night annual event. The date of the cook-off is December 5th. Call him at 882-1408 if you can help.

CHRISTMAS PARADE

Optimist Vicky is calling a meeting for all members interested in helping plan our float on Monday, November 16th at 7:00 p.m. at Queen Elizabeth II School in the kitchen area. Since the theme this year involves cartoon characters, we are looking for any cartoon figures anyone would care to volunteer to be used on the float for the parade. She is also looking for volunteers to help decorate the float on December 2nd at 8:00 p.m. in Maurice M.'s drive shed following the business meeting. Vicky is also looking for volunteers for the day of the parade, December 6th at noon at the High School, as either walkers handing out candy canes or to sit on the float. Call her if you can help at 882-2936.

CRAFT SALE

The Community Center held a Christmas in the Park craft sale on November 7th & 8th. Optimist Pauline coordinated our efforts for the weekend. It was a very successful event, netting us over \$500.00. Special thanks to Optimists Pam C, Linda S, Brian J and families for putting together most of the crafts we sold.

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 at the printers and should be available at this month's meeting. The draw and run will be in March.

WELCOME CHERYL BRANDON

We have a new member joining our group. Optimist Cheryl Brandon has officially joined our ranks and we would like to welcome her to our group.

IMPORTANT DATES

We would like to congratulate Optimists Ross Ellsworth, Laurissa Ellsworth, Bill Field, & Ted Gravelle, who celebrated a birthday in October and to Optimist Steve McGrail who celebrates his birthday this month. Congratulations to Optimist Maurice McAuslan and spouse Mary who celebrated the anniversary of their marriage in October. We would like to congratulate Optimist Linda Scales who celebrated 17 years as an Optimist, Denise Cook who celebrated 16 years as an Optimist, Optimist Marcy Langford who celebrated 5 years in Optimism, Optimists Ross & Laurissa Ellsworth who celebrated 4 years in Optimism, and Optimist Rich Goodhand, who celebrated his first year as an Optimist, all in October. Optimist Pam Core is celebrating 9 years as an Optimist this month.

Our next business meeting will be on December 2nd at Queen Elizabeth II School at 7:00 p.m. The Dinner Meeting will be held on November 25th at Queen Elizabeth II at 7:00 p.m. This will be a Sub night with soups and desserts.

The 1st Zone meeting for our Zone #6 was held in Oil Springs on October 27th with President Carol and several other members representing our interests. The 1st District meeting was held in Grand Bend at the Oakwood Inn on November 13 & 14. President Carol, Vice President Ellie, Bruce & Ted were all present.

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.