

THE HARD OIL NEWS

For
NOVEMBER

THE PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE

First of all, I will like to, "Welcome the New Boards of Directors".

We are going to have a fun and productive year. I have a few things to mention. We are having a NOW program in January, so please give V.P. Ted your names. Governor Bruce has good incentives for bringing in new members. Also, O.I. has a program called, "Bring in your Friends". Maybe they would like to be involved with another friendship, Optimists.

Our annual Christmas float is being planned, please contact Optimist Cheryl. This year we have a lot of functions and fundraisers to serve and help our youth. As we are "Bringing out the Best in Kids", 100% and then some is the catch phrase from International President Jack Creswell.

We were at our 1st quarter board meeting in Windsor and we met a very sweet Lady, OI Board of Director, FATIMA PLATER, she had a quote, "Give a little of bit time for a long time". Fatima was very inspiring and after hearing her speak, it made me even more proud to be an Optimist, and even more proud to be with the Lambton Central-Petrolia Club.

President

Elly Small

MEAT RAFFLE

The raffles this month are being held on November 3rd, 10th & 17th and 24th. Our first December date is the 1st. Cheryl and Ted are looking for help on these dates. Please contact them if you can help.

WEBSITE UPDATE

Optimists Bryan Small and Elly Westover are always looking for pictures and info to keep our website current. If you have something that should be on the website, contact one of them with your ideas.

CHOCOLATE BARS

Treasurer Cheryl reports that this sale netted us \$861.00. Well done to everyone who was able to sell!

COOKIES FOR CHRISTMAS

We are in the process of organizing a cookie sale before Christmas for all of you and your friends who want to have that 'home' baking out when people, especially Santa, come to visit. These will be the boxes of cookies from Hollandia Bakery outside Mount Brydges. As soon as we put together the sales sheet, it will be either e-mailed or snail-mailed to you. The forms need to be brought back by the Dinner Meeting this month, (Nov. 23rd), and delivery to us will be about 2 weeks later.

CAREER DAY

Optimist Ted is now in the process of finalizing our annual Career Day event for the grade 7 and 8 students of our local schools. Each career speaker will be expected to talk for 20 minutes to a small group of students about their career, including what each day brings as to work, the educational requirements for that career and what they foresee as to how this career will progress in the next 10 years. It will be held at New Life Assembly Church on November 15th from 10:15 until 2:00 p.m. We will be sorting through the kids' choices at Queen Elizabeth II School Monday, November 7, Tuesday, November 8, and Wednesday, November 9th, if needed, from 6:30 until 8:30 p.m. If you can help, give Ted a call.

ANGEL TREE

Optimists Pam and Linda inform me that the Angel Tree committee has decided on Pathways and the Petrolia Food Bank as the recipients of this year's proceeds. If you would like to purchase an angel or if you know of others who would like to commemorate the life of a loved one who has passed on then contact either of these ladies.

BRAVERY BEADS

Optimist Ted is planning to involve the children of Queen Elizabeth II and Hillcrest Schools in a bracelet making and selling contest with the proceeds going to the Bravery Beads program that our Optimist District is sponsoring for the children who are forced to endure some long and often painful procedures at the London Children's Hospital. Our last drive, 2 years ago netted over \$4000 and he hopes we can do as well again this year. With that in mind, we must prepare several hundred bracelets as spares for the children to sell and he will be setting up a work night at Queen Elizabeth II school to make the bracelets sometime early in December. More information on this will be sent out.

NOW PROGRAM

We are in need of a few new members. With the many projects and activities that our small group runs it is imperative that we find a few new people to help out. With this in mind we will be running the Optimist International program called NOW, New Optimists Wanted, this year. If you have a name in mind, please contact one of the executive and let them know. There will be a committee set up to organize this event and to contact the potential new members about the evening.

CHILI COOK-OFF

Optimist Bruce is again chairing this committee. The Chili will be dished out at the annual Tree Lighting in Victoria Park on Friday, December 2nd. He may need 1 more server, so if you can help, contact him soon.

SANTA CLAUS PARADE

We are again putting a float in the annual Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 3rd. We will be decorating the float in Optimist Maurice's drive shed on Tuesday, November 29th, beginning at 7:00 p.m. We will be meeting at noon on Saturday, at the High School, finalizing our presentation. We need 1 or 2 more walkers to hand out the candy canes, so give either Ted or Cheryl a call if you can help. We will also have room on the float for several children, so feel free to bring along you child or grandchild.

CLUB DUES

The executive have set the dues for this year. For any College members the cost is \$40.00, for Life Members the cost is \$55.00 and for regular members the cost is \$65.00. Dues statements will be mailed out soon.

SANTA AT THE CENTRE

Our 2nd annual sponsorship of Santa at the Centre will happen following the Christmas Parade. Santa will come to the Community Centre following the parade to visit with the young and old alike of our community. Optimists Janet Hardy, Jo-Anne Whitlaw and Ted Gravelle are looking after this event again this year. Optimist Al Dewhirst has already volunteered his services that afternoon to dispense hot and cold drinks, cookies and candy. They could use 1 or 2 more members to help with this fun event.

F.Y.I.

Our next dinner meeting will be at Queen Elizabeth II School at 7:00 p.m. on November 23rd. This will be a Soup & Sandwich night. The cost will be \$2.00 per person unless you have volunteered to bring Soup or Dessert. The next executive meeting will be on Wed., December 7th at Q.E. II at 7:00 p.m.

The Ace of Spades draw is up to over \$156.00 to the winner so be sure to get to the next meeting and purchase a chance to draw the lucky card.

Optimists Pam & Linda tell me that there will be a Square Draw at our next meeting with Christmas as the theme for the prizes, so come out and buy a square or two.

We have sent out cheques totaling \$1750.00 to the 3 elementary schools in town as part of our annual sponsorship. We have also sent out a cheque for our annual Cadet Corps sponsorship of \$250.00.

A big Thank You goes out to Optimist Luanne Watt who has volunteered to fill the recently vacated Secretary's position.

We would like to wish a happy November Birthday to Optimist Steve McGrail. We would also like to wish a happy October wedding anniversary to Optimist Jo-Anne Whitlaw and spouse Jim. Best wishes for a happy Optimist anniversary go out to Optimists Cheryl Brandon, who joined our club 2 years ago this month and to Optimist Pam Core, who joined our ranks 11 years ago this month.