

# **THE HARD OIL NEWS**

**For  
OCTOBER**

## **THE PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE**

Hello Fellow Optimists,

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer. As Optimists we had a busy summer. I would like to thank everyone who took the time to help out. Our hard work pays off when we can help the youth in our community. Our food booth did terrific sales and also our Toonie Table did better than ever before.

I would love to welcome back everyone to a new Optimist year. I hope this new year can be just as rewarding as the last year. We have a new executive starting up, and we always welcome new ideas and new members.

I am optimistic about our new year and I want to encourage each and every Optimist to keep up the good work.

Also, I know we are all wishing Gov. Bruce Cox a wonderful year as well.

Yours in Optimism

President Elly Small

## **MEAT RAFFLE**

The raffles this month are being held on October 13th, 20th & 27<sup>th</sup>. Our first November date is the 3<sup>rd</sup>. 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**

Ted would like to finalize the books on this fund raiser. If you have money and/or bars to turn in to him please do so soon.

## **ASTRONOMY NIGHT**

Optimist Ted reports that considering the lateness of the year, this was a small success but still worthwhile. There were about a dozen children and 7 or 8 adults who braved the damp and cold last Saturday night and were pleasantly surprised at what could be seen in the night sky. Ted would like to thank all the members who came out to help with the set up, barbequing and organization. The movie, Planet 51, supplied by Optimist Dawn's daughter Megan, was very enjoyable and everyone seemed to like the hot chocolate and pop corn on the cool evening. The committee is looking into a date in August for this event next year.

## **CAREER DAY**

Optimist Ted is now in the process of planning 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. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer your services as a speaker or to come over to New Life Assembly Church on November 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:15 until 2:00 p.m. let Ted know.

### **RUBBER DUCK RACE**

Congratulations to Optimist Dawn Wakefield and her committee on again doing an excellent job of organizing this annual event. Just over \$900 was earned and will be given to the new Community Centre campaign to buy playground equipment for the Centre.

### **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 late in October. 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.

### **WELCOME!**

Speaking of new members, we have a new entry to our ranks. Welcome Optimist Penny Cox! Although saying that Penny is a "new" member is a bit of an exaggeration as she has helped at many functions for years, it's now just official. Does this mean that Governor Bruce finally gets to be her boss??? Nah, don't think so!

### **TERRY FOX RUN**

While this is not one of our own planned and executed events, we do support it each year by supplying hot dogs and liquid refreshments for the participants. Optimist Steve McGrail and spouse Lisa are now part of the planning committee for this event and was a huge success, topping last year's figures by more than \$10,000.

### **CROSS COUNTRY RUN**

Our Club held its 18<sup>th</sup> annual Cross Country Run for all elementary schools in both Boards of Education in the Lambton/Kent area. The Run was on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at the Petrolia Discovery. Optimist Ted would like to thank Optimists Al D., Rich G., Bruce C., Jo-Anne W., Maurice M., Bryan & Elly S. and Pam C. for helping with this huge event. A special thanks goes to Optimist Ross E. for arranging to borrow radios so that the marshals on the course could report any issues that might arise. We had 432 runners in 10 categories with well over 50 spectators attending. He would also like to extend our thanks both to the Caerv group who acted as first aid and to the Discovery site manager Donna M. and her staff for their help and to the High School volunteers who acted as marshals on the course.

### **F.Y.I.**

Our next dinner meeting will be at the newly renovated Oil Rig Restaurant at 7:00 p.m. on October 26th. This will be our annual Induction of the new Executive evening. The cost will be \$10.00 per person with the Club picking up the remaining charges. The new restaurant is in the process of applying for its liquor license and we are not sure if it will be issued in time. The meal will be a 2 meat buffet dinner with several sides. The next executive meeting will be on

Wed., November 2nd at Q.E. II at 7:00 p.m.

The Ace of Spades draw is up to \$132 to the winner so be sure to get to the next meeting and purchase a chance to draw the lucky card.

We would like to wish a happy October Birthday to Optimists Ross & Laurissa Ellsworth, now that's togetherness, arranging to share a birthday with your spouse, and to Optimist Ted Gravelle. We would also like to wish a happy October wedding anniversary to Optimist Maurice McAuslan and spouse Mary. By the way Maurice it is on the 10<sup>th</sup> and will be 36 years since you couldn't remember at the Meat Raffle last week. Best wishes for a happy Optimist anniversary go out to Optimists Rich Goodhand, who joined our club 3 years ago this month and to Optimists Laurissa and Ross Ellsworth who joined our ranks 6 years ago and to Optimist Marcy Langford, who joined us 7 years ago, and to Optimist Denise Cook who became a member of Optimist International 18 years ago and finally to Optimist Linda Scales who became a member of our Club 18 years ago this month.