



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



## **PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE for SEPTEMBER**

Well, it's hard to believe another great year has passed by.

I want to thank all members for their hard work and dedication to making this club what it is today, because without you, there would be no club or even organization. I know the executive are the ones that try to lead our club in the right direction, but it is you, the members, that tell us what you want us to do. As I mentioned in my first newsletter message way back in October, you need to give yourselves a pat on the back for showing the support and putting in the effort to make this club the way it is. Please do that again, because you have done an "excellent" job in showing this again to our community. We need to be proud of our visibility in our community and the respect we get from them. I know I have received a lot of calls to ask for our support in various events within our town, because they know we will be there for them. This type of co-operation with the municipality and other service groups does not go unnoticed. Be proud of our club and lets' go out and show it even more.

Remember, the impressions we give to the children today, will most likely reward our club with new members later, which in-turn will impress the children later and so on and so on.

Thank you again for your effort this year and make sure you continue with the same, if not more, with our new executive coming in next month.

Remember, our reward is the smiles on the children's faces when they finish an event.

Yours in Optimism  
Bruce Cox

## **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 Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>. 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.

### **BX 93 DANCE UPDATE**

Our annual fund raiser was held on June 13<sup>th</sup> and seemed to go off without a hitch. Optimist Carol reported that we made a profit of \$2500.00 from this event. Plans have already begun to hold it again next year. Thanks to all who helped put this important fund raiser together for us.

### **CINNABONS FUND RAISING**

Optimist Ellie Westover chaired another Cinnabons sale for us. The Cinnabons were delivered the Friday of the Fair and were sold over the Friday & Saturday. Ellie will be giving a full report at the next meeting.

### **FOOD TRAILER**

Optimist President Bruce reports that the Food Trailer actually made money this year. In fact between the Father's Day Car Show, the Hard Oil Festival & Canada Day we cleared over \$1000.00 Good job Bruce & a big thank you to all the members who helped during the summer.

## **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.

## **RUBBER DUCKS**

Optimist Dawn Wakefield reported that we made \$884.00 profit from this event. The first prize went to Dave Osborne, (Ozzy). Dawn would like to thank all who helped make this fun event so successful, especially to our Fire Dept. who again 'saved' the day by jumping into the Creek and getting the ducks moving. Congratulations Dawn on a fine effort.

## **HIAWATHA NIGHT**

Our annual Hiawatha dinner and evening of entertainment was held on August 15<sup>th</sup> this year. As usual the Club paid for part of the entry charges for you and a guest. It was a great evening with good food, excellent camaraderie and a few people even made some money between the Horse Races & the slots.

## **TWOONIE TABLE**

This annual event was again held at the Fall Fair. Many thanks to all the members who collected what I believe to be the best prize board yet. There were 99 prizes and we grossed over \$2700.00. The anticipated bills should be in the \$200.00 range so this will be our best year yet. I must single out a few Optimists for their special efforts. Pam & Linda again worked many hours sorting and organizing all the prizes that were gathered as well as helped with the set up, transfer on Saturday to the pavilion and the final efforts on Sunday. Optimist Bruce did an outstanding job of putting up the display, transferring it on Saturday & Sunday, knocking it down on Sunday and buying a mitt full of tickets even if he didn't win. Optimists Brian Johnson, Pauline Mitchell & Rich Goodhand were also there when needed to help with a multiple number of tasks. Optimists Keith Allen & Carol Watt visited every business in Lambton County it seemed to gather the majority of our prizes. I would also like to thank Optimist Spouses Mark Core & Ron Scales & Penny Cox for all their help.

## **KYLIES KAUSE**

Optimist Bruce reported that this was a banner year Optimist Steve McGrail & wife Lisa as this annual event they have organized as a way of commemorating their daughter Kylie, was the best yet, making approximately \$40,000 for the Neo-natal Unit at St. Joe's in London. Congratulations Steve & Lisa for such dedication and community spirit. Our food booth at this walk/run/silent auction was a busy place. It was our pleasure to be able to volunteer our services at this event.

## **TERRY FOX RUN/WALK**

This annual event takes place this Sunday, (Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>) at the Arena. We will again be running a food booth and donating the hot dogs, pop & water to all participants. If you wish to help call Optimist Bruce at 882-1408.

## **CROSS COUNTRY RUN**

Our annual Cross Country Run for elementary students across the 2 Boards of Education in Lambton & Kent counties will be held at Petrolia Discovery on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:30 a.m. going to approximately 3:00 p.m. If you can help at the event, we need people to write down the names of the participants as they finish, please call Ted at 882-1255.

## **OUR CONDOLENCES**

It is with sadness and our heart-felt sympathies that we make note of the passing of Keith Watt earlier this week. Keith was the father of Optimists Carol Watt & Cheryl Dewhirst and of course the father-in-law of Al Dewhirst.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

Optimist Bruce is retiring this week after 32 years of service with Continental in Chatham. He & Penny would like to invite all of his Optimist friends to a small gathering at their home on LaSalle line on Saturday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 p.m. If you can make it please call Penny at 882-1408.

We would like to congratulate Optimists Bruce Cox, Cheryl Dewhirst, Janet Dunlop, Vicky Humphrey, Bryan Small, Sandy Thompson, & Ellie Westover who celebrated a birthday over the summer. Optimist Brian Johnson is celebrating a birthday this month. Congratulations to Optimists Pam Core and spouse Mark, Brent Gravelle and spouse Katherine, Marcy Langford and spouse , Steve McGrail and spouse Lisa, Pauline Mitchell & spouse Dave who are celebrated the anniversary of their marriages over the summer. Optimists Al & Cheryl Dewhirst are celebrating their anniversary this month. We would like to congratulate Optimists Bruce Cox and Vicky Humphrey who celebrated 15 years as an Optimist this summer. Optimist Patti McKinlay is celebrating 9 years in Optimism, Optimists Cheryl & Al Dewhirst are celebrating 13 years in Optimism and Optimist Janet Dunlop is celebrating 19 years in Optimism, all this September.

Our next business meeting will be on October 7<sup>th</sup> at Queen Elizabeth II School at 7:00 p.m. It will be the first official gathering of our new executive for 2009/10. Our last dinner meeting under the direction of outgoing President Bruce will be on September 23<sup>rd</sup> also at the school at 7:00 p.m. The guest speaker will be Donna McIlmoyle from Petrolia Discovery who will be talking about the various programs they run at the site and how we can help to educate the kids about the history of our community. It will be a barbeque with the Club supplying the burgers and the membership volunteering the salads and lots and lots of wonderful DESSERTS.

## **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.