

# The Optimist Club of St. Thomas

P. O. Box 20014, St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada, N5P 4H4  
www.stthomasoptimists.ca

May 2011

## Spring Has Sprung, The Grass Has Riz, I wonder where the Optimists Is?

### OFFICERS

#### INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS

President	Danny Rodgers
President-Elect	Jack Creswell
Past-President	Mark Shriver IV
Executive Director	Benny Ellerbe
Vice President	Don Brose

#### SWONT DISTRICT OFFICERS

Governor	Gordon Brownlee
Governor-Elect	Bruce Cox
Past-Governor	Marty Quenneville
Secretary-Treasurer	John Ewanick
Lieutenant-Governor	Jane Carder

#### CLUB OFFICERS (2009 - 2010)

President	Steve Malone
Past-President	Bud Willis
President-Elect	Bob Jackson
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Al Holt
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President	
Treasurer	Grant Simmons
Secretary	Brian Clements
Directors 1 year	Gar Shaw
	Steve Williams
	Gary Wren
Directors 2 year	Jime Wakefield
	Gregg Paisley
	Chuck Gratton
	Gar Shaw
	Steve Williams
Sergeant At Arms	Danny Attridge

### *A message from the Prez...*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my executive committee for all of your hard work so far this year. Let's keep working hard for the kids of St. Thomas.

I would also like to thank the membership as a whole for their continued commitment to Optimism.

Thanks also to all the members and volunteers who helped us with our Highway Clean-Up endeavour on Saturday, April 30, 2011. Many hands do indeed make light work! Seventeen people participated this time.

Yours in Optimism,

President Steve.



## McHappy Day

We have been asked to help participate at McHappy Day on Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011. This year marks the 18<sup>th</sup> McHappy Day in the history of McDonald's Canada. Each year more than 1,400 McDonald's restaurants across the country celebrate McHappy Day, the company's longest-running and best-known national fundraising event.



Since its inception, the event has raised nearly \$32 million for Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) of Canada, the Ronald McDonald House program and hundreds of other local children's charities.

RMHC plays an important role in the medical care of many children across Canada. The importance of family support in the healing process is especially heightened when the patient is a child, and we know that kids recover faster when their family is close by. This is a very exciting period in RMHC's history as the number of houses grow from 12 to 14 in 2011, with the addition of houses in Red Deer and St. John's, and as Canada's fourth Family Room opens in the London Health Sciences Centre.

It is McDonald's tradition for civic and community leaders to join us in our restaurants to celebrate with their customers. We have been invited to help!

McDonald's is asking for a one-hour commitment, in the afternoon or over the dinner hour. To volunteer, let Optimist John Ewanick know your name, and which hour you would like to participate. This is a great opportunity for our club to help out with a worthwhile cause that helps kids, and for the club to get a little recognition in the community.

## Santa Claus Parade

It may seem early, but we do need to get started on the planning for the 2011 Optimist Santa Claus Parade. Optimist Bob Jackson has called a meeting for Tuesday, May 10, at 7:00 pm at the Hi-Ro Shrine Club. Any interested member is asked to attend. If you are interested in helping, but unavailable to attend that night, please let Opt. Bob know. You can contact him by email at: bobsue606@yahoo.com, or by telephone at 519 633 1123.

## In Memoriam

It is with regret that we announce the passing of Optimist Ken Somerville's mother, Eileen, on April 16<sup>th</sup>, in her 92<sup>nd</sup> year. Our thoughts and prayers are with Ken and Carol and their family.

## Food Trailer

We will be serving many fine delicacies at the Mitch Hepburn Track and Field event being held at Central Elgin Collegiate Institute (C. E. C. I.), on Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011. If you are able to help work at this event, please contact Optimist Al Holt at: the.holts@rogers.com, or by telephone at: 519 - 631 - 1137. The hours are 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. The rain date for the track and field match is Wednesday, May 11, 2011. (Same day as the McHappy Day.)

We will also be working the food trailer at the Lion's Auto Fest, on Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup> (Father's Day) in Pinafore Park. Optimist Al will be looking for volunteers for this event.

## Health & Welfare

Optimist Ray Stanley is still in hospital after suffering a mild stroke. He is doing well, and is accepting visitors at the Elgin General. Optimist Bill Leverton is recovering from a mild heart attack, and is at home. We wish both of these Optimist members a speedy recovery.

## Upcoming Events.....

The club continues to have a busy calendar of events ahead it.

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| Mon. May 9   | Regular Meeting   |
| Tues. May 10 | Food Trailer at CECI  |
| Wed. May 11  | McHappy Day   |
| Mon. May 16  | Executive Meeting   |
| May 17 - 20  | Children's Water Festival                                     |
| Tues. May 24 | Regular Meeting   |
| Sat. June 11 | Talbotville Club's "Rocking at the Railway"                   |
| Sun June 19  | Food Trailer @ Lion's Auto Fest                               |
| June 25 & 26 | Grand Bend Motorplex Optimist Days.                           |
| July 3 - 5   | Optimist International Convention, Baltimore, Maryland        |
| Aug. 11 - 13 | SWONT District Convention, Holiday Inn, Point Edward (Sarnia) |