



The Opti-Journal

Newsletter of and for the Optimist Club of St. Thomas
P. O. Box 20014, St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada N5P 4H4
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October, 2011.

VOLUME VII, NUMBER I

INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS

President	Jack Creswell
President-Elect	J. C. St. Onge
Immediate Past-President	
	Danny Rodgers
Executive Director	Benny Ellerbe
Vice President	Dwight Phillips

SWONT DISTRICT OFFICERS

Governor	Bruce Cox
Governors-Elect	Steve Inglis
Past-Governor	Gordon Brownlee
Past-Governor	Marty Quenneville
Secretary-Treasurer	Tracy Huxley
Lieutenant-Governor	Jr. Otway

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Bob Jackson
Past-President	Steve Malone
President-Elect	Al Holt
2 nd Vice President	Jim Wakefield
3 rd Vice President	Gregg Paisley
Treasurer	Grant Simmons
Secretary	Brian Clements
Directors (1 year)	Neal Ambrose Gar Shaw Steve Williams
Directors (2 year)	Chuck Gratton Terry Lanning Scott Shakir
Sergeant At Arms	Danny Attridge



editor: John Ewanick

A Message from the President...

Greetings Optimists:

Another year is about to begin one that is filled with anticipation and optimism. The shoes that are to be filled are large ones. Optimist Steve Malone has led us through a financially difficult year and we owe him a profound thank you. We are not out of the woods yet in regards to this problem, therefore the food trailer will be busy this year.



Your executive is a strong group of talented people and I look forward to working with them. To the general membership I offer my thanks for having confidence in me to represent you for the ensuing 12 months. I am looking for ideas from my fellow Optimists for our meetings. What would you like to see at our regular meetings?

Three large events this year will be the annual Santa Claus Parade on November 19th, a dance at the Railway Station in February and sometime in the warm weather perhaps the "Day in the Park." These events require copious amount of volunteers. This is what makes a club a success - getting involved. Remember what we do is for the children of our community.

I am looking forward to a great year. I hope you will join me and your executive in bringing this to fruition.

Yours in Optimism,

Bob Jackson
President, Optimist Club of St. Thomas

Auction

There will be a benefit auction on Sat, June 23, 2012 to support the Conductive Education program and the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation.

The auction, at 8774 LaSalle Line (residence of John & Joanne Sanders) will begin at noon with a FREE roast pig luncheon, & auction beginning at 2:00 pm.

The auction is looking for donations of:

- Gently Used Items
- New Items
- Crafts and Wood Working projects
- Antiques



Canadian Children's
Optimist Foundation

For more information, or to donate items, please contact:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| - Brian Clements | 631 – 3092 |
| - John Sanders | 849 – 2352 |
| - Gary Grant | 337 – 5269 |
| - Nina Strickland | 862 – 2379 (after April 15) |
| - John Ewanick | 631 – 9635 |

Zone / Quarter Board Meetings

Lt. Governor Lennox (Jr.) Otway has called our next zone meeting for Thursday, Oct 27, 2011, at 7:00 pm. It is being co-hosted by the Jumbo City Optimist Club, & Talbotville Optimist Club. It is being held at the Youth for Christ hall, 21 Edward St, St. Thomas. Please let Opt Pres Bob know if you plan on attending.

Governor Bruce Cox has called the first Quarter Board meeting for Saturday, November 5, 2011 at the Holiday Inn & Suites, 1855 Huron Church Road, Windsor, ON. For more information and registration form, go to www.swontoptimist.org

You are Invited!

To a Special Optimist Tour of the new
Children's Hospital to see what we built
On the 6th Floor with our \$1,048, 000

Friday, October 14
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Time 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
R. S. V. P. Ed Stevens
ed.ruth.stevens@gmail.com
519 247 - 3854

North Tower Amphi-theatre
B2-19
Commissioners Road Entrance
Wear your name badge

Optimist Santa Claus Parade In Downtown St. Thomas

The Optimist Santa Claus Parade is quickly approaching, and the parade committee is working hard to ensure that this year's parade lives up to the high standard of parades of the past.

Optimist Earl Taylor has been busy canvassing local businesses seeking financial support for the parade. To date Opt Earl has been successful in attracting several donations to help offset the cost of bands.

There will be a work bee to clean the float on Saturday, October 15th at 10:00 am, immediately following the Highway Clean-Up. Please drop out to Mark Hiepleh's farm, and we will put you to work cleaning and touching up decorations. Hope to see you there.



Dues Increase

The Executive at its meeting of September 19, 2011 decided to increase the club's yearly dues to \$80.00 per regular member, and \$60.00 per life member as of Oct 1, 2011. This decision was confirmed by the membership at its meeting on September 19th.

Whereas no one wants to increase dues, the decision was necessary when you consider that Optimist International charges the club \$59.62 per member per annum, and the Southwestern Ontario District charges \$16.00 per annum. So even at \$80.00 per year, there is very little left for the club to administer the business of the club.

Should this increase provide financial hardship to any member, please speak discreetly to Optimist President Bob, and some other arrangements may be formulated.

Highway Clean-Up

Optimist Gar Shaw is asking for help to keep our section of Highway #4 spic & span. On Saturday, Oct 15th, we will gather at the Jehovah's Witness Hall near Talbotville at 9:00 am. With many hands it will make light work, and we should be done in less than an hour.

If you have or know of any high school students in need of volunteer hours, bring them along, and Opt. Gar will gladly sign their volunteer sheets.

Bus Trip to Bronners, Frankenmuth, MI

Optimist Danny Attridge is organizing a fund raising excursion for the club – a trip to the world famous Bronners Christmas Store in Michigan. On Saturday, November 26th, the highway coach will leave at 8:30 am, and return at 8:30 pm. There will be lots of fun and games and prizes on the bus.

The cost is \$50.00 per person (non – refundable). You MUST have a valid passport with you to enter the U.S. of A.

For more information, or to reserve your seat, contact Optimist Danny at 519 – 878 – 5150.

***By providing hope and positive vision,
Optimists bring out the best in kids.***

-Optimist Mission Statement

Upcoming Events

To recap, mark up your calendars so that you don't miss out on any of the important engagements ahead:

Tues Oct 11 Regular Meeting

@ St. Thomas Roadhouse
Bar & Grill in Big Room

Sat Oct 15 Highway Clean Up

Meet at Jehovah's Witness
Hall, 9:00 a. m.

Sat Oct 15 Float Work Bee

Meet at Opt Mark
Hiepleh's at 10:00 a. m.

Mon Oct 17 Executive Meeting

@ CIBC Wood Gundy
office

Mon Oct 24 Regular Meeting

@ St. Thomas Roadhouse
Bar & Grill in Big Room

Thur Oct 27 Zone Meeting

Youth for Christ Hall,
21 Edward St

Sat Nov 5 1st Quarter Board

Holiday Inn & Suites,
Windsor On. Come for
the training, stay for the
fun!

Mon Nov 14 Regular Meeting

@ St. Thomas Roadhouse
Bar & Grill in Big Room

Mon Nov 21 Executive Meeting

@ CIBC Wood Gundy
office

Mon Nov 28 Regular Meeting

@ St. Thomas Roadhouse
Bar & Grill in Big Room

Mon Dec 12 Children's

Christmas Party

*"We are what we repeatedly
do. Excellence, then, is not
an act, but a habit."*

~ Aristotle

Meet the Optimist Member



Name: Opt. Dave McCormick
Optimist Since: May 26, 2006
Spouse: Tina
Family: Margaret - 26, & Peter - 22
Employment: Account Manager,
 Rock Tenn Corrugated
Hobbies: Elgin Theatre Guild &
 Music

Opt. Dave is passionate about his mission group that helps in Tanzania, East Africa.

He was also a member of the previously World Famous band, "The Leprechauns"

SWONT District Convention



Club Steak Barbeque



Air Show



Slow Pitch Tournament



THE OPTIMIST CREED

Promise Yourself -

*To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.
 To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.
 To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.
 To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.
 To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.
 To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.
 To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.
 To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.
 To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.
 To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.*



Purposes Of The Optimist Club

- To develop optimism as a philosophy of life;
- To promote an active interest in good government and civic affairs;
- To inspire respect for law;
- To promote patriotism and work for international accord and friendship among all people;
- To aid and encourage the development of youth, in the belief that the giving of one's self in service to others will advance the well-being of man, his community and world.