

The



Opti Prime

Optimist Club of Aurora

December 2004

Celebrating 20 Years of Service in Aurora



2004-2005 Executive

President

Brian Walsh

President Elect

Terry Sherin

Vice Presidents

Carol Bartlett

John Thompson

Secretary

Grant Perry

Treasurer

Ken Banks

Directors

Paul English

Anna Kroeplin

Steve Granger

Steve Hinder

Paul Madden

Bill Otton

Sgt-at-Arms

Robert Parypa

Past President

Ken McIsaac

Bulletin Editor

Alex Ansell

Thoughts to Ponder

If the professor on Gilligan's Island can make a radio out of coconuts why can't he fix a hole in a boat?

Does pushing the elevator button more than once make it arrive faster?

What do you call male ballerinas?



Brian's Blurb (The President's Message)

The month started off with John Thompson and I attending the first quarter District Meeting in Newmarket. It is always great to meet other clubs and review their activities. We are certainly all working for a wonderful organization when you hear the projects being completed.

Our Dinner meeting had a report from Rev. Nicola Skinner who reviewed the trip to Mexico. Recall we as a Club were involved with this fine project when Rev. Phillip Poole presented it.

Then we kicked off with the Santa Claus Parade circuit, with Bill Otton and his team traveling in the area to numerous parades. The word is that the Santa Claus Parade committees from Toronto were SCOUTING our float in order to determine how to bring their floats up to our level.

The Parade Marshals were out in full force; Tom McGhee and his team did a great job with nearly 90 floats and bands. This is certainly a big project, and it was great to see all the new faces involved. The author of this blurb had the pleasure of being at Yonge Street and St. John's Sideroad. It is really amazing the new words that you learn when people could not go down the street.

The book sales early results look to be right on the budget, certainly a great job by Lesley Everest and her team. The book sort on the Friday night went quickly with many hands making light work. Great job to all.

If you have not started your holiday shopping, be sure to pick up the exchange gift for the December dinner meeting. This is always a fun night of fellowship, particularly when Santa Claus arrives.

Upcoming events include our Showcase tourney, and we need help for this major project. Be sure to talk to Alex to volunteer here.

In wrapping up, best wishes for a safe and joyous season to all.

Regards,

Brian



Committee Chairs

Bingo – Bill Otton

Book Sale - Lesley Everest
- Ken McIsaac

Bowling for Big Brothers
- Carol Bartlett
- Anna Kroeplin

Bulletin – Alex Ansell

Chess – Steve Granger

COLS – John Thompson

Communications – Carol Bartlett

Dinner Meetings - Robert Parypa
- Carol Bartlett

Hartwell Run – Paul English

Inaugural – Brian Walsh, Terry Sherin

July 1 - Terry Sherin

Membership – Anna Kroeplin

Members Xmas Party – Steve Hinder

Mobile Kitchen – Terry Sherin

Opti Rec Hockey - Rob Whiting
- Ken McIsaac

Optimist International Foundation –
Janice Walsh

Phoning – Carol Bartlett

Progressive Dinner – Greg Way

Publicity –

Respect for Law – Steve Hinder

Santa Claus Parade – Tom McGhee

Santa Claus Parade Float – Bill Otton

Showcase Tournament – Alex Ansell

Street Sale – Terry Sherin

Storage Facility – Tom McGhee

Twin Club – Brian Walsh

Web Site – Ken Banks

Director – Youth Sports
- Bill Otton

Director – Youth Activities
- Paul English

Director – Community Service
- Paul Madden

Director – Membership
- Anna Kroeplin

Director – Fundraising
- Steve Granger

Director - Fellowship

Progressive Dinner

Saturday, April 23, 2005 is the date for our annual "Progressive Dinner". For our new members and for those that have been unable to attend, keep this evening open as it promises to be a fun evening and an excellent way to get to know your fellow Optimists and spouses.

And some outstanding food as usual.

For more information, contact Greg Way, Tom Litwiller, or Terry Sherin.



Bingo Dates and Teams until the end of March

December 14	Whiting Team
December 28	Gaby Team
January 11	Otton Team
January 25	Whiting Team
February 8	Gaby Team
February 22	Otton Team
March 8	Whiting Team
March 22	Gaby Team

All of the above dates are at the new bingo hall **240 Industrial Parkway South** and all team members are requested to be at the hall no later than **4:45 pm** on those dates.

For further information, please contact **Bill Otton** at **905-727-1463**.



What a BOOK SALE

I believe, Yes, I Believe

We did it once again! Our book sale raised money for our Club, helped the residents of Aurora learn a little about our Club and we even saw many smiles on faces of people so glad to buy a book or two at a great price. Also, some of the money will be donated to the Children's Safety Village.

Thank you all for making it happen. Thanks to Ken McIsaac as always for getting us the books and to my great committee.

It was a good job well done by all.

Lesley Everest



Showcase Tournament

Mark Your Calendar

December 27-31

Aurora Community Centre

**Optimist Tri-Star Skills Competitions
will take place on Monday December
27 starting at 7:00 am and continuing
until 9:30 pm**

We will be calling you



Calling all interested Optimists who have a creative flair and interest to join a Brainstorming Fund Raising Subcommittee.

Quite a few members have expressed their personal desires to head up or assist in a number of new fund raising initiatives. This is your chance to make a difference by joining up!

The mandate of this committee is to "group" brainstorm looking for new possible ideas for "creative" fund raising focusing on "fun". It adds flair and community exposure to have new initiatives happen. We know you and some others are waiting for the chance to join in here so please send your name and we will contact you for the first meeting of the "fun" fund raising year. We would like to hold the first meeting this month. A meeting date will be set once all the interested fellow Optimists have registered. Please respond to Steve Granger @ 905-727-2035 as soon as possible.

Stephen Granger
Aurora Optimist Fund Raising
Committee

Santa Claus Float

When the float committee met in September, we thought we should show some civic pride and honour the Aurora Tigers Junior A hockey team Canadian Champions and winners of the Royal Bank Cup for 2004.

At a dinner meeting in February 2003 the Opti-hockey president explained how our donation money was being spent and about the program in general. After dinner she asked if the two groups could cooperate on a Santa Claus float. With a parade lined up as the Champion Tigers in the lead followed by an Opti-hockey team obviously the float should be a game of pond hockey between the tigers and the bears. Each team has a goalie and two players stick handling.



We took the float to the Richmond Hill and Newmarket Santa Claus parades where the crowds smiled and laughed at the animated hockey game and sang along with the Christmas music.

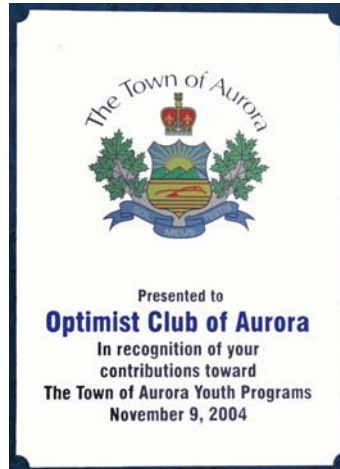
The Aurora Parade was the highlight with the Aurora Tigers and the Opti-hockey kids shaking hands with the spectators. The lights showed our float as a miniature outdoor rink to the delight of the 40,000 spectators lining the street.

Many thanks to the Committee of Brian Marshall, Ken Banks, Anna & Todd Kroepflin, Steve Granger, John Weddell, Bill Otton and Rusty King for their ideas and dedicated work. Thanks also to Elves Ryan Granger and Bill Carberry. (Yes, Bill Carberry was an elf.)

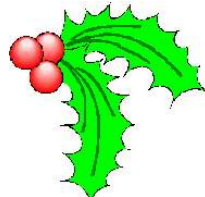
Bill Otton

“Town of Aurora Sponsorship Thank You”

On Tuesday November 9, Alex Ansell, Ken Banks and Robert Parypa attended the Council Meeting to accept a plaque from the Town of Aurora recognizing the Optimist Club of Aurora for their contributions that have enhanced the quality of the youth programs in the Town of Aurora.



Optimist Club of Aurora Annual Christmas Dinner/Party



(for members and spouses/guests)
Wednesday, December 15, 2004
Wellington's, Yonge St., Aurora
(private back room)

Dress: appropriate Christmas dinner attire

Gifts - each person attending should bring a small (under \$10.00) gift - wrapped but no name

Cost: \$20 per person

Please RSVP to Carol Bartlett




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 onto 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.




Right Here, Right Now

December 2004

			1 Business Mtg. - 7:30 p.m. Legion	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Bingo Whiting Team - 4:45 p.m.	15 Christmas Dinner - 7:30 p.m. Wellington's	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Executive Mtg. - 7:00 p.m. Aurora Library	23	24	25 
26	27 Showcase Tri Star Skills ACC 2	28 Showcase Bingo Gaby Team - 4:45 p.m.	29 Showcase	30 Showcase Family Night ACC 2	31 Showcase Championship Games	

January 2005

						1 
2	3	4	5 Business Mtg. - 7:30 p.m. Legion	6	7	8
9	10	11 Bingo Otton Team - 4:45 p.m.	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Christmas Dinner Mtg. - 7:30 p.m. Wellington's	20	21	22
23	24	25 Bingo Whiting Team - 4:45 p.m.	26 Executive Mtg. - 7:00 p.m. Aurora Library	27	28	29
30	31					



For lots of interesting information about Optimist International and its programs visit the official web site at "www.optimist.org" or the Central Ontario District at "www.cenon.ca".

Editor's Corner

During the months ahead we will try to keep you up-to-date on events both within and outside of the Club as they relate to optimism. Event write-ups will be a must. If you have any other items or notices you would like to have included in the bulletin, please forward them to me at 905-727-5012 or email at ansellas@interlog.com