

The



# Opti Prime

Optimist Club of Aurora



January 2005

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**

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*Bulletin Editor*

**Alex Ansell**

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## Thoughts to Ponder

Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him on a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?

If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, then what is baby oil made from?



## *Brian's Blurb* (The President's Message)

We are now into 2005 and all those new resolutions that we promised a few nights ago have started over again for another year.

We have completed another busy month of activity for the Club. Our Christmas dinner and gift exchange was again a great success and Mr. Santa Housser again had a great selection of gifts and tales with the gifts. The hot potato was the gift certificate from Wellington's; it was

certainly well traveled that evening. Prior to dinner, we presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the restaurant for the fine service that has been provided to the Club.

One of the rewarding parts of this job is new member induction and Jaine Klees was inducted at our December dinner meeting. The youth of the community benefits from additional members.

The 9<sup>th</sup> annual Showcase skills competition saw a great number of club members out to help with the skills day and showcase evening. A salute to all involved and to Alex Ansell who has the program running like a fine tuned engine. During the NHL strike it was great to see a fellow Optimist practicing his skills at the showcase evening. The evening featured AMHA coaches vs. York Region firefighters and local celebrities.

The fund raising committee is also working on several projects for the Club to have "fun" in the area of fund raising. Stayed tuned for more information to follow.

In watching and reading the recent media coverage of the tragic events in other parts of the world, it certainly does provide a reminder that we live in a great country and great community and we have much to be thankful for.

The best to everyone for 2005.

Cheers

*Brian*

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## Beatles – The FabFour May 14 – Aurora Legion

**More to come**

## 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  
- Steve Hinder

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## **Progressive Dinner**

Mark Saturday, April 23, 2005 as the date for our annual "Progressive Dinner" for 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 June**

<b>January 11</b>	<b>Otton Team</b>
<b>January 25</b>	<b>Whiting Team</b>
<b>February 8</b>	<b>Gaby Team</b>
<b>February 22</b>	<b>Otton Team</b>
<b>March 8</b>	<b>Whiting Team</b>
<b>March 22</b>	<b>Gaby Team</b>
<b>April 5</b>	<b>Otton Team</b>
<b>April 19</b>	<b>Whiting Team</b>
<b>May 3</b>	<b>Gaby Team</b>
<b>May 17</b>	<b>Otton Team</b>
<b>May 31</b>	<b>Whiting Team</b>
<b>June 14</b>	<b>Gaby Team</b>
<b>June 28</b>	<b>Otton Team</b>

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**.

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## *Reminders*

- **Ask a friend out to one of our dinner meetings then ask them to join**
- **Dinner Meeting – January 19 - location – Wellington's**
- **Please send your outstanding dues to Ken Banks or the post office box**
- **We have Certificates of Appreciation that can be personalized for groups or organizations that have helped the Club. Contact Brian Walsh on this**
- **Volunteers needed for the chess tournament – Feb 24**
- **Pool night – February 17, note change in date**

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*The FABFOUR – May 14*



## **Chess Anyone**

Volunteers are urgently needed for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Aurora area chess tournament. The event will take place on Thursday February 24th at the Aurora Legion with setup being done the night before and early morning (7:30 am) on the day of the tournament.

The Regionals will be held Saturday, April 2nd at the Newmarket Optimist Hall.

For more information, please call **Steve Granger** at **905-727-2035**.

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## **Christmas Dinner**

All who attended the annual Christmas Dinner held at Wellington's had a great



time. Many wonderful gifts were exchanged, traded or confiscated. The big question being asked is "Who ended up with the Wellington's Gift certificate?"

In addition to the dinner, the Club



welcomed back and inducted Jaine Klees as part of the festivities.

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**Has anyone any idea of who got married in Honduras over the Christmas holidays?**



## 2004-2005 Showcase Tournament

Monday December 27 started the Ninth Annual Minor Hockey Showcase, co-sponsored by the Optimist Club of Aurora, the Aurora Canadian Tire Associate Store and the Aurora Minor Hockey Association. Over 1,100 boys and girls on 66 teams in 9 divisions participated in the four-day event, with 108 games being played. Of course the highlight of the event was the skills competition put on by our Club for the 9 age divisions. The tyke to major atom age groups were put through their paces doing skating, stick handling and shooting drills. The skills for the senior groups of minor peewee to bantam had more of an NHL flavour and included accuracy, hardest shot and breakaway passing. Each division also had relay races. Skills competitions all took place on December 27 from 7:30 am to 9:30 pm. Almost 1,100 boys and girls participated. The equivalent of ninety-nine people were involved in running these skills competitions. Points earned in the skills competition by each team were factored into the overall standing for each age group in the tournament so the skills become a very important factor in determining the two finalist teams for the championship games on December 31.

On Thursday December 30th, the Celebrity game again took place to a large crowd. The Central York Firefighters, including Mr. February and Mr. September formed the basis of the team. Kris King and three top-level women's players bolstered the team. The coaches won the game, 5-4. During the first intermission, the five fastest teams of each age group of the tyke to minor peewee skated in special relay races. Between the second and third periods, the four hardest shots of the major peewee to minor midget divisions were involved in head to head shootouts. After the game, the winning team members in each age group for the skills competition were presented with hockey bags courtesy of Aurora Canadian Tire. Admission to the game was a donation to the Aurora Food Bank and many hundred pounds of food were collected.

On Friday December 31, the finals for each age group were held. President Brian Walsh shared the presentation of the gold and silver medals and trophies to the champions and finalists with Mike Wright, owner of the Aurora Canadian Tire Store. Many thanks are extended to Martha Dickey of the Aurora Minor Hockey Association for her organization and cooperation in making this tournament such a success.

Many thanks are also extended to the twenty-one members and twenty-two other non-members including Judy Sherin, Mary Beth Marshall, Clare Velema, Bob Ince, Doug Kelly, Frank Klees, Glen Sharp, Joe Henderson, Wendy Henderson, Blair Boyd, George Wortman, Bob Bartlett, Robert Bartlett, Daniel Marshall, Mike Sheridan, David Sheridan, Josh Maeir, and high school volunteers Patrick Madden, Ian Everest, Rob Wilson, Caitlin Kelly and Danielle White for helping to run the skills competitions. Many thanks are also given to the members and non-members who ran the skills on Thursday night, sold 50-50 tickets (especially master seller Ken Banks) and helped out with the Celebrity game and reception. It was a win-win situation for all of those involved but particularly for the house league kids.



P.S. Our Optimist Club of Aurora team won the minor midget division.

*Alex S. Ansell  
Skills Coordinator*



### **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**

## January 2005

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2	3	4	5 Business Mtg. - 7:3 p.m. Legion	6	7	8
9	10	11 Bingo Otton Team - 4:45 p.m.	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Dinner Mtg. - 7:3 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					

## February 2005

		1	2 Business Mtg. - 7:3 p.m. Legion	3	4	5
6	7	8 Bingo Gaby Team - 4:45 p.m.	9	10	11	12
13	14 	15	16	17 Pool Night - 7:30 p.m. Cue Zone	18	19
20 Zone Meeting Richmond Hill	21	22 Bingo Otton Team - 4:45 p.m.	23 Executive Mtg. - 7:00 p.m. Aurora Library	24 Chess Tourney - 7:30 am Legion	25	26
27	28					



For lots of interesting information about Optimist International and its programs visit the official web site at "[www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org)" or the Central Ontario District at "[www.cenon.ca](http://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](mailto:ansellas@interlog.com)