

The



# Opti Prime

Optimist Club of Aurora



March 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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## Words of Wisdom

Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?

If money doesn't grow on trees then why do banks have branches?



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

We are hoping the spring will soon be here, it seems that the winter keeps getting longer each year. The snow shoveling will be replaced by grass cutting. Oh to be optimistic!!!

We continue our pace with again a busy month of activities, and our famous chess tourney. A big thank you to Steve and his team for again raising the bar on excellence. The students in the area sure do enjoy their

chess.

The TSN scouts were out at our recent athletic activities. If they were not in the pool hall scouting the sharks, they were in the bowling alleys looking for world tour participants. It appears that we certainly do have a ringer in our group with "Anna Kroeplin" - shooting pool and winning prizes on the bowling lane at the Big Brothers event.

The March dinner meeting will feature Frank Klees, who will be able to help provide insight into parliament 101. We have had our warm up with Mayor Jones, so we are now looking at the next level.

With spring training soon starting for the Bob Hartwell run, we hope to see all on the trail for this major activity in April. The progressive dinner as well is a major spring time activity. We finish off our spring time with the FabFour on May 14, 2005. Get your tickets for this fun event, and celebrate our Club's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with some good old rock and roll.

This is also the time to pause and reflect on an individual who was involved with so many Optimist functions always there encouraging and supporting. The bubbly smile and enthusiasm were contagious at times. We all lost a fine friend and a true believer in Optimism - our salute to Marg "Curly" Ansell.

Regards,

*Brian*



## Get Your Tickets Now

For the FabFour, come and hear the Beatles  
8:00 p.m. at the Aurora Legion

**May 14, 2005**

Purchase tickets at the Royal LePage office in  
Aurora

## 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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**Welcome**  
**To our newest member**  
  
**Glen Sharp**



## **Bingo Dates and Teams until the end of June**

<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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## **Bowling for Big Brothers/Sisters**



Nine (9) energetic Optimist Club members participated in the Bowling for Big Brothers and

Sisters event held on Sat. Feb. 19th at 1:00 pm. Laughter in the lanes seemed to be our theme that day! Gutter ball honours went to only four of our players, and the top score of the day was held by Anna Kroeplin at 143.

Aside from being a fun event, the organization raised \$23,168.75 for that day alone! Bowl for Kids Sake is one of Big Brothers Big Sisters longest running fund-raisers, and all pledges raised will go toward their local mentoring programs.

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### **In Memoriam**

**We have recently learned that Chris Tyson, President of our Club in 1989-90 has passed away. No other details are known at this time.**



## **Chess 2005**

This year's 9th annual Aurora Chess Tournament went off smoothly due to the super efforts of our Optimists and volunteers. Many special thanks to Bill Otton who helped set up the night before along with the expertise of Don Stubbs, Anna Kroeplin, Janice Walsh and Terry Sherin and Paul English who made the morning setup a breeze. Also, what would a day be without the special paparazzi talents of Paul English who handled the pictures via digital camera. We have some special ones featured in the Auroran newspaper and soon to be released website under [www.optimistchess.com](http://www.optimistchess.com).

The day went along smoothly with 307 students registered overall in the tournament. We had a number of volunteers from the schools and community to make it a really fun experience for the students. Please visit our new York Regional Optimist chess website for individual performances/results.

The Regional will be happening this Saturday April 2nd and we need at least 4 Optimist volunteers to assist through the day. Please contact me and we can go through the details. Overall with this being our 9th Chess tournament we have had in excess of 10,000 students playing in our local chess tournaments through the years. This year alone was in excess of 1,100 students not counting the finals. We wish all the best to Aurora's finest in going into the finals! I appreciate again all of the club support and I look forward to any volunteers coming forward to help out.

Stephen Granger  
Chair, Aurora Optimist Chess

## Pool Nite

The pool tournament was a great success with 26 participants! Everyone said that they really enjoyed the comradery and sport of it. They LOVED the food - there was even

enough for Bill Otton to take home!!!

A short welcome speech

and instructions on the tournament commenced at 7:30 p.m. We started playing the 8-ball double-elimination tournament around 7:45 p.m., and people could talk, eat, drink and play. The last game was played at 10:15 p.m., and most of our Optimists stayed to watch it. (Jaine Klees was thrilled that..."a girl finally beat Frank!")

The "Optimist Shark Champion" trophy went to Anna Kroeplin; second place: Frank Klees & third place went to Rob Bartlett. Kudos go out to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners, who demonstrated their sportsmanship by actually drinking out of the tiny trophies!



We have received positive feedback to make this an annual event. Let's all chip in to ensure that John O'Heir gets a flu shot for next year!

Thanks go out to John O'Heir for organizing the event, and a special thank-you to Ken Banks, Janice Walsh and Grant Perry for their extra efforts to help the evening run smoothly. Also thanks to Carol Bartlett for informing members of this distinguished event, and her follow-up correspondence.

Last, but not least, thanks to our host, Carmen of Cue Zone, in running the actual tournament, and providing the dinner.



The Fourth Annual Bob Hartwell Runner's Challenge will take place on April 10<sup>th</sup> starting at the Town Park at 9:00 a.m.

The races include a half marathon, a two person half marathon relay, the Optimist 5K and the children's mini mile. Registration fees are required for all of the races except the children's mini mile. This race will start at 9:45 a.m. All children must be registered (at the registration desk) by a parent on race day. Each participant will receive a free race bib number as a souvenir. The route will be one loop around the perimeter of Town Park.

Volunteers are needed for registration, which starts at 7:00 a.m., and for marshals along the route. Contact Paul English at 905-841-4002.

This year the course runs through the internal streets of Aurora instead of the perimeter roads.

The 2005 pre race pasta dinner will be held at the G.W. Williams Secondary School. Tickets are just \$10 each and are limited. Dinner will be served from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. If you buy a pasta ticket on line, you do not require a paper ticket. View the website at <http://www.hartwellchallenge.com>.

## Progressive Dinner



Don't forget, 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 with some outstanding food as usual.

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



## 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

## March 2005

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

## April 2005

					1	2 Regional Chess Newmarket
3	4	5 Bingo Otton Team - 4:45 p.m.	6 Business Mtg. - 7:3 p.m. Legion	7	8	9
10 Hartwell Run 9:00 a.m. Town Park	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Bingo Whiting Team - 4:45 p.m.	20	21	22	23 Progressive Dinner
24	25	26	27 Executive Mtg. - 7:00 p.m. Aurora Library	28	29 District Quarter Meeting	30 District Quarter Meeting Holiday Inn, Kingston



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)