

The



Opti Prime

Optimist Club of Aurora

March 2006



2005-2006 Executive

President

Terry Sherin

President Elect

John Thompson

Vice Presidents

Paul Madden

Ken Banks

Secretary

Janice Walsh

Treasurer

Doug Hubley

Directors

Paul English

Anna Kroeplin

Steve Granger

Robert Parypa

John O'Heir

Ken McIsaac

Sgt-at-Arms

Glen Sharp

Past President

Brian Walsh

Bulletin Editor

Alex Ansell

An Old Farmer's Advice

Good judgment comes from
experience, and a lotta that
comes from bad judgment

Words that soak into your
ears are whispered...not
yelled

You cannot unsay a cruel
word



Terry's Tales (The President's Message)

Another month has passed us by, with new and exciting projects for the upcoming months.

At this time I would like to welcome two new members to our club Mr. Ken Watkins and Mr. Rusty Barrese, WELCOME

The Club held the tenth annual chess tournament on February 23rd. with 245 students participating. The winners will compete in the Regionals on March 25th at the Aurora Legion.

Our February dinner meeting was a huge success with 28 members and guests enjoying the pool, food and fellowship. The champion has not been crowned yet, John Thompson is waiting to play Paul English or myself for the Title. Will advise when the games will be played.

As a Club we have undertaken to Host the Street Dance on June 3rd. This should be a great event and money raiser for the Club. We are going to need all the help from members to make this a great success, Ken Banks is the Chair for this committee which consists of Ken McIsaac, John O'Heir, Carol Bartlett, Tom Connor, Rusty Barrese, Steve Granger and myself. Please advise Carol Bartlett of your attendance.

Another Fund raising opportunity for June 30th and July 1st. could be in the works, will advise as soon as I get more details.

Upcoming Events --- Hartwell Run ----- April 9th
Progressive Dinner -- April 22nd
NMK Golf Tourn. ----- June 7th

Yours in Optimism

Terry



Rusty Barrese

Meet Our Newest Members



Ken Watkins

Committee Chairs

Bike Rodeo – Robert Parypa
Bingo – Bill Otton
Book Sale – Nora MacDonald
- Ken McIsaac
Bowling for Big Brothers
- Carol Bartlett
- Anna Kroepflin
Bulletin – Alex Ansell
Chess – Steve Granger
COLS – John Thompson
Communications – Carol Bartlett
Dinner Meetings – Robert Parypa
- Carol Bartlett
Hartwell Run – Paul English
Inaugural – Terry Sherin
John Thompson
July 1 - Terry Sherin
Membership – Ken Banks
Members Xmas Party – John Housser
Mobile Kitchen – Terry Sherin
Opti Rec Hockey – Rob Whiting
Ken McIsaac
Optimist International Foundation –
Janice Walsh
Phoning – Carol Bartlett
Progressive Dinner – Greg Way
Publicity – Anna Kroepflin
Respect for Law – Steve Hinder
Santa Claus Parade – John Thompson
Santa Claus Parade Float – Bill Otton
Sergeant-at-Arms – Glen Sharp
Showcase Tournament – Alex Ansell
Street Sale – Terry Sherin
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 Kroepflin
Director – Fundraising
- Steve Granger
Director - Fellowship
- John O'Heir

Home Remedies

Be really good to your family and friends. You never know when you are going to need them to empty your bedpan.



Bingo Dates and Teams until the end of June

March 7	Otton Team
March 21	Whiting Team
April 4	Gaby Team
April 18	Otton Team
May 2	Whiting Team
May 16	Gaby Team
May 30	Otton Team
June 13	Whiting Team
June 27	Gaby Team

The bingo date of March 7 for the OTTON team has been cancelled.

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**.

Please be sure to verify and double check all counts each night

Reminders

- **Regional Chess – March 25**
- **Hartwell Run – April 9**
- **Progressive Dinner – April 22**
- **Respect for Law – Safety Village - TBA**
- **Safety on Wheels (Bike & Board Rodeo) – May 27**
- **Aurora Street Dance – June 3**
- **3rd Quarter Board, Kingston – May 26-28**

More West Jet Smiles

Your seat cushions can be used for flotation; and in the event of an emergency water landing, please paddle to shore and take them with our compliments.



Sharp Minds Triumph at This Years Aurora Optimist Chess Tournament

If spectators could have seen the excitement at this years Aurora Optimist Chess Tournament, they never would have thought chess as an active participant sport. It is more regarded as a quiet activity of players hunched over their chess pieces. This image certainly was not the case because there was a whole lot of fun to everyone all around with happy headaches for all the volunteers!

This years 10th annual event for the Aurora Optimist Club, held at the Royal Canadian Legion Thursday February 23rd featured 245 qualified participant players from 17 surrounding schools competing in grades 1 through to grade 12.

Credit should be given to all our Optimist club members who helped along the way towards this annual tournament. It truly makes a difference to many of the children's quality of life! Special thanks also should go out to our regular core committee members: Don Stubbs and Anna Kroepflin who assist in many ways in making this event very organized. Our other key volunteer helpers were: Terry Sherin, Ken Banks, John Thompson, Alex Ansell, Brian Marshall, Chris Tsang and Carol Bartlett. Many thanks again for your support.

To put things into perspective, at our tournament event each attending student had to have been a winner already from their respective school chess clubs. This would have meant that at least 500 plus students would have been playing in chess clubs throughout all these schools in the Aurora area. **That's a whole lot of brain power!**

Stephen Granger, Chair
Aurora Optimist Club
Chess Tournament



Bike & Board Rodeo

Saturday May 27, 2006

Rain Date: Sunday May 28

The bike rodeo is back. This event is a must for all bike enthusiasts but is a being geared specifically for children from 3 years of age to 13 years of age.

The event has confirmed support from the Town of Aurora, P.A.C.T., our Optimist Club and the A-Channel.

Many components have been discussed and the following parts of the event have been delegated:

- Skate Board Clinic – Chris Catania (Town of Aurora)
- Bike Registrations – York Region Police
- Safety Inspections – Local Cycle Shop (TBC)
- Rules of the Road – York Region Police, Bike Patrol Unit
- Riding Components – State Farm & Aurora Optimist Club
- Information and Commercial Booths – Shelley
- Refreshments and Food – Optimists

Confirmation has been received that York Regional Police Chief Armand Labarge will attend along with the police bike patrol unit, some auxiliary officers and their mascot.

State Farm Insurance has agreed to provide volunteers, equipment and supplies needed to issue a rodeo licence to all the attendees.

This event promises to be a great one and a wonderful opportunity for the kids of our community.

For further information, please contact Robert Parypa at **905-713-0774**.



PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Saturday April 22, 2006

One of the major social activities of the Club is our annual **Progressive Dinner**. It is open to all Club members, spouses, and friends and will be held on Saturday, April 22. It is a great opportunity to renew friendships and for newer members, to get to know your fellow members.

Each person/couple attending will be asked to either host 6-8 people (including themselves) for appetizers/starters or 6-8 people (including themselves), for dinner or contribute a dessert for the party.

The timing for the evening is tentatively as follows:

- 6:00 arrive at 1 of 6 homes for appetizers/starters (actual house will be given to you on that Saturday) – items such as salad, soup, finger foods, etc.
- 7:00 open an envelope that tells you which home to go to for dinner
- 7:15 leave for dinner
- 7:30 arrive at your dinner house and have dinner with a completely different group of people – items such as lasagna, casseroles, BBQ, etc.
- 8:45 open an envelope that tells you which home to go to for dessert and a party and leave

Each host would provide refreshments in addition to the appetizer/starters or dinner.

The Club will provide water, soft drinks, beer and wine for the party.

Please contact **Greg Way, Tom Connor, Tom Litwiller, Terry Sherin, or Carol Bartlett** if you have any questions or to sign up.



5th annual Bob Hartwell

Half Marathon

April 9, 2006

This fixture of the Aurora Sports community is in its' 5th year. All signs point towards a record number of runners, walkers and sponsors.

The Harwell Committee, of which our club is a member, has been meeting for several months putting the hundreds of details in order for another wonderfully successful fund raising event.

Profits are directed the **Community Safety Village of York Region**.

The race has been supported in large part by the **Optimist Club of Aurora** since day 1. This year the committee will require more volunteers than ever and this list is being assembled by Paul English.

If you have not been contacted, please call him at **905-841-4002** or email at penglish@aci.on.ca to sign up for marshalling, registration or other functions.

Pasta Dinner

On the Saturday night before the race, CAYRE (Community Alliance for York Region Education) hosts a Pasta Dinner at Williams High School. This is a delicious dinner and Hopefully several Optimists will take part. **John Stanton of the Running Room** will be the guest speaker. Tickets are \$15 from Paul English or on line at www.hartwellchallenge.com

The Route

The course changed last year to highlight the diversity and beauty of our Town. It meanders through some of the prettiest part of Aurora and includes some challenging hills.

For details of the run and the course layout go to www.hartwellchallenge.com

JUST ASK



Bowl for Kid's Sake

The Bowl for Kids' Sake - Big Brother & Sister tournament on February 18 was well attended by two teams of Aurora Optimists! We had such a fun time, and surprised ourselves with our amazing hidden talents that we unleashed only for this great cause! (i.e. Carol Bartlett - Spare Queen, and Todd Kroeplin - Strike King, Best Form - Brian Marshall, Best Closer - Ken Banks - 5 strikes in a row, Honourable Mentions - Mary Beth Marshall, Tom & Barb Connor, Anna Kroeplin and Bob Bartlett).

Bowl for Kids' Sake is about a having fun while helping kids. It's the Big Brother and Big Sister's most important fund-raising event, where the funds go directly toward matching children with carefully-screened, caring volunteers.

Thanks to all who attended!



2nd Quarter District Conference

February 17-18 Holiday Inn, Burlington

Terry Sherin, John Thompson and Alex Ansell attended the Second Quarter Board Meeting in Burlington. Our Club received banner patches for being District winner for our two CPA books entered in the District Competition. Congratulations are extended to Anna Kroeplin for competing the Chess Book in the Culture and Education category and Alex Ansell for the book on the Tri Star and Minor Hockey Showcase in the Sports and Recreation category.

Both books have gone on to the International Competition.



Pool Nite

Well, it was a cold, blustery night with freezing rain and well-below-0 temperatures - BUT THAT didn't stop our 30 determined Aurora Optimists members to join the fun and competition in our annual Pool Tournament on February 16th! The dinner was exceptional, as usual, with thanks to our host Carmen of Cue Zone.

Due to the weather however, we had a late start, but the night was filled with laughter and fun! Both "favourites" Anna Kroeplin AND Frank Klees were knocked out before the Semi-finals, with John Thompson rising to the top of the 'A' play-offs side.

As the hour drew late, it was decided that the final games should be played at the NEXT Business Meeting at the Legion in March. Paul English and Terry Sherin must play-off to see who will challenge John T. for the honour of "Optimist Shark". Rest up boys, - you'll have a riveted audience cheering you on!

Thank you to John O'Heir & Anna Kroeplin for organizing this event.

PS. Due to time scheduling, the Championship games have been rescheduled.



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 2006

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

April 2006

						1
2	3	4 Bingo Gaby Team - 4:45 p.m.	5 Business Mtg. - 7:30 p.m. Aurora Legion	6	7	8
9 Hartwell Challenge -7:30 a.m. Wells St. School	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Bingo Otton Team - 4:45 p.m.	19	20	21	22 Progressive Dinner - 6:00 p.m. Many locations
23	24	25	26 Executive Mtg. - 7:00 p.m. Aurora Library	27	28	29
30						



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

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

