

The



Opti Prime

Optimist Club of Aurora

May 2007



2006-2007 Executive

President

John Thompson

President Elect

Greg Way

Vice Presidents

Carol Bartlett

Paul English

Secretary

Janice Walsh

Treasurer

Doug Hubley

Directors

Ken Banks

John O'Heir

Ken McIsaac

Brian Marshall

Glen Sharp

Rusty Barrese

Sgt-at-Arms

Ken Watkins

Past President

Terry Sherin

Bulletin Editor

Alex Ansell

Famous Sayings

*How do you tell when you're
out of invisible ink?*

*When everything is
coming your way, you're
in the wrong lane.*

The hardness of the butter
is proportional to the
softness of the bread.



John's 19th Hole (The President's Message)

If Barb Steele is excited then I'm excited. And she is. And I am . And so is her whole committee. After a great presentation and a good discussion with the 26 members in attendance, it was voted to go forth with the Trip of the Month fundraiser. Barb and her committee have done a lot of work so far to reach this point. By using the prospective Aurora Youth Centre as the focal point of the fundraising, the Club hopes to get people of Aurora involved in a major project for the youth of Aurora. I personally

believe that this a great time for the Club to take on a new endeavour. We are experiencing a surge in membership {Welcome aboard Sheila Kovacs } and need to unite the new blood with the old blood in a shared project for the Club.

As Ken McIsaac stated, the Book Sale had been phenomenal for the Club but we lose one or two donators, it could done.

Tom Connor has reported a new formula for bingo which could ease are commitment on a nightly basis, but revenues are down and nobody believe they will return to what they were.

It has been said we aren't ticket sellers, but we are Optimists and I hope everyone embraces this new project. If you need some excitement, call Barb up. She has lots to spare.

And in the meantime, best wishes to Ticket Seller Extrodinaire Ken Banks. We hope he's feeling better real soon. I guess straightening out the Cops at the Hartwell was too much even for our intrepid Ken.

And talking about the Hartwell, another great success for the race that gets bigger and better each year. Despite the cool weather, over eight hundred runners showed up for a tour of Aurora. Our first year as sponsors of the Mini Mile was a success and we were presented with a great plaque that you can view in our new display case at the ARC. It would be great if someone could identify the young participant in the picture. Tom Beck reports that with our invaluable help, the Hartwell Challenge has donated over \$95,000.00 to the Community Safety Village.

And talking about the Safety Village {great segues eh?}, a reminder about The Respect for Law dinner on Thursday May 17. Steve Hinder is organizing again this year and we are hoping for a great turnout to honour one of our finest and another worthy recipient this year. Let Carol know before May 10 about your intention to come.

Another reminder about the Bike Rodeo that Rob Parypa is organizing on Sat. May 26. Rob needs 12 volunteers that day for only about 3 hours so jump on board an event that Rob has resurrected the last 2 years. Check out the poster and try to make it out to great event that's only costing us our time.

And Tom and Joanne, your new kitchen is lovely. But if our Progressive Dinner gets any bigger, we may have to rent out a hall. Forty-Four participants experiencing food, drink and especially good company made for a marvelous evening. It was a great way for the

new members to meet a lot of us. Thanks to Greg and Tom for the mixing and matching and to the Litwiller's for the final stop. As you may have noticed, I've been too busy being excited to give my monthly Links report. Suffice to say, May 8, game on. Yours in Optimism with a slight fade.

President John

Committee Chairs

Bike & Board Rodeo - Robert Parypa
Bingo – Tom Connor
Book Sale – Nora MacDonald
- Ken McIsaac
Bowling for Big Brothers
- Anna Kroeplin
Bulletin – Alex Ansell
Chess – Steve Granger
COLS – John Thompson
Communications – Carol Bartlett
Dinner Meetings – Carol Bartlett
Hartwell Run – Paul English
Inaugural – Greg Way
John Thompson
Membership – Ken Banks
Members Xmas Party – John Houser
Mobile Kitchen – Terry Sherin
Opti Rec Hockey –
Optimist International Foundation –
Janice Walsh
Progressive Dinner – Greg Way
Publicity –
Respect for Law – Steve Hinder
Santa Claus Parade Marshalling
- John Thompson
Santa Claus Parade Float – Bill Otton
Showcase Tournament – Alex Ansell
Street Dance – Carol Bartlett
- Terry Sherin
Web Site – Janice & Brian Walsh

Director – Youth Sports
-
Director – Youth Activities
-
Director – Community Service
- Glen Sharp
Director – Membership
-
Director – Fundraising
- Ken McIsaac
Director - Fellowship
- John O'Heir

District Convention

September 7 - 9
Quality Suites
St. Catharines, Ontario



Bingo Dates and Teams until the end of August

May 1	Otton Team
May 15	Whiting Team
May 29	Gaby Team
June 12	Otton Team
June 26	Whiting Team
July 10	Gaby Team
July 24	Otton Team
August 7	Whiting Team
August 21	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 **Tom Connor** at **905-727-1546**.



3rd Quarter District Conference

May 25-26
Ambassador Hotel
Kingston

This is the meeting where the annual oratorical contest finals for the 2006-2007 year are held. It is an exciting time to listen to the finalists in this great contest and particularly the enthusiasm shown by the young participants.

In addition, there will be some great educational sessions. A "Rising Star" seminar will also be held to which some of our members have been invited. Get ideas from others and join in on the hospitality. Find out what our District is all about.



6th annual Bob Hartwell Half Marathon April 15, 2007

Once again, thank you to all of the Club members and family and friends who helped out on Sunday Morning. This event would not be the success that it is year over year, without the wonderful input of the Optimist Club. 22 members helped out this year.

The time and effort that each and everyone of you puts into this event makes the Hartwell Challenge stand out as a special event for runners and Volunteers.

Whatever your reasons for participating and volunteering are, the Race Committee is extremely grateful.

You may go to the following website to see pictures of the event.
<http://www.mikecheliak.com/gallery.php?gid=162>. Also, you can see the results at the Hartwell website www.hartwellchallenge.com

Summary for 2007 vs 2006

Total Registered Runners - all events ... 774, 2006 ... 788, down 2%. Some were no-shows.

Total Runners - all events 681, 2006... 676, up 5 runners

Total walk ins (Fri, Sat and Sun) ... 140, walk ins 2006 ... 151, down 8%, obviously due to weather conditions
Mini Mile ... 79, 2006 ... 68

Paul English, Optimist Chair

INAUGURAL DINNER

Our annual *Inaugural Dinner* will take place Saturday, September 29 at St. Andrew's Valley Golf Course. This is where president John gets to acknowledge some of the achievements from this year, where the new executive is installed and where we kick off our new Optimist year. More details to follow.

Newmarket Golf

Wednesday June 6
Shawneeki Golf Club

Registration 11:00 am
Shotgun start 12:30
\$125 per golfer, includes golf,
cart, dinner and prizes

We have 11 members participating
so far. If you are interested in
coming, please contact **Alex Ansell**
at 905-727-5012



Following the elections at the April
Business meeting, the Executive for
2007-2008 will be:

President:	Greg Way
President Elect:	Carol Bartlett
Vice President:	Paul English
Vice President:	Ken Banks
1 Year Directors:	Ken McIsaac John O'Heir Robert Parypa
2 Year Directors:	Tom Litwiller Rob Gaby Diane Buchanan
Sgt-at-Arms	Patricia & Peter Bifolchi
Past President	John Thompson
Secretary:	Alex Ansell
Treasurer:	Tom Connor



Our annual Respect for law dinner will
be held on Thursday May 17 at the
Community Safety Village at the
Bruce's Mill Conservation Area.

Please plan to attend as we honour one
of York Region's officers.

It will also give you an opportunity to
see all of the improvements made at
the Safety Village.

Dress is business casual. Make
sure you let Carol know if you are
coming.



Bike & Board Rodeo

Saturday May 26, 2007

Place: Lambert Wilson Park (behind
the Aurora Family Leisure Complex
from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

The mobile kitchen will be setup in the
same location as last year. All profits
on food go to the Optimist club.

A minimum 12 volunteers will be
required to run the stations.

Volunteers should arrive at 10 am
to get setup. Parking will be across
the road at Torcan in the NORTH
parking lot.



We did it again! Our annual
Progressive Dinner took place on
Saturday, April 28 with 44
members/spouses/friends attending.
From the whole committee, a sincere
thank you to all for opening your
homes, for making everyone so
welcome and providing such wonderful
food. And then there were the
desserts!! Mmmm. Mmmm.

A special thanks to Tom Connor for
organizing who was doing what and
where we were all going. And to Tom
and Jo Anne Litwiller for 'volunteering'
their home for the party. As far as I can
tell, the house is still in good condition.

Greg Way, Chair

Montréal
2007

89th Annual Optimist
International Convention
15th Annual JOOI Convention
July 4-7, 2007
Montréal, Quebec



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.



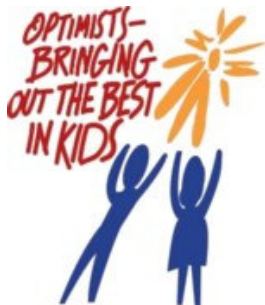
Right Here, Right Now

May 2007

		1 Bingo Otton Team - 4:45 p.m	2 Business Mtg. - 7:30 p.m. Aurora Legion	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Bingo Whiting Team - 4:45 p.m	16	17 Respect for Law - 7:30 p.m. Safety Village	17	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Quarter Bd - Kingston	26 Quarter Bd - Kingston Bike & Board Rodeo
27	28	29 Bingo Gaby Team - 4:45 p.m	30 Executive Mtg. - 7:00 p.m. Library	31		

June 2007

					1	2 Street Dance
3 Street Sale	4	5	6 Newmarket Golf - 11:00 Shawneeki	7	8	9
10	11	12 Bingo Otton Team - 4:45 p.m	13 Wrap up BBQ - 7:00 p.m. Carol's Place	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Bingo Whiting Team - 4:45 p.m	27 Executive Mtg. - 7:00 p.m. Library	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

