

The

# Opti Prime



Optimists Bring Out the Best in Children

Les Optimistes inspirent le meilleur chez les jeunes • 2007-2008

## Optimist Club of Aurora

### March 2008



#### 2007-2008 Executive

*President*  
**Greg Way**

*President Elect*  
**Carol Bartlett**

*Vice Presidents*  
**Paul English**  
**Ken Banks**

*Secretary*  
**Alex Ansell**

*Treasurer*  
**Tom Connor**

*Directors*  
**Brian Marshall**  
**Glen Sharp**  
**Rusty Barrese**  
**Tom Litwiller**  
**Rob Gaby**  
**Diane Buchanan**

*Sgt-at-Arms*  
**Patricia & Peter Bifulchi**

*Past President*  
**John Thompson**

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*Bulletin Editor*  
**Alex Ansell**

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### And Now You Know

*'Stewardesses' is the longest word typed with only the left hand.*

*And 'lollipop' is the longest word typed with your right hand.*

*'Dreamt' is the only English word that ends in the letters 'mt'.*



### *Greg's Way* (The President's Message)

As you are reading this, I want you to know that Florida is wonderful. I don't miss the snow at all. Joyce and I (and Tom and Barb Connor) are down here for the month of March to relax and enjoy life but always thinking of the Optimist Club of Aurora. President elect Carol Bartlett is in charge for the month so I don't have anything to worry about.

Elsewhere in the Opti Prime, Optimist Alex is putting in information from the Central Ontario 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter District Board meeting that was held in Newmarket on Feb 8-9. A huge congratulations to past president John Thompson for the awards that he and his team received for the club's activities last year. In particular, we were acknowledged as the best Club in our Zone and #2 in the whole district!! A great accomplishment and well deserved.

As winter starts to wind down, our club activities start to pick up. With the club chess tournament just finished, Steve gets to plan for the regional one on March 29. On March 22, we will be taking the mobile kitchen to the annual Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by the Girl Guides. With over 500 kids estimated to participate, it's a great way to get involved in another youth activity in Aurora. Optimist Terry Sherin will need some help so please sign up when he asks.

This month's dinner meeting will be our annual pool tournament on March 19. Optimist Anna Kroeplin is organizing the event. It's always a fun evening and doesn't require a lot of pool skills.

At the end of the month, we will be getting everyone signed up for the Progressive Dinner on April 12. The schedule is listed in the Opti Prime. The committee will be asking those participating to host 6-8 people for either appetizers or a dinner. Then all of us will meet for dessert and a party around 9:00 p.m. . Remember, the purpose of the evening is for fellowship. Dinners don't have to be elaborate – most of us will eat anything!!

Enjoy the month of March and I will see everyone at the April 2 business meeting.

*Greg*

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## Progressive Dinner

### April 12



## Committee Chairs

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

Director – Marketing/Publicity  
- Diane Buchanan  
Director – Youth Activities  
- Glen Sharp  
Director – Community Service  
- Rob Gaby  
Director – Membership  
- Rusty Barrese  
Director – Fundraising  
- Brian Marshall  
Director - Fellowship  
- Tom Litwiller

## **REMINDERS**

- **Mar 19 - Pool Nite**
- **Mar 22 – Easter Egg Hunt**
- **Mar 29 – Regional Chess**
- **Apr 12 - Progressive Dinner**
- **Apr 27 – Hartwell Run**
- **May 30 – Bicycle Rodeo**
- **May 31 – Street Dance**
- **June 1 – Soap Box Derby**
- **June 1 – Street Sale**

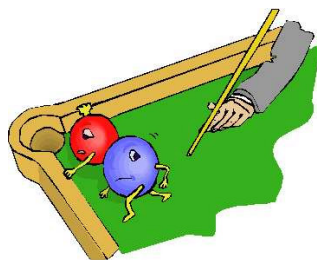


## **Bingo Dates and Teams until the end of June**

<b>February 5</b>	<b>Whiting Team</b>
<b>February 19</b>	<b>Gaby Team</b>
<b>March 4</b>	<b>Otton Team</b>
<b>March 18</b>	<b>Whiting Team</b>
<b>April 1</b>	<b>Gaby Team</b>
<b>April 15</b>	<b>Otton Team</b>
<b>April 29</b>	<b>Whiting Team</b>
<b>May 13</b>	<b>Gaby Team</b>
<b>May 27</b>	<b>Otton Team</b>
<b>June 10</b>	<b>Whiting Team</b>
<b>June 24</b>	<b>Gaby 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 **Brian Marshall at 905-727-6732.**



## **Pool Nite**

**Double Knockout (you have to lose twice to be eliminated)**

LOCATION: Cue Zone, Wellington at Haida, west of Yonge St.

DATE: Wednesday, March 19

TIME: Food 6:30, start 7:00 p.m. sharp

FEE: \$15.00 (incl. buffet & table fees)

We're looking for numbers, folks! We have 5 tables from 7-10. Please let Carol know ASAP of your interest in participating in this fun event. We need to know how many people we can set the tourney up for, and also, how many mouths to feed the scrumptious catered food.

Come out and have some fun.



## **CHESS**

Wow! This being the 12th year has to have been the best and smoothest run chess tournament. There were many members who answered the call for support from Carol Bartlett and right from setup to operations and take down everyone knew what to do. Many thanks go to fellow Optimists Ken Watkins, Brian Marshall, Barbara Steele, Laurie Blake, Glen Sharp, Diane Buchanan, Alex Ansell, and Terry Sherin for their great decorating, and early morning setup. At the end of the tournament Rob Parypa couldn't believe on how little had to be done in the end.

The key to handling this year's 273 students, grades 1 through to 12, plus adults and teachers was having an excellent operations team. This being said from the start Mike Varcoe got 19 schools booked up and Anna Kroeplin followed through with great administration during the event getting people settled. Many thanks to Don Stubbs and Chris Tsang for their many years of support in all aspects of the Optimist Chess Tournament.

It was great seeing the many students' faces lighting up as Diane and our fellow Optimists handed out the trophies. No doubt we will be making a difference in their lives from this event.

As our next go forward we have the Regional Chess Tournament happening Saturday March 29th at the same location-The Royal Canadian Legion and an early setup @ 7:30 will be required. An e-mail will go out and again many thanks to the club supporters in making this a well attended event that many youth over the years have appreciated!

Stephen Granger  
Chair

*Editor's Note:*

*Pictures will be included in the April issue of the Prime.*



## *Bowl for Kids Sake*

It was a beautiful day as the superlative team of bowlers from our Optimist Club descended on Gateway Lanes to participate in the annual Big Brothers Big Sisters of York bowling day. Our group was divided into two teams. The alley 13 team was comprised of Alex Ansell, Terry Sherin, Phantom Ken Banks, Mary Beth Marshall and Carol Bartlett. The alley 14 team included Anna Kroepflin, Todd Kroepflin, Brian Marshall, Diane Buchanan and Stephen Granger.



The competition between alley teams was fierce. Between gutter balls, spares and strikes, the team on alley 14 managed to come out on top in both games. However, we have one unique character participate on the alley 13 team. Phantom Ken bowled up a storm and was the top bowler on that team for both games.

Some serious awards were made at the end of the games. Brian Marshall was considered to be the "Bowler with Style" for his actions, particularly after a strike. The "Most Serious Bowler" award went to that stalwart and dedicated bowler Diane Buchanan. The most prestigious award was the "Gutter Master" and it was won by gutter champion Alex Ansell. (Who else could get 0 on two frames.

It was a great day for the benefit of Big Brothers Big Sisters. Everyone certainly enjoyed themselves and had many good laughs.

## District Awards

What a luncheon it was. Our Club came away as big winners at the annual District Awards Luncheon on February 9 for the 2006-07 administrative year.

The Club was presented with a \$20 per member donation patch from the Optimist International Foundation of Canada. This amount represents the total amount donated by the Club and members of the Club to the Foundation in the 2006-07 year.



It was then announced by Past Governor Terry Twocock that our Club had achieved the status of Honour Club. Past President John Thompson accepted the award as Honour President and also accepted plaques for Janice Walsh as Honour Secretary and Doug Hubley as Honour Treasurer.

Linda Tuttle announced the results for the Community Project Award Books. Our CPA book on the Minor Hockey Showcase won the award for being the top CPA book in the Community Service category. The book has been forwarded to St. Louis for competition against books from all of the other Districts.

When the Top Club in each Zone was announced, our Club came out on top of the five Clubs in our Zone. The countdown then stated for the Top 10 in the District. Finally, our name came up as the second best Club in the District. The Top Club in the District was Whitby.

Congratulations are extended to all members of our Club for their support and dedication in achieving these awards.



### 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 2008

						1
2	3	4 Bingo Otton Team - 4:45 p.m	5 Business Mtg. - 7:30 p.m. Aurora Legion	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 St. Patrick's Day 	18 Bingo Whiting Team - 4:45 p.m	19 Pool Nite - 7:30 p.m. Cue Zone	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Board Mtg - 7:00 p.m. Library	27	28	29 Regional Chess - 9:00 a.m. Aurora Legion
30	31					

## April 2008

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



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

