

The

# Opti Prime



Optimists Bring Out the Best in Children

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

## Optimist Club of Aurora

May 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**  
**Bifolchi**

*Past President*  
**John Thompson**

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*Bulletin Editor*  
**Alex Ansell**

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### **Interesting Comments**

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

*Eagles may soar, but  
weasels don't get sucked  
into jet engines. .*

*What happens if you get  
scared half to death  
twice?*



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

Wow! Where did April go? It seemed like a lot of Optimist activities were all coming together at one time.

Congratulations go to 6 members of our Club who were recognized by the Province of Ontario and who each received a 2008 Volunteer Service Award at a ceremony in Markham on April 28. They are:

Alex Ansell	Ken Banks
Carol Bartlett	Tom Connor
Brian Marshall	Terry Sherin

April also say the annual Progressive Dinner where 33 members, spouses and guests managed to find their way around Aurora to various houses for appetizers, dinner and then a party. A special thanks to Tom Connor who once again put the groups together and got the "secret" envelopes to everyone. And to Janice and Brian Walsh who opened their home to all of us for the after dinner party!

On April 27, we did our first ever pancake/sausage breakfast for the Hartwell Run. Paul English organized the day and had all the equipment and food organized. By 7:30, we were cooking sausages and ready for the runners as they came in after their run. Thanks to Paul and all who came out and made the event work very well.

May promises to be our busiest month of the year and will require all members to find time to help at all the various club activities during the month. Take a look at the upcoming events elsewhere and you will see that in May, we have:

- Zone meeting and bowling tournament in Keswick
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter District Meeting in Kingston
- Respect for Law Dinner
- Optimist Junior Golf Tournament
- Bike & Board Rodeo
- Soap Box Derby
- Street Dance
- Street Festival

Plus our usual business meeting on Wednesday May 7, 7:30 p.m. at the Legion. I encourage everyone to be at this meeting, as we will be voting making an application to the Magna Hoedown to be one of the community groups that work the event and share in the proceeds. It will be a lot of work but the rewards could be outstanding for the Club.

So please volunteer when asked and see you at the Club activities in May.

**Greg**

## 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**

- **May 4 – Zone Meeting**
- **May 21 – Respect for Law**
- **May 25 – Junior Golf**
- **May 30 – Bicycle Rodeo**
- **May 31 – Street Dance**
- **May 31 – Soap Box Derby**
- **June 1 – Street Sale**
- **June 4 – Newmarket Golf**
- **June 18 – Summer BBQ**

## **Election Results**

**Following the elections at the April Business meeting, the Executive for 2008-2009 will be:**

**President:** Carol Bartlett  
**President Elect:** Ken Banks  
**Vice President:** Glen Sharp  
**Vice President:** Brian Marshall  
**1 Year Directors:** Tom Litwiller  
Rob Gaby  
Diane Buchanan  
**2 Year Directors:** Bill Otton  
Tony Caceres  
Barb Steele  
**Sgt-at-Arms** Patricia and Peter Bifolchi  
**Past President** Greg Way  
**Secretary:** Alex Ansell  
**Treasurer:** Tom Connor



## **3rd Quarter District Conference and Oratorical Finals**

**Ambassador Hotel, Kingston  
May 23, 24**

## **Zone Meeting**

**LOCATION:** Baldwin Bowl – 4 km n of the Revenshoe Rd. on Hwy 48  
**Date:** Sunday May 4  
**Time:** 9:00 am

Breakfast will be hosted by the Optimist Club of Keswick followed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Zone Meeting, where the nominations and elections for Lt. Governor for 2008-2009 will take place.

Then be prepared to have some fun bowling. The "Fur-Lined Commode" and the "Horses Ass" trophies will be presented to the "winners" and "losers" of this fun activity. It is not regular bowling. The OC of Aurora won the "Fur-Lined Commode" last year

## **Bingo**

**Bingo Dates and Teams until the end of May then Bingo ceases**

**May 13 Gaby Team**  
**May 27 Otton Team**

All of the above dates are at the 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.**

## **Ontario Volunteer Awards**

The Ontario Volunteer Awards presentations for our area took place on Monday April 28 at the Crystal Palace Ballroom in Markham. The following members of our Club received awards for continuous years of volunteer service from the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Michael Chan:

**Carol Bartlett – 5 years**  
**Tom Connor – 5 years**  
**Terry Sherin – 5 years**  
**Ken Banks – 10 years**  
**Alex Ansell – 20 years**  
**Brian Marshall – 20 years.**



**Congratulations are extended to the recipients.**

## **Golf Etiquette**

**It's good sportsmanship to not pick up lost golf balls while they are still rolling.**

*Mark Twain*



**Wednesday May 21**  
**St. Andrew's Golf Club**

Our annual Respect for law dinner will be held on Wednesday May 21 at the St. Andrews Golf Club

Please plan to attend as we honour one of York Region's officers for his/her contribution to community safety in Aurora.

Prior to the recognition ceremony, Sgt. Mark Altermann will provide an overview on the issue of graffiti.

Cocktails – 6:30 pm

**OC Aurora Junior Golf Tournament**



**Sunday May 25**  
**St. Andrews Golf Club**

**First Tee Off: 11:00 am**  
**Cost: \$60 per golfer (includes golf, meal and a prize for the winner in each age category. There are 6 age categories. Both boys and girls are eligible to compete)**

**Volunteers are required**

**Contact Greg Way at 905-713-2570 for further information.**



**7<sup>th</sup> annual Bob Hartwell Half Marathon**  
**April 27, 2008**

The 7th Annual Hartwell Challenge was run On Sunday, April 27th under beautiful sunny skies and warm weather. It was probably the best weather to date for this race.

As usual the Optimist club came through in a big way and contributed to a fantastic experience for all of the runners and spectators.

Our 'Weenie Wagon was once again used as Control Central for the Race Announcer, and our sound system, handled by Ken Banks, functioned flawlessly.

The Pancake Breakfast was a huge success with over a dozen club members participating in setup, preparation, serving and cleanup.

The new venue at G.W. Williams High School was great, because Registration and the Breakfast both occurred in the same large auditorium with direct access to the staging area for the race.

There was a glitch regarding contacting Optimist Club volunteers. Due to personnel changes during the last few months, there was a disconnect between the previous volunteer coordinator and the new one. This was unfortunate, but understandable when the scope of the transfer of responsibility is considered.

The Race Committee has recognized this problem and will address it early in the next planning phase.

So apologies to those who were affected by this matter and our Committee looks forward to an even better event next year, if that's possible.

Thank You to all involved.

*Paul English*  
Hartwell Race Committee Member



**Dancing under the Stars**

**Saturday May 31, 2008**

**7:00 pm to 12:00 am**

**Join us for this rockin', fun-filled evening that kicks off the infamous Aurora Yonge Street Festival weekend!**

**Featuring:**

**The "Thursday Night Jam" Band**

**This 14 member band includes horns, percussions, guitars and singers**

**Event Location: YONGE STREET (from Murray to Henderson)**

**Ages: 19+ (beer garden)**

**Admission: Advance Tickets: \$10  
Night of Event: \$15**

**Tickets on Sale after May 1 at:  
Oak Ridge Outfitters  
- 14800 Yonge St.  
Straight Lines – 15143 Yonge St.**

**For more information, please contact:  
Diane Buchanan at 905-727-9817**

**Newmarket Golf**  
**15<sup>th</sup> Annual Tournament**  
**Wednesday June 4**  
**Shawneeki Golf Club**

**Registration: 11:00 am**  
**Shotgun Start: 12:45 pm**  
**Cost: \$125 per golfer (includes golf, cart, dinner and a prize for each golfer.**

**Dinner at the Optimist Hall**

**Contact Alex Ansell at 905-727-5012 for registration information.**

**We had 3 foursomes represent our Club last year**



## **Bike & Board Rodeo**

**Friday May 30, 2008**

The Aurora Optimist Club has once again partnered with the Town of Aurora and Aurora's Police and Community Together (PACT) organization to host the third annual Aurora Bike and Board Rodeo. This years venue has expanded to include not only bike and board safety, but a full array of safety issues.

This event is geared for children ages 3 to 15 and is scheduled for Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> 2008, between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at Hickson Park in the town of Aurora. Hickson Park is located at the corner of Borealis Ave. and Conover Ave.

In conjunction with the Town of Aurora, PACT, the York Regional Police, the Ontario Provincial Police, local businesses and other not for profit organizations we will be arranging, bike registrations, skate board and bike demonstrations, bike safety inspections, obstacle courses, photo bike licensing and other various safety demonstrations. Food, refreshments and display booths will also be available on site.

Our goal is to evolve this event to include fire and water safety. We are requesting the participation of Central York Fire Services.

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

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## **Soap Box Derby**

**Saturday May 31**

**Engelhard Drive**

**Start: 8:00 am**

**Volunteers are required to assist in the derby and to BBQ**

**Contact:**

**John Thompson at 905-727-9002  
or Glen Sharp at 905-727-8864  
for further information.**

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## **PROGRESSIVE DINNER**

**Saturday April 12, 2008**

33 members, spouses and guests attended our annual Progressive Dinner evening. The evening was full of fantastic food, great wine, and outstanding fellowship. A big thank you to Janice and Brian Walsh (not Marshall! - Inside joke for those who were there) for hosting the evening party. We hope the clean up didn't take too long.



The evening started off with 6 members hosting appetizers and another 6 then hosting dinner. With a glass (or two) of wine or other beverages at each, we had to be careful drove from location to location.

The committee wants to thank all who participated and to extend an invitation to members to create a new committee for 2009. We have been running the same format for several years and it's time for new ideas. Let President Elect Carol know if you are interested.

*Greg Way, Tom Connor, Tom Litwiller, Carol Bartlett*



### **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 2008

				1	2	3
4 Zone Meeting - 8:00 a.m. Wells School	5	6	7 Business Mtg. - 7:30 p.m. Aurora Legion	8	9	10
11	12	13 Bingo Gaby Team - 4:45 p.m.	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Respect for Law 6:30 p.m. St. Andrew's G.C.	22	23 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Board Ambassador Hotel Kingston	24 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Board Ambassador Hotel Kingston
25 Junior Golf St. Andrew's G.C.	26	27 Bingo Otton Team - 4:45 p.m.	28 Board Mtg - 7:00 p.m. Library	29	30 Bike Rodeo 5:00 p.m. Hickson Park	31 Soap Box Derby Street Dance

## June 2008

1 Street Sale	2	3	4 Newmarket Golf - 12:00 noon p.m. Shawneeki G.C.	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Summer BBQ - 7:00 p.m. Bartlett's	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Board Mtg. - 7:00 p.m. Library	26	27	28
29	30					



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)

