



The Opti Prime

The Optimist Club of Aurora



April 2011

2010 – 2011 Executive

President

Glen Sharp

President Elect

Alex Ansell

Vice Presidents

Peter Bifolchi

Ken McIsaac

Secretary

John Thompson

Treasurer

Carol Bartlett

Director – Marketing/Publicity

- **Tom Mrakas**

Director – Youth Activities

- **Steve Hinder**

Director – Community Service

- **Carolyn Trussler**

Director – Membership

- **Diane Buchanan**

Director – Fundraising

- **Brian Walsh**

Director – Fellowship

- **Bill Hack**

Sgt-at-Arms

Terry Sherin

Past President

Ken Banks



April Showers bring May Flowers!!!

Sharp's Saga



Well I hope everyone had a relaxing March, because we are going to be busy again in April! Spring is here and it's great to start thinking about the Farmer's Market, the Street Sale and even Canada Day, but let's not get ahead of ourselves.

Several members helped with the set up and registration for the Regional Chess tournament held on March 26 and once again I was amazed at the enthusiasm and ability of these young players. I had the opportunity to attend the Opti-hockey banquet on March 27 and bring wishes from the club. I couldn't believe the number of players in the attendance and the excitement as they received their awards. I still have an appreciation plaque presented to me by Steve Hinder over 20 years ago for coaching in the first two seasons of the program. I guess what goes around does come around!

We have already held our elections for 2011-2012 and it was nice that there was a good turnout for this important Business meeting on April 6. Congratulations to the new Executive. I feel like I just got started in this job and I'm already being replaced!

The Aurora Home Show runs from April 15-17 and we will be looking for lots of help. Last year this was a very successful fund raiser for the Club and we hope for more of the same this year. For those of us who found the Arctic Adventure a little chilly the Home Show will be a nice change.

Committee and Event Chairs

Arctic Adventure –Terry Sherin, Carol Bartlett,
Glen Sharp
Book Sale – Nora MacDonald
- Ken McIsaac
Bowling for Big Brothers
- Carol Bartlett
Bulletin – Kimberley Kerr
Chess – Don Stubbs
-Mike Varcoe
Children's Wish- Terry Sherin, Glen Sharp
COLS – John Thompson
Communications – Carol Bartlett
Dinner Meetings – Diane Buchanan,
-Steve Hinder
Farmer's Market – Bill Hack
Fellowship Committee – Bill Hack
Home Show – Alex Ansell
Junior Golf – Greg Way
Membership – Diane Buchanan
Members Xmas Party –Peter Bifolchi
Mobile Kitchen – Terry Sherin
Opti Rec. Hockey – Brian Walsh
Optimist International Foundation
-Janice Walsh
Policy Review Committee- John Thompson
Presidents' Night – Ken Banks
- Glen Sharp
Progressive Dinner – Brian Walsh
Publicity – Diane Buchanan
Respect for Law – Steve Hinder, John
Thompson, Peter Bifolchi
Run for Southlake – Carol Bartlett
Santa Claus Parade Marshalling
- Terry Sherin
Santa Claus Parade Float – Anna Kroeplin
Showcase Tournament – Alex Ansell
Web Site – Brian Walsh

Please consider volunteering your time!
The following weekend on April 23, we
will be working in partnership with the
Girl Guides, the Town and the Aurora
Seniors' Centre to host the annual
Easter Egg Hunt. We cook up a
pancake breakfast and the seniors do
most of the serving. The Girl Guides
have crafts, face painting and other
activities for the young children who
attend. This is a great co-operative
event and a wonderful family activity.
We will be looking for volunteers and
details will be coming out soon.

By the time that the May edition of the
Prime hits the streets we will have
served up breakfast at the Run for
Southlake and will be getting ready for
the Progressive Dinner on May 7. This
is a really enjoyable evening and I
encourage new members and those who
haven't attended in a while to join us.
It's definitely a case of "the more the
merrier."

That's all for now, looking forward to
some outdoor activities!

Glen



The Aurora Chamber of
Commerce Reception
Area
**25th Annual Home
Show**

Friday, April 15 to Sunday, April 17th

Home,
Sweet Home

Another Wonderful Dinner Meeting!

On Wednesday March 16th, we were all treated to yet another delicious dinner at Jonathans Restaurant. It was a lovely evening, and a chance to come together and spend time chatting with members outside the regular format of a meeting. (Although Glen's meetings are always engaging and fun!!)

We were delighted to have Bonnie Tiffin from Hospice King-Aurora, as our guest speaker. Bonnie shared information about the great work that Hospice King-Aurora is doing to support and encourage both adults and children who are going through the bereavement process.



At the dinner, she gifted everyone a small stone, imprinted with words of inspiration - faith, wisdom, hope, laugh etc.

A gentle reminder to treat each and every day as the gift it is.

We would like to extend our thanks to Bonnie for joining us.



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.



The Fellowship Committee....

is sailing along with bold, new and exciting ideas to maintain an engaged and active membership in

The Optimist Club of Aurora.

Our club is only as strong as its membership, and by joining us in our many activities, you are supporting not only the efforts of the club, but making a huge difference in the lives of the youth in Aurora!!



Right Here, Right Now



Together, with the Town of Aurora, The Aurora Girl Guides, and the Aurora Seniors Centre, we will be once again be serving our infamously delicious pancakes at the annual Town of Aurora Easter Egg Hunt!!!



Warm pancake syrup will abound and pancake flipping styles will be on display as a group of energetic and skilled Optimist members spend a couple of hours stirring, mixing, pouring, flipping, warming, stacking and serving !!!

Please come and join us on **Saturday, April 23rd**. Requests for volunteers will be emailed out soon!!!



Progressive Dinner

Saturday
May 7th



Once again, we are having our **Annual Progressive Dinner**. All members are invited to either host an appetizer/starter or dinner, or contribute a dessert to be served at the "after" dinner party.

To keep the fun going, an invitation arrives by Opti-Elf (I hear it's what they do after December!!) to your mailbox. Upon opening the envelope- your first destination for appetizers is revealed! You join 4-6 other people and enjoy what the host serves. Then, you will receive the next envelope, which reveals where you will be joining a totally different group of people, to enjoy your main course.

Frivolity and engaging conversation abounds, as you are directed to the last stop in this exciting evening where we all gather together and enjoy lovely desserts and great conversation!!!



For any and all golfers out there- the mere greening of the grass send us scurrying to the clubs in the basement to wash, shine, organize, dream and prepare for yet another golf season.



Tiger Woods watch out- the promise of a fresh start brings dreams of a hole in one – an extraordinary putt clear across the green into the hole to the cheers and high fives of a couple of good buddies, and full bragging rights after the game.



We will be holding our annual **Optimist Junior Qualifying Golf Tourney** at St. Andrew's Golf Club on **Sunday, May 29th**.

Any and all boys and girls, aged 10-18 can compete. The two golfers in each age group (providing their score qualifies them) are invited to the Central Ontario District Tourney in June.



In years past, we have had an average of 30-35 young golfers come out and show their prowess on the course and play some really great golf.

If you know of a junior golfer who would like to participate in this exciting event, please contact Greg Way at g_jway@sympatico.ca or visit our website at www.auroraoptimist.com for an invitation and application form.



It is an exciting day- and we will be needing about 10 volunteers to spend the day helping Greg and his committee run the golf tournament.



A call for volunteers will be formalized in the next newsletter outlining exactly what is required, but to give you a heads up, mark **Sunday, May 29th** on your calendar .





Sunday, May 1st

Aurora Community Centre



The Run for Southlake

Pancake Breakfast



Come flip with us!!

Respect for Law Dinner

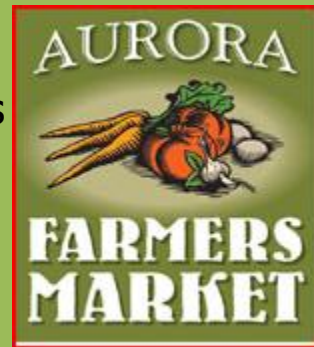
Wednesday, May 18th
St Andrews Golf Course



Look at what's coming up!!!!

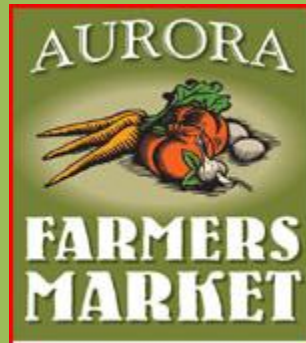
The Aurora Farmers Market

Saturday, May 7th



All are welcome to join the gang of Optimists who volunteer their time at the Optimist booth to sell a variety of goods to benefit the club.

First aid kits, raffles, books, artisan candles, and license plate holders are just some of the many items for sale.



Come and spend some time chatting with the community about all the wonderful activities we do, and the support we give to the youth of Aurora.



April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6 7:30 Business Meeting	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Aurora Home Show	16 Aurora Home Show
17 Aurora Home Show	18	19	20	21	22	23 Easter Egg Hunt
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Mayor's Anti- Litter Day



May 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Run for Southlake	2	3	4 7:30 Business Meeting	5	6	7 Progressive Dinner Farmers Market
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 TBA
15	16	17	18 Respect for Law Dinner	19	20	21 TBA
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Farmers Market
29 Junior Golf Tournament	30	31				

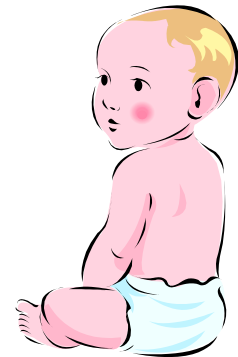


Pictured below are the newly elected 2011-2012 Optimist Club of Aurora Executives
From left to right are:-



Terry Sherin, Diane Buchanan, Kimberley Kerr, Bruce Porter, Alex Ansell, Steve Hinder, Carol Bartlett, Brian Walsh, Glen Sharp. Missing from the picture is Greg Way, Carolyn Trussler, Bill Hack, Lou Crone

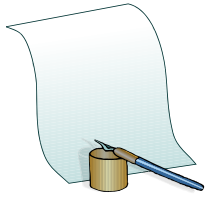
We wish them a most successful year!!!



We have received a request from the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Southlake Regional Health Care Hospital for the purchase of an infant weigh scale.

We are pleased to report, that by majority vote, we will be donating to the hospital the weigh scale to aid in the care of their littlest patients!!

Aurora Optimists... helping the youngest and the smallest!!!



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.org" or our own at www.auroraoptimist.com

During the months ahead I will try to keep you up-to-date on events both within and outside of the Club as they relate to optimism. If you have any other items or notices you would like to have included in the bulletin, please forward them to me at rkkerr@rogers.com. Thank you!!!