



The Opti Prime

The Optimist Club of Aurora



June 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



Sharp's Saga

This month has slipped by in a blur, and despite the weather, many of us are starting up our summer activities like golf, gardening or heading to the cottage. We have been busy treating each other to tasty delights at the Progressive Dinner, honouring four of York Region's finest at Respect for Law, hosting some fine young golfers at the Junior Golf tournament and operating our booth at the Farmer's Market. We had a great turn out for the Progressive Dinner and the surprise location for the "party" seems to have been a big hit. On May 18th, I was honoured to be able to present awards to four police officers for their outstanding work. They were excited and nervous about receiving the recognition. The official opening of the market was held on a cool gray Saturday May 28th, but it's always fun, and of course there's the back bacon on a bun. The next day, the rain held off and St. Andrew's hosted our junior golfers, some of whom had never seen the likes of such a challenging course. It was a great day, and thanks to Greg for taking the lead, and to the members and spouses for all of their support in acting as marshals for the groups. The club has a number of other outside activities coming up and I hope you can find time to get involved. The annual Street Sale is on Sunday,



Farmers Market



Please feel free to join us at the
Optimist Club Booth at the
Farmers Market

on **Saturday, June 11th**,

and **Saturday June 25th**

Come join in the fun!!!

June 5 and the mobile kitchen will be in full swing. Even if you don't have a shift, be sure and stop by and say hello to your fellow Optimists. If you aren't are regular or have never been to the Farmer's Market, shame on you. It's a lot of fun, and as spring turns into summer there will be a lot of great local produce to buy. You don't have to sign up for a full shift to drop by our booth. Help is always needed for the early risers at 7:45 for set up or for putting it all away at 1:00. On June 15th the Bartlett's will once again open their house and their yard for our annual BBQ. This is our last full membership event before our summer break so I hope to see you there. Details will be coming out shortly, but it's definitely a "don't miss opportunity". At the time of writing we hadn't heard back yet regarding our submission to be the food and drink vendor for the summer events in the park series. Once we hear I will let everyone know and we will be looking for volunteers for the 11 or 12 dates. If we are the successful bidder it will be a great way to connect with other members over the summer. See you all soon. *Glen*

Aurora Street Festival



Sunday, June 5th

11 am to 5 pm

Come and visit us at our Mobile Kitchen



There are still spots open to volunteer your time.
Please contact Terry Sherin at tsherin@trebnet.com



AURORA ART 2011

On Saturday, May 7th, the Town of Aurora, in association with the Society of York

Region Artists held their 49th annual Aurora Art Show and Sale. More than 330 pieces of original and innovative art piece were on display. The Optimist Club of Aurora was asked to judge the “Best in Youth” category, and present awards to the



recipients of this award.

Our thanks go to Ken Banks for attending the event, expertly representing our club, and performing the difficult job of

judging the various pieces of youth art. Of course all entries deserved to be awarded, however Ken awarded three young artists for their work. First place went to Kelly Baskin for her work called “Still Life”. Honourable Mention was awarded to Samantha Jones for the piece “Hats for Jared”, and to Liz Lozinsky for the piece titled “Playful”.



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

Kroepin

Showcase Tournament – Alex

Ansell

Web Site – Brian Walsh





Respect for Law Dinner

In April of 2010 at 3am, while on patrol, an officer noticed smoke coming from a structure. The officers attempted to gain access to the property, but were confronted by a main gate that was closed –and locked. The officers abandoned their vehicles on the road and immediately ran to the buildings. Upon quick investigation, it was noted that the structure was in

fact a barn located at the south-west corner of Yonge and St. Johns Sideroad in Aurora. Officers ran to the building while calling in a report to emergency that the building was on fire.

Officers frantically raced around various buildings yelling and screaming to awaken any people who may potentially be inside the structure, unaware of the fire. Officers awoke two people who were asleep in the main house. These folks advised the officers that someone was living in the actual building that was on fire.

The officers spent several minutes trying to confirm if anyone was in fact inside the building at that time. They tried to gain entry but could not due to the flames, heat and smoke pouring from the structure. In an effort to save the potential occupant of the building, one officer tossed his baton at a window – breaking it, which caused the occupant to awaken, and make

his way to safety, out of the burning building. The fire department had not arrived. Realizing that the fire department faced the same obstacle of the locked gate, as the officers did, an officer rammed the locked gate with his cruiser so that the fire department could quickly gain access to the driveway and fight the fire. Luckily this fire resulted in no injuries or fatalities. All



residents were accounted for and were brought to a place of safety while the situation was brought into control.

Award recipients at the dinner were Sergeant Wendee Beach #931, Sergeant John Helm #655, Detective Constable Greg Percy #1395, and Constable Toby Legacy #1690. The Town of Aurora and her citizens are most grateful that their quick actions and unrelenting efforts lead to



such a successful result.

Following the ceremony, PC Paul Strong from Community Programs made an informative presentation on Guns and Gangs in York Region. It was expressed that the officers in attendance this evening were delightful to talk with, and willing to share stories and experiences with those in attendance.

Thank you to all the Optimists members who joined in the evening.

Steve Hinder, Chairman- Respect for Law Committee

Junior Golf Tournament

Our 4th Annual Optimist Junior Golf Tournament took place Sunday, May 30 at St. Andrew's Valley Golf Course.



Twenty-six young and aspiring golfers from ages 11-18 took place on a cloudy and potentially rainy day. However, the rain stayed away and we had some excellent golf.



Thanks to all the members who helped make this day a success:-
John Thompson, Diane Buchanan, Brian Marshall, Tony Caceres, Rob Gaby, Jon Mills, Ruth Sharp, Glen Sharp, Paul English, Stu Bundy, Ken McIsaac, Alex Ansell, Marco Caceres, and Tad Gacich.

The winners of the various events and their scores were:



Boys 12-13	David O'Connor, Aurora	90
Girls 12-13	Li Shanshan, Woodbridge	91
Boys 14-15	Kyle Samson, Keswick	80
Boys 16-18	Joey Burgess, London	67
Girls 16-18	Adrienne D'Alessio, Woodbridge	92



We look forward to another successful event next year!

Greg Way, Chair



Special Projects Committee

At a recent Optimist Business meeting, it was a topic of discussion put forth by members that the club needed a specific youth project as a recipient of the profits made through our fundraising efforts. It was agreed that a committee be struck to look into the various projects within the Town of Aurora, that we could get involved in over the next few years.

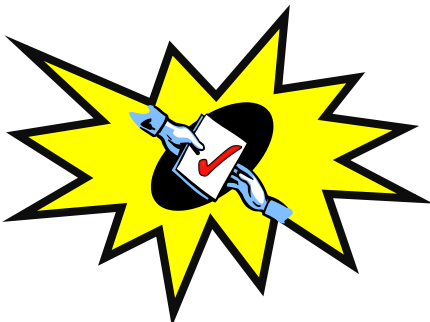
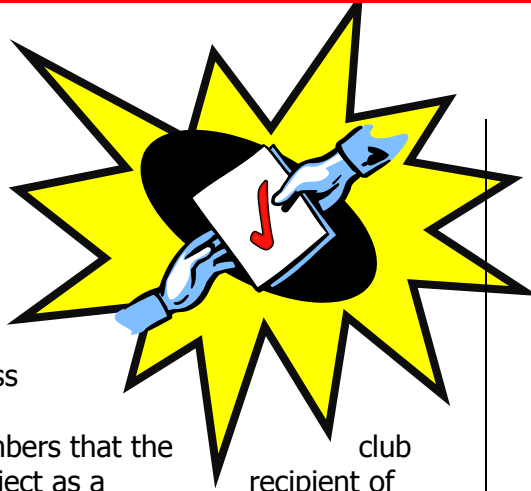
At the business meeting on June 1st, the committee presented their very detailed and informative report on their recommendation for this focus. On behalf of the organization, we would like to thank the committee for their time and focus on this endeavour. The following is the recommendation set forth by the committee:-

"After much debate at the June 1st Business Meeting, the membership agreed with the committee's recommendation to continue to look into sponsoring some aspect of the Salvation Army's new facility at the location near Leslie St. and Wellington St. in Aurora.

The committee has recommended sponsorship of one of the youth areas planned for this project. The committee report was forwarded by emails to all members and the committee is requesting that if you have any comments, concerns or questions to contact us. Also if anyone is interested in joining the fundraising committee for the project to please contact me.

It is the aim of the committee to try to report to the club executive in the fall with a recommendation following some additional investigations over the summer."

Tom Connor - Chair
tbconnor@sympatico.ca



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

Wish Mania !!

The Optimist Club of Aurora is joining in the festivities of the Wish Mania event on Saturday, June 25, 2011 at the Aurora Community Centre & Machell Park from 9:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

We will be looking for volunteers to cook up some delicious food from 9am to 5pm, as well; we will be assisting the organization by being official counters for the Guinness Record Attempt from 1pm-3pm. **Contact for this event is Terry Sherin at tsherin@trebnet.com**

Details are below:-

Andrew is an Aurora teen battling Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy who will be granted his most heart-felt wish through The Children's Wish Foundation. Net proceeds of Wish-Mania will be donated to sponsor Andrew's wish, and those of other children coping with life-threatening illnesses.

Guinness Attempt at Wish-Mania! - World's Largest Human Smiley!



Okay Canada! It's our time to stand up and be counted! We're looking to break the current record of 768 participants set in Croatia, May 6/11. We're looking for people to come out and help us break this record for Andrew's wish and put Canada on the Guinness map! Participation in the attempt is free with Wish-Mania! Event admissions are \$10 donation / Adult - children 12 and under are FREE Open to all ages. Get your event tickets in advance at the locations listed below and register to be a part of history! Tell all you know - come one, come all! Let's show the world what we're made of! Participants must acknowledge rules and regulations at time of registration. Participants may participate in the Guinness attempt independently of the Wish-Mania event at a \$5 registration fee



Not only can you be part of a world record attempt, but you can enjoy a full day of fun for all members of the family! Live entertainment! Performances from the Canadian National Youth Circus! Local vendors! Special guest celebs! Pony rides, jumping castle, mini-putt, BBQ in the park, children's entertainment and much more! Watch the Remax Balloon land and take a hot air balloon ride! Top off the day with a concert from Endless Summer Tribute to The Beach Boys! It's all at Wish-Mania! You won't want to miss this! www.wishmania.ca



June 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Business Meeting	2	3	4
5 Street Festival	6	7	8	9	10	11 Farmers Market
12	13	14	15 6:30pm Club BBQ	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Farmers Market Wish Mania
26 Don't FORGET!	27	28	29	30 Dance in the Park		



July 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Canada Day	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Farmers Market
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Kerry's Place
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Farmers Market
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

