



Be
...Excited
...Engaged
For the children!

MWO 2010 - 2011

MWO NEWSLETTER

May 2011

Volume 24, Issue 3

MWO Governor
Catherine Herdman
27 Yarwood Street
St Thomas ON N5P 2Y2
Phone: 519.642.1879
Email: optimistcatherine@gmail.com

Websites:

www.optimistmwo.on.ca
www.optimist.org
www.optimistleaders.org
www.optimist.mail.org

In this Issue

- Oratorical & Plunger Plop
- OIF
- OI Golf Tourney
- Convention News & Charter Party
- OI President Danny & Spelling Beesness
- Dates to Remember
- A & A
- Bulletin Editor Notes & Words from Secretary Treasurer

MID WESTERN ONTARIO DISTRICT NO. 46

Promise yourself, to give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others...taken from the Optimist Creed.

The Governor's Report

As I look around and see that the trees are budding, and the daffodils are in bloom, I am excited. I believe that spring has finally arrived, and not a moment too soon! The freshness and the renewal that comes every spring are inspiring and encouraging. It is great to feel the warmth of the sun, hear the birds chirping and see the freshness of new growth.

Growth is vital for each club to remain active in their communities. I want your club to be vital and strong. Many clubs have grown by 20 percent or more and your club can do that too.

It is equally important for our district and our organization to continuously grow. Please make use of our district leaders, call on them and invite them to your membership drive events, and planning meetings. Invite your Lt Governor; our Membership Chair Past Governor Optimist Dave Faris - New Club Building

Optimist Rick Zimak and Past Governor Optimist Bill Adams. Please call me, I am happy to help.

I challenge you to find new ways to promote your club. Connect with your local paper, library, radio and television stations. Provide them a one minute 'infomercial' about your club and activities. Supply them with flyers and details on your upcoming events. Develop a relationship with at least one person on staff and keep them updated on what your Optimist club is doing.

Let me ask you this: how many years ago did an Optimist make a difference in your life? Was it as a child, at an Optimist event or was it when you were invited to join this organization? I am asking you to think about the difference that has made in your life and I am asking you to share that experience.

Yours in Optimism,
Governor Catherine
MWO District 2010-2011





**MIDWESTERN
ONTARIO OPTIMIST**

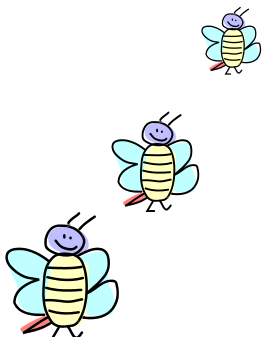


**ORATORICAL
REGIONAL CONTEST**

Saturday, May 14, 2011
Registration: 9:30 a.m.
Starting: 10:00 a.m. Sharp
At
London Thames Valley
Board of Education Centre
1250 Dundas St. East
London, ON

Join Us There!

Maidy Keir
Oratorical Chair



MIDWESTERN ONTARIO PLUNGER PLOP

On February 12th fourteen teams braved the blustery weather to compete in the 10th Annual Midwestern Ontario District Plunger Plop competition which was held at the new Alma Optimist community hall. These teams were made up of Optimist members throughout the MWO District who competed for the prestigious Plunger Plop title. The event collected over \$300, which was donated to the Optimist International Foundation.

Plunger Plopping originated over 20 years ago as a fundraiser for the Optimist Club of Alma. It has developed into an annual event in Alma and has been adopted by other communities. Plunger Plopping simply consists of teams of four players trying to toss a plunger into a toilet (with or without a tank) across the width of an ice rink. Points are awarded similar to curling; 3 points for a ringer, 2 points for a plunger leaning against the toilet or 1 point for landing in a circle around the toilet. Unlike curling, each team can eliminate their opponent's points. The team with the most points accumulated in a given time limit, win the game. The cold weather and snow conditions add to the challenge.

This year an entry from the executive of the MWO District prevailed by eliminating a team from the Optimist Club of Arthur. Teams were fielded from different communities throughout Midwestern Ontario including London, Burford and Kitchener. The local Mount Forest Optimist Club fielded a team consisting of Optimists Patsy Eccles, Betty Gerber, Joan Hayward and John Napadek.



**Plopping Winning
Team**

L to R: Past Governor
Mark Kerr, Past
Governor Bill Adams,
Governor Elect Ken
Hayward, Lieutenant
Governor Larry High

Ken Hayward
Governor Elect
MWO District
2010/11

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 on to 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.*

Optimist International®

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

District Optimist Members:

Things in the Optimist International Foundation are going well to this point. Thanks to all the clubs and members who have generously supported the Foundation. As you will read in an e-mail that was sent to me by Governor Catherine the name of the Foundation has changed. From now on, if you send money to the Foundation, could you please make cheques payable to "**Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation**". Thank you.

On another note due to insufficient interest we have had to cancel the "Foundation Plunger Plop/ Mini Olympics" that was to be held in Downie on May 14th. We are sorry to have to announce this but, with better news, the upcoming **Golf Tournament** for the Foundation, set for **June 18th**, is going very well. We have several hole sponsors and some golfers signed up. We are hoping to get a lot more golfers and hole sponsors for that event. Remember, golfers do not have to be Optimist members to play. We will be happy to have outsiders as well. We have been fortunate to get two "Holes in One" sponsors for a prize of \$ 5,000. each.

If there are any clubs that would like to donate \$500. to the Foundation, I will be happy to present a representative of your club with a print at the 3rd Quarter Board or the Convention in August.

Once again, thanks for your support, and we hope to see you at the 3rd quarter board and at the Golf Tournament.

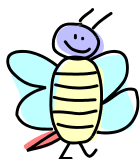
Optimistically Yours,

George De Wys
DFR 2010-11



*Mum found little Jenny washing the new kitten
with soap and water.
"I don't think Mother Pussy would like her kitten
washed that way," said mum. "Well, I really can't
lick it," came the reply.*

Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation



Saturday, June 18th Annual Optimist Golf Tournament

The Fox Golf Club
Granton, ON
On Hwy 7, between
Edgewood and Elginfield

Registration – 8:00 a.m.
Shot Gun Start 9:00 a.m.
Cart included

Cost \$100 per person (4 to
A team), min. Sponsorship

BBQ Lunch after 9 holes
Steak or Roast Beef
Dinner after Golf

\$5,000 Hole in One Prize
Sponsored by Past Gov
Bill Adams

All Proceeds to
Optimist International
Foundation of Canada

Please RSVP by June 12th

George DeWys, District OIF Rep
gdewys@quadro.net, 519-349-2808

Larry High, Lt. Gov. Zone 7
larry.high@hotmail.com
519-622-0246

Catherine Herdman, Gov. MWO
catherineherdman@rogers.com
519-642-1879



Gerry Savage, Dist Sec/Treas.

Come on Canada...something to get excited about!

By now some of our Canadian Optimists are aware that there are changes currently taking place within the Optimist International Foundation of Canada. And your Board of Directors are excited by these changes. We see them as creating a model for the future of our Canadian Foundation that is focused, open and sustainable. A Foundation that supports Canadian Optimists and shows all Canadians that Optimists do make a difference in the life of a child.

The most noticeable change is in our name. We will be now know as the **Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation**...a name that says who we are, and who we are there for, right up front.

Another change will be in our focus and this is really not so much of a change as it is a refinement of purpose. That focus and purpose is Education. Our belief that the personal, professional and financial education of our children is the one factor that, regardless of race, colour, creed, health, ability or any other factor, is the most important part of a child's development. Our school boards cannot do it all and parents really do have to work hard at their jobs to provide for their families and in the Canadian village, Optimists can play an important part in raising a child. Education truly is the way to bring out the best in kids and this

focus will make us unique in the world of charitable Foundations. Teach them today - teach them for life.

And there will be more changes coming in the next few months. Opportunities for membership in the Foundation and input into the way we work together with clubs and districts and individual members. But more on this later as we get things going and finalized.

We still have a lot to do while continuing to provide your Scholarships, JOOI, Outsourcing Programs and supporting the Childhood Cancer Campaign. Our new Foundation will continue to provide the recognition program the way it has been in the past for your generous donations which the Foundation will continue to need. In the meantime, now that the Olympics are over and the World Cup is done, let's get excited about the **Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation**.

George De Wys
MWO OI Foundation Chair
519-349-2808
gdewys@quadro.net
& **Governor Catharine**





?

Can you figure out what these words have in common?

Don't peek at the answers.

- 1 Banana
- 2 Dresser
- 3 Grammar
- 4 Potato
- 5 Revive
- 6 Uneven
- 7 Assess

Are you peeking or have you already given up? Give it another try and look at each work carefully. You'll kick yourself when you discover the answer.



CONVENTION REPORT

Plan to attend the **THIRD QUARTER BOARD, MAY 28 2011** at the Hespler Arena, Beehive Room this should be a great day.

This is the District Oratorical Contest. Registration is \$12.00 and lunch with the proceeds to the foundation is \$8.00. **Convention News** - Mark the dates August 12-14, 2011 in London at the Four Points by Sheraton. The convention committee is working very hard to make this another great convention with lots of fun and fellowship. Register early to Optimist Linda Adams. Hope to see many Optimists at our annual convention.

Yours in Optimism

Ann Tosheff
Convention Chair



*The world is so full of a number of things,
I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings.*

Robert Louis Stevenson

Charter Party for Wiaraton District Optimist Club



THE OPTIMIST CLUBS
OF Wiaraton District AND Sydenham & District

Would like to introduce the Newest Club in Zone 6 Please come and join the Gala Celebration of the Charter of the Wiaraton District Optimist Club

Date: Saturday, May 14, 2011

Place: Waterview on the Bay Motel
501205 Island View Dr.
Wiaraton, ON

Time: Social at 5:30 pm
Dinner at 6:30 pm
Cost: \$30 for Dinner & Dance

\$10 for Dance Only

Tickets available from:

- ❖ Lt. Gov. Doris Haw
- ❖ Governor Elect Ken Hayward

Donations and letters of congratulations will be gratefully received.

Please send to:
Lt. Gov. Doris Haw
146 Parker Street West
Meaford, ON N4L 1M2



**Meet our Optimist
International President**



President Danny and David
Copperfield with Flat Danny

President Danny and
First Lady Jill travelled
to Las Vegas, Nevada, to
present two Optimistic
individuals with a
"Bringing Out the Best"
award.

Magician David
Copperfield received the
award for his work with
Project Magic.



This is Flat Danny
(a paper cut-out)

SPELLING BEE - BEESNESS

Spelling Bee on April 30 @ the University Of Waterloo went extremely well. 40 Grade 5 Students were present. Thanks for all the volunteers that helped out. The top three winners are invited to the 3rd Quarter Board in Cambridge.

Best Regards

Mark and Carole Kerr
Spelling Bee Chair



*1st - Shiv Kathuria - Zone 7, 2nd - Rachel Kehl - Zone 1
3rd - Hari Thirugnanavel - Zone 5*

Answer: No, it is not that they all have at least 2 double letters, nor is it about the vowel arrangements, tempting though they were at first glance...

In all of the words listed, if you take the first letter, place it at the end of the word, and then spell the word backwards, it will be the same word.

ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

A & A Report

Just a friendly reminder - we're in our *Optimist 3rd Quarter* - please *complete the Achievements and Awards Quarterly Report Form* so you and your club can **BEE** Counted.

I've had a few questions - I'd like to share this info with everyone:

In the section **3.5a (25 pts) - bonus: each member attending a quarter board training sessions per quarter board (must sign in).**

This is how your club would be counted - example: Ken attends 3 training sessions, Alice attends 2 training sessions and Mary attends 1 training session = the total training sessions $6 \times 25 = 150$

Another question - Is there a specific date for this event? -

3.3 (700 pts) - participate in Name Tag Day minimum 50% of club membership, must be documented (photo)

- what about a MWO date - June 19th
- everyone - remember a photo is required - if your club can't do June 19th and get a photo then pick another date before end of year and get your club involved in wearing the "hello my name is ..." tag - this could be an easy 700 pts to be counted.

If you have any questions, please ask and I'll share.

Here's just a few ways to be counted (from the Awards and Achievements Program).

1.1 (500 pts) - directly serving children - annual club program (water safety, family fun day, etc)

What does your club do each year? - please share and be counted

2.1 (500 pts) - club program/event benefiting your community

** Clubs you can be counted - every community benefits from the Optimist Clubs.

6.1 (50 pts) - points awarded for each club bulletin submitted to District Bulletin Editor

Have you sent your clubs bulletin to the District Bulletin Editor, they'd be happy to get this.

6.4(250 pts) - submit club scrapbook at District Convention

There's still time, start your scrapbook today and bring to the District Convention in August.

6.5 (25 pts) - each club member attended a Zone meeting

6.5 (100 pts) - each President attended Zone meeting

Clubs, you can be counted in your Zone - attend a Zone meeting.

10.1 (500 pts) - new activity designed to engage families in your community

What's your planned event - there's still time for this new activity.

This is just a few ways to be counted in this year to Be ... Excited... Engaged For the children! Check out the MWO Achievements and Awards Program Quarterly Report and fill in what you can to "be counted" for each quarter. Looking forward to giving you your clubs Awards Patches for your clubs purple Honours and Awards banner that is proudly displayed at your meetings.

Cathy Hallman

Awards and Achievements Chair

Please note - my address and email have changed

1159 Lancaster St
London, ON N5V 2L4
cmjhallman@hotmail.com



FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE HARBOUR

OFFICIAL DATES ARE JULY 3 – 5, 2011.

Convention Headquarters will be at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront that quite literally sits on the water's edge. Shopping and a huge assortment of restaurants are nearby, with the National Aquarium and the Maryland Science Center just a few blocks away.

Need more information visit www.optimist.org/convention.

START PLANNING!

BULLETIN EDITOR NOTES

When submitting your newsletter please include your Club name in the subject line. The criteria for the newsletter judging can be found on the OptimistMWO web site. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me.

Again thank you to those who sent in reports for the District Newsletter, there are still a few more that could be sent in even if it is only a couple sentences long. The pictures sent in for this newsletter are terrific as you can see. They add so much to a newsletter. The pictures of President Danny et al are from the latest edition of the Optimist magazine.

As always if you have something you want in the District Newsletter please forward it to me at zurbrigg@quadro.net. In the subject line include "for MWO Newsletter".

Deadline for next newsletter issue is July 27, 2011. (I will let you know if this date changes)

Thanks so much for your support!

Jennifer Zurbrigg
District Bulletin Editor

zurbrigg@quadro.net



FROM THE DISTRICT SECRETARY

As we move into the Month of May I thought I would give an update on some of the club paperwork requirements as of May 6:

1. 14 out of 91 clubs have sent their Officer Elect Reports to O.I.

either by email or regular mail. (77to go.)

No need to send one to me as I use the O.I. website.

2. 7 clubs still owe the International dues for January or earlier.

3. 6 clubs owe their District dues from last October and have

had a second notice sent in January.

4. 28 clubs owe their District dues from April 1.

On a happy note, Zone 6 has all club dues up to date.

I encourage all clubs to be sure they meet their commitments as members of this great organization just as we expect the individual members to do at the club level.

If any club wishes details of their status just call or email me and I will fill you in.

Optimistically,
District Secretary Treasurer
Gerry Savage