



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

MWO 2010 - 2011

MWO NEWSLETTER

October 2010

Volume 24, Issue 1

MWO Governor
Catherine Herdman
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www.optimistmwo.on.ca
www.optimist.org
www.optimistleaders.org
www.optimist.mail.org

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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.

From Governor Catherine

What a delight to have so many optimist friends that I can depend on for continued support

Choices - positive or negative - either way they impact our lives and the lives of those around us...I would like to ask each and everyone of you to consider bringing a new member in, or to consider enriching a community with a new Optimist club.

I am asking you to get excited and be engaged in our Optimism and to focus on the children. I would like to see us build on the momentum of the previous year's Communication and Cooperation Grows Friendship accomplishments!

I believe that together we will achieve all that we set out to do - vision and determination along with action will sharpen the edge that we will need this year.

Yours in Optimism,
Catherine

Governor, Midwestern Ontario
Optimist District

and advice! Thank you to each and every one, as you will truly making a difference in how I lead.

I have had the privilege of attending a number of club meetings already and each club visit reminds me of all of the great things that are getting done in the Midwestern Ontario District. These visits bring home the fact that the communities that have Optimist clubs are richer and stronger with the service that we provide.

At the same time, I wonder how the communities that no longer have an Optimist club are managing. Ten years ago we had double the membership that we have today. That tells me that we are only serving half the children that we could be helping and encouraging.

*These are pretty clever.
See if you can determine what it represents before looking at the answers.*

1.



2.



3.



4.



PERSONAL GROWTH & INVOLVEMENT - BRINGING OUT THE BEST IN YOU!

The **Personal Growth & Involvement Program (PGI)** has been an official OI program for many years. It initially had seven levels of achievement and then was expanded to 10 levels. It is a self-paced program aimed at improving your knowledge as an Optimist and your confidence in your own skills, abilities and leadership capabilities. It helps you to ***Bring Out the Best in Kids*** because it helps you to ***Bring Out the Best in You!*** It's a program supported by our annual dues to OI. It's another one of our Best Kept Secrets!

MWONT District PGI Participation as of September 2010:

- Current # of members registered in PGI - 125 (app. 5 % of our current membership)
- Number of clubs involved - 20 (3 clubs represent almost 50% of the overall participants)
- Number of participating Optimists: Level 1 - 19; Level 2 - 12; Level 3 - 6; Level 4 - 69; Level 5 - 1; Level 6 - 3; Level 7 - 12; Level 8 - 1; Level 9 - 0; Level 10 - 2

Goals for 2010-2011:

- To increase the number of clubs with participating members by 50% to 30
- To increase the number of participants by 50% to 188
- To have 50 % of current participants advance by 2 levels

Contact Past Governor Dianne at dianjosl@cyg.net or 519.348.9053 for passports, and online PGI information. Let's shout it from the rooftop: PGI is alive and well in Midwestern Ontario District...back by popular demand to ***Bring out the Best in Kids*** by making ourselves and other Optimists stronger and more confident in our leadership capabilities.

PGI - helping us serve our kids and our communities as best we can!

Optimist Dianne Josling

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®

Many thanks to all of the club presidents and club officers who were able to attend this year's presidents training sessions. Governor Catherine

Zone 1: Pete Exel, Lois Baillie, Orv Gerber, Cheryl Davidson, MaryAnne Lealess, Kelli Crowley, Brenda Lowe, Rick Merkel, Todd Melville, Rick Lange and Lt Governor Greg Luyten

Zone 3: Barry Stewart, Karen Scott, Darlene Renning, Brian Bearss, Paul Hern and Lt Governor Gord Wood

Zone 4: Bob Gaudet, Marc Hutchinson, Rae Brown, Frank Balazs, Ron Savard, Joanne Korevaar, Laura Barker and Lt Governor Dale Weatherbee

Zone 5 & 9: Owen Minnie, Frank Joliffe, Carolyn Wood, Keith Butler, Mark Clarke, Ken Hayward, Gord Wood, Merideth Marton and Lt Governor Laura Ross

Zone 6: Brenda Zinn, Wes McLean, Sheelagh Grenon, Ken Iles, Stew Hayward, Barb Moore, Marg Rapp, Bonnie Kaye, Sondra Scott, Derek Henderson, Kevin Brown, Linda Hoffele, Joe Hoffele, Aaron Harding, Tony Moore, Keith North, Nicole Leavoy, Jeromy Wilhelm, Linda Adams, Joan Hayward and Governor-Elect Ken Hayward

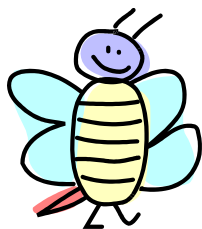
Zone 7 & 11: Michel Beaulieu, Maurie Sheppard, Craig Findlay, Gary Young, Melissa Anderson, Doug Williams, Gloria Williams, Brenda Brigidac, Alan Bluhm, Immediate Past Governor Bill Adams, Lt Governor Mark Kerr and Lt Governor Larry High

Optimist International at a glance

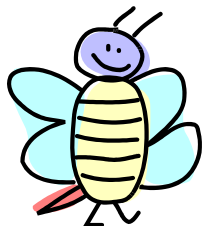
- ❖ Membership: 101,876*
- ❖ Total Clubs: 3,413*
- ❖ Founded: June 19, 1919

*As of August 31, 2010; figure includes JOOI Clubs ..from The Optimist





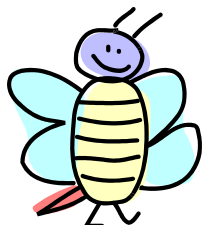
NOTES FROM THE DISTRICT SECRETARY-TREASURER



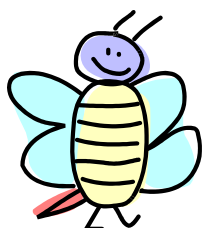
The District dues statements for the first half of the year were mailed out October 7. If you received the statement by mistake it may be because Optimist International does not have your leadership information for the New year. That is where I get my names for District mailings. It is important to keep your roster information up to date either on-line or using Roster Adjustment Forms. You do not want to be paying dues for members you know longer have but billings are based on your roster numbers October 1 and April 1.



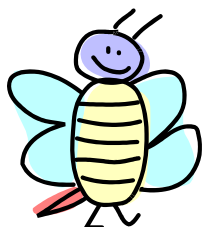
A couple of statistics for you... As of October 9 we have 2762 members in 91 clubs and our budget to run the District this year will be \$62,357.43, subject to approval at the first Quarter Board.



Good luck in your work for youth and your communities this year and contact me if I can be of assistance with record keeping, finances, forms, websites or general club operations. If I cannot answer a question right away, I will get the answer for you.



District Secretary Treasurer Gerry Savage
g.savage@sympatico.ca



A SIMPLE EXPLANATION OF BASEBALL

This is a game played by two teams, one out the other in. The one that's in sends players out one at a time, to see if they can get in before they get out. If they get out before they get in, they come in, but it doesn't count. If they get in before they get out it does count.

When the ones out get three outs from the ones in before they get in without being out, the team that's out comes in and the team in goes out to get those going in out before they get in without being out.

When both teams have been in and out nine times the game is over. The team with the most in without being out before coming in wins unless the ones in are equal. In which case, the last ones in go out to get the ones in out before they get in without being out.

The game will end when each team has the same number of ins out but one team has more in without being out before coming in.



O.I. FOUNDATION ON THE MOVE AGAIN!

Hello, I am Optimist George deWys from the Downie Optimist Club in Zone 1 and am the District Foundation Representative for Midwestern Ontario for the 2010-11 Optimist year.

My goal is to raise funds for the Foundation through the sale of Dime-a-Day pins, Presidents Club Plates, O. I. Foundation Prints etc.

- ❖ We have a *Plunger Plop* booked for **February 12, 2011** in Alma.
- ❖ A *Plunger Plop/Mini Olympics* booked for **May 14, 2011** at the Downie Optimist Community Centre in St. Pauls.
- ❖ And a *Golf Tournament* booked for **June 18, 2011** at the Fox Golf Club on Hwy 7 between Edgewood and Elginfield.

We would love to have as much support as possible at these functions so please mark your calendars now. Also, I would be pleased to come to your club functions, zone meetings, or special events to promote the Foundation.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Optimist George DeWys DFR
gdeWys@quadro.net
1-519-349-2808

Remember "Pessimists have no starters; Optimists have no brakes"

Charter Party for Walkerton & District



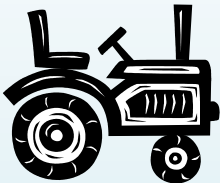
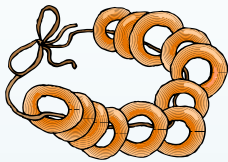
Saturday, November 13, 2010

Knights of Columbus Hall

Located between Walkerton and Mildmay.

For further details contact Connie at walkertondistrictoptimistclub@hotmail.com

Show your support!





Meet our new Optimist International President



Danny Rodgers

Read Danny's story in the Fall issue of The Optimist.

First Lady



Jill Rodgers

FIRST QUARTER BOARD AT THE OAKWOOD RESORT IN GRAND BEND.

Plan to attend the 1st Quarter Board on November 6th, 2010 at the Oakwood Resort in Grand Bend.

The day will be full, with lots of important training sessions and business meetings.

You should pre-register if you are joining us for lunch or you may register on site if your plan lunch elsewhere.

I'm Optimistic that I'll see many Midwestern Ontario Optimists there.

Yours in Optimism
Ann Tosheff
Convention Chair
(registration form attached)

Fellow Optimists

I would like to thank all Optimists in the District for making my year as Governor as exciting as it was.

EVERYONE WORKED HARD and the results show that. More and more children in our District are benefitting from this hard work.

I know that you will support Governor Catherine as you did for me this past year.

Again, I want to say **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, and THANK YOU!!**

Past Governor Bill Adams

Computers for Kids



Dear President:

SEPT 2010

Re: **Computers for Kids Update;**

In May of 2007, a committee of Optimist members, from Midwestern Ontario District, kicked off a campaign to promote the club- based initiative "Computers for Kids ". We have just completed the three year commitment to this project, which was to coincide with the opening of the new hospital, which has been delayed until next summer . The kids will have new technology available at that time , although we are not quite sure what it looks like yet.

The clubs contributed a "whopping" \$81,650 to this project purchasing 70 laptops, backpacks, internet access and Microsoft office which was distributed to the kids. All the money has been spent and no computers are available for future needs .

With the proposed opening of the new hospital , not taking place until next summer (2011), we are asking clubs to review their budgets to see if there is any surplus money available, before the end of the year to contribute to "Computers for Kids" .The cost of one laptop package is \$800.

We are hoping that the clubs will step forward and continue to support this worthwhile cause.

If there is any money in your yearend budget ,it can be sent to "THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH FOUNDATION" "COMPUTERS FOR KIDS PROGRAM" 345 Westminster Ave. London Ont .N6C 4V3

Should you wish , the committee would be willing to send a member to visit your club to talk about this Worthwhile program upon request . We are shooting for 20 laptop packages .

WE CAN DO THIS !!

Yours in Optimism ,

Dennis W. Manarey

Midwestern Ontario

District Chair 2010-2011

Computers for Kids Program



FROM THE
MOUNTAINS TO
THE HARBOUR

OFFICIAL DATES
ARE JULY 3 – 5,
2011.

START PLANNING!

Answers for page 2:

1. Eggplant
2. Dr. Pepper
3. Pool table
4. Tap dancers

I am back again for another Optimist year with Governor Catherine.

I look forward to working with Catherine and her team during the Be...excited...engaged For the children! year of MWO.

I apologize for the lateness of this newsletter. Family circumstances have held me back from my schedule. All is well again and I will be on time for the second issue.

A number of Committee Chairs forgot to send in their reports for this newsletter and I look forwarding to seeing them for the next issue.

Please encourage your clubs to enter their Club newsletters at the District level. There are some great newsletters as I have noticed over the past year. To those clubs who have sent in newsletters - keep up the great work.

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 January 13, 2011.

*District Bulletin Editor
Jennifer Zurbrigg*

I'll Show You A Volunteer

Show me a person who spends endless hours in training without pay,

And, I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person where a cry for help brings split second dispatch,

And I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person who is devastated when lives are lost or maimed,

And, I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person who is graciously welcomed as a next door neighbour,

And I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person who takes ridicule more than compliments,

And I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person whose car is garaged with the grille facing out,

And I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person who sacrifices homelife, TV....and even tender moments,

And I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person visibly moved at the strains of our National Anthem,

And I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person asked to give more than just dedication,

And I'll show you a volunteer.

Show me a person asked to give more...and more... and more,

And I'll show you a volunteer.

Foley



**OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
MIDWESTERN ONTARIO DISTRICT
FIRST QUARTER BOARD
BOARD OF DIRECTORS / GENERAL SESSION MEETING
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2010**



LOCATION: Oakwood Resort Conference Centre
70671 Bluewater Hwy 21
Grand Bend, ON
Tel: (800) 387-2324
(GPS 70671 Bluewater Hwy, South Huron)

Governor Catherine Herdman
27 Yarwood Street, St. Thomas, ON
Tel.: (519) 642-1879
E-mail: optimistcatherine@gmail.com

8:00 a.m. Registration

AGENDA

- 9:00 a.m.
1. Call to Order and Welcome Governor Catherine Herdman
 2. Invocation Governor-Elect Ken Hayward
 3. Introductions of Guests and Past Governors Governor Catherine Herdman
 4. Previous Minutes - motion to receive District Secretary/Treasurer Past Governor Gerry Savage
 5. Approval of 2010-2011 District Budget Past Governor Bob Keir, District Finance Chairperson
 6. Approval of 2010-2011 District Policies (as re-published) Governor Catherine Herdman
 7. Approval of 2010-2011 District Achievement & Awards Program Optimist Cathy Hallman, Chairperson
 8. Leadership Development Governor-Elect Ken Hayward
 9. District Chairpersons' Reports:
 - a. Membership Past Governor Bob McFadyen, Chairperson
 - b. New Club Building Optimist Rick Zimak, Chairperson
 - c. O.I. Foundation - Canada Optimist George Dewys, Chairperson
 - d. Childhood Cancer Campaign Optimist Jerry Marton, Chairperson
 - e. Computers for Kids Optimist Dennis Manarey, Chairperson
 - f. Personal Growth and Development (P.G.I.) Past Governor Dianne Josling, Chairperson
 - g. Internet Safety Optimist Jane Antoniak, Chairperson
 - h. Essay Optimist Hazel Polhill, Chairperson
 - i. Oratorical Optimist Maily Keir, Chairperson
 - j. Spelling Contest Past Governor Mark and Optimist Carole Kerr, Chairpersons
 - k. H.O.B.Y. Optimist Linda Shearer, Chairperson
 - l. J.O.O.I. (Youth Clubs) Optimists Matt and Kelli Crowley, Chairpersons
 - m. District Bulletin Optimist Jennifer Zurbrigg, Chairperson
 - n. Galbraith Camp for Kids Optimist Harold Lange, Chairperson
 - o. District Historians Optimist Ken and Eleanor Saxton, Chairpersons
 - p. Quarter Boards and Convention Optimist Ann Tosheff, Chairperson
 10. Remarks from our Optimist International Representative O.I. Vice President Don Brose
 11. Closing Remarks Governor Catherine Herdman
 12. CLOSE WITH THE OPTIMIST CREED

10:30 a.m. BREAK

<p>10:45 a.m. TRAINING FORUMS - SESSION 1</p> <p>Main Lodge 1 - Spelling Contest, Oratorical, Essay, Computers for Kids</p> <p>Main Lodge 2 - "Why Am I An Optimist?"</p> <p>T.B.A. - Club Presidents' Training</p> <p>11:30 a.m. TRAINING FORUMS - SESSION 1</p> <p>Main Lodge 1 - Internet Safety and Childhood Cancer Campaign</p> <p>Main Lodge 2 - "Fund" Raisers & "Fun" Raisers - Open Discussion</p> <p>12:15 noon LUNCH</p> <p>1:30 p.m. TRAINING FORUMS - SESSION 1</p> <p>Main Lodge 1 - H.O.B.Y., J.O.O.I., Camp Galbraith</p> <p>Main Lodge 2 - New Club Building, Membership</p>
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Midwestern Ontario Optimist District 46
Be Excited . . . Engaged for the Children 2010 - 11
November 5th & 6th, 2010
First Quarter Board Registration Form

<u>Member Information (print clearly)</u>	<u>Registration and/or Meals Required</u>			
		#	Each	Total
First Member's Name:	Member Registration		\$12.00	
Club Name:	Be Excited, Engaged Lunch		\$17.00	
Address:				
	TOTAL ORDER			\$
Phone:				
Email:	Make cheques payable to			
2nd Members Name:	MIDWESTERN ONTARIO			
Club Name:	DISTRICT OPTIMISTS			
Address:				
	Preregistration is required			
Phone:	in ordering of meals!			
Email:				
Guest:				

Hotel Registration: Oakwood Resort, Hwy 21 North, Grand Bend ON N0M 1T0

Check In 3:00 p.m. Check Out 11:00 a.m.

ROOM REGISTRATION DEADLINE - OCTOBER 10/10

Hotel Room Friday night \$105.00/room, \$150.00/suite, plus applicable taxes.

Bed Preference: 2 double beds _____ King _____ #of people _____ Wheelchair Accessible? _____ (y/n)

HOTEL ROOMS BOOKED THROUGH REGISTRAR ONLY, CREDIT CARD IS REQUIRED.

Please indicate credit card to use for room registration: M/C ___ Visa ___ American Express ___

Card# _____ Expiry Date _____

Rooms are limited - FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS, book early.



Keep this portion for notes about registration

Cheque # _____
 Amount \$ _____
 Room Reqd _____
 Registration _____
 Luncheon _____



MAIL or GIVE COMPLETED FORM to:

Opt. Linda Adams
 R.R.#2
 St. Pauls, ON N0K 1V0
 Phone - 519-393-6759
 Fax - 519-393-6768
 Email - bladams@quadro.net