



CENON CENTRAL

Edition 4701 - October November December 2023

Central Ontario District Team

Governor

Ralph Brunten

Immediate Past Governor

Al Fourney

Governor Elect

Bonnie Sheer Porteous

Secretary/Treasurer

Michelle Stokes

Governors Advisor

Tony Edge

CCOF & Childhood Wellness

Denise Nacev

Membership & Engagement

Diane Laframboise

Growth

Tony Edge

Conference/Convention

Gabriella Van Hooydonk

Finance

Brian Wick

Leadership Development

Anne Donkers

World Oratorical

Marijka Coffa

Essay

Susan Montgomery

Marketing

Vicki Mains

Junior World Golf

Dennis Kwasnicki



GOVERNOR RALPH E. BRUNTON

2023-2024



It is a profound privilege to be your Governor for 2023-2024. As we embark on this new journey together, I am filled with immense optimism and enthusiasm for the year ahead.

Our theme for the year "Choose Optimism to Light up the Future" encapsulates the essence of what we stand for as Optimists. It's a theme that not only reflects our commitment to fostering hope and positivity but also our dedication to driving real change in our communities.

Let me share with you some of our key goals with you, all which revolve around the central theme of choosing Optimism:

- 1. Increase Membership** We firmly believe that more hands make lighter work, and more Optimists make a brighter future. By reaching out to potential members and showcasing the impact we can create together, we aim to welcome new faces into our Optimist family.
- 2. Increase Retention** Our existing members are the pillars of our organization. We want to ensure that they feel valued, engaged, and fulfilled in their Optimist journey. By providing opportunities for personal and leadership growth, we will strengthen our core.
- 3. Improve Membership Engagement.** Engaged members are passionate members. We need to work on creating more opportunities for involvement, be it through service projects, events, or leadership roles. Your engagement is the lifeblood of our organization.
- 4. Grow Communication** Effective communication is vital in our digital age. We plan to revamp and enhance our communication channels, ensuring that every member is well-informed, inspired, and connected. Your stories, ideas, and achievements deserve to be shared and celebrated.

But let's not forget the heart of it all – Optimism. It's a force that can illuminate even the darkest of times, a belief that can move mountains. Together we have the power to bring hope where it's needed most, to light up the lives of those we touch, and to shape a brighter more optimistic future.

(see page 2)

Central Ontario District Team

Hospitality

Jennifer Krizel
Peter Krizel

Sgt. At Arms

Ted Simmons

Candidate Qualifications

Al Fourney

CCDHH

Ted Simmons

Historian

Brenda McDonald

Parliamentarian

Alex Ansell

Achievement & Awards

Lauralee Reily

International Convention

Michelle Stokes

Webmaster

Brian Wick
Michelle Stokes

Communications

Christine Smith

Bulletin Editor

Al Wood

Junior Optimist Clubs (JOI)

Jody Caperchione

Programs/Projects

Jane Morson

Scholarships

Jim Lynge

Lt. Governors

Zone 1 - Don Devreede
Zone 2 - Don Zynomirski
Zone 3 - Ken Williams
Zone 5 - Mac Rumble
Zone 6 - Olaf Kraemer
Zone 8 - Jim McGrorey
Zone 10 - Larry Harper

Supply

Gillian Martin
Ansell s Awards

(from page 1)

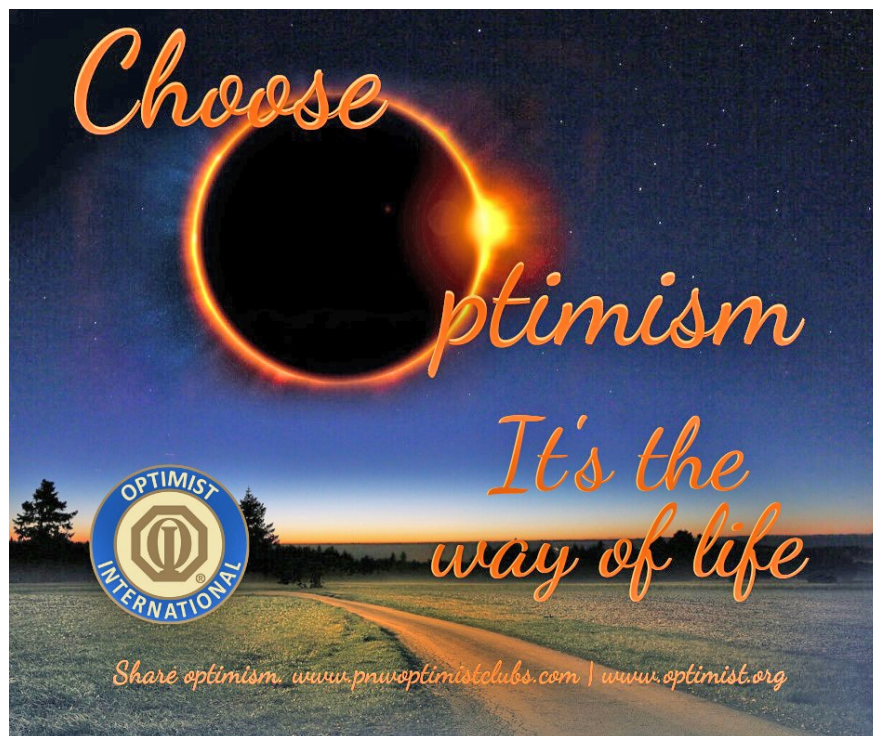
As we move forward, I encourage you to choose Optimism every day. In your service projects, in your interactions with fellow members, and in your personal lives, let Optimism be your guiding light.

Together, we can be the beacons of hope, the catalysts of positive change and the champions of a brighter future for The Central Ontario District of Optimist International.

Let's rise to this challenge with unwavering optimism and determination. I look forward to working alongside each and every one of you to make this year one filled with remarkable achievements, heartwarming stories and most importantly and abundance of Optimism with a capital O.

Thank you for your dedication to Optimism, and here's to an extraordinary year ahead.

With Optimism and Gratitude
Ralph E. Brunton



From the Desk of the Editor.....

Welcome to Governor Ralph's CENON CENTRAL!

If your club has done something that may be of interest to other clubs and members, or if you have an event coming up that other clubs and members could attend, send me a blurb with a photo if available. CENON CENTRAL is a quarterly publication, with issue dates of October 15, January 15, April 15 and July 15.

al.wood5212@live.ca

**Are your Current License Plates in Rough Shape?
Numbers Peeling? Paint Fading?**

Do They Look Like This?



**Afraid the Police will Pull You Over?
Your Solution is Right Here!**

And.....

You'll be doing a really good thing!

Or.....

Maybe you really just want to promote Optimists



RESERVE YOUR ONTARIO OI LICENSE PLATE

Are you a proud Optimist that would like to help celebrate 100 years of optimism in Canada?

Here is a great way to display your optimism every where you go by ordering a limited edition set of Ontario Optimist License plates. Each set is a cost of \$110.00 and are special edition number plates.

Once we have secured a commitment of 200 plates, we will order them and send them directly to your home via Xpresspost. Please note there are no vanity plates or green plates available with this program. Here is the link to complete your reservation, once we have secured 200 sets of plates ordered we will notify you to request a payment which is required prior to the plates being sent.

Please ensure all the information you are sending is full and complete. If you have any questions, please send them to optimistplates@gmail.com



Scan the QR code, fill out the form and submit right on line.



2023-2024 CENON New Membership Incentive



For every member you recruit this 2023 - 2024 year, you and your new member will get 1 ballot each for a chance to win.

It's THAT EASY!

Winner to be DRAWN at District Convention
August 2024 in Morrisburg

Valued at
\$2000



**28" X 48" X 18'
High**

Table pictured here is a sample only. Prize table is in storage and will be presented with authenticity certificate. **ONLY 270 tables have been made from sections of the 2019 NBA Championship floor**

CENON Calendar for 2023-2025

FIRST QUARTER CONFERENCE

Saturday Nov. 25 to Sunday Nov 26 2023

Conference Registration - \$25.00

Dinner Saturday Night - \$25.00

Conference

Best Western Hotel & Conference Centre - 2 North Service Rd., St. Catharines, ON

Meetings & Dinner

rantham Optimist Hall, 188 Linwell Rd. St. Catherines, ON

Hospitality Saturday night at the hotel

Room Rate: \$189.00 Group ID 2083

Register at cenon.org

Future District Meetings for your Calendar

2024

Second Quarter Conference and Awards Banquet

Saturday February 24 and Sunday February 25, 2024

Hilton Garden Inn, Ajax

Third Quarter Conference and Oratorical

Saturday May 4 and Sunday May 5, 2024

Allure Hotel & Conference Centre, Barrie

District Convention and Annual Meeting

Friday August 16 to Sunday Aug 24, 2024

Morrisburg (tentative)

2024 - 2025

November 8 - 9, 2024 in Niagara Falls

February 7 - 8, 2025 in Oakville

May 16 - 17, 2025 in Collingwood

August 8 - 10, 2025 (location TBA)

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The biggest joke on mankind is that computers have begun asking humans to prove they aren't robots.

When a kid says "Daddy, I want mummy" that's the kid version of "I'd like to speak to your supervisor".

I don't mean to interrupt people but I just randomly remember things and get really excited.

I thought growing older would take longer.

Just once I want a username and password prompt to say CLOSE ENOUGH.

If I am ever on life support, unplug me and plug me back in and see if that works.

"Don't be afraid to ask questions. Don't be afraid to ask for help when you need it. I do that every day. Asking for help isn't a sign of weakness, it's a sign of strength. It shows you have the courage to admit when you don't know something, and to learn something new."

~ Barack Obama

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 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.