



CENON CENTRAL

Edition 4701 - January February March 2024

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



From the Desk of

GOVERNOR RALPH E. BRUNTON



I hope all the Optimist members of CENON had a wonderful Holiday season. I know all the clubs had a very busy 1st quarter with their fundraising and many events and projects that each individual club ran.

I am proud of everthing the clubs have accomplished so far but as we all have recharged ourselves over the Holidays there is much work to be done in our clubs and communities.

We have had a slow start on membership so far as we stand at - 24 at the time of writing. It's not that bad as we can get back into the plus very easily if we just spread the word of Optimism in our communities by talking to people and showing them how they can make a difference in their community and inviting them out to a meeting.

There is lots of work to do this quarter with Optimist Day on Feb.1, Oratorical and Essay along with the CCDHH to get organized along with each clubs projects. Be sure to send in to the Membership Engagement Chair Diane Laframboise your clubs nominations for the Governors Award of Achievement. Lets recognize our members especially the 1-3 year members.

see page 2.....

*****BREAKING NEWS*****



Please welcome the newest club in the District!

The SEAWAY OPTIMIST CLUB Brought into the Optimist family by Governor Ralph Brunton.

Chartered on January 16, 2024.

Governor Ralph is looking forward to the club making a difference in

their community.

Club President Brandi Donovan will lead the club to help bring out the best in youth, community and themselves.

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 Krahmer
- Zone 8 - Jim McGrorey
- Zone 10 - Larry Harper

Supply

Gillian Martin
Ansell s Awards

.....from Page 1

All clubs MUST update their by-laws by September 30th of this year and you do that by making the changes to them on Leaders. On the Optimist Institute there is a course on how you can update the by-laws on the web-site then submit them. Any questions please contact Alex Ansell.

Let us all have a wonderful 2nd quarter and hope to see good attendance at the 2nd Quarter Conference and be sure to wear the sweater or jersey of your favourite sports team.

Remember, we "Choose Optimism to Light up the Future" as we bring out the Best in the Kids, the Communities and Ourselves. Let us all have fun and make our clubs stronger.

Remember to invite me out to your clubs meetings or events as I will try to get to as many as possible by contacting me by phone, email, text or message as I would love to hear from the members.

Let us all help in making this District even stronger.

Governor Ralph

Last night the internet stopped working, so I spent a few hours with my family.....they seem like such good people.

Weight loss goal: To be able to clip my toenails and breathe at the same time.



From the Desk of the Editor.....

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 next issue dates of April 15 and July 15.

al.wood5212@live.ca

From the Program and Projects Committee:

Thursday February 1st is Optimist Day and we want to see the CENON Optimism shine! The attached link will take you to the page set up on the Optimist International Website that is dedicated to Optimist Day. You will find ideas to help spread Optimism throughout your community. Ensure your Optimist Day social media posts in the hash tags #OpimistDay and #OptimistDay2024. There is a sample Optimist Day Proclamation that can be sent to your Mayor to inform them of this important day.

[Optimist International](#)



Celebrate Optimist Day!

Did you know, the Optimist Club of Toronto was the first club to be chartered outside of the United States in January 1924? Since then, over 500 clubs have been chartered across Canada.

This includes the Optimist Club of Hamilton, also chartered in 1924 (June 4, 1924) and now celebrating 100 years of community service.

Don't miss the opportunity to help celebrate 100 Years of Optimism in Canada during the Convention!

Interested in learning more about the history of Optimism and 100 years of Optimism in Canada? All this can be found at www.optimist.org.

Other clubs by Zone with significant milestones this year:

Zone 1 - 88 yrs: Niagara Falls, St.Catherines; 87 yrs: Welland; 70 yrs: Grantham-St. Catherines

Zone 2 - 70 yrs: Dunnville, Stoney Creek; 68 yrs: Ancaster

Zone 3 - 76 yrs: Burlington, Oakville

Zone 5 - 75 yrs: Keswick, Newmarket

Zone 6 - 53 yrs: Keswick; 52 yrs: Halton Hills

Zone 7 - 58 yrs: Barrie

Zone 8 - 56 yrs: Uxbridge

Zone 9 - 53 yrs: Lindsay

Zone 10 - 76 yrs: Cornwall; 68 yrs: Nepean; 63 yrs: Arnprior



**106th Optimist International Convention,
Niagara Falls, Ontario,
June 22-26, 2024**

The 106th Optimist International Convention will be held at the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel in Niagara Falls, Ontario from June 22 to 26, 2024. It promises to be a fantastic chance to hear motivational speakers, attend workshops, meet and socialize with other Optimists, and have fun!

Hotel reservations can be made as follows: Call 1-800-519-9911 to make a reservation at the Sheraton Fallsview or the Crowne Plaza, and request the group rate for "Optimist International" or reference the code OIT for Crowne Plaza and OPT for Sheraton Fallsview. Room rates are quoted in Canadian Currency.



Here are some items to expect:

- ◆ **Saturday June 22nd evening - Welcome Celebration and Canadian Centennial Event (It's going to be tasty!)**
- ◆ **Sunday June 23rd - Heritage of Optimism Brunch - with an International twist!**
- ◆ **Monday June 24th - President's Banquet/Gala and Dance - come help us celebrate Optimist International President Tracy's Successful and Caring year!**
- ◆ **There are a lot of workshops to share Optimism being planned by the Leadership Development Team, which will include Office Trainings.**
- ◆ **We are working hard to bring dynamic Canadian Keynote Speakers to the Convention and above all our main goal is to have a fun time in Niagara Falls!**

You can start with [Page 5](#) of this newsletter, but to keep up to date on Convention information including registration, program and 'See Who's Attending' by frequently visiting optimist.org

**Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada * Sheraton Fallsview
and Crowne Plaza Fallsview**



Saturday, June 22

9 a.m.-12 p.m.	VPs/GOVs Training
9 a.m.-4 p.m.	VPs-Elect/GOVs-Elect Training
11:50 a.m.	Ribbon Cutting
12-6 p.m.	Registration House of Optimism (Expo)
4:30-5:30 p.m.	First Timers Program
7-10 p.m.	Welcome Celebration

Sunday, June 23

Bringing Out the Best in Youth

AM Day breaker

8 a.m.-5 p.m.	House of Optimism (EXPO) Registration
9-11 a.m.	General Session
11 a.m.-12:45 p.m.	Heritage of Optimism Brunch
1-3 p.m.	District Chair Training
1-4 p.m.	Workshops/Officer Trainings
4:30-6 p.m.	OIF Donor Appreciation Recept By invitation
8-10:30 p.m.	Trivia Night

Monday, June 24

Bringing Out the Best in our Communities

AM Day breaker

8 a.m.-5 p.m.	House of Optimism (EXPO) Registration
9-11 a.m.	General Session
11 a.m.-12 p.m.	Town Hall
12-4:30 p.m.	Service Project(s)
1-2 p.m.	Workshops/Officer Trainings
3-4 p.m.	Member Feedback Sessions
6:30-7:30 p.m.	Pre-Banquet Reception
7:30-9:30 p.m.	Presidents Banquet/Gala
9:30-11:30 p.m.	President's Gala/Dance

Tuesday, June 25-

Bringing Out the Best in Ourselves

AM Day breaker

7:30-9 a.m.	OIF Past Pres Breakfast By invitation
8 a.m.-5 p.m.	House of Optimism (EXPO) Registration
9-11 a.m.	General Session
12:45-1:45 p.m.	Credentials
2-5:30 p.m.	Annual Business Meeting
5:45-7:15 p.m.	Wm. H Harrison Recept By invitation
8 p.m.	District Night Out/Dinners

Wednesday, June 26

7:30-9 a.m.	Club Presidents-Elect & Lt. Governors-Elect Breakfast
10 a.m.-6 p.m.	Optional group tours

The Optimist Club of Stoney Creek

Presents Our

Annual Sno Golf Tourname

Bring your club

**At the Little League Park
(Optimist Country Club for the day)
890 Queenston Rd, Stoney Cree**

**Sunday, February 4, 2024
18 Holes of golfing fun!**

**Registration on Site
First Tee Off: 11:00 am
Golf & Lunch - \$20.00
Lunch Only - \$15.00
Kids <12 - Golf Free
Lunch at the turn
Pay at the door**

CASH BAR

Bring your friends

Bring your Kids

Optimist Club of Burlington



NEW LOCATION!!!

Friday January 19th, 2024 - 7pm

Burlington Anglican Lutheran Church – 3455 Lakeshore Road,
Burlington, L7N 1B5

Optimist Club of Cornwall

Junior Optimist

Teen DANCE

\$5 Entry fee

Doors open 6:30pm
Dance 7-10pm
Grades 7-10

Come dance to all your favorite music with Spinmaster D.J Joe.

No Bags

If you leave you are Out!

NO Outside Food or Drink

Proof of age required

Friday January 26th

Civic Complex Salon B

Snacks available

CENTRAL Ontario District

Invites all children under the Age of 19

(as of October 1, 2023 and not enrolled in Post-Secondary Degree Education)

To Consider one of our International Programs for 2024



Optimist International Oratorical Competition - all entrants are required to prepare a speech on the topic:

"How To Change The World With Optimism"

The speech is to be not less than 4 minutes and not more than 5 minutes.

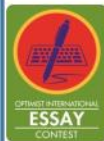
At the club level, awards are set by individual clubs.

At the District level, scholarship awards are \$2500, \$1500 and \$1000 for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places respectively. At the Regional Level, a scholarship of \$5000 is awarded for 1st place

At the International Level, scholarship awards are \$15,000, \$10,000 and \$5,000. The International competitions are held in St. Louis, Missouri.

The District competition will be held at the 3rd Qtr conference in Barrie May 4-5, 2024.

Contact District Chair Marijke Coffa at mcoffa512@gmail.com



Optimist International Essay Contest - The contest requires the entrant to write an essay on the topic:

"Optimism: How It Connects Us"

Essay to be not less than 700 or more than 800 words. It starts at the Club Level, then the District followed by the Optimist International Contest.

Awards at the Club Level are set by individual clubs.

Beyond the club, prizes are in the form of a scholarship and is \$2500 at the District Level.

Contact District Chair Susan Montgomery at suemontgomery@live.ca

COMMUNICATION CONTEST FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

The Topic for the 2023-2024 School Year is:

“How To Change The World With Optimism”



The contest is open to young people through grade 12 in the United States and Canada, to CEGEP in Québec and grade 13 in the Caribbean, who are educated in the United States, Canada or the Caribbean. Students must submit the results of an audiogram completed no longer than 24 months prior to the date of the contest by a qualified audiologist. Students must be certified to have an uncorrected hearing loss of 40 decibels or more, which must be supported by the audiogram in order to be eligible to compete. Students with permanent correction should compete in the Optimist International Oratorical contest



Planning is in the works for a spring 2024 competition. The deadline to enter is determined by individual clubs.

The deadline for Clubs to submit their winner to the next level of competition is set by the District. District deadline to submit a winner to Optimist International is June 15, 2024.

Contestants make a 4-5 minute presentation on the assigned topic. The presentations are judged at the Club level, Zone level (if needed) and the District level.

The Optimist International Foundations fund a \$2,500 scholarship for the speaking contest.

For all the information needed, contact CCDHH District Chair Ted Simmonds at (905) 838 2994 or ted.simmonds@sympatico.ca.

OPTIMIST CLUB OF HAMILTON

CELEBRATES ITS' 100TH ANNIVERSARY IN ROARING 1920'S STYLE



*JOIN US SATURDAY JUNE 1, 2024 FROM 4-6 PM FOR
SOCIAL HOUR WINE AND CHEESE*

(1 glass of wine/beer free with advance registration. Additional glasses \$6.00)
Check out our memorabilia and chat with old and new friends.

*SIT DOWN ROAST BEEF FUNDRAISER DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION
FROM 6-10 PM.*

Roast beef dinner \$50.00 per person (chicken and vegetarian options available)
Example: roast beef, yorkshire pudding, vegetables, potatoes, gravy etc.... dessert and
coffee/tea

Hotel accommodations available at the www.visitorsinn.com group rate of \$179.00 per night.
ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE CLUB TO SUPPORT ITS' ONGOING PROJECTS.

REGISTER AND PURCHASE TICKETS AT:

www.optimistclubofhamilton.org

Optimist Club of Collingwood and Local Partners

On behalf of the Collingwood Thundersnow Classic Girls Hockey Tournament, we wish to thank our sponsors for their generous contribution in support of our inaugural event.

The tournament is scheduled to take place from January 19 to 21 in Collingwood, Ontario, and will feature teams from across Ontario, ages Under 7 to Under 18. 46 teams in attendance, with over 700 female hockey players visiting Collingwood.

The tournament promises to be a highlight in our local community this hockey season. Community partners are instrumental in not only making this event a success, but contributing towards the continued growth of our association. We are proud to say that there are more than 300 players in our association, and growing considerably each year.

Being our first-ever tournament, it represents a significant milestone for our organization and we are beyond excited.

THANK YOU for supporting the growth of women's hockey, the Collingwood Girls Hockey Association and giving girls of all ages the opportunity to excel in sport.

- Holiday Inn Express % Suites Collingwood
- Town of Collingwood
- Optimist Club of Collingwood & Southern Georgian Bay
- Boston Pizza
- Collingwood & District Kinsmen Club
- Loudcup.com
- Blundstone Canada
- St. Louis Bar & Grill

COLLINGWOOD THUNDERSNOW CLASSIC

Thank you to our tournament sponsors!

SWIPE! →

2024 SPONSORS

2024 SPONSORS

2024 SPONSORS

Premier Partner

Premier Community Partners

Community Partners

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

CANDLEWOOD SUITES

COLLINGWOOD

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

St. Louis

Blundstone

Kin Canada
Kinsmen Club of Collingwood
CollingwoodKinsmen.ca

Boston Pizza

Hey, want something to do next November?

The Optimist Club of Keswick is hosting a fundraiser and would like to invite members and their friends to join us for a Group Tour Douro Riverboat Cruise leaving Toronto November 6th, 2024. The flyer is included. Contact the club for further details.



MAGICAL DOURO CRUISE

WITH OPTIMIST CLUB OF KESWICK

9 DAY TOUR

CANADA | PORTO | CALDAS DE AREGOS | PINHAO | BARCA D ALVA |
POCINHO | REGUA | PORTO | CANADA

Soak up the beauty of one of Europe's most impressive River landscapes as you sail through the Douro Valley, the world's oldest demarcated wine region!



DEPARTURE DATE:
NOVEMBER 6, 2024

TORONTO / STANDARD
MAIN DECK AFT
C\$ 3899

SINGLE
SUPP.
C\$ 699

For more details connect with
Optimist Club of Keswick
Jane Morson
Tel: 647-291-0798
Email: keswickoptimist@gmail.com



For reservation and booking contact:
Jennifer McPherson
TurnKey Travel
Tel: 289-238-8410
Email: jennifer@turnkeytravel.ca
TICO # 4316071



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

2024

**Second Quarter District Conference
and Awards Banquet**

**Saturday February 24th and Sunday
February 25th, 2024**

Hilton Garden Inn

500 Beck Cres, Ajax

**For all the details and agenda go to
www.cenon.org**

and

[Register at cenon.org](http://www.cenon.org)



**Third Quarter Conference and Oratorical
Saturday May 4th and Sunday May 5th, 2024**

Allure Hotel & Conference Centre, Barrie

20 Fairview Rd., Barrie, ON

833-448-1020



**District Convention and Annual Meeting
Friday August 16th to Sunday Aug 18th, 2024**

McIntosh Inn & Conference Centre

12495 County Rd. 2, P. O. Box 1140

Morrisburg, ON



Preview of 2024 - 2025

1st Qtr November 8 - 9, 2024 in Niagara Falls

2nd Qtr February 7 - 8, 2025 in Oakville

3rd Qtr May 16 - 17, 2025 in Collingwood

Convention August 8 - 10, 2025 (location TBA)

CENON CENTRAL

Edition 4701 - January February March 2024

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.



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.