

OPTIMIST CLUB OF AUSABLE PORT FRANKS

1-9997 Port Franks Rd., Port Franks ON N0M 2L0

www.ausableportfranksoptimist.club/

MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER



CLUB OFFICERS

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President's Message :

Greetings fellow Optimists,

I hope as I reach out to you during this challenging time that you are all doing well. I don't think any of us could have imagined how drastically life for us and for people around the world has changed in the past month. As Optimists I encourage you to reread your creed and take to heart the commitment you have made. Perhaps, when others are struggling you can share a copy of our creed and explain how it helps to keep you grounded at a time like this.

As challenging as social distancing is, I can't imagine how much more difficult it would be without the changes in technology we have available. Whether it be email, Facebook, twitter, zoom, skype, text or just picking up your phone, we all have the ability to keep connected. With that in mind I challenge each of you to reach out to others regularly during the weeks ahead. Not the buddy you usually text with, or one of your Facebook friends, but someone you haven't heard from in a while, someone who might be feeling isolated. We don't need to be physically present to spread optimism.

As you are likely already aware all our meetings and events have been cancelled until further notice. However our Facebook page is still active, along with our website and I encourage

Find us on Facebook – Ausable Port Franks Optimist Club

www.ausableportfranksoptimist.club

everyone to visit there and also if you have any ideas on things we could add at this time, to reach out to me at kpuzara@gmail.com or call me 226-998-4481.

Finally, we use the term optimism a lot, it represents who we are, but I also want you to think about another term - resilience – the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties. It is a character gift we are given as humans. The weather will get warmer, the birds will sing more, flowers will begin to bloom and when the time is right, we will begin again to experience the freedom we as Canadians enjoy. In the meantime, stay safe, stay healthy and stay optimistic.

Yours In Optimism

Karen Puzara

President

FELLOWSHIP:

Birthday wishes go out to Optimist Members celebrating in April: Peter Dafonseca-16th, Mary Ann Strybosch-20th, Karen Puzara – 23rd.

MEMBERS

No new members to report at this time but please talk up Optimist to your friends and neighbours.

Meat Raffle – 3rd Saturday of the month from Sept – May – suspended until further notice

Grogs Restaurant from 2 pm to 4pm

A strip of tickets for 24 draws is \$10.00. Prizes include meat, eggs, lottery tickets and various gift prizes. We also hold a 50/50 draw at a cost of 3 tickets for \$5.00. Come out and support the club or send your money and someone will be nice enough to watch your tickets and give you a shout if you are a winner

Looking for a new chairperson of this event – please contact Derek

Soup-er Sundays – Come out and enjoy giant board games and have a hot lunch

Suspended until further notice. This is open from noon until 3:00 to families and individuals looking for a way to spend a few hours on a Sunday afternoon. Lunch is optional at \$5/\$10 for a family – soup, beverages, desserts and buns.

Easter Egg Hunt – Cancelled for 2020

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt is always a lot of fun for families. Come to the Community Centre at 10:00 to get your free coupons for a hot dog and drink for your child/children/grandchildren. The Hunt starts at 10:30 and everyone comes back with eggs to trade in for treats. Tell your friends and family members.

Arts and Stuff on Wednesdays – suspended at this time

Tell anyone you know that the Optimist Hall is open from 6:00 pm-9:00 pm for drop in Art and creative activities. This is a good social time and the kids love it. You don't have to be a member to come out and enjoy this time with Community members. Lots of supplies are available and you get to keep the mess out of your house.

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Junior Gardener program will start when it is safe to do so. Contact Kristy Lyon for more information – swimcoachkristy@gmail.com

Free to Create – Youth Art Exhibit – moved to September 26-27th, 2020

It isn't too early to register your child – aged 5-18 years of age. The cost to register is \$15 and a kit is provided with a canvas, paints and brushes.

The Artist is free to use these supplies or something else that they want to use to express their artistic side. You can stop into the hall any Wednesday from 6:00-9:00 pm to register with Sonja or contact Linda Attard – llattard@gmail.com. (when programs start again). Please let your family and friends know as this is open to anyone (you do not have to live or vacation here).

Indoor Garage Sale – Community Centre – Saturday, May 30th – 9:00 am-2:00 pm

When you do your Spring purging, remember to keep good saleable items and donate to this bi-annual fundraiser for Youth events. You could also rent a table and sell your own items and/or team up with a neighbour. Contact Lorie Scott for more information – 519-243-3005.

Canada Day – July 1, 2020

Karen and Tony Puzara have plans well underway for our 3rd Annual Canada Day celebrations. Help is always needed – lots of it!

Summer Art Camp – August 4-7th, 2020

We are able to run a camp this year thanks to Lorie Scott and Karen Puzara who are spearheading this year as Sonja needs a well needed break. More information will follow. People from camp last year have already been notified as they have the first opportunity to enrol. Lorie and Karen have some great ideas for the kids this year.

Upcoming Meetings:

All members are encouraged to attend these meetings and you are welcome to bring a guest!

Dinner meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month in the Community Centre main hall. No April dinner meeting – stay tuned for news on any May dinner meeting.

Board Meetings are normally held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Optimist Hall – upstairs at the Community Centre (or downstairs in the West Wing Hall). We would love to have members come to these meetings with ideas and comments. You don't have to sit on the board to be there. They are open to any member and if you are a paid up member you will have a vote. We will advise of the next meeting when things get back to our new normal.

Zone Meetings and Conferences:

Third Quarter Conference - cancelled

SWONT Annual District Convention – August 21st, 22nd, 23rd – 39th Annual – Best Western Stoneridge Inn, London

Miscellaneous:

“Like” the Optimist Club of Ausable Port Franks Facebook Page to see pictures of events and up to date happenings with our club. **Check out the new and improved Web Page (special thanks to Janice Cuckovic!). If you are at events please remember to take pictures and send them to Janice for the Web Page. petarandjanice@gmail.com**

Yarn – A group of ladies in Thedford are knitting and crocheting items for Nursing Homes and Samaritan’s Purse. They can use any yarn that you have. Bring this to the Community Centre or you can even help out or drop it off to them at Knox Presbyterian Church in Thedford on Tuesdays from 1:30 to 3:30.

Milk Bags – Please save your outer milk bags, pop can tabs and bread bag plastic tabs. You can leave them at the Community Centre for Linda Attard