

OPTIMIST CLUB OF AUSABLE PORT FRANKS

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

www.ausableportfranksoptimist.club/

MAY-JUNE 2020 NEWSLETTER



CLUB OFFICERS

President – Karen Puzara - kpuzara@gmail.com 519-243-3612

Past-President: Walter Michielsens – waltdirect@hay.net 519-857-7014

1st Vice President: Tony Puzara – anthonypuzara@holliswealth.com – 519-243-3612

Secretary: Linda Attard - lattard@gmail.com - 519-243-1596

Treasurer: Derek Scott - derekscott@execulink.com - 519-243-3005

Directors

Mary Ann Strybosch – mchristiana58sobanski@gmail.com – 226-237-6257

Lorie Scott – loriescott@execulink.com – 519-243-3005

Katherine Pym – kate50@execulink.com – 519-871-4492

Sydney Ridell – sydney.ridell13@gmail.com

Pattie Bonesteel – bonesteelgb@icloud.com

Garrett Pedlar - remaxgarrett@hay.net – 519-872-0910

Paul Petersen – pmpret06@gmail.com – 519-243-2458

President's Message :

Greetings fellow Optimists,

I hope this warmer weather and sunshine we have been having has filled your hearts with warmth and optimism. Spring is the season of renewal, the birds return, bulbs start growing, and hopefully for all of us it signals the beginning of returning to some of the normal activities in our lives. As I write this note we are beginning to see some changes, parks and trails are reopening, some local businesses are able to reopen, but many things still remain very different. As optimists our core beliefs have not changed and many are finding new ways to share their optimism, however as a club, things still remain quite different. Currently, we are still unable to access the community centre and all of our activities have been cancelled or postponed. As we hear news on this, we will keep you posted.

Last week I shared an invitation for members to attend this year's virtual International Conference. I have recently been notified that SWONT will provide financing for two members of our club to attend. If you are interested in attending please let either Linda or I know and we can provide further details.

Find us on Facebook – Ausable Port Franks Optimist Club

www.ausableportfranksoptimist.club

In the past few weeks the board has held virtual meetings to discuss new ideas on how to keep our club active and provide for the children in our community, during this challenging time. Please take a look at the ideas we have come up with below and see if there is something you would be able to help with. If you can think of any other ideas or feel there is a need we are not addressing, please contact either Linda or myself. Also, if you would like to be included in any of our virtual meetings again, please reach out to either Linda or myself.

In closing I will borrow from our Optimist creed and encourage you to *wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.*

Take care and be safe.

Yours In Optimism
Karen Puzara
President

Events cancelled at this time:

Canada Day Celebrations, Fishing Derby, General Meetings, Arts and Stuff, Junior Gardeners, Indoor Garage Sale, Summer Art Camp

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 Please let your family and friends know as this is open to anyone (you do not have to live or vacation here).

Sub-Committee to discuss ideas for Optimist help, safe events for our Community

We would love to have some involvement from our General Membership for this sub-committee. Please get in touch with Karen Puzara if you would like to be a part of this. We would then advise how we meet – perhaps distance seating somewhere. We would like to help our Community and also keep our Optimist presence so people know that we are still here with all the event cancellations.

Drive-by birthday celebrations

If anyone would like to chair this we would welcome your involvement. The chair would determine a way to see if any youth in the area or seniors might enjoy a drive-by birthday. This has been done already and was very much appreciated by the little girl in Forest. It just involves contact with the family and putting it out by email or Facebook (Port Franks page is great for this) and ask people to meet somewhere at a designated time so everyone drives by at the same time.

Optimist International Virtual Conference

Everyone got an email about this. The cost to join this is \$25. Karen has indicated in her opening message that SWONT will pay for 2 of these for each club. Please contact Karen if interested.

Craft kits for needy children

We would like to coordinate with the Library and a local church to determine if there are children in our area who would benefit from some type of craft kit. We welcome your ideas and your offer to chair this.

Optimist flyer through Canada Post

Lorie is going to check with the Post Office on costs to distribute a one page flyer about our Club – Events cancelled, how we would like to help the Community and ideas that we are hoping to have as things allow.

Sidewalk Art for kids

Later in the summer we would like to section off areas of the Skateboard park and under the pavilion and have families come over and do chalk art. Keep this in mind and we welcome your input and ideas.

Upcoming Meetings:

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 – Knox Knitter are also asking for buttons – nickel, quarter or loonie sized as they are crocheting attachments for masks to make them more comfortable. 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. Contact Linda Attard – llattard@gmail.com if you have anything and she will coordinate getting the items and passing on to the Knox Knitters.