



# KW Optimist Club-Opti-KW-ips

Helping over 5,500 Kids per year with our Heidelberg Optimist Camp.

## President's Message



### MY FINAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My time as president of the Optimist Club of Kitchener – Waterloo has come to an end. The year seems to have gone by quickly. The year was filled with some challenges, but there were more positive programs that made me proud to be a member.

One initiative that our Club expanded on this year was the Teddy Bear program to the Waterloo Region Paramedics. This is a great program started by

Optimist Jim Musselman. We had the representatives of the Region come out and speak about the positive effect the program has had on the youth that needed a little comfort during a crisis situation. Sometimes it's the small things that make a huge difference.

I would also like to thank the board members that worked to direct our Club in the right direction. To the Secretary and Treasurer for all their knowledge, guidance and commitment in running the day to day operation of the Club - we would be lost without them. There are many other members to thank and naming them all, I would probably miss someone but please know that you are appreciated.

I want to extent the new executive under the guidance of our new president Frank Watty, much success in their efforts to improve and grow our Club in 2025-2026.

I know you will join me in supporting Frank in his year as leadership for the betterment of our Club.

Thanks everyone – see you out at the Club.

*President Ralph*

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**2024- 2025 Officers**

**O.I. PRESIDENT**  
**Jan Oord Graves**  
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**Exec. & Board**

**PRESIDENT** *Ralph Sperling*  
**PAST PRES.** *Rick La Rush*  
**1st VICE PRES** *Frank Watty*  
**2nd VICE PRES** *Jim Stuart*  
**TREASURER** *Joe MacEachen*  
**SECRETARY** *Ian Fraser*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS****ONE YEARS**

John Moyer, Kendra LaRush  
 Oz Gunal, Brad Straus

**TWO YEAR**

Rob Parent, George Harper  
 Justin Wind, Joel Wind

**Bulletin Editor**

**GEORGE HARPER**  
[georgeharper3@gmail.com](mailto:georgeharper3@gmail.com)

**KW Optimist Club Meetings****Dinner Meetings:**

2nd Tues of the month

**Board Meetings:**

4th Tues of the month

519-885-1119

"Please leave a message if you want  
 us to return your call"

**Email**

[thekwoptimistclub@gmail.com](mailto:thekwoptimistclub@gmail.com)

**Location**

**Camp Heidelberg**  
**2001 Kressler Rd.**  
**Heidelberg, ON N2J 3Z4**

**Mailing Address**

**PO Box 42052**  
**550 King Street North**  
**Waterloo, ON N2L 6K5**



## Next Dinner Meeting October 14th

6:30 Social 7:00 Dinner Meeting

Busy meeting planned ...

- Approval of a capital repair
- Membership to approve Budget 2025–2026
- Source Book ready
- Pick up copies of new brochure
- Induction of new officers
- Ladies night & Guest plus potential new members

**Busy YES** - dinner \$20 each the club covers the rest - will be catered.

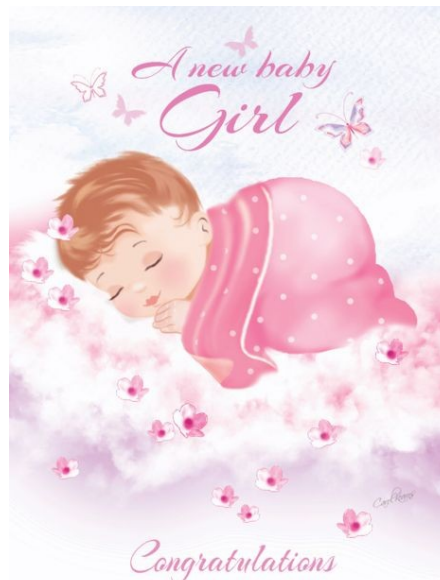


## Up Coming Dates:

**October 18, 2025** Run for Cancer - at the camp.

**A little Help** will be needed then 3 or 4 Optimist members.

Optimist John Zondo and Wife Anna had  
**a baby girl August 23** everyone is well.



**SOURCE  
 Books  
 for  
 2025 -  
 2026  
 are  
 ready  
 get  
 your  
 copy  
 at the  
 next  
 Dinner  
 meeting  
 October  
 14th**

## Consideration of Projects needed at the Club.

### Make sure that you send your lists to Optimist John Moyer or Optimist Ian Fraser.

The following is the list of projects forwarded to the Board at its August 26th Meeting

Forwarded for consideration by Optimist Ian Fraser.

It has been provided to the Property Committee for distribution to the general membership.

Replace urinals with flush type (Both washrooms).— Replace steps at side entrance (rail not up to code).

Repair fence entrance at road.— Paint main entrance.— Seal decks and ramps. Replace floor in Coker Building.— Redo downstairs washrooms.

Replace broken and seal failed windows in main hall.

Repair threshold to main hall (parkay floor has come up)

Clean siding and window threshold in main hall. Other considerations: (from Optimist George) Re-paint main hall and clean it up.

Signs over main door, back door, garage and cocker building - logo with website info.



Maybe a Banner to be used, maybe out front at signs or backdoor of building "Looking for New Members" Members are invited to present the Board (through the Property Committee) with any additional suggestions — Please anything.

Committee to prioritize, cost, and indicate which are commercial versus volunteer projects and budget accordingly.

### Elected to serve - Optimist Frank Watty

Bulletin Editor, Past President George has asked me to submit for a brief comment as we are about to enter a new Optimist Year.

First of all, thank you to the out-going leadership, committee members and to the faithful general membership who have "kept the flag flying".

Thank you even more to those of you who have agreed to assume responsibility in seeing this Club continue in its mission to help the Youth of this community.

This coming year, the 73rd of our existence, is going to be a very challenging one. Our numbers are declining but the demands for our services and support are growing with population and new social complexities. Even as age settles on our shoulders, the responsibilities of maintaining our Camp Heidelberg in a safe, comfortable and presentable form are starting to be quite demanding. The time for self-examination is here.

Let us take strength from the commitment of those who have gone before and who have built this heritage. Some needs are evident....Membership Recruitment, Expanding our Outreach; Greater Publicity independently and through Partnerships. These are some of my ideas, but I welcome contributions from all of you. More on this later.

In the meantime, thank you to the spouses, partners, families and friends of Optimism who have shared you with us; your time, your energies, your enthusiasm and your hopes for a Brighter Tomorrow.

Together, we press on to the Greater Achievement of the Future". HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!

*President-Elect Frank.*



## Cruise to Heidelberg



**Cruise to Heidelberg**  
 2025 Proceeds benefiting  
 Child Witness Centre  
 PSPCAN

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2025**  
 10AM - 3 PM  
 OPTIMIST CLUB OF K-W  
 2001 KRESSLER ROAD, HEIDELBERG

**Admission**  
 Show Car with passengers, \$10.00  
 Spectators, \$5  
 Children, FREE!

*All Makes and Models Welcome*  
 Door Prizes  
 People's Choice and Club Choice awards  
 Music, BBQ, Bar  
 Diecast vendors on site with huge display!

\*Please no alcohol on site!  
 No smoking on site!

September 21, 2025 was the car show to end the season.

Optimist Joe was the this Car Show event manager - **thank you Joe**

Also there was 9 members out helping - thank you Optimist members.

There were 187 car register - we made \$800 from food and bar.

**See you next Year**



### Board Report

Bingo.

Treasurer reported that since the last meeting there were two Bingos:

July 21 with 53 people in attendance pooling \$5041.

August 21 with 34 people, pooling \$1016

Sale of lumber totalling \$25,060 received so far.

Preliminary list of areas and items requiring repair/replacement etc. will be posted on ENTRY NOTICE BOARD. Additional ideas, suggestions are welcome. Useful to distinguish between Capital (major) projects and repairs. Membership.

Efforts have continued with a promotional booth/stand at Westvale Bike Rodeo and Bug Show. So some individual interest but poor response.

Efforts to recruit at soccer games have proved unproductive though kids have benefitted from our contribution and parents are aware of our commitment to Youth.

Preparation of Membership promotional flyer in draft has been distributed to members for finalization SOON. Initial production of 500 copies suggested,

**READY 1K printed - GET YOUR HAND-OUTS Next meeting.**

The Board was informed of an approach being made to the City of Waterloo for combined action of assistance to youth in deserving areas.

Other: PP George reported that he had attended the recent District Convention and indicated two proposals under active discussion (a) A proposed Hospice for Terminally Ill or Children with Cancer and (b) a Dolly Parton Library for kids under 5 years. Decision to invited spokespersons on both projects to address the Club before any decision is taken on participation/contribution.

## On The Funny Side

**Getting old sucks.  
I used to wake up  
feeling like a  
million bucks...  
Now I feel more  
like a bounced  
check.**



**Remember as a kid  
when you fell on the  
trampoline everyone  
would keep jumping  
so you couldn't get  
back up? That's  
basically life as an  
adult.**



**Every few days it would be  
smart to put your jeans on  
to make sure they still fit**

**Pajamas and sweats will  
have you believe all is well**



**Troubled Parent Posted...**  
THIS MORNING MY KID  
SAID THEIR EAR HURT  
AND I SAID ON THE  
INSIDE OR OUTSIDE,  
SO THEY WALKED OUT  
THE FRONT DOOR,  
CAME BACK IN & SAID  
BOTH. MOMENTS LIKE  
THIS GOT ME  
WONDERING IF I'M  
SAVING TOO MUCH  
FOR COLLEGE..

## 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 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.



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Please leave a  
message

Email

[thekwoptimistclub@gmail.com](mailto:thekwoptimistclub@gmail.com)

CRA Registered Charity

**Come and Join Us Help Youth - Become a member Please**