

2025- 2026 Officers

O.I. PRESIDENT
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www.optimist.org

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DISTRICT GOVERNOR**

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Optimist Club of Kitchener-
Southwest

K-W Optimist Club
www.kwoptimist.org

Exec. & Board

PRESIDENT Frank Watty
PAST PRES. George Harper
1st V.P.
2nd V.P. Oz Gunal
TREASURER Joe MacEachen
SECRETARY Ralph Sperling

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ONE YEARS

John Moyer, Kendra LaRush
Brad Straus, Bill Kern

TWO YEAR

John Zondo, John Moyer
Jim Musselman, Jim Stuart

Bulletin Editor

GEORGE HARPER

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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

Location

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

Mailing Address

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



KW Optimist Club

Opti-KW-ips

(Since 1952)



PRESIDENT - FRANK WATTY SECRETARY - RALPH SPERLING

Helping over 5,200 Kids per year - Heidelberg Optimist Camp

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October 01, 2026

President's Last Message of Wisdom

My year of service as President (for the fourth time) has come to an end and I am privileged to pass the baton to new leadership. For a club with as rich a heritage as ours, this is not a mindless formality. The world around us is changing rapidly, and not always for the better. The traditional institutions of safety and security, of nurturing and caring are not always evident or prominent. Therefore voluntary clubs like ours continue to fill a need and serve a purpose too often taken for granted or undervalued.

Thank you to my immediate family of Optimists who have shared with me the challenge, the commitment, the excitement and the occasional disappointment as we tried to live our Creed of service to the needy and under-privileged youth in our community. From you I have learned the lessons of perseverance, tenacity even when obstacles seem sometimes immovable. Thank you to our own families who sustain, support and encourage us, and sometimes get actively involved in our work of service to the Youth.



The tentacles of harm and the sources of offence which face our youth are always changing, and we need to be ever responsive to the need. Homelessness, nutrition, drug abuse, on-line youth solicitation and medical care challenges are rising features of tomorrow's world. But we persevere, believing that we can make a difference.

Next year, our club will celebrate seventy-five years of consistent service in the Kitchener-Waterloo area. Let us look back with pride and forward with eager anticipation and lend a hand wherever it is needed.

*Thank you to all who continue to
serve with Optimism.*

President Frank Watty

(President 2025 - 2026)

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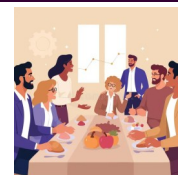
Pg 05 - Optimist creed



Be
Proud
Your
A
Member
Of
The
K-W
Optimist
Club



Next Dinner Meeting October 13, 2026



Going to be a busy night. Installation of Officers and more.
Opt. Bob Graham Stanley Park Optimist Club Lt. Governor 2026- 2027

Please attend we have guests

Village Caterer for a turkey dinner.

Yes I know it's right after Thanksgiving

President Elect - Oz Gunal



It is both an honour and a privilege to once again serve as President of the Optimist Club of Kitchener-Waterloo. As I sit down to write this message, I cannot help but think back to my first inaugural President's Message four years ago. At the time, we were emerging from a period of uncertainty and looking ahead with cautious optimism. Today, I find myself reflecting on how much our club has accomplished since then and how fortunate I am to be part of an organization whose impact continues to be measured not by words, but by the lives we touch.

This year feels especially meaningful for me. During my term, our club will celebrate its 75th year of service to the Kitchener-Waterloo youth. At the same time, I will personally mark my 10th year as a member. Those two milestones have caused me to reflect on both the remarkable legacy of this club and the many friendships, lessons, and experiences that Optimism has brought into my own life. The fact that one decade of my life represents only a small chapter in the story of a 75-year-old organization is both humbling and inspiring.

As I begin this second term, I do so with a deep sense of appreciation. Appreciation for our members who show up week after week. Appreciation for our board, committee chairs, and volunteers who quietly handle the countless tasks that keep our club running. Appreciation for our newer members who bring fresh ideas and energy. And appreciation for those who have served before us and built the strong foundation we enjoy today.

Over the past year, much of our effort was rightly focused on improving and maintaining our property and facilities. Those investments help ensure that our club remains a strong and sustainable organization for years to come. As we celebrate our 75th anniversary, however, I hope we can pair that strong foundation with an equally ambitious focus on community service. This year presents a unique opportunity for us to expand our impact and make a meaningful splash in the community worthy of this milestone year. While the details are still coming together, I am excited by the possibilities and look forward to working alongside all of you to make this one a year to remember.

The year ahead will undoubtedly bring new opportunities and perhaps a few surprises. That has always been part of the Optimist experience. My hope is that we continue to embrace those opportunities with the same enthusiasm, generosity, and sense of purpose that have defined this club.

I look forward to working alongside all of you as we continue our mission of bringing out the best in our youth, our community, and ourselves.

Let us think only of the best, work only for the best, and expect only the best.

- **Oz Gunal**



We would **LIKE TO CONGRATULATE**

The Optimist Club of Lakeshore Village on their 50th Anniversary. The Club was start by the K-W Optimist Club. *From all our members the KW Optimist Club.*

The 2026 - 2027 K-W Optimist Club EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT - Oz Gunal

PAST PRESIDENT - Frank Watty

1st VICE PRESIDENT - John Zondo

2nd VICE PRESIDENT - Elizabeth Laredo

TREASURER - Joe MacEachen

SECRETARY - Ralph Sperling

DIRECTORS

ONE YEAR - Jim Musselman - Jim Stuart - John Moyer - TBA

TWO YEAR - Bruce Curry - George Harper - Ian Fraser - TBA

Optimist Rick - Update
Kendra & Justin are buying my property and I will move to Niagara Falls start of September.

I am staying with the club - not sure about others.
Thank you so much fellow Optimists. Take Care -

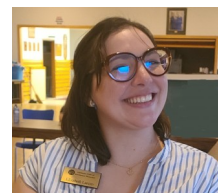
President everything Optimist Rick



THANK YOU - "I would like to thank the Optimist Club for your thoughtfulness after Venilia's recent shoulder surgery. The flowers were very lovely and it made Venilia's day. We hope for a speedy recovery. Ralph and Venilia"



Optimist President Frank would like to thank our newest member Optimist Elizabeth for taking the initiative and bringing out the survey during our last dinner meeting.



We would like to thank Blair Brace our Investment Advisor from BMO Nesbitt Burns Investments. Blair updated us at our last dinner meeting, what we are looking at with Bonds and Market stocks. Also gave us information on the markets and a little understanding what he does for us.

Thank you Blair
K-W Optimist Club

**Run For
Cancer
October 17,
2026**

**at
the Club**

**WE
need
A Few
Members
Help**



Cruisin to Heidelberg OCC - Annual Car

OCC CAR CLUB - "Old Chrysler Corporation Car Club" - Ontario Canada

Report for Sept 20th Car Show by Opt Joe;

Thank you to Frank Watty, John Moyer, Ian Fraser, George Harper, Bruce Curry for giving up their Sunday to come out and help with the cooking and serving the food.

Much Appreciated Opt Joe MacEachen, Show Chair

117 registered cars

Food Sales - \$ 904.00 Bar Sales - \$ 176.00 Expenses - \$ 610.00 Total net income for the day \$ 470.00

OCC Wish to book next year on Sept 19, 2027 Be there Be Square



**WE
need
Members
What
can
we
Do
?**

**I wanted to play a
game of hide-and-
go-seek.**

But good players are
so hard to find.



TODAY

October 18, 2026 - Run for Cancer at the club.

We do need a few members maybe 3 to over see the run. (9- 3PM)
They supplied the food for the runners. Last year they went over their target amount to raise and looking to do it again. See you there !



On The Funny Side

Paddy had been drinking at his local pub all day and most of the night, celebrating St Patrick's Day. Mick, the bartender says, 'You'll not be drinking anymore tonight, Paddy'. Paddy replies, 'OK Mick, I'll be on my way then'. Paddy spins around on his stool and steps off. He falls flat on his face.

'Damn' he says and pulls himself up by the stool and dusts himself off. He takes a step towards the door and falls flat on his face, 'oh bloody damn!'

He looks to the doorway and thinks to himself that if he can just get to the door and some fresh air he'll be fine.

He belly crawls to the door and shimmies up to the door frame. He sticks his head outside and takes a deep breath of fresh air, feels much better and takes a step out onto the sidewalk and falls flat on his face.

'Bi' Jesus... I'm in bloody trouble,' he says.

He can see his house just a few doors down, and crawls to the door, hauls himself up the door frame, opens the door and shimmies inside.

He takes a look up the stairs and says 'No bloody way....'

He crawls up the stairs to his bedroom door and says 'I can make it to the bed'. He takes a step into the room and falls flat on his face. He says 'damn it' and falls into bed.

The next morning, his wife, Katy, comes into the room carrying a cup of coffee and says, 'Get up Paddy. Did you have a bit to drink last night ?'

Paddy says, 'I did, Katy, I was bloody pissed. But how did you know?'

'Mick phoned .. . You left your wheelchair at the pub.'

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
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CRA Registered Charity

Come and Join Us
Help Youth
Become a member

October 1st New Officers

Oct 13 - Dinner Meeting -
Installation of New Officers

Oct 18 - Run for Cancer

**DATES
TO
REMEMBER**



BINGO Dates 2026

Thurs. Oct-15-2026 Evening Thurs. Nov-12-2026 Evening

Thurs. Dec-10-2026 Evening