

## THE OPTIMIST CREED

*Promise Yourself...*

*To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.*

*To talk health, happiness and prosperity to everyone 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.*

Optimist International

## A HISTORY OF THE OPTIMIST CREED

The Optimist Creed, or "Promise Yourself" as it was originally known, was written in 1912 by Christian D. Larson, a writer, lecturer and publisher from Los Angeles, California. Los Angeles area Optimists found the literary jewel in several publications and began printing it in the club yearbooks. With so many California Optimists familiar with it, it was inevitable that it find its way to the Optimist Magazine where it appeared for the first time in December 1921.

At the International Convention in Kansas City in 1922, the delegates adopted it as The Optimist Creed. Today it is distributed among young people, given out on the streets and sent in great numbers to remote corners of the globe where people are in need of a creed they can hold on to and live by.

## OPTIMIST NETWORKING AND FUN

As an Optimist you are given the opportunity to share in a special networking found in an atmosphere of hopefulness, enthusiasm and confidence. You will be welcomed into an environment where viewpoints and solutions are exchanged with other concerned members of your community. Optimist club members are civic leaders and government officials, teachers, business men & women, retirees, homemakers. From all walks of life, Optimists are people just like you; people who care to give of themselves to better their communities.

As an Optimist, you will participate in any number of activities which will help you to become more involved in the issues of your community. As a part of Optimist International, you will be joining the fast growing network of Optimist clubs in the United States, Canada and the Caribbean.

Come and enjoy the rewards of service and networking in an Optimist club. The Nor'West Optimist club of London, Ontario

This is your  
INVITATION  
to join



The  
Optimist Club  
of  
Nor'West  
London,  
Ontario, Inc.

[www.norwestoptimist.com](http://www.norwestoptimist.com)

# WHY MORE MEN AND WOMEN ARE JOINING OPTIMIST CLUBS...

# THE OPTIMIST CLUB OF NOR'WEST LONDON ONTARIO INC.

# NEW MEMBER APPLICATION INFORMATION



Optimist clubs are made up of men and women interested in serving their communities.

They are caring people, committed to programs that educate youth about drug abuse, law enforcement and other issues that will shape youths' lives. Optimist clubs and their members are making a positive impact on the lives of today's youth and the future.

Optimist members work directly with young people. As a member, you will participate in programs that often involve a hands-on approach. As an Optimist, you will set an example for youth - an adult example of commitment to serving youth and community.

As a collective of citizens joined together to provide needed community services, Optimist clubs conduct many programs geared to address individual community's needs.

Optimist clubs join in Optimist International programs like the "Just Say No" anti-drug clubs for elementary school children, where positive peer pressure discourages drug usage.

The Respect For Law program instills in both youth and old a sense of respect and responsibility to the laws of our communities and the enforcers of those laws.

Handicapped children often benefit from the work of Optimists. The "Help them Hear" program provides aids and services to the hearing impaired.

The Optimist Oratorical Contest provides \$150,000 in scholarship awards to young people. The Optimist Essay Contest acknowledges the accomplishments of winners with scholarship awards and a special weekend at the Freedoms Foundation in Valley Forge Pennsylvania.

For sports programs that are both competitive and educational, there are the Optimist Junior World Golf Tournament, and the Tri-Star Sports Program.

Youth Appreciation week has been one of the most popular and enduring Optimist programs. A week in November is set aside by clubs to acknowledge the contributions of today's youth to their communities.

Bike Safety Week, another long time Optimist program, gives Optimists the opportunity to educate youth on safe bicycling through clinics, rodeos and other events.

And for young people interested in forming their own club dedicated to the same sort of community service as an Optimist Club, there is the Optimist Youth Clubs Program, consisting of Junior Optimist Clubs and Octagon Clubs which are sponsored by an Optimist Club.

## A BRIEF OUTLINE:

The Optimist Club of Nor'West London was formed in February 1979 with 35 community oriented members, with the view of helping youth and the community in the Northwest part of the city that was growing rapidly at the time, but with few programs for the youth of the community.

We estimate that we have served over 40,000 youth in our community with a variety of programs. Our soccer program alone has 170 house league and 30 competitive teams providing soccer to over 3,200 youth in our community.

Our newest Youth sports program is the Nor'West Optimist Hockey Development Program.

We have assisted Banting High School with computer and sport equipment, most elementary and separate schools with much needed support and playground equipment at three locations in the area. We sponsor the 68th Beavers, Cubs and Scouts, help with the Medway Valley cleanup, the (VIP) values, influences & peers program, Youth in Government, Youth in Education and the Non Violent Poster Program.

Interesting speakers are invited to our monthly dinner meetings which are held on the 4th Tuesday of March, May, June, October and November with approx. 25 members. Board & Business meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of January to June and September to November.

You are invited to come and enjoy the rewards of service and networking in our club. For membership information contact:

Optimist Member \_\_\_\_\_  
Member Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

[www.norwestoptimist.com](http://www.norwestoptimist.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Partner / Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Children: \_\_\_\_\_

Past or present service club memberships: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your level of interest by (H) high,  
(M) Moderate, (L) Low or (0) no interest

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service        | <input type="checkbox"/> Fellowship          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Club building activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Program Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity                | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Activities    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conventions              | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Activities   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising             | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Bulletin       |

Tell us about yourself: (interests/hobbies)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What is your experience in community betterment, church work, sports and youth serving activities that would help our club?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What projects would you like the club to consider and to be involved in yourself?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Again we thank you for your interest and your time in reading our brochure and in completing this member application

Your sponsoring member: \_\_\_\_\_  
will assist you in any way to become as involved as you can be in the Nor'West Optimist club.

Your signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
indicated your acceptance of this invitation

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ for membership in the  
Optimist Club of Nor'West London.

*Please tear off this page and return it to your sponsoring member*

*Unmatched Service  
to Youth and Community*

