

Zone and Club News

Optimist Club of West Lorne—Rene Schneider

West Lorne Optimist Club News
The club ended October with a spooktacular Halloween party.

The club hosted the community event which was a huge success with the families. The participants enjoyed many games,

ghoulish treats, face painting and crafts.



In November our club ran our Christmas Planter Fundraiser, an event that is always well attended and so much fun! In this out-

door event, groups made their own do it yourself festive planter. There was also the option for people to pick up an already as-

sembled planter made by one of our talented crafters.



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November was a busy month for our club. We hosted our annual Youth Appreciation evening, which is many of the members' favourite event. The club welcomed the special guests and their families for dinner and an award ceremony. Each of our

three local schools identified four children who exemplified optimism in their daily interactions within the school, amongst their peers and out in community. The recipient's teacher's delivered heartwarming, and endearing speeches about their students as

to why they were deserving of such an award. We heard how they positively interacted with all students, their accomplishments in academics, athletics, volunteerism, and in the community and in home. Congratulations to our 2023 recipients!



The club hosted our annual West Lorne Santa Claus Parade, and wow what a success! Still riding the wave, our parade theme was “Christmas in Hockeyville”! The community came together with many businesses, organizations, groups and individuals participating in entering floats, bands, decorated vehicles and firetrucks. The weather co-

operated, and families from near and far came out to see the festive entries and the chance to visit jolly ole St. Nick. Parade watchers ventured back to our partner, West Elgin Community Health Centre, where the Optimists served complimentary hot dogs, chilli, and drinks. One of our local bands “Exit 137” entertained the crowd on their own rockin’

float and stuck around to play music for an impromptu parking lot dance party. Children eagerly and patiently waited for their turn to meet Santa and Mr. Claus to share their Christmas wish list and to receive their bag of candy and orange. The evening was magical making all that attendant feel young at heart.

Parade Photos 

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The club continues to offer our monthly craft night for children to participate in a free craft making event. This event is always busy, and our volunteers enjoy the crafting with the kids. Up for February is decorate your own heart cookie and other valentine's crafts.

Our monthly Teen Cooking

event is always well attended, and in fact has a wait list! Our club partners with our neighbours at Wallacetown Optimist and the West Elgin Community Health Centre to put on the event. Teens can pick up a cooking kit to take home to prepare a meal to enjoy with their family.

Teen
Cooking
Kits 13-19 year olds



Meal: Beef Chili & Buttermilk Biscuits
When: February 15, 2024
1:00pm-4:30pm

Where: Pick up @ The HUB Kitchen
West Elgin Community Health Centre

Pick up a teen cooking kit and get your creative juices flowing.
Prepare a meal and enjoy it with your family.

Try new recipes,
Learn new cooking skills,
Have Fun!

Use the registration link provided



Up Next!

The club is planning for our next events, including a quarter auction, Euchre party, zone meeting in April, and getting our Food

Trailer shined up for the 2024 season! With this unseasonably warm weather we've been experiencing it's not hard to believe spring is around the corner. We are busy preparing for our annual

Mothers Day Road Race. If you are looking for a way to be active and celebrate a special mom or mom figure come out and join us!