



The OptiMessenger



The Optimist Club of Calgary

www.optimistyyc.org

July 11 2019

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It's Been an Active Spring

Sad News-Grim Jim Passes Away

Our oldest and long-term Optimist, Jim McKinnon passed away on July 8 at 7:15 AM.

The celebration of Jim's life will be held on his birthday, Saturday, September 7, 2:00 PM at St. Matthews United Church.

Additional information is available at:

<https://www.mhfh.com/mckinnon-james-bower/>

Our Summer BBQ - August 10

Location: The Kelly's' house in Millarville.

On Highway 549 WEST between Highways 22 and 762 (7.5 km west of Highway 22 or 3.2km east of Highway 762). *See attached page for directions.*

Time: Arrive by 4 PM. Rain or shine. BBQ-ing will start at 5. You can linger well into the evening.

Invitees: Optimists, *plus their friends and families.*

Potluck: Bring your main course, drinks and an item to share with several others.

RSVP: By August 1- but don't let that stop you from bringing a surprise visitor. Please let Marnie know what you plan to bring to share so that we balance appetizers, salads, desserts or whatever. marniekelly@xplornet.com or 403-931-3865

Condiments: The basics (BBQ sauce, ketchup, mustard, salt, pepper, etc.) will be provided.

Dishes & Cutlery: The Kelly's' will have enough for a bunch and backup supplies of plastic/paper alternatives.

Cooling: There will be ice and coolers.

Liquids: The Kelly's' will supply water, coffee, tea and cream. Please bring anything else that catches your fancy.

OI Convention & Our District

The Optimist International Convention in Louisville was an outstanding event. There are currently 2500 Optimist Clubs world-wide with 64,000 Optimist Members.

OI announced it will have a float in the Rose Bowl Parade again next January. In addition to supporting Childhood Cancer research it has broadened its support of Health, Wellness, and the Wellbeing of Children.

About 20 Optimists from our District attended the OI Convention. The AMS&NW District was recognized as one of the top Districts in all of OI because it has gained over 200 net new members thus far this year and because of its leadership participation in the CCOF, the OI Great Plains Region and on OI Committees.

As a result, Optimist International President Rebecca Butler Mona will be the Guest-of-Honor at our District Convention in Great Falls, Montana, August 15-17. Consider attending the District Convention just to meet her. She, her husband and their two teen-age children are dynamic people. They did skits, danced, and met individually with Optimists at the OI Convention.

Other reasons for attending the District Convention are the training programs, a way to learn about what OI and the District are doing to support kids, and meet with Optimists from other clubs to find out about successful programs they conduct to support their communities and children.

We can be proud of being a member of the AMS&NW District.

A Review of Recent Activities

Our AGM - May 6

At our AGM, Daryl McDonald was given a Life Membership Award in recognition of his long-time support of club activities.

Elections were held for Club Officers and Directors for the year 2019-2020, beginning October 1, 2019.

The election results were: Mike DeNicola, President, Stutt Pottruff, Vice President, Lyle Bennett, Treasurer, Dorothy Neisz, Secretary, 2-year Director, Shamaila Butt, 2-year Director, Bill Campbell, and 1-year Director Diane Swiatek, Denise Dolph is on the Board as Past President.

District Oratorical Contest – May 18

The Oratorical Contest is the oldest program in Optimist International. Erin Mitha from Calgary, who was one of the winners of the Alberta Oratorical Contest, participated in the District Oratorical Contest held at the 3rd Quarter District Meeting in Medicine Hat. Unfortunately, she was not one of the scholarship winners.

Family Day at Optimist Park – June 1

This joint event with the Calgary Dinner Optimist Club was by far our most successful Family Day at Optimist Park. Over 500 people attended. Children enjoyed the bouncy castle, in-line skating, the obstacle course, cotton-candy, hot dogs and hamburgers. Our thanks to the All-Nations Optimist Club who came from Medicine Hat with their cotton-candy machine.

Youth Recognition Awards – June 3

After many years, the Club reinstated the Youth Appreciation Awards Ceremony.

This year's award winners were: Connor McCombs from the Mustard Seed, Amanda Petti from the Calgary Between Friends Club, Paige Anweiler from Bishop Carroll Memorial High School, Rae Johanson from the Falconridge Boys & Girls Club, Madison Hilderman from the Will For Riding Foundation, and Maya Staszelis from the Girl Guides of Canada.

Jr Golf Tournament – June 23

The Medicine Hat All Nations and the Medicine Hat Optimist Clubs joined us this year in sponsoring the tournament. We added a 9-hole tournament for golfers ages 13 and under, in addition to our normal 18-hole tournament for ages under 18. The result was a record turnout of young golfers.

Events Coming up This Fall

Our Next Club Dinner Meeting – Sept 9

Our next club dinner meeting will be on Monday, September 9 at the Danish-Canadian Club. It will also be the Calgary Optimist Park Society Annual General Meeting.

All Members of the Optimist Club of Calgary (and the Calgary Dinner Optimist Club) are automatically a Member of the Calgary Optimist Park Society.

Plan to attend the meeting and learn about the activities of the Park Society in Calgary and help to elect its Officers and Board of Directors.

Sandra Lunder, a Manager in the Calgary Stampede Foundation, will be our guest speaker for the evening. She will provide an update on the construction status and plans for the Stampede Youth Campus.

As usual, the social time will start at 6:00 PM, dinner at 6:30 and the meeting will start at 7:00.

Casinos in November – Save the Dates!

Patrick Airlie has a casino on November 5-6. Let's help them. Contact Anica Robinson: 403-777-8220.

The Park Society's Casino will be held November 21-22, 2019 at Casino Calgary. If anyone wants to volunteer right away, they can contact Susan Bjerstedt by email at: s.bjerstedt@shaw.ca

Festive Showcase Concert – Nov 27

This year we will hold our annual Festive Showcase Concert at the Jubilee Auditorium on Wednesday night, November 27. Plan to attend and invite your family and friends for this very popular concert. Also consider volunteering to help sell 50-50 tickets.

Up Coming Dates

July 28: Zone 6 Meeting

Aug 10: Family BBQ Duane Kelly's

Aug 15-17: District Convention, Great Falls

Sept 9: Club Dinner Mtg & Park Society AGM

Sept 19: BRAVE Fund Raiser

Sept 30: Current Board Meeting

Oct 7: Club Dinner Meeting

Oct 9: Joint New & Present Board Meeting

Nov 4: Club Dinner Meeting

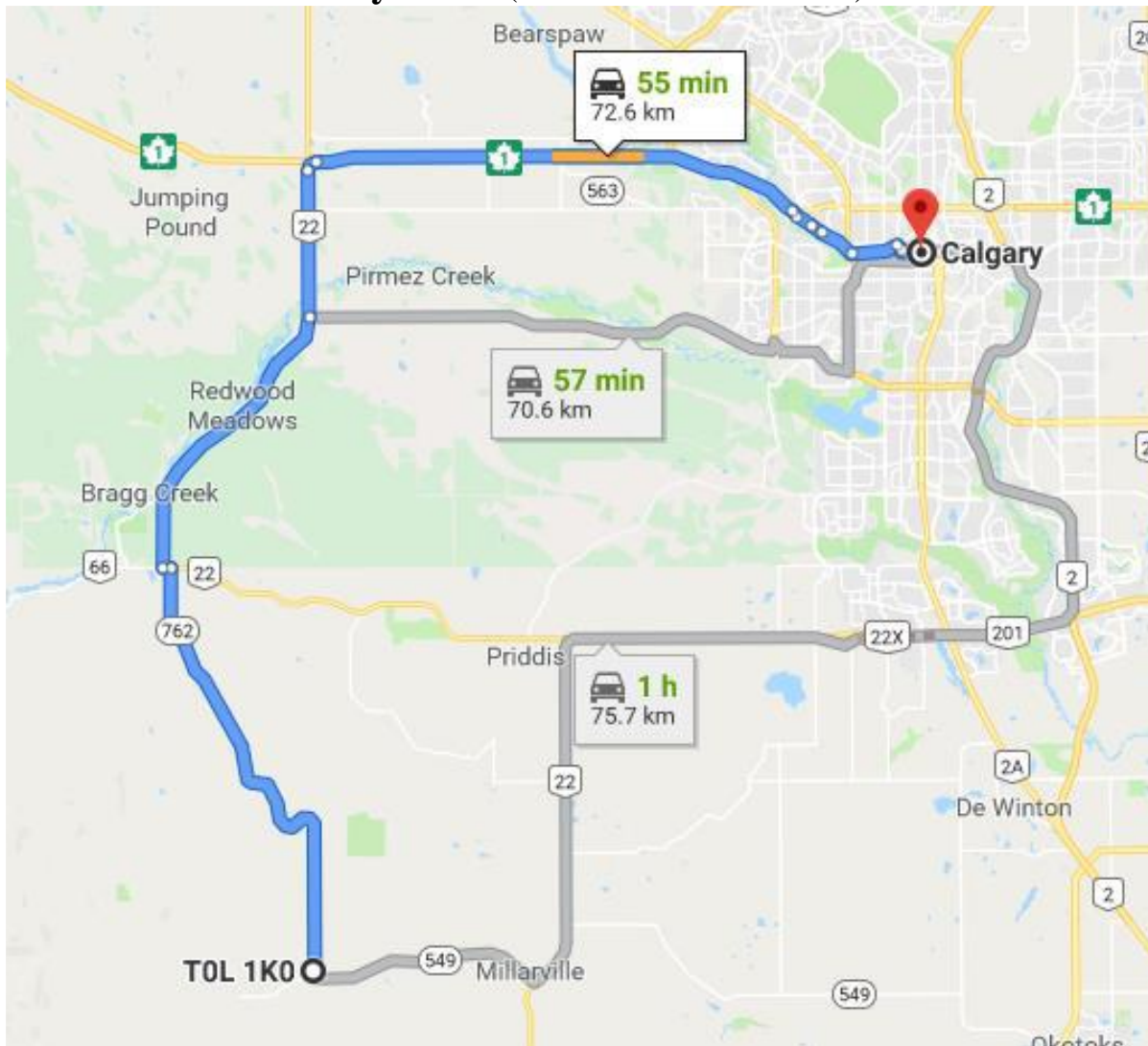
Nov 5-6: Patrick Airlie Casino

Nov 21-22: Park Society Casino

Nov 27: Festive Showcase Concert

Dec 2: Club Christmas Party

How to Find the Kelly Place (Pointer near the bottom)



From Southern or Eastern Parts of Calgary or Okotoks or other easterly or southerly locations

- Find your way to the intersection of Highways 22 and 549 WEST (at the bottom of a hill near Millarville)
- Turn onto Highway 549 and follow it past Millarville for about 7.5 km to signs on the right saying “KELLY”
- Turn right (north) into our driveway
- Angle park on the grass near the house (or overflow parking, if required)

From the North or West

- Get to Bragg Creek (south from Highway 1 or Highway 8)
- At the stop sign on Highway 22 in Bragg Creek, turn left (continuation of Highway 22) for about 4 km
- At the next stop sign turn left onto the next continuation of Highway 22 for about 200 meters
- Turn right (south) onto Highway 762. Follow this to the first and only stop sign on Highway 762 - about 20 km
- At the stop sign, turn left onto Highway 549 and drive about 3km to signs on the left saying “KELLY”
- Turn left (north) into our driveway
- Angle park on the grass near the house (or overflow parking, if required)