



OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna

July 2020

Calendar

NO Regular Meetings in July

NO Caboose Openings

Board Meeting by Video-Conference

Date and time to be announced by President Bruce

July 4 – Independence Day



July 4 – Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to noon
Vienna Community Center

July 11 – Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to noon
Vienna Community Center

July 18 – Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to noon
Vienna Community Center

July 25 – Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to noon
Vienna Community Center

News and Notes



We've got the graphic, and we are going to use it!

Our Farmers Market is our single operational connection to the Vienna Community right now. Let's make the most of it! All reports from the front lines are that vendors and patrons are happy to be there and they are understanding of the pandemic-driven rules under which we must operate.

The **Market Management Team** is keeping on top of the latest directives from the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Town of Vienna. When (notice that is *when*, not *if*) you are volunteering at the Market the guidelines will be clear—just follow the **latest emails from Susan Bauer** for what you need to know. And it is very likely that there will be a grizzled Market veteran there on your shift who can show you the ropes. In the meantime, don't be shy about being a Market patron yourself! We are coming into produce primetime and our vendors would welcome your business. We all have a part to play—and some of those parts involve peaches and eggplant.

Picture yourself here, and see you at the **REAL Vienna Farmers Market!**



Serving the Youth of Greater Vienna for over 60 Years!

Visit us at www.OptimistClubofGreaterVienna.org
We're on Facebook! [Facebook.com/ViennaOptimistClub](https://www.facebook.com/ViennaOptimistClub)



From thy President...

Greetings go out to our Optimist Family's Guys 'n' Gals...

What an amazing third quarter wherein our club members have contributed to the betterment of youth about our community. And, what marvelous adventures are just ahead as we shift to Phase III Openings for the COVID-19 Pandemic within the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Farmers Market reopened on Saturday, June 13th. Over eighty percent of our vendors have returned and are diligently following the prescribed safety precautions. Do give a "how to go" out to the following members who have lead the charge to practice safe social distancing, with face masks and gloves, to supervise the setup, operation and takedown activities for the marketplace:

Ed Wonder; Dan Gropper; Greta Tosi-Miller; Timothy Buckley; Kathy Curti, Gary Moonan, Tom Bauer; Susan Bauer; Joe Miller; John Andrews; Timothy Buckley; Steve Shannon; Rob DiRocco; Anna Ryjik; 'n' Tom Fraim.

The Town of Vienna has provided staff to assist us in insuring everything is done properly. Our vendors have brought to share some lovely produce. Music by a young, enthusiastic DJ welcomed the visitors last week and, wait for it, yes, we'll have live entertainment for our next opening, 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., on July 4th.

Take another bow, **Madame Michele Wright, Monsieur Dick Gongaware 'n' Monsieur Gary Moonan** for setting this up so very well, amid many major challenges.

We are aware that some of our newest members have yet to receive their name tags (magnetic clasp and pin able) for official functions. Please let our Super **Secretary Kathy Cutri** (Voice at 703-798-8911 or Whispers to kcurti@aol.com) know if you've not received yours. Replacements are a mere \$8.00 each. The order will go in on July 15th.

Several Board of Directors (BOD) Members signed up to experience the 101st Annual Optimist International Virtual Convention over the past weekend. For those seeking information and to learn new things, this was an exceptional, positive experience. Pre-recorded lectures could be shared by email with club members. All handouts for specific lectures were easily downloadable in Adobe Acrobat Format.

The BOD continues to function very well using virtual gatherings a la ZOOM. Many thanks go out to our VP

Webmaster **Gary Moonan** for making this opportunity so very effective.

Salutes go out to our Editor, **Laurie Cole**, for keeping the monthly flow of dinner continuing at Second Story's Culmore Teen Center. We keep a safe social distance by sending cash in lieu of delivering the meal.

Our Membership Team—**VP Joe Miller, Director Sally O'Connor 'n' Director Fritz Irwin**—have reported several new prospects for membership originating from visitors to the Farmers Market. One of our most recent new members, **Dan Gropper**, has sponsored his first new member, **Judge Steve Shannon**. Both have attended and participated actively every Saturday Morning in our initial trio of Farmers Market Re-openings. Thank you, one and all!

Our traditional membership swearing-in ceremony takes twelve to fifteen minutes and is rather an awkward delay in a routine dinner gathering. Using our current in vogue iMagine philosophy, we have reworked the swearing-in oath to be in a letter format, for signature by the applicant to swearing in, and to be returned by the applicant in an accompanied stamped, return addressed envelope with the new member portfolio's mailing by priority mail. Each new member and sponsor will be acknowledged at a subsequent dinner gathering and will be given a few minutes to share a bit about their background on the way to finding us.

Your BOD has expressed collectively the wish to proceed conservatively when planning future, necessary dinner gatherings.

The explosion of reported COVID-19 cases in many southern states this past week make each of us aware of how important it is to continue to recommended practices and to wear

facemask and gloves when away from your safe "hunkering down" habitat. Your BOD has expressed collectively the wish to proceed conservatively when planning future, necessary dinner gatherings, for Respect for Law and Respect for First Responders. We may offer an opportunity to hold a virtual social gathering for all members a la ZOOM.

We'll be calling through the membership list again. Do let us know if we can be helpful in making your "hunkering down" undertaking better. Several of our members are recovering from wellness complications. But, so far no one has COVID-19. **Thank You LORD!** Do be safe and join me to keep our Brother and Sister Optimists in your prayers. Best wishes with a broad, warm smile on my face goes out to each of you beneath my facemask...



Your Bruce

June 2020 Board Meeting Highlights

The Board of Directors of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna held a regular meeting on Wednesday, June 10, 2020, with nine members present by video conference, plus three by proxy.

Among the business conducted were the following matters:

- ◆ Recapped actions taken by email vote since the May meeting, i.e. approval of a \$500 donation to Emmanuel Lutheran Church to help food insecure families and approval of insurance for Board members (\$665/year) and bonding for the Treasurer (\$100/year);
- ◆ Approved transmission of the Club's revised By-Laws to OI;
- ◆ Received a report from Youth Director Ed Wonder that JOI Club plans for the 2020-21 school year are still uncertain; he is reaching out to each Club;
- ◆ Approved the membership application of Judge Steve Shannon, sponsored by Dan Gropper;
- ◆ Discussed the prospects for holding Christmas Tree sales this year. Factors include the state of the pan-

demical and the availability of youth helpers. The tree order must be placed by the end of July.

- ◆ Discussed the future of in-person Club meetings and what form they will take. The Board foresees more weekend use of the Vienna Community Center for programs involving students as it is better for their schedule than late nights mid-week. Other Club meetings could switch to social venues; continuation of sit-down dinner meetings will require a dues increase. No decisions were made.



OPTIMIST CLUB OF GREATER VIENNA Board of Directors 2019-20

President	Bruce Lauther
Secretary	Kathy Cutri
Treasurer	Michele Wright
Immediate Past President	Susan Bauer
President Elect	Tom Bauer
Vice President of Community	Susan Bauer
Vice President of Finance	Dick Lippert
Vice President of Media Relations/Webmaster	Gary Moonan
Vice President of Membership	Joe Miller
Vice President of Youth	Mike Fitzella
Director of Community	Donna Wohlscheid
Director of Social Media	<i>open</i>
Director of Print Media/Community	<i>open</i>
Director of Membership	Sally O'Connor
Director of Youth	Ed Wonder
Director of Finance	<i>open</i>

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 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.**

Christian D. Larsen