



OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna

May 2020

Calendar

Governor Ralph Northam announced Virginia's coronavirus-related business restrictions may be eased in phases starting as early as May 15. As of this writing the "stay at home" order remains in effect until June 10. We will NOT be reinstating Club meetings before June. We will follow state, federal, and OI guidance on commencing activities, always with the health and safety of our members and community as our first concern.

NO Regular Meetings in May

May 10 — Mothers Day



Board Meeting by Video-Conference

Date and time to be announced by President Bruce

NOTE NEW DATE

May 19—Vienna Town Election: Absentee Ballots available NOW. Go to

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/ecalendar>

Caboose Opening May 30-31 TBD
(ViVA! Vienna!)

June 13 — Farmers Market Opening

News and Notes

Our Farmers Market WILL OPEN this year, on Saturday, June 13!

Market Manager Michele reports that the Vienna Town Council (which hosts the Market at the Vienna Community Center) has agreed to the opening under a modified operating procedure consistent with Virginia Department of Agriculture guidelines. New rules for the Market include:



- 🍏 Masks and gloves for vendors;
- 🍏 Ten feet spacing between vendors;
- 🍏 No sampling;
- 🍏 Masks for customers;
- 🍏 Six feet spacing between customers;
- 🍏 No more than 30 customers in the Market at any time;
- 🍏 No congregation of more than 10 people in one place;
- 🍏 No touching of produce by customers ("point and pack" by vendor)
- 🍏 Credit cards preferred over cash;
- 🍏 Pre-orders directly with vendors encouraged.

We as Market volunteers will be responsible for enforcing these rules, including prohibiting entry to anyone not wearing a mask and dispersing any groups of more than 10 people. Our skilled and resourceful Webmaster Gary is working on means to facilitate on-line preorders.

Optimists can help in two important ways: (1) Sign up on the Club website to **volunteer** at the Market, and (2) commit to being a regular **customer!** Many of our vendors have been hit hard by restaurant closures and supply chain interruptions. They have been faithful to us for years and they need our support now.



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 'n' warm smiles go out to you our Optimist Guys 'n' Gals...

These are challenging times as most of us "hunker down" 'n' minimize our absences from the safe havens of our homes. My wife and I watched a Great Grand Nephew's marriage ceremonies amid a party of ten in a locked Cathedral on Video on our iPhones. We were out front, sitting in our car, across the street from the Cathedral, welcoming them as they came out with car horn and the Optimist Bell, always keeping a safe distance.

There is so much conflicting information floating around each day. However, our conservative nature and instincts envision that the COVID-19 Pandemic, with possible further complications, may have surges and further complications ahead, particularly when the annual influenza season returns. The towns and cities of the County of Fairfax, from the very beginning, continue to be among the hottest in the MD, DC and VA Region. Do be careful and safe. So far, we've heard of no one among the families of our Gals 'n' Guys who are members of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna who have been found positive with infection by the COVID-19 Virus. Thank you, Lord.

We do have several of our members, either themselves or their family members, who are currently facing wellness and mobility challenges. To the person, each of them has expressed wishes for their illnesses and incapacities to be kept private. Please do keep all of our Optimist family members in your thoughts, prayers and hearts.

Salutes go out to our inspiring Editor, Laurie Cole, for her suggestion to continue to support Second Story's **Culmore Teen Center**, during our quarantine, directly with cash, in lieu of our usual monthly sortie to provide food and a Birthday Cake. Your Board of Directors approved this unanimously.

Several of our Club's **Optimists of the 1st Quarter, OI Year 2019-20** have been recognized in certificates provided by the Capitol-Virginia District. Individually, each of these members have contributed an average of more than an hour a day, exclusive of travel time, across this quarter in our optimist matters and community endeavors. Please congratulate Thomas Fraim (President OI Year 2010-11); John Andrews; Ed Wonder; Tom Spengler (President 2013-14); Rich Ordeman (President 1982-83); Grant Marsh; Dick Lippert; Dan Mulville; Al Dunkerley (President 2001-02); Jeff Johnson (President 1998-99); Dan Gropper; and Dick Gongaware (President 2014-15).

"Last year, we realized about \$15,000 from the Farmers Market, making it a significant means of support for our Youth programs."

These certificates are being delivered by the U. S. Postal Service as we are totally into social distancing and safety practices, and, thereby, are holding virtual meetings a la ZOOM, a la Go to Meeting, and/or a la Google Hangout.

Promising (k)news. Our delightful Managers, Michele Wright 'n' Dick Gongaware, have been working very hard to prepare for the possibility of opening our very successful Farmers Market, with strict controls on social distancing and safety. Don't miss an opportunity to **express your appreciation to Michele and Dick for their preparations and endeavors**. Last year, we realized about \$15,000 from the Farmers Market, making it a significant means of support for our Youth programs. We note that limited profit-managed Farmers Markets have been open in Oakton and off Beulah Road in Vienna in the past week.

More Promising (k)news. The Town of Vienna tentatively plans for the annual **ViVa! Vienna!** Days to be across the weekend of Friday through Monday, May 29 through 31, 2020, according to their website at this authorship. Our superb **Caboose Manager, Dan Mulville**, is on top of determining when and whether (or not) we'll hold open the caboose. We always need at least two people in attendance on any event we manage. Sign-ups can be accomplished on the website. Be on the lookout for updated information.

The 3rd Quarter District Retreat in Fredericksburg, to be held on February 28-29, 2020, was cancelled. Your Board of Directors continues to meet, regularly, through virtual meetings a la ZOOM. The ZOOM App allows up to 100 members in attendance for 40 minutes. We may shortly invite each of you to a future virtual meeting for all club members by either ZOOM, Go To Meeting or Google Hangout.

Do take care. As our Optimist Family Members, you are within our thoughts, prayers and hearts. Best wishes with a smile.

Your Bruce

QUARTERLY DUES ARE DUE!



Our meetings are on hold, but our expenses are not! Members should have received their **quarterly dues statements** last month. Prompt payment is appreciated! If you have any questions please contact Treasurer Michele or President Bruce.

April 2020 Board Meeting Highlights

The Board of Directors of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna held a regular meeting on Wednesday, April 15, 2020, with nine members present by video conference.

Among the business conducted were the following matters:

- ◆ Heard report from Treasurer Michele on effects of COVID-19 cancelations on budget. Some expenses for planned programs will be rolled over and applied to next year. At this point it does not appear we will have to tap reserve funds.
- ◆ Discussed dues and membership-related costs, including meals, and possible alternatives to current meeting structure.
- ◆ Agreed to move forward with the Investment Committee's recommendations for Club and Foundation portfolios; agreed to a quarterly reporting schedule from the Committee.
- ◆ Received an update from the Farmers Market managers (see related story on page 1).
- ◆ Reviewed cancelled Youth programs and plans for Respect for Law and First Responder meetings in June and July.



We note with sadness the loss of our friend and fellow Optimist **Dr. Joe Bosco, DDS**, who passed away in his sleep April 21, 2020, at age 97.

Joe joined the brand new Vienna Optimist Club in 1955. He served as our 8th President, in 1962-63.

Joe was a Life Member and—while

we still tracked these things—was very proud of his “perfect attendance.” Because you could get credit for attending an extra meeting if you missed a regular meeting, Joe would occasionally pop into a Board meeting to make up for a missed dinner meeting. Joe was a fixture at a certain table in the days when we dined at Marco Polo restaurant, enjoying the company of other long-time members.

Joe will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery at a future date to be announced. We extend our condolences and thanks to Joe’s son, Gary, who made extra effort to ensure his dad could stay connected with his Optimist family even after Joe’s retirement and move to Maryland.

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/Fritz Irwin
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