



OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna
August 2019

Calendar

August 3 – Farmers Market

Vienna Community Center Parking Lot
8:00am to noon

August 7 – Social Meeting!

Vienna Moose Lodge
9616 Courthouse Road, Vienna 22181
(across from Nottoway Park)
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

August 10 – Farmers Market

8:00 am to noon

August 14 – Board Meeting

7:00 pm Bauers' Home

August 21 – Dinner Meeting

Childhood Cancer Campaign Meeting
Vienna American Legion
6:45 Social Time; 7:30 Dinner

August 17 – Farmers Market

8:00 am to noon

August 24 – Farmers Market

8:00 am to noon

August 28 – “Fourth Wednesday” dinner delivery

Culmore Teen Center; Team A (Cole, Captain)

News and Notes

It's Moose Season! No, put down that blunderbuss—no need for firearms. We are going to the **Vienna Moose Lodge** on **August 7** for a social meeting! Invite a friend and join fellow Optimists as we enjoy an evening of camaraderie and refreshments in the remodeled Lodge on Courthouse Road, from **6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** Remember to *rsvp* via SignUp Genius, or directly to President Susan, so that we can plan accordingly!



From the Good News/Bad News Desk: We are halfway through the **Farmers Market season!** But we continue to have vacancies in our Market Volunteer Schedule (and a lot of the names each week are the same as the weeks before). As any of our colleagues who are regulars at the Market can tell you, sponsoring the Market and being on-site are **GREAT OUTREACH** for the Optimist Club. It may not translate directly into a new member today, but it does put a [friendly] face to the name and — to indulge in a little jargon — build our brand. Running the Market is also a commitment to the community that we have made as a Club, and we all can do our part in honoring that commitment. So please go to our website, optimistclubofgreatervienna.org, and sign up to fill a few shifts.



In years past our second meeting in August would be our kick-off for the annual Family Fun Day for Growing Hope, our project under the umbrella of Optimist International's Childhood Cancer Campaign. This year we are looking at a different opportunity for supporting kids and their families who face the daunting challenge of cancer treatment. **DC Candlelighters** (<http://dccandlelighters.org/>) is a non-profit, volunteer group that “provides emotional, educational, practical and financial support to families of children fighting cancer in the Northern Virginia area.” We will learn more about them on **August 21**, when **Jennifer Click** speaks at our dinner meeting at the Vienna American Legion.



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 the President

Greetings Fellow Optimists,

Our club has received a number of donations in **Jim Houston's memory**. There was discussion at our board meeting about how to appropriately honor Jim's legacy. The tree lot trailer will be named for Jim with a plaque placed on it but we wanted to do something more. Mike Fitzella will meet with Ashlie to come up with some ideas to establish a memorial scholarship or donation that involves his love of Madison High School Sports. Jim will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery on November 18. More information will be given as we get closer to the date. It is not necessary to RSVP to Ashlie.

Lillian Wilson was laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery on July 24, 2019. Our continued loving support goes to **Jim**.

Please keep **Joe Miller** and his family in your thoughts and prayers. Joe's brother died in July and while in Arkansas for the funeral, Joe contracted tick fever that was diagnosed after spending several days in the hospital after returning home. He is now recuperating at home.

Bruce Lauther and his wife Connie attended the Optimist International Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Bruce debriefed us on a number of new initiatives that OI is considering for the future. One involves recognizing outstanding achievements by students in the performing & illustrative arts. Attracting young millennials was also a topic of discussion at the convention.

Our club made \$1633 from our beer sales at "Chillin' on Church" plus \$105 in tips. Not bad for a good time with fellow Optimists and the townsfolk of Vienna.

Dexter and Ellen Payne have submitted their pa-

perwork to become new members of our club. Welcome!

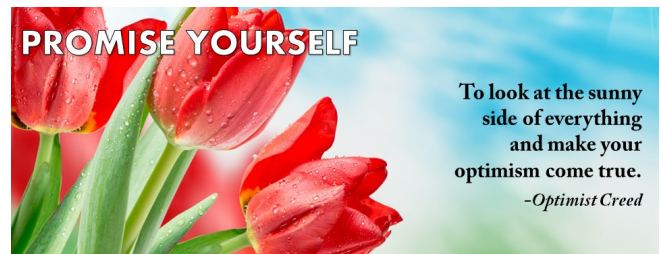
The board has voted to update our name tags. An email has gone out to identify those members who already have the new name tag so we don't duplicate. We are also ordering more T-shirts as we have run out of some popular sizes. I will let you know when the new T-shirts came in so you can sign up for a shift at the Farmers Market and pick up your t shirt.

Our **Sheryl A. Friedley Helping Hands Awards** have been a highlight of our Optimist year. Pat Hackerson and Laurie Cole have worked together to produce an outstanding program year after year. Laurie and Pat have decided that it is time to pass the program on to new hands. Please consider taking up the mantle of continuing this outstanding program. Pat and Laurie will be outstanding mentors. Our club appreciates their time and energy in making kids feel that there is something special in them.

August 7th will be a social at the Moose Lodge in Vienna starting at 6:30. August 21st will be at the Vienna American Legion. **Jennifer Click from DC Lamplighters** (and possibly **Margy Jost** from our Growing Hope Partnership) will be our guest speaker. DC Lamplighters is an organization that Growing Hope partnered with for Childhood Cancer care.

Stay Cool Everyone!

Madame President, Susan



Did You Know...

...that our own **Jeff Johnson** is our Representative to the **OI Foundation**? Did you know that OI has a Foundation? Jeff was recently recognized as a "Dime-A-Day" donor to OIF. Here (shamelessly lifted from the OI website) is what that means:

"Optimist International and Optimist International Foundation coexist as two separate organizations that support each other. Optimist International Foundation is the fundraising arm of Optimist International, and works to develop funds to support the endeavors of Optimist International and its mission. When Members and Clubs make a contribution to support Optimist International Foundation, they are, with that gift, supporting Optimist International itself and themselves as a Club as well.

"With just one dime a day, you can become part of the movement of "Helping Optimists Help Kids" and become part of a large group of Foundation supporters who realize what a difference they make every day in the lives of children. Would you consider making a gift of just a dime a day to assist the charitable work of Optimist International? The Dime-A-Day level is reached by a contribution of \$36.50 to the Foundation within one Optimist Year, and is recognized by the presentation of a pin."

Dime-A-Day

Jeff would be thrilled to give you more information about donating to OIF. You can also visit <http://www.oifoundation.org/individuals/dime-a-day-form.pdf> to get the Dime-A-Day form.



Time to clear the backlog of photos in the Newsletter files! Here's just a sampling of our recent activities.

Wa-a-ay back on June 5 we celebrated our **Partners in Education**. This year we lauded the work of the "Safety and Security Specialists" at our local high schools. As we learned, these low-key heroes do much more than patrol the halls. They are mentors, role models, and mediators. And they are very reluctant to be in the spotlight! We thank them for their service to kids in our community.

2019 Partners in Education Honorees: (l-r) Jennifer Hogan, Director of Student Services at Oakton; **Kathleen Sefchick**, Safety & Security Specialist, Oakton; **Renee Royle**, Safety & Security Assistant, Marshall; Jeffrey Litz, Principal, Marshall; **Tony Thomas**, Safety & Security Specialist, Madison; Tim Buckley, DSS, Madison



Our first Sheryl A. Friedley Scholarship recipient Jay Choi, his teacher Valerie Robinson, and VP for Youth Mike Fitzella

Also at our June 5 meeting we presented the first **Sheryl A. Friedley Scholarship** to **Jay Choi**, a senior at Oakton High School. Jay will be attending the Mason LIFE program at GMU, a "supportive academic university experience that offers a four year postsecondary curriculum of study to students with intellectual and developmental disabilities...." Those of us who had the pleasure of talking with Jay at the meeting learned that he is an avid sports fan and is very excited to be attending GMU. Jay, we are excited for you!

Club President-Elect Bruce Lauther and his wife, **Connie**, were among the 1300 attendees at the **Optimist International Convention** in Louisville, Kentucky. With OI celebrating its 100th Anniversary, the Convention was a truly special event! Activities included dedication of a historical marker at the site where Optimists met in June, 1919, to form OI. Thank you for representing us, Bruce and Connie!



Retired Fire Chief Alan Caldwell, of the Dunn Loring Volunteer Fire Department, received our **2019 EMT/First Responder Award** on July 17, 2019. According to introductory remarks by current DLVD Fire Chief Shawn Stokes, Chief Caldwell has "done it all" in the realm of volunteer fire fighting. Since 1975 he served as a firefighter, EMT, academy instructor, purchasing consultant, lobbyist, trustee, and mentor. Chief Caldwell drew parallels between his work with the DLVD



Youth Training Program and the Optimists' commitment to helping youth. Congratulations to Chief Caldwell!

Left: President Susan Bauer, Ret. Chief Alan Caldwell, DLVD Chief Shawn Stokes

And there's always time for a little fun.

"Please pass along our thanks to the **Optimist Club** for [donating the cost of] the Dunk Tank and Sno Cone machine for the Louise Archer ES Field Day. Those two activities are the best part of Field Day for so many of these kids. I have attached pictures so you can see how happy (and sticky) your donation made them. Thank you again," **Nicole Martin, LAES Field Day Chair**



June 2019 Board Meeting Highlights July 2019

The Board of Directors of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna met Wednesday, July 10, with eight members present and three represented by proxy. Among the highlights of the meeting:

President Susan provided information about DC Candlelighters, a charity that benefits pediatric cancer patients and their families. It was moved and approved to donate our Family Fun Day games and prizes to DCC's holiday party. A speaker from DCC will speak to the Club in August;

- New names tags will be acquired for all active Club members;
- Additional blue Club T-shirts will be ordered;
- President-Elect Bruce reported on his attendance at the OI Convention;
- Mike announced we are looking for new coordinators for the Helping Hands Awards program;
- Michele is working with the Town of Vienna for permanent signage for the Farmers Market. The Town has requested 2020 dates for the Market;
- Prospective members Dex and Ellen Payne have submitted applications to Joe M.

Next Board Meeting is August 14, 2019.

You are an Optimist—Look the Part!

Two important indicia of membership in the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna are our name tags and our snazzy T-shirts. If you need either item, now is the time to get it!

The Club will be ordering new name tags for active members to supplement/replace our classic name badges. If you DO NOT have a rectangular name tag, please let President Susan know so that one can be ordered for you. As they say, the first one is for free—any replacement will be the responsibility of the member.

Popular sizes of our blue T-shirts will be reordered as well. Again, if you need a shirt, please contact President Susan.



OPTIMIST CLUB OF GREATER VIENNA Board of Directors 2018-19

President	Susan Bauer
Secretary	Kathy Cutri
Treasurer	Tom Bauer
Immediate Past President	Michele Wright
President Elect	Bruce Lauther
Vice President of Community	<i>open</i>
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	Bruce Lauther/Anna Ryjik
Director of Social Media	Steven Rabil
Director of Print Media	Bruce Lauther
Director of Membership	Lauren Wagner
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