

OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna

November 2019

Calendar

November 5
Election Day in Virginia



November 6 — *NO MEETING*

November 13— *Board Meeting*
7:00 pm—Emmanuel Lutheran Church

November 16 — *Caboose Open!*
1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Volunteers needed for both shifts!

November 20 — *Dinner Meeting*
Carol Waite Brennan Scholarship Awards
Vienna Moose Lodge
9616 Courthouse Road, Vienna 22181
6:45 pm—Social Time; 7:30—Dinner

November 23 — *Tree Lot Set-Up*
9:30 am to noon
Meet at Town Property Yard, North End of Mill Street

November 26—*First Delivery of Trees*
6:00 pm at the Tree Lot

November 27— *“Fourth Wednesday”*
Dinner delivery , Culmore Teen Center;
Team D (Ryjik, Captain)

November 28 —
Thanksgiving Day



November 29— *Second Delivery of Trees*
10:30 am at the Tree Lot

November 30—*Christmas Tree Sales Begin*

News and Notes

After an **action-packed month** of inducting new officers, wrapping up six months of a hugely successful Farmers Market, welcoming new members, and generally being a positive presence in our Vienna Community, let's take a breather! **We will NOT meet on Wednesday, November 6.**

Enjoy the evening off, because we will quickly pivot into a flurry of November activities!

On **Wednesday, November 20**, we honor six outstanding high school seniors with the **Carol Waite Brennan Youth Appreciation Awards**. Join us at the **Vienna Moose Lodge** as we recognize students from Madison, Marshall, and Oakton high schools, and remember the contributions that Carol made to our club. Come early so you can meet our students, their family members, and our high school representatives. You will see some familiar faces; several of the students receiving scholarships were also recognized as juniors at last April's TR Cook Youth Awards of Excellence.



It may seem early to be thinking about Christmas, but our **annual Christmas Tree Sales** begin the Saturday after Thanksgiving, which means our preparations get underway soon. **Check out Page Three** for the complete schedule. We have a short selling season this year so get your calendar ready to sign up for some shifts at our biggest fund-raiser of the year.



Important info for paying your Club Dues:

The address for dues payments was inadvertently omitted from the October statements. Please send payments to: **Optimist Club of Greater Vienna, P.O. Box 411, Vienna, VA 22183-0411.** (And did you know that you can prepay your dues for the entire 2019-20 year? It saves the Club mailing and postage costs, and takes one more thing



off your “to do” list!).



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...

Cheers with smiles to you—our Gal 'n' Pal Optimists

Our 64th Club Year has begun. New President, Adrian Elcock, Optimist International, shares a vision for our 101st International Year to *iMagine* all that we do and to discover even better and more productive ways to pursue our Optimist duties and to enhance bringing out the very best in youth...of all ages. Our new Capital-Virginia District Governor Chuck Steininger urges us to share our pride in *I am an Optimist*, i.e., *iServe*. May I join them and express my encouragement to each and every one of you to let our community know and to be fully



aware of all the rather wonderful things Optimism and Optimists bring about, each and every day. Please join us! Perhaps, we've kept optimism and our club too much of a secret?

What a marvelous summertime our Farmers Market has provided to the community about the Town of Vienna. Have you noticed, too, how patrons of the marketplace start to stand taller, walk easier and even smile as they enter the marketplace?

Now tall timbers are starting to fall and great preparations are now done for our annual sale of Christmas Trees. I wish every member could have seen the harmonious gathering of Tree Team Captains in a meeting last week in concluding the finishing touches to launch this year's program. This meet was nothing short of splendid. Take a bow, Captains!

Our budget, now digitized, has been approved by our diligent Board of Directors (BOD). Thank you, Madame Treasurer. Our Directory is now current. Thank you, Madame Secretary. Our Youth Programs for this new year are lined up. Our Website is updated. Your BOD has made a significant funding contribution to the Madison Band now outward

bound to the Grand Band Show. The Club's Guiding Directives are now under review. And, yes, the rumor is correct: we have four vacancies within our BOD. No ship sails without a full crew if long term success is the goal. Please look within yourself and, if you can, volunteer to join with us.

We have heard your appeals and scheduled meetings, when and where possible, are planned within or close about the Town of Vienna. Your reports about the cuisine provided at the Vienna Moose Lodge 1896 have been highly favorable. Thank you for your feedback. And, yes, we would like to welcome and see more of you at our regular meetings. We may even have some nice surprises ahead. Smile.

Best wishes for a wonderful autumn and all the blessings of a great Thanksgiving...with anticipation, humbleness and appreciation for your support.

Your Bruce

From Treasurer Michele

OPTIMIST GIVING PROGRAM

The giving season is upon us but you don't have to wait for a once a year window for making a charitable gift to Optimism. **Monthly donations to the Club Foundation help us in our annual planning.** Send \$3, \$10 or more monthly to the Foundation, like you would do for a pledge commitment. At the end of the year, our Club would have a significant increase in the money for scholarships and our programs. Email our new treasurer, Michele Wright at michelewrightoptimist@gmail.com to set up your planned giving amount.

Looking for something less structured or on a smaller scale? **Go to AmazonSmile.com and add the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna Foundation as your charity.** Qualifying purchases result in a donation from Amazon. It costs you nothing but the time to set it up.

If these don't appeal or apply to you, **consider the Foundation in your estate planning.** Name the Foundation as a recipient of part of your IRA, suggest donations to the Foundation in lieu of flowers, donate your car or the sale proceeds of the contents of your home, or make a monetary gift to the Foundation in your Will or Trust.

Any gift is greatly appreciated as we wish to solidify our continued ability to provide for the youth in our community. Help us to continue to bring out the best in kids.

NEWS FROM THE FIRST QUARTER CAPITOL-VIRGINIA DISTRICT MEETING

From President Bruce:

The Optimist Club of Greater Vienna figured prominently at the Capital-Virginia District #16, First Quarter District Meeting, in Ashburn VA, October 25-26, 2019. Our colorful, stylish banner was front and center as the entire District met for the new program year.



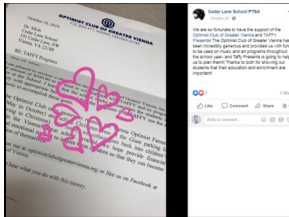
When Someone Asks You “What do the Optimists Do?”

Here are some handy answers.

Club Phoenix in the Vienna Community Center: Our Club supports it and individual members (Kathy Cutri, Bob McCormick, and Steve Bukont) were instrumental in its founding! Optimists Bruce, Kathy, Ed W. and Mark were at the party celebrating 20 years for Club Phoenix.



The Third Quarter 2018-19 “Optimist of the Quarter Awards” to **John Andrews, Jim Stivison, Dan Mulville, Michele Wright, Laurie Cole, Pat Hackerson, and Dick Gongaware** were announced. Fourth Quarter 2018-19 “Optimist of the Quarter Awards” to **Ed Wonder, Kathy Cutri, and Bruce Lauther** were announced.



Cedar Lane School: Optimist Club donations bring music programs to a school for students in an alternative learning setting. We don’t do it for the thanks, but it was nice to get a grateful shout-out on Facebook!

iMagine! iServe! SALUTES! Very special: The reports of attending Zone Lieutenant Governors revealed our club is demonstrating the vast majority of successes in establish and preserve Junior Optimist International (JOI) Members among our schools. Take another bow, **Ed Wonder** and **Mike Fitzella**. Our Governor **Chester “Chuck” Gizzard** plans to visit every club within the Capital-Virginia District across this year. Our Lieutenant Governor, Zone 6, **Dianne Capilongo**, was presented with a plaque expressing our appreciation for her administering our installation ceremonies earlier this month.

Second Story’s Culmore Teen Center: Teams of Optimists bring nourishment—for the body and the spirit—to teens in a safe afterschool setting run by our good friends at Second Story. But when it comes to pool, it’s not clear who’s getting schooled!



IT’S TIME TO GET READY FOR CHRISTMAS TREE SALES SEASON

In the “Just the facts, ma’am” style you would expect from our no-nonsense Christmas Tree coordinators, Dick L. and Al provide this vital information for our Christmas Tree Sales preparations:

Lot set-up: Sat, Nov 23, 9:30-noon. Meet at Town Lot on Mill St.

Trees Arrive: Tue, Nov 26, 6 PM. Meet at Tree Lot

Second Delivery: Fri, Nov 29, 10:30 AM at Tree Lot

Sales Begin: Nov 30, 9 AM by the Blue Team

Lot Hours: Weekdays, Monday-Friday 2PM-8PM

Weekends, Saturday-Sunday 9AM-8PM



Team Captains are the same as last year. They are:

Rich Ordeman - Sunshine Team

Jeff Johnson - Green Team

Tom Spengler - Orange Team

Dick Gongaware - Blue Team

Alan Dunkerley - Red Team & Teams Coordinator

Dick Lippert - Tree Sales Coordinator

Lot Closes Early at 5PM on night of Optimist Christmas Party Wednesday 4 December 2019.

Team Captains will be contacting their members. Team members, be ready to sign up for multiple shifts. **We need everybody’s help!**

October 2019

Board Meeting Highlights

The Board of Directors of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna met on October 9, 2019, with ten members present. Business conducted included the following:

- President Bruce introduced Ol's theme for 2019-20, "iMagine' what you can do better, and discussed plans for the upcoming program year;
- Treasurer Michele proposed revising the budget to remove line items for programs not making requests, and adding lines for Club Phoenix and the VVFD;
- The Board acknowledged Maud Robinson's testamentary gift of \$5000 to the Club's Foundation;
- VP for Youth Mike F. shared the calendar of Youth events for the year;
- VP for Finance Dick L. reported on status of Christmas Tree sales preparations—including the great news that all Team Captains have agreed to serve again this year;
- The Board welcomed new member Dan Gropper;

- Farmers Market applications for 2020 are being revamped and improved PR is under discussion;
- Webmaster Gary shared tech improvements he has integrated in Club operations, including Quick Books templates and SignUp Genius usage for meeting RSVPs.

The next board meeting will be at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, 22181.

Team Sloth Goes for Greatness!

Well, Great Pumpkin-ness. Optimists Gary, John, and Ed rode the Warrenton Great Pumpkin Ride as Team Sloth (Team Motto: We get there when we get there!).



The Sloth Cycling Team - over 150 years of Cycling Experience.

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	open
Director of Social Media	open
Director of Print Media/Community	open
Director of Membership	open
Director of Youth	Ed Wonder
Director of Finance	Al Dunkerley

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