



# OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna  
October 2019

## Calendar

### October 2 – Officer Installation Meeting

#### Vienna Moose Lodge

9616 Courthouse Road, Vienna 22181  
(across from Nottoway Park)

**Banquet Room Entrance is at the rear of the building**  
6:45 pm—Social Time; 7:30—Dinner

### October 5 – Farmers Market

Vienna Community Center Parking Lot  
8:00am to noon

### October 9 – Board Meeting

#### The Enclave (Community Room)

9450 Silver King Court—Unit 402 S,  
Fairfax City VA 22031

### October 12 – Farmers Market

8:00 am to noon

### October 12 – Caboose Open!

1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Volunteers needed for second shift

### October 16 – Dinner Meeting

#### Vienna Moose Lodge

9616 Courthouse Road, Vienna 22181  
6:45 pm—Social Time; 7:30—Dinner

### October 19— Farmers Market

8:00 am to noon

### October 23 – “Fourth Wednesday”

Dinner delivery , Culmore Teen Center;  
Team B (Bauers, Captains)

### October 23 – Vienna Halloween Parade

6:30 pm—Assemble for 7:00 start

### October 26 – Farmers Market

8:00 am to noon

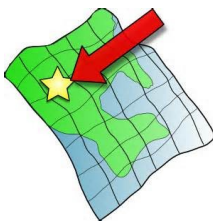
## News and Notes

Welcome to the early edition of your October 2019 *Optimistically Speaking!* October is a busy month, and not just because it marks the start of the Optimist Program Year. Let’s get to it:

Our first meeting of 2019-20 is **Wednesday, October 2, at the Vienna Moose Lodge**. Soon-to-be Past **President Susan** will hand the gavel to soon-to-be **President Bruce**. The Club’s new officers and board members will be sworn in by our special guest, **OI Lieutenant Governor Diane Capilongo**. President Bruce will share his ideas for the direction of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna in the upcoming year. Please come and support your fellow Optimists who have taken on leadership roles for our Club.



We return to the **Vienna Moose Lodge** for our meeting on **Wednesday, October 16**. **A word about this venue:** In the several years since our exile from our long-time home at the Marco Polo Restaurant we have wandered the Northern Fairfax County wilderness in search of a permanent Vienna-based meeting location. This summer we met at the recently-renovated Vienna Moose Lodge for a social meeting (that is, finger food and no fixed program). It was a sufficiently promising experience that we are returning to see how regular meetings work there. Every Club member should be part of this assessment, and the related discussion of what type of meetings we want to have. So please attend the October meetings and be part of the change you want to see happen!



There’s time for fun this month, too. On **Wednesday, October 23**, Vienna holds its **73rd Annual Halloween Parade** and we are part of it! The design of our float on the parade’s theme, “Famous Children’s Books and Fairy Tales Brought to Life” is still in the works. To be part of the design, construction, and decoration team contact Kathy Cutri. To march in the parade, be at Maple Ave. and Branch at 6:30 on October 23 (or let Kathy know beforehand and she will give you directions).



## Serving the Youth of Greater Vienna for over 60 Years!

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



## From thy President

**Greetings with smiles to you: our Gal 'n' Pal Optimists.**

Join with me and reflect on the many successes 'n' joys of the past two years under the marvelous leadership and presidency of **Susan Bauer** and work of her Board of Directors (BODs). Cheers! Salutes! Smiles all around! Merci beaucoup! Mahalo! Thank you!

**Our club's 65<sup>th</sup> year** will continue to be about "we" not "me. We will seek to expand our exceptional history of accomplishments by team play and making our meetings 'n' tasks, not only purposeful, but fun. Who first said: "We bring out the best in kids and ourselves" by being Optimists? Yes, we are in our optimistic world for the kids ... of all ages. The positive will be our enduring focus. And, we must share our joy of optimism with many new members! Let us, each and every one; share the joy we feel with others among our spheres of influence and friendships.

Our next meeting will take place on October 2<sup>nd</sup> with our **Lieutenant Governor Diane Capilongo** conducting the installation of our Officers for Optimist International's 101<sup>st</sup> Year. Please contemplate joining a serious, yet fun, group of your BOD -- for there are two open Directorship Vacancies in **Community** and **Social Media**.

Three areas ahead offer volunteering opportunities to be face to face with the general public. First, there is the caboose as a site for spreading the "making news" about optimism and our club. Second, there is the ma-

ior fund raiser of Christmas Tree Sales. Third, there is our Farmers Market. We need Team Captains 'n' Volunteers for each area. We welcome the students from our schools who enthusiastically help in our community outreaches and behind the scenes. Please step up! You will be welcomed with a smile!

We live in an era of change and discontinuity; and some say, diversity. OI's new initiatives add "performing (music) and illustrative arts (painting, sketching) to our youth outreach programs. We will attempt to have more of our regular functions—regular and BOD meetings—in or about the Town of Vienna as many of you have suggested. The Banquet Room of the Vienna Moose Lodge is being considered as a new venue, adding in rotation with the Vienna and Fairfax American Legions. We will keep you informed as these considerations and others are clarified and resolved. Again, who first said: "...there is only one kind of bad opinion, it is the one not considered aloud for consideration!" Please feel free to share your ideas with our BOD Members and directly with me. And, we would welcome more of you to meet and greet at our regular meetings. Hint!

Thank you in advance.

I look forward to our new OI Year with anticipation, humbleness and appreciation for your support.

**Bruce**



### Save Money, Avoid Waste—RSVP!

Planning our meetings nearly always requires that we get a firm count of the number of people attending an event, as the caterer/restaurant/host site needs to know how many people to prepare for. Prompt RSVPs help our budget so we aren't paying for unneeded meals, prevent wasted food, and ensure right-sized room space.

Right now **our average RSVP rate for meetings is about 25%**. We need to up our average.

Fortunately, technology makes collecting and tallying RSVPs easy. **Sign Up Genius** —slogan: "Group Organizing Made Easy"—takes your rsvp to an event and gives the meeting organizer a running tally of attendees. This is so much easier for both the organizer and the invitees! For the organizer, it is great not to have to track dozens of emails to know who is coming to a meeting! And for Club members, all you have to do is click a couple of icons (on your already-open email) and your response is logged. Don't worry if you have to change your response—you can do that with no problem. And SUG will automatically send you a reminder of the upcoming event.



SignUp Genius also works for recurring events, like **volunteer shifts at the Farmers Market or the Caboose**.

**Please accept the SignUp Genius email when it arrives and use it to record your rsvp.**

## Remember Summer?

Not so long ago our members were serving up the suds at this summer's first *Chillin' on Church Street* in June.



## The Opportunities to Help Don't Stop in Autumn

And that includes the Farmers Market. We are open every Saturday in October and volunteers are needed. If you can help, please sign up on the Optimist Club web-site: [www.optimistclubofgreatervienna.org](http://www.optimistclubofgreatervienna.org). Once on the site just click on FM Volunteers and click on the arrow to find your name.

Michele Wright also needs volunteers to work with her on the new contracts for next year's Market and public relations/social media work. Contact her to lend a hand.



## And We All Know What Winter Brings!



*Editor's Note:* File photo has been blatantly altered to avoid emails saying the dates are wrong.

### From Dick Lippert, VP for Finance and Club Tree-Meister:

"All approvals have been received from the Town of Vienna and our critical supporters at the PNC Bank (providing essential electric power) and the Maple Avenue Shopping Center. Trees, wreaths and roping have been ordered and all plans are in motion to make this another banner fund raiser for our Club and the Youth of the Greater Vienna Community.

The location and schedule will be the same as in past years. This is a relatively short season, **kicking off on Saturday 30 November** and if all goes well, we should be able to **close down by Sunday 22 December**.

This is an all-hands effort from both the Optimist Club and the Youth groups which we support. Al Dunkerley will be heading up the Optimist Teams and Ed Wonder will be coordinating Youth support. **PLEASE** heed their call and plan to enthusiastically support this annual effort so we can continue to give back to the Greater Vienna Youth Community."

## August 2019 Board Meeting Highlights

The Board of Directors of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna met on August 14, 2019, with seven members present and three represented by proxy. Business conducted included the following:

- Approved the expenditure of budgeted funds for Madison and Marshall HS Ethics Days (\$1000 each), and for Second Story (\$2000);
- Approved the purchase of magnetic name badges and a resupply of Club T-Shirts;
- Noted remaining vacancies on the 2019-20 Board for Social Media and Media Relations Directors;
- Received the schedule for the 2019-20 Youth Programs with additional news that Ed Wonder, Lenore Goldberg, and Ellen and Dex Payne will transition into coordinating the Helping Hands Program taking over from Pat Hackerson and Laurie Cole;
- Approved the proposed "Investment Policy" from the Finance Committee.

## September 2019 Board Meeting Highlights

The Board of Directors of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna met on September 9, 2019, with nine members present and one represented by proxy. Business conducted included the following:

- Approved a \$5000 donation to DC Lamplighters (a pediatric cancer charity) for its Christmas Party;
- Approved donations to Cunningham Park ES for its Young Scholars Program and to "Matteo Runs";
- Approved the expenditure of budgeted funds to the Boy and Girl Scouts, Cedar Lane School, and the Oakton Football team;
- Received a report on preparations for the 2019 Christmas Tree sales. Prices from the supplier have gone up;
- Received a report on the Farmers Market that new vendors are inquiring about next year, and efforts continue to get the Town of Vienna to approve permanent signage.

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### 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	open
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	open

### *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*