

Sincere Thoughts from thy Club President 'n' Guardian...

Our individual, separate journeys across life have brought us together within a marvelous organization, international optimism (OI). What a genuine joy each of us finds when working together as brothers 'n' sisters within the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna. Our creed provides us with guidelines of how to engage the opportunities 'n' challenges in life while "bringing out the best in youth"...of all ages. Today, we face a pandemic of seemingly boundless proportions in the short run.

Governor Ralph Northam has ordered restrictions to insure the safety of residents within the Commonwealth of Virginia. **President Adrian M. Elcock**, of OI, has cancelled all meetings 'n' assemblages, including the 101st International Convention near Chicago, Illinois extending into summertime. Our club is tracking the community protective actions determined by our **Mayor Laurie A. DiRocco** 'n' our Town Council Members (See viennava.gov/coronavirus).

Our club has cancelled all meetings 'n' events until June at the earliest. But, your Board of Directors are at their busiest. We will pursue a variety of avenues to communicate 'n' continue to prepare 'n' iMagine for the future by using technology (e.g., Zoom, Skype, telephone, snail mail, email 'n' texts) for virtual meetings. Our short experience indicates the pandemic discriminates against no one, but with aging comes a greater vulnerability to the infection coronavirus. The following guidelines are given to us to optimize our individual protections.

- Please practice social distancing, recommended at six feet plus (6+) and remember to get fresh air and exercise daily.
- Minimize gatherings to no more than ten (10) persons.
- When out 'n' about practice restraint as if there is a neighbor or other person nearby who has been exposed or is sick and act accordingly.
- Wear face masks 'n' rubber gloves when driving 'n' out 'n' about...'n' sanitize whatever you touch (e.g., door handles, elevator buttons, cellphones, flashlights, car doors, steering wheels, cart handles, etc.)
- Leave packages wrapped in cardboard unopened in an out-of-the-travel-path way for twenty-four (24) hours.
- Practice increased frequency of cleaning the high traffic surfaces such as door handles, railings, elevator buttons, mail boxes, etc.
- Please check on your neighbors 'n' friends. Offer to pick up groceries for them if they are not comfortable going to the store. If you are in need of assistance, please reach out to me at president@optimistclubofgreatervienna.org.
- Wash your hands frequently and avoid touching surfaces in the common area of the buildings as much as possible.
- Please pick up after your pets.
- Consider online ordering 'n' drop off at front door deliveries.

See the following for additional information:

<https://www.fairfaxva.gov/residents/coronavirus-disease-2019>

<https://www.governor.virginia.gov/newsroom/all-releases/2020/march/headline-853537-en.html>

You are in our t's, p's, 'n' h's, i.e., thoughts, prayers 'n' hearts, daily. Best wishes with a warm smile... **Your Bruce**