



## Optimistically Speaking

December, 2011

[www.optimistclubofgreatervienna.org](http://www.optimistclubofgreatervienna.org)



### Spotlight on Upcoming Events



- December 2 Marshall HS Senior Ethics Day
  
- December 7 Meeting - Marco Polo Restaurant  
6:45 p.m. - Meet and Greet  
7:30 p.m. - Dinner  
Remember Pearl Harbor
  
- December 14 Board Meeting  
7:30 p.m. - Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Rd., Vienna
  
- December 20 Happy Hanukkah
  
- December 21 Meeting - Marco Polo Restaurant  
6:45 p.m.. - Meet and Greet  
7:30 p.m.. - Dinner  
Program: Marshall High School Orchestra
  
- December 23 Last Day for Christmas Tree Sales
  
- December 24 Tree Lot Cleanup
  
- December 25 Merry Christmas

**No program scheduled on December 7th but come enjoy dinner and good fellowship.**



**Remember: our social hour will begin at 6:45 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. -- mark your calendar!**

### Marshall High School Orchestra & Holiday Party

Come join us on Wednesday, December 21st to enjoy dinner and be entertained by members of the Marshall High School Orchestra. Immediately following our program, member Laurie Cole and her husband Harry have graciously invited us to join them at their home in Vienna to continue our holiday celebration. As always spouses and potential members are welcome to join us for this holiday celebration.



**Remember: our social hour will begin at 6:45 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. -- mark your calendar!**

**OPTIMISTS -  
BRINGING  
OUT THE BEST  
IN KIDS**



*100% and then some...*



## Note from the Prez . . .



As you no doubt know, the annual Christmas Tree sale has begun. Thanks to all who participated in setting up the lot! Thanks also to the Madison HS baseball team for doing the 'heavy lifting' in unloading the trees. The tree sale is a vitally important event for the club, and I urge all who can participate to give of their time and talents over the next four weeks to making this year's sale another successful event.

Merry Christmas!  
*President Walt*

### The 2012 HOBY Virginia Seminar will be held May 18-20 at James Madison University.

HOBY was founded by Hugh O'Brian in 1958 in response to Dr. Albert Schweitzer's remark, "*The most important thing in education is to teach young people to think for themselves.*" HOBY seeks out, recognizes, and rewards leadership potential in high school sophomores by giving them the opportunity to build their leadership potential during a three or four day seminar. High school sophomores are chosen because their age is critical in focusing on future goals and forming opinions for adulthood. These students have the unique opportunity to create a "ripple effect" from their HOBY experience by utilizing the remaining time in their high school career to lead others and lay the foundation for a strong future. HOBY challenges students on not what to think, but **how** to think.

**Capital Virginia District  
 Second Quarter Meeting  
 February 24-26, 2012  
 Holiday Inn Monticello**

### OCTAGON AND ALPHA CLUBS

The clubs we sponsor at Louise Archer Elementary and Madison, Marshall and Oakton High Schools have been actively engaged in community service activities. Member interest toward helping others has been most impressive.

The nearly 70 members at Louise Archer are committed for weekly recycling collection within the school, have prepared collection bins and posters for the school Toys for Tots campaign, and are scheduled to help at our tree lot.

All of the high school Octagon Clubs have also geared up to help at the tree lot and each has accepted an assigned week. In the past years they have been a significant help to us. Marshall has over 125 members and recently helped with food bags for the Stop Hunger Now project, participated in the Homeless Walk a Thon in DC, are collecting food items for So Others May Eat and clothing for a family recently burned out of their home. Madison has about 60 members and has been actively engaged in creating Holiday Mail for Heroes in support of a Red Cross program and community service interest cards for elementary students. They also committed to the Homeless Walk a Thon, the Town cleanup, Halloween Helpers project and trick or treat for UNICEF. Oakton has come in with almost 60 members and is also actively working their support of the needy and keeping Blake Lane clean of debris.

We can be proud of sponsoring these youth who are out there helping others.



# Carol Waite Brennan 2011 Youth Appreciation Awards

## 2011 Award Recipients

Madison High School

*Eamonn Carolan*

*Courtney Vereide*

Marshall High School

*Peter Bryan*

*Maha Hassan*

Oakton High School

*Nicole Abdullah*

*William Hollingsworth*



VP Youth Mike Fitzella opens the program



VP Youth Mike Fitzella with Matt & Kelly Brennan



Jim Stivison presents Kelly Brennan with a bouquet of roses.



Jim Houston remembers Carol Waite Brennan and her dedication to the youth of our community.

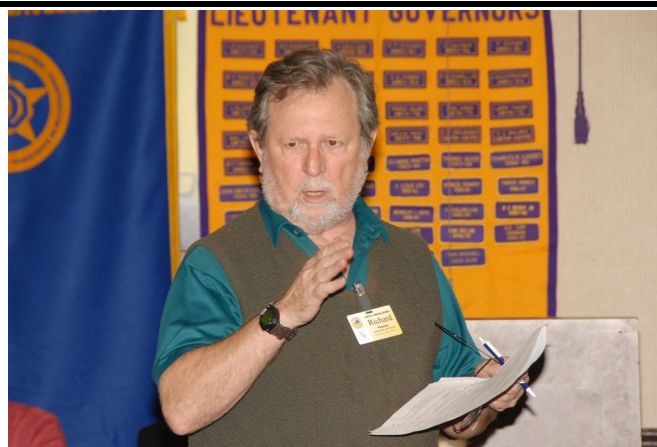
### CCDHH coming in January 2012

This contest is designed to offer young people who are deaf or hard of hearing the opportunity to present their thoughts in a public forum. This experience helps students develop the skills and confidence to present in sign or orally to a large audience. The program also provides a valuable opportunity to compete for a \$2,500 college scholarship.

# Capital Virginia District First Quarter Meeting Harrisonburg, VA



President Walt and Immediate Past President Tom present Governor Tom Shearer and District CCC Committee Chair Bob Lawson with a check for \$12,750 for the OI Foundation and Childhood Cancer research.



Richard Plocica, District Awards & Achievements Committee Chair, discusses the A&A program at the District meeting.

### ***PGI . . . what's that? How can I participate? Personal Growth and Involvement Program***

The PGI Program offers every Optimist Club Member the opportunity to grow personally and learn more about Optimism while advancing through ten levels of involvement, personal growth, and achievement -- a program you complete at your own pace!



### ***Optimist Anniversaries***

- Joe Bosco - 56 years
- Rich Ordeman - 33 years
- Roland Finken - 32 years
- Jerry Covell - 28 years
- Sheryl Friedley - 18 years
- Jack Barbee - 9 years
- Kelli Horner - 2 years
- Mark Horner - 2 years



- Dan Mulville - December 7
- Bill Doughten - December 16
- Les Carl - December 27
- AK Mohamed Yaseen - December 30



The race is not always to the swift . . . but to those who keep on running.





## Board Actions at a Glance

The Board of Directors met on November 9, 2011, with 10 members present. Highlights of the meeting are as follows:

- ◆ Discussed and approved the 2011-2012 budget for the Youth Fund.
- ◆ VP of Youth Mike Fitzella reported that everything was set for the Carole Waite Brennan Scholarship program. Discussed plans for the holiday program on December 21 and the Youth Awards of Excellence program in April.
- ◆ VP of Community Sara Goldberg reported on the success of the club's support of Kids' Halloween Party at the Vienna Community Center and participation in the Vienna Halloween Parade and thanked all those who took part.
- ◆ VP of Finance Tom Spengler reported that arrangements for the tree lot with the bank, shopping center owner, and the town permit were progressing.
- ◆ VP of Media Relations Tom Bauer reported that he is working on publicity for the Carole Waite Brennan Scholarship program and Christmas tree sales.
- ◆ Considered and approved the membership application of Jeff Sargent (sponsored by Jodi Weier). Based on his relocation and request, approved dropping Mike McCombs from the rolls.
- ◆ Agreed not to renew membership in the Vienna-Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce.
- ◆ Reviewed and approved a request for funds for the Madison High School Model UN program.

## Help Wanted!!



## Christmas Tree Sales

Christmas tree sales began Saturday, November 26th and are scheduled to end on December 23rd. As you know this is our fundraiser to support the fifty plus projects to which we donate funds throughout the year. Please support the Club and your Team Captain by volunteering for as many shifts on the lot as possible.

## Board of Directors 2011-12



<b>President</b>	<b>Walt Petersen</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Jim Houston</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Tom Fraim</b>
<b>President Elect</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	<b>Tom Fraim</b>
<b>VP Community</b>	<b>Sara Goldberg</b>
<b>VP Finance</b>	<b>Tom Spengler</b>
<b>VP Media Relations</b>	<b>Tom Bauer</b>
<b>VP Membership</b>	<b>Jodi Weier</b>
<b>VP Youth</b>	<b>Mike Fitzella</b>
<b>Director of Community</b>	<b>Michele Wright</b>
<b>Director of Media Relations</b>	<b>Gladys Kozlik</b>
<b>Director of Membership</b>	<b>Jim Pammel</b>
<b>Director of Youth</b>	<b>Jim Stivison</b>
<b>Webmaster</b>	<b>Gary Moonan</b>

### 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.