



## Optimistically Speaking

November, 2011

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



### Spotlight on Upcoming Events



- November 2 Meeting - Marco Polo Restaurant  
6:45 - Meet and Greet  
7:30 - Dinner  
Program: Shelter House & Growing Hope
- November 9 Board Meeting  
7:30 p.m. - Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Rd., Vienna, VA
- November 11-13 Capital Virginia District Meeting  
Harrisonburg, VA
- November 16 Meeting - Marco Polo Restaurant  
6:45 p.m. - Meet and Greet  
7:30 p.m. - Dinner  
Program: Carol Waite Brennan Youth Appreciation Awards
- November 19 Move Trailer & Stands to Tree Lot (8:30 a.m.)
- November 22 First Tree Delivery (6:00 p.m.)
- November 24 Happy Thanksgiving
- November 25 Second Tree Delivery & Lot Set-Up  
(8:30 a.m.)
- November 26 Tree Sales Begin (9:00 a.m.)
- December 23 Tree Sales End
- December 24 Move Trailer & Stands to Storage (8:30 a.m.)

#### Shelter House & Growing Hope



Come join us the evening of November 2nd when checks will be presented to the Shelter House and to Growing Hope. During the month of October cloths and funds were donated during the Vienna Farmers Markets to help Shelter House which is a community-based, non-profit organization serving homeless families in Fairfax County. As a result of the Family Walk & Fun Day on September 24th, a donation will be made to Growing Hope a non-profit organization which provides help to children with cancer and their families. ***Remember: our social hour will begin at 6:45 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. -- mark your calendar!***

#### Carol Waite Brennan Youth Appreciation Awards

Come join us the evening of Wednesday, November 16, to honor academic excellence among our youth. Given in memory of former Vienna Optimist Club President Carol Waite Brennan, this scholarship is awarded to two outstanding seniors (male and female) from Madison High School, Marshall High School, and Oakton High School. As we honor these recipients, come hear teachers and administrators celebrate their many achievements; in addition, come join us to honor parents and families who instill such excellence in our youth. And finally, come honor Carol as Kelly Brennan (Carol and Matt Brennan's daughter) assists with the presentation of these awards.

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



*100% and then some...*



## Note from the Prez . . .



November brings shorter days, colder nights, Thanksgiving and Christmas Trees. I am sure that the coming tree lot sales season - the primary source for funding our youth programs - will be another successful one. It is the one time of the year when members get together, over the course of several weeks, to share their optimism with others, 'to wear a cheerful countenance' and to do our best to make sure that our loyal tree-buyers enjoy the experience. Thanks in advance for your hard work on the tree lot!

*President Walt*

## Congratulations to the 2011-2012 Board!!!

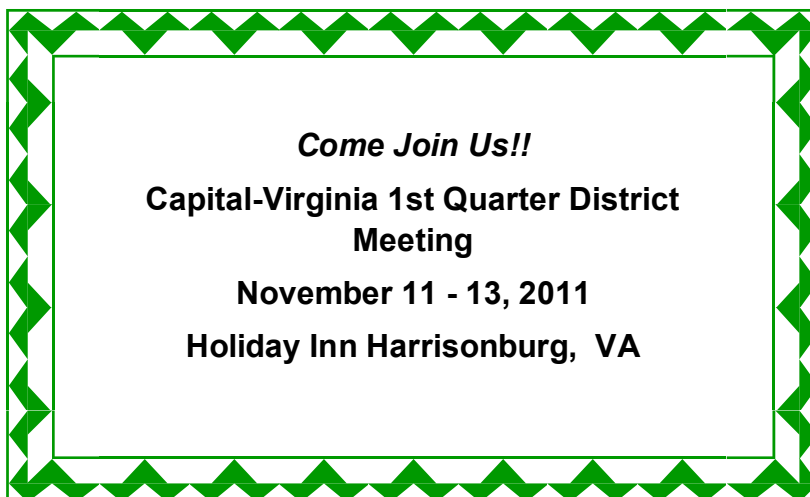
In a ceremony held during the October 5th meeting, Past District Governor and Club member TR Cook installed the 2011-2012 Board of Directors for the new Optimist year. New Board members are President Walt Petersen, Secretary Jim Houston, Treasurer Tom Fraim; VPs Sara Goldberg, Tom Spengler, Tom Bauer, Jodi Weier, Mike Fitzella; Directors Michele Wright, Gladys Kozlik, Jim Pammel, Jim Stivison, and Webmaster Gary Moonan.

### ***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!

### **History of Optimist International**

**Impetus for a nationwide Optimist movement began when the Optimist Club of Indianapolis, Indiana, was formed in May 1916. Envisioning a nationwide organization, founders of the Indianapolis club moved ahead in the summer of 1916 to start Optimist Clubs in many other major cities.**



**Vienna Town Manager Mercury Payton speaks at the October 19th Club meeting**

## Halloween Comes to the Greater Vienna Community Kid's Halloween Party Held at the Vienna Community Center & Halloween Parade down Maple Avenue



Club members Michele Wright & Sue Bauer help with face painting



Club member Teresa Lindsey



Club members march and ride in the annual Halloween Parade





Our newest member Laura Yi with President Walt and sponsor Tom Bauer



Co-chairs Sara Goldberg & Bob McCormick present Growing Hope with a check for \$38,250 from funds raised during the Club's Childhood Cancer Campaign event on Sept 24th

**94th Optimist International Convention  
July 12-14, 2012  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

After a spectacular convention in Baltimore, Optimists are holding on to fond memories of Maryland and putting the inner harbor behind them to head to the lakefront in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The official dates are July 12-14, 2012 and excitement is already building. Members are encouraged to include additional days to visit the attractions, see the sites and experience Milwaukee!



Angela Saurez from Shelter House receives a donation from funds raised at the Vienna Farmers Market

**Optimist Anniversaries**

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| T.R. Cook        | 37 years          |
| Sarah Jane Brady | 6 years           |
| Walt Petersen    | 4 years in Vienna |
| Tom Spengler     | 2 years           |
| Mark Keam        | 1 year            |
| Bob Sargent      | 1 year            |

**Happy Birthday**

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| Mike Fitzella    | November 1  |
| Courtney Sargent | November 6  |
| Steve Schuneman  | November 6  |
| Al Dunkerley     | November 12 |
| Jim Houston      | November 19 |
| Mike McCombs     | November 18 |
| Mike Byard       | November 21 |
| Michele Wright   | November 24 |

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 October 12, 2011, with 10 members present. Highlights of the meeting are as follows:

- ◆ The Board discussed a proposed budget for the 2011-2012 year. Given that reserves have been drawn down over the past several years, more austere donations may be required in the coming year. A revised budget will be discussed at the Board meeting on November 9.
- ◆ Based on an increase in costs, the Board approved increasing the rate for quest meals at dinner meetings from \$26 to \$30.
- ◆ VP of Youth Mike Fitzella reported that the planning for the program for the award of the Carole Waite Brennan scholarships scheduled for November 16 was on track.
- ◆ Director of Community Michele Wright discussed plans for the Vienna Halloween Parade.
- ◆ Director of Membership Jim Pammel discussed plans to recruit new members. Based on his request, the Board dropped George Baker from the club's rolls.
- ◆ VP of Finance Tom Spengler reported that he is coordinating with the owner of the Maple Avenue Shopping Center for the use of the parking lot for Christmas tree sales and the PNC Bank for the use of their electrical power to support the lot. Jim Houston reported that Dick Lippert had ordered the Christmas trees and the mix was adjusted to reduce the number of the larger trees and increase the number of smaller trees.
- ◆ The Board tabled a request for funds from the Vienna Babe Ruth League until a budget is adopted.

## 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>    |

## Volunteers Needed !!



### Vienna Caboose

Nov. 12 and Nov. 28

Contact Dan Mulville [dmulville@cox.net](mailto:dmulville@cox.net)

### 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.

*Optimist International*