

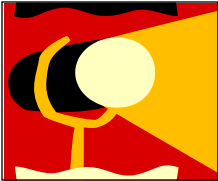


## Optimistically Speaking

February, 2012

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

### Spotlight on Upcoming Events



- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| February 1     | Meeting - Marco Polo Restaurant<br>6:45 p.m. - Meet and Greet<br>7:30 p.m. - Dinner                           |
| February 2     | Ground Hog Day  |
| February 4     | Stop Hunger Now Event<br>9 a.m. - 2 p.m.<br>Madison High School Cafeteria                                     |
| February 8     | 7:30 p.m. - Board Meeting<br>Emmanuel Lutheran Church,<br>2589 Chain Bridge Rd., Vienna                       |
| February 14    | Happy Valentine's Day!!   |
| February 15    | Meeting - Marco Polo Restaurant<br>6:45 p.m. - Meet and Greet<br>7:30 p.m. - Dinner<br>Program: Essay Contest |
| February 24-26 | Second Quarter District Meeting &<br>CCDHH District Contest<br>Charlottesville, VA                            |
| February 28    | Submission Deadline for District Essay<br>Contest   |

**No program is scheduled on February 1st but come for 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!

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**ESSAY CONTEST**  
**Topic: "How My Positive Outlook Benefits My Community"**

Come join us the evening of Wednesday, February 15, to enjoy the three winners of our Essay Contest read their prize-winning essays. This year's topic, "How My Positive Outlook Benefits My Community," provides an interesting and stimulating forum for students to share their thoughts on the benefits of a positive outlook. As always, Past President Barbara McHale and her team of essay contest judges have selected the best submissions to be read and honored during our evening program, so, come join us.

**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 . . .



Many thanks and congratulations to Rich Ordeman for guiding us through another CCDHH contest. It was a wonderful evening for all of us. I look forward to seeing some of you at the District competition later this month.

*President Walt*

### 2012 HOBY Virginia Seminar to 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

### Club Officers and Directors for 2012-2013

According to the Club By-Laws, by mid-February, the President shall announce, with the approval of the Board of Directors, the appointment of a nominating committee composed of regular Club members and chaired by the Immediate Past President. If you would like to serve on the nominating committee or are interested in serving as a Club officer or director, please contact Immediate Past President Tom Fraim. This is an excellent opportunity to be part of the Club leadership and to have a voice in how the Club is governed. Elections will be held in April 2012.

### 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!

**Capital Virginia District  
Second Quarter Meet-  
ing & CCDHH Contest  
February 24-26, 2012  
Holiday Inn Monticello  
Charlottesville, VA**

### **94th Optimist Interna- tional Convention**

**July 12-14, 2012**

**Milwaukee, Wisconsin**



## The Club's CCDHH Was A Great Success



CCDHH Program Chair Rich Ordeman explains the procedures for the evening's program



All the contestants were winners



Rich Ordeman with the first place finisher & runner up



The four contestants from the Camelot Center



Rich Ordeman with Camelot Elementary School principal Craig Gfeller and teacher Karen Cassidy



Smiling faces highlighted the evening



President Walt & Paul Snodgrass



Member Anna Ryjik is presented with a surprise birthday cake



Member Paul Snodgrass tells us about family genealogy



### James Madison Octagon Club Honored

The James Madison Octagon Club is an International Winner in the fundraising category of the Club Projects Award competition. The second place designation is something members of the JOOI Club and our Club can be proud of. The project involved collecting for UNICEF at Halloween, 2010.



### Optimist Anniversaries

- Ed Frye – 1 year
- Pat Hackerson – 10 years
- Richard Plocica – 19 years
- Sam Sindoni – 19 years
- Steve Schuneman – 29 years
- Jim Pammel - 31 years

## Happy Birthday

- Jim Radja – February 9
- Jerry Covell – February 21



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





## Board Actions at a Glance

The Board of Directors met on January 11, 2012 with nine members present. Highlights of the meeting are as follows:

- ◆ Treasurer Tom Fraim reported that Christmas tree sales resulted in \$29,600 for the Youth Fund. He also announced that he will be bringing the club's bookkeeping back in-house and will assume those duties.
- ◆ Vice President of Youth Mike Fitzella discussed plans for the Essay Contest, Communications Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH) and Oratorical Contest.
- ◆ Reviewed and approved the membership application of Barry Wheeler, who was sponsored by Mike Fitzella.
- ◆ Reviewed a letter from the James Madison High School Robotics Club thanking the club for our donation to their project.

### Thank you Laurie Cole

Laurie has agreed to serve as President-Elect for the remainder of this year and then as President beginning October 1, 2012, for the 2012-2013 Optimist Year.

## Help Wanted!!

### Community Stop Hunger Now Event

On Friday evening, February 3rd, and Saturday, February 4th, 2012, there will be a community Stop Hunger Now event. The goal is to package 100,000 meals to be distributed to a country or countries in desperate need of food to help stop hunger. The Friday evening event at the Vienna Presbyterian Church is for 5th-12th grade students and Saturday the 4th at the James Madison High School Cafeteria will be an intergenerational event for all ages. Stop Hunger Now is an international hunger relief organization that coordinates the distribution of food and other life-saving aid around the world. If you would like to donate financially or help in person, contact Tom Fraim.

## Board of Directors 2011-12



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

### 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