



Optimistically Speaking

January, 2012

www.optimistclubofgreatervienna.org

Spotlight on Upcoming Events



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| January 1 | Happy New Year! |
| January 4 | Meeting - Marco Polo Restaurant
6:45 p.m. - Meet and Greet
7:30 p.m. - Dinner |
| January 11 | Board Meeting
7:30 p.m. - Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Rd., Vienna |
| January 18 | Meeting - Marco Polo Restaurant
6:30 p.m. - Meet and Greet
7:00 p.m. - Dinner
Program: Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH)
NOTE TIME CHANGE FOR THIS MEETING |
| January 28 | New Club Building Seminar
10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
Colonial Heights Optimist Club
Colonial Heights, VA |

No program is scheduled on January 4th but come celebrate the New Year with 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!

Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Come join us on Wednesday, January 18th for the Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing which is one of our most uplifting and inspiring programs featuring 5th and 6th grade students from the Camelot Center. The topic for this year's contest is, "How My Optimism Helps Me Overcome Obstacles". This program provides a tremendous boost to the student's confidence in dealing with the hearing community. 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 in February at the Capital Virginia District Second Quarter meeting.

PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE FOR THIS MEETING. DINNER BEGINS AT 7 P.M. MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



100% and then some...



Note from the Prez . . .



Thanks to all the members who worked on the Christmas tree lot this year. Your efforts resulted in a very successful season. Treasurer Tom estimates that the net profit will be around \$29,500. Congratulations to all the teams and thanks again for your hard work!

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**



Meet Our Newest Member

Jeff Sargent was inducted as our newest member by President Walt at the Holiday Party Meeting on December 21, 2011. Jeff is married with one grown son and resides in Centreville. Jeff is employed by the Department of the Army as a Fire Protection Specialist and also serves as the Volunteer Fire Chief with the Centreville Volunteer Fire Department. Jeff is a huge sports fan and plays lots of rounds of golf. Jeff grew up in Vienna and since his father was a Club member in the 70's, Jeff would help in the tree lot which was located in the same location as today. Welcome aboard , Jeff.

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!

Marshall High School Orchestra Performs at Holiday Party



Members of the Marshall High School Orchestra under the direction of Catherine Prosser entertain at the Holiday Dinner.



VP for Youth Mike Fitzella presides at the Club's annual Holiday Party. Following dinner at Marco Polo, Club members and guests gathered at Laurie & Harry Cole's home for dessert and continued Holiday cheer. Thank you Laurie and Harry for your generosity and gracious hospitality.



Members of the Louise Archer Elementary School Junior Optimist Club read their Christmas Cards.

Annual Christmas Tree Sales Fund Raiser Great Success



Christmas Tree Sales coordinator Jim Houston updates members on status of sales. Tree sales ended on Sunday, December 18th with the last tree sold at 3 p.m. Net proceeds from tree sales will add around \$29, 500 to the Club's Youth Fund. Job well done to all those who helped.



Optimist Anniversaries

- Jeff Johnson – 34 years
- Mike Nadolski - 24 years
- Jim Stivison – 24 years
- Rick Nelson – 11 years
- Ana Anzola – 2 years
- Joan Marsh – 1 year

Happy Birthday

- Rich Ordeman – January 4
- Anna Ryjik – January 4
- Susan Bauer – January 10
- George Mills – January 10
- Joan Marsh – January 12
- Dick Lippert – January 13
- Kathy Georgen – January 20
- Pat Hackerson – January 20
- Jim Wilson – January 20
- Laurie Cole – January 25
- Kathryn McHale – January 29



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 December 14, 2011, with 12 members present. Highlights of the meeting are as follows:

- ◆ Discussed the status of tree sales; costs had been covered by sales by the meeting date.
- ◆ Discussed changes to the club policies and approved an increase of \$10 per quarter for Regular members and eliminated the \$5 credit for early payment of dues.
- ◆ Considered requests for funds and approved donations to the following:
 - ◇ Vienna United White soccer team (for help on tree lot)
 - ◇ Vienna Little League to sponsor one team
 - ◇ Vienna Babe Ruth League to sponsor one team
 - ◇ Madison High School Robotics Club
- ◆ Considered a request for financial/volunteer support for the community Stop Hunger Now program on February 3-4, 2012 that will assemble 100,000 meals for distribution around the world. The consensus of the Board was that this is a worthwhile effort and we should encourage members to help package meals on Feb 4 and to make individual contributions. However, it was agreed that using Club funds raised for our local mission was not appropriate.

Help Wanted!!

Community Stop Hunger Now Event

On February 3rd & 4th, 2012 there will be a community Stop Hunger Now event at the James Madison High School cafeteria. 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. Friday evening the 3rd will be designated for 5th-12th grade students and Saturday the 4th 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



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