

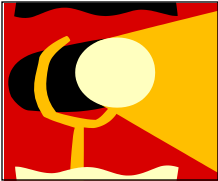


## Optimistically Speaking

March, 2012

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

### Spotlight on Upcoming Events



- March 4 Special Olympics Basketball Skills
- March 7 Meeting - Marco Polo Restaurant  
6:45 p.m. - Meet and Greet  
7:30 p.m. - Dinner  
Program: Speaker
- March 14 8:00 p.m. - Board Meeting  
Emmanuel Lutheran Church,  
2589 Chain Bridge Rd., Vienna  
**NOTE TIME CHANGE**
- March 17 Happy St. Patrick's Day!  
Caboose Open House
- March 20 Spring Begins
- March 21 Meeting - Marco Polo Restaurant  
6:15 p.m. - Meet and Greet  
7:00 p.m. - Dinner  
Program: Oratorical Contest  
**NOTE TIME CHANGE**

**Speaker: MPO Bill Murray,  
Community Services Officer, Vienna  
Police Department**



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



**ORATORICAL CONTEST**  
**Topic: "How My Optimism  
Helps Me Overcome  
Obstacles"**

Come join us the evening of Wednesday, March 21, to enjoy three girls and three boys from Kilmer Middle School, Luther Jackson Middle School, and Thoreau Middle School compete in the 2012 Optimist Oratorical Contest. This year's topic is "How My Optimism Helps Me Overcome Obstacles". The winners of the girls' contest and the boys' contest will then advance to compete in the Zone Contest; winners of that contest will then compete for a \$2500 scholarship at the District Oratorical Contest held at the 3rd Quarter Meeting of the Capital-Virginia District on May 19. Come join us to hear these inspiring presentations from our youth!

**Remember:** our social hour will begin at 6:15 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. -- mark your calendar!



*100% and then some...*

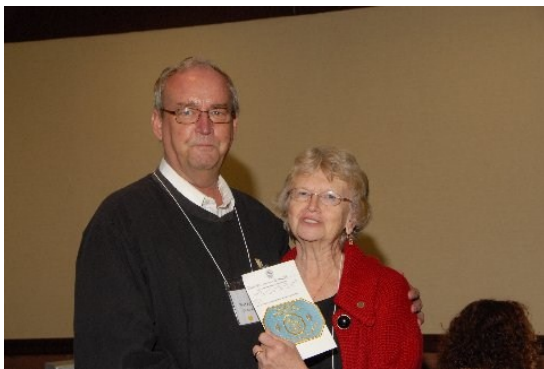


# Note from the Prez . . .



Greater Vienna was well represented at the District Meeting this past weekend. Richard Plocica, Tom Fraim, T.R. Cook (doing double duty), Rich Ordeman and I attended the meeting and the District CCDHH contest. The big news over the weekend was the approval of the redistricting plan. Greater Vienna will now be in Zone 6, which, in addition to us, will consist of Great Falls, Herndon, Leesburg, Manassas, Martinsburg (West Virginia) and Winchester. Our club also received major awards over the weekend. We were proud to present a check for \$500 to help fund a second scholarship for the District CCDHH Contest - the largest donation from any club. Greater Vienna also merited a year-bar patch for our banner, given to clubs that donate \$10 or more for each member to the OI Foundation. Moreover, our banner will also soon be adorned with a patch reading "Thomas Fraim 2010-2011" awarded to the Club as a result of being recognized as an "Honor Club" for 2010-2011. Finally, Greater Vienna achieved "Diamond Benefactor" status this year, indicating that our club has donated more than \$75,000 over the years to the OI Foundation. We can all take pride in our efforts to "Bring Out The Best In Kids!"

President Walt



President Walt accepts Diamond Benefactor award



Contestants in the District CCDHH held on February 25 in

## Club Officers and Directors for 2012-2013

Ever wonder how the Club is governed? Why we do the things we do? How we spend the funds raised at our fundraisers? How we interact with the CAPVA District and Optimist International? Well, now is your opportunity to step forward and be a part of the Club's leadership. A Nominating Committee is being formed to assist the President in nominating officers and directors for the 2012-2013 Optimist year. Please give this serious consideration and take the next step by becoming part of the Club's leadership team. Elections will take place in April 2012.

**Capital Virginia District  
Third Quarter Meeting & Oratorical Contest  
May 18-20, 2012  
Sheraton Park South  
Richmond, VA**

## Capital Virginia District Unveils New Website

At the second quarter District meeting on Saturday, February 25th in Charlottesville, VA Governor Tom Shearer introduced the new CAPVA District Website, [www.optimistcapva.org](http://www.optimistcapva.org). Much improved over the old site, the new site will facilitate the flow of information

## 94th Optimist International Convention

July 12-14, 2012

Milwaukee, Wisconsin





## Essay Contest Winners Honored



### Essay Contest Winners

**Sylvie Dufort (Not pictured) Marshal High School 1st Place**

**Gabriela Garcia James Madison High School 2nd Place**

**Diba Ghanei James Madison High School 3rd Place**

The 1st place winner's essay will compete at the District level for a \$2,500 scholarship.



### Meet Our Newest Member, Barry Wheeler

Barry lives in Vienna, is married, and has three grown children all of whom are gainfully employed. After a long high school teaching career in special education, mathematics, and computer science, Barry became a professor of library and information science at The Catholic University specializing in digital Libraries, record centers, and archives. Barry currently works at the Library of Congress. He enjoys photography, hiking, scuba diving, and has focused his service activities on special Olympics swimming and basketball. Welcome aboard Barry.



Newly inducted member Barry Wheeler congratulated by sponsor Mike Fitzella.



**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! See Tom Fraim for more information.

Several Club members participated in the Stop Hunger Now event held at Madison High School on February 4th. Over 80,000 meals were assembled and packaged for shipment to countries in need.



The Capital Virginia District will host its junior golf qualifying tournament at The Crossings Golf Course in Glen Allen, Virginia on June 9 & 10, 2012. Winners in each age division will qualify to represent Virginia at the Optimist International Tournament to be held at PGA National Resort and Spa in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida in July, 2012.



**Optimist Anniversaries**

- Bill Doughten – 30 years
- Ken Glaser – 28 years
- Grant Marsh – 13 years
- Gary Peterson – 7 years (with Vienna)
- Dan Lanphear – 7 years
- Cindy Stanton – 7 years
- Jim Stevens – 7 years
- Jack Barnes – 1 year (with Vienna)
- John Cushing – 1 year

**Happy Birthday**

- Jodi Weier – March 4
- Tom Spengler – March 8
- Paul Henon – March 13
- Bob McCormick – March 26
- Gary Peterson – March 27
- Sam Sindoni – March 30



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 February 8, 2012 with twelve members present. Highlights of the meeting are as follows:

- ◆ Discussed plans for the Youth Awards of Excellence scheduled for April 19 (note that this is a Thursday night) in Warhawk Hall at Madison High School auditorium.
- ◆ Discussed routing of and responding to emails received through the club website.
- ◆ Considered and approved the membership application of Bob Thompson, sponsored by Rich Ordeman.
- ◆ Reviewed thank you notes for donations from Camelot School (for conducting CCDHH) and Shelter House.
- ◆ Reviewed requests for funds and made donations for the following:
  - Flint Hill Elementary School Fun Run
  - Vienna Elementary School Fun Run
  - Paul VI All Night Graduation Party
  - Vienna Girls Softball League (team sponsorship)
  - Vienna Elementary School Read-A-Thon

### Help Wanted!!

#### Special Olympics Basketball Skills

More volunteers are needed to help with the Special Olympics Basketball Skills to be held on Sunday, March 4 at Twain Middle School (4700 Franconia Road, Alexandria) from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Contact Mike Battaglia or Jim Houston.

#### Vienna Caboose Open House

The 2012 open house schedule for the Vienna Caboose begins on March 17, 2012 and continues one day per month through November. If you can help man the Caboose during the open house days or can help with Caboose maintenance & upkeep please contact Dan Mulville.

## 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