



## Optimistically Speaking May, 2013

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

*Spotlight on Upcoming Events*



- May 1**            **Meeting - Westwood Country Club**  
 6:15 p.m. - Meet and Greet  
 7:00 p.m. - Dinner  
 Program: Helping Hands
- May 4-5**        **CAPVA District Third Quarter Meeting & Oratorical Contest**  
 Colonial Heights, VA
- May 4**            **Opening Day For Vienna Farmers Market**
- May 8**            **7:30 p.m. Board Meeting**  
 Vienna Town Hall  
 127 Center St., Vienna
- May 15**         **Meeting - Marco Polo Restaurant**  
 6: 45 p.m. - Meet & Greet  
 7:30 p.m. - JOOI/Alpha Club Recognition
- May 25-27**     **Memorial Day Weekend**  
 Caboose Open House

### Volunteer Opportunities

The **Vienna Farmers Market** will open on Saturday, May 4 at its new location, the Faith Baptist Church in Vienna. Club volunteer Market Managers will be needed Saturday mornings throughout the spring, summer and early fall. Contact Jim Houston. **Caboose Open Houses** occur once a month; volunteers are needed to host the Caboose during these events. Next Open House is on Memorial Day Weekend, May 25-26. Contact Dan Mulville. Volunteers are also needed for **ride ticket sales** during the Town of Vienna's 4th of July celebration. Contact Jim Houston.



### Helping Hands Awards

Come join us the evening of Wednesday, May 1, as we celebrate our 17th Annual "Helping Hands Awards."

During this program, we honor a 6th grade student from each of the eleven elementary schools in the Oakton/Vienna community "for outstanding service in his/her class, school, or community." Each recipient will receive an engraved trophy as well as a check for \$200 presented to each elementary school in honor of the student's commitment to service. Optimist Pat Hackerson has planned a terrific program for students, their parents, and a school representative to celebrate the "good deeds" of these youth in our community. So, please plan to join us!

*Note the time change: 6:15 p.m. start!*

### JOOI and Alpha Club Recognition



Come join us the evening of Wednesday, May 15, as we celebrate the outstanding service of the three Octagon Clubs

(Madison High School, Marshall High School, and Oakton High School), as well as the Alpha Club (Louise Archer Elementary School), that our club sponsors and supports throughout the year. JOOI Club Program Chair Rich Ordeman has invited student leaders and advisors from each club to share with us the many "good deeds" they accomplished during this past academic year. Since these clubs instill the value of "service" in our youth and generate future Optimists, please plan to join us for this inspiring program to honor service!

*From the President—*

**Dear Fellow Optimists,**

Or I might say, “Your Excellency’s...”, because each of us is an Ambassador—for our Club and for Optimism. We have ambassadorial duties as Club members, to be out in the community working to benefit youth and to be welcoming hosts at our meetings building relationships with members and guests. Please take advantage of these upcoming opportunities to represent our Club:

*Opportunity #1:* The first Saturday in May is the Opening Day for our Farmers Market in its new home, Faith Baptist Church at 301 Center St. South (across from the Vienna Fire Department). Thanks to the hard work of Market Manager Sarah Jane Brady, Dave Lanphear and Jim Houston, we are ready for the big opening. Favorite vendors are back and new vendors are lined up.

Opening Day is just the start, though. The Market runs every Saturday through the end of October. This means **THE CLUB NEEDS YOU** to volunteer for shifts at the Market throughout the season. We turn out for the Christmas Tree sales, and we need to do the same for the Market. In past years, about **\$10,000 for our Youth Fund came from Market proceeds**. Go to the Club website to use the on-line sign-up. Or, if you are more comfortable with a traditional sign-up sheet, contact Jim Houston or Tom Spengler and they will get you on the schedule.

*Opportunity #2:* Our next few meetings are focused on our excellent relationships with local schools. The **Helping Hands Awards**, May 1, celebrates 6<sup>th</sup> graders from eleven elementary schools. May 15 we invite our **JOOI Clubs** to dinner to share their success over the past academic year. Our **Partners in Education** will be with us on June 5; this year we honor Special Education teachers.

Sign up for the Farmers Market, attend these meetings, and take every opportunity to be an envoy of our Optimist Creed: “To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own; [and] to wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.”

Optimistically yours, **Laurie**



**Optimist Anniversaries**

- Paul Henon – 42 years
- John Cerisano – 30years
- Les Carl– 29 years
- Dick Lippert – 26 years
- Al Dunkerley – 25 years
- Mike Fitzella – 7 years



- Mike Nadolski – May 5
- Mark Keam – May 10
- Twyla Frank – May 10
- Dick Carr – May 25
- Rick Nelson – May 27
- Bob Thompson – May 28
- Bob Steinfeldt – May 31



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

## New Members Inducted



New member Cesar Moran is being inducted by President Laurie Cole during the April 3 meeting. Also pictured is sponsor Anna Ryjik.



New member Mercury Payton is being congratulated by President Laurie Cole after his induction during the April 3 meeting.

## Volunteer Spotlight

“Catering” must fall within the “other duties as assigned” part of the Optimist job description, so we thank **Dick Gongaware** and **Pat Hackerson** for taking on that task for our annual Youth of Excellence Awards dinner at Madison High School. A delicious spread of chicken, potatoes, salad and dessert (baklava—yum!) made for a convivial meal in the teachers’ lounge at Madison (access to which we also owe to Dick). **Mark Keam** was keynote speaker, sharing his personal story of achievement and his support for Optimism.

**Dan Mulville** did a special opening of the Caboose to coincide with the Town of Vienna’s Arbor Day tree planting at Centennial Park (the formal name for the Caboose’s site). The children in attendance were much more interested in playing on the Caboose than the horticultural event! Dan’s efforts were rewarded, he says, by giving some special needs kids time of their own in the big red Caboose.

Thank you to these Optimists for helping our Club and serving our community!

### *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*

### Promise the Club—

- ⇒ To volunteer for an activity you haven’t worked on before;
- ⇒ To bring at least one prospective member to a meeting this year;
- ⇒ To converse with a fellow member you don’t know well and get to know him or her better.



## High School Juniors Receive Awards of Excellence



The annual Youth Awards of Excellence program was held at Madison High School on April 17, 2013. Sixty Juniors from Madison, Oakton, and Marshall High Schools were recognized for excellence in academics, citizenship, fine arts, science, sports, and technology. At left, one student from each category received an Award of Distinction. The awards were presented by Club President Laurie Cole and guest speaker and Club member Delegate Mark Keam pictured below.



## Vienna Optimists Help With Special Olympics Track Meet

As is our tradition, members of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna did an outstanding job in timing the long distance track events at the Special Olympics track meet at Episcopal High School on Saturday, April 27. Although there were some organizational issues, once the athletes were identified our members conducted the races efficiently and accurately. Mike Battaglia beat the bushes to round up volunteers to include Bob McCormick and Sherri Moore who flew in from Denver to act as starter and starter assistant/timer, respectively. Mike, Jeff Johnson, Barry Wheeler, Tom Spengler, Michelle Wright, along with daughter Brianna and husband Jim, George Mills, Cesar Moran, Walt Petersen, Jim Houston and prospective member Dave Buckley did a great job in timing. If you were not able to help with this very worthwhile effort this year, mark your calendar as we will be doing it again on April 26, 2014.





## *Board Actions at a Glance*

**April Board Meeting Highlights.** The Board of Directors met on April 10, 2012 with 7 members present. Highlights of the meeting are as follows:

- ◆ Discussed plans for the Helping Hands program to be held at Westwood Country Club on May 1.
- ◆ Discussed the organization and need for volunteers for the Farmers Market in its new location..
- ◆ Reviewed a thank you note from Paul VI High School for our contribution for their All-Night Graduation Celebration.
- ◆ Approved a donation to support the attendance of a young lady at Girls State.
- ◆ Approved a donation to the James Madison High School Robotics Team.
- ◆ Approved a donation to support the Capital Virginia junior golf tournament.
- ◆ Approved buying a new banner for the Farmers Market that flies over Maple Avenue (funds to be provided by the Town of Vienna).

## *Optimist International 95th Annual Convention July 4-6, 2013 Cincinnati, OH*



## *2012-2013 International, District, and Club Leaders*



### *International*

**International President-** Jean Claude (JC) St-Onge

**Vice President Mid-Atlantic Region-** Richard Highland

### *District*

**Governor Capital Virginia District-** Art Jones

**Governor-Elect Capital Virginia District-** Barbara Grizzard

**Lt. Governor Zone 6-** Tom Fraim

### *Club*

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

## *Third Quarter District Meeting & Oratorical Contest May 3-5, 2013 Colonial Heights, VA*