

OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna

February 2014

Calendar

February 5

Regular Meeting at Marco Polo

Speaker: Richard Lucier

6:45 p.m.—Social Time

7:30 p.m.—Dinner

February 12

Board Meeting

7:30 p.m.

February 14

Valentine's Day!

February 17

Presidents' Day Holiday

February 19

Regular Meeting at Marco Polo

ESSAY CONTEST

6:45 p.m.—Social Time

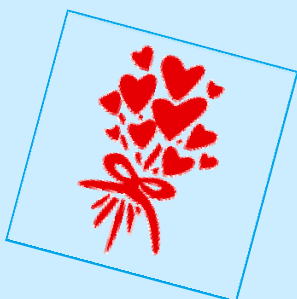
7:30 p.m.—Dinner

February 21 to 23

Cap-VA District Meeting

Fairfax Marriott—Fair Oaks

See more information inside!



Spotlight on Upcoming Events

In the immortal words of Frank Loesser, “Baby, it’s cold outside!”

While the extreme cold and inclement weather prevented the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna from meeting on January 22, we are fortunate that our speaker was able to reschedule for our **February 5** meeting.

Richard Lucier of Diversified Benefits will speak on the Affordable Care Act from the insurance broker’s perspective.

On **February 19** our meeting will feature the top three students in our annual **Essay Contest**. This year’s theme, set by Optimist International, is “How Dreams Lead to Success”. Barbara McHale is once again leading this effort. Students from Madison, Marshall, and Oakton will submit essays to be judged by Barbara's team. The Club awards prizes of \$400, \$250, and \$150 to the first, second and third place winners, respectively. The top contestant from the Club progresses to the District level, to compete for a \$2,500 college scholarship.

And speaking of the District...The **Capitol-Virginia (“Cap-VA”)**



District 2nd Quarter Meeting

will be in Fairfax. It is not often that the District

meeting is so close to us—travel times and cost generally favor other locations. So here is your chance! Plan to attend the meeting on **Saturday, February 22**, at the Fairfax Marriott—Fair Oaks. A registration form is included on page three of this Newsletter. Contact Tom Fraim or Tom Spengler for more information about the agenda and our Club’s attendance.



Serving the Youth of Greater Vienna
for over 55 Years

Visit us at www.OptimistClubofGreaterVienna.org
We're on Facebook! [Facebook.com/ViennaOptimistClub](https://www.facebook.com/ViennaOptimistClub)



From the President—

Dear Fellow Optimists,

We are excited to start the year by welcoming two new Optimists to our Greater Vienna Club: Kathy Cutri (sponsored by Laurie Cole) and George Stone (sponsored by Grant Marsh). Please be sure to introduce yourself to Kathy and George and make them feel at home at Club meetings.

Sadly, we said good-bye in January to long-time member Paul Henon (*see below*). A sympathy note was sent on behalf of the Club to Betty and many Optimists attended the viewing and memorial service.

I was very disappointed that we needed cancel the January 22nd meeting due to weather, but we have rescheduled Richard Lucier of Diversified Benefits on February 5th. Richard is an authorized insurance broker for the Affordable Care Act products, so he should be able to give an “in the trenches” perspective on the ACA rollout.

Then on February 19th, we honor this year’s winners of the Optimists Essay Contest. Many thanks to Barbara McHale for her continued dedication to this program, and to her panel of judges who have the difficult job of selecting the winners.

The Capital-Virginia District of Optimist International, which includes the entire Commonwealth of Virginia, is having its second quarter District Meeting in Fairfax on February 21-23 at the Fairfax Marriott at Fair Oaks. Rarely do we have a District Meeting so close to Vienna, so if anyone is interested in attending they are more than welcomed. We should have a nice group of us attending. If you need more information and would like to attend, please let me know.

Warm Regards,

President Tom Spengler



February Birthday Wishes to:

Jim Radja – February 9

Jerry Covell – February 21

Optimist Anniversaries In February:

Jim Pammel - 33 years

Steve Schuneman – 31 years

Richard Plocica – 21 years

Sam Sindoni – 21 years

Pat Hackerson – 12 years

Bob Thompson – 2 years

Mercury Payton – 1 year



PAUL JOSEPH
HENON, JR.

Paul passed away on January 11, 2014 at the age of 80, after a sudden illness. He is survived by his beloved wife of 50 years, Betty; son, James P. Henon, daughters, Pamela Gibbs and Elizabeth Hufner, their spouses and children; and two sisters. Paul was born in Atlantic City on March 13, 1933. He served two years in the Army, graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology (B.E.E. 1960) and received his JD from American University in 1967. He worked at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and was an Adjunct Professor in Patent Law at George Washington University. In 1976 President

Ford appointed Paul to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, on which he served until 1989. He then joined the law firm of Nixon & Vanderhye PC and retired as a partner in 1997. Paul was a Life Member of OI.

Nominating Committee to Form

As required by our Club’s bylaws, a Nominating Committee will be formed soon to assemble a slate of officers and directors for the next program year. Immediate Past President Laurie Cole will chair the committee. Please start thinking *NOW* about how you might serve the Club—as an officer, director, program coordinator, or nominating committee member. As Mom always said, many hands make light work! (And button up your coat when it’s cold!)

CAPITAL-VIRGINIA DISTRICT

Second Quarter District Conference

February 21-23, 2014

Fairfax Marriott at Fair Oaks
11787 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway
Fairfax, VA 22033
Telephone: 703-352-2525
Reservation Code: Capital-Virginia Optimist
Room Rate: \$89.00
Hotel Reservations not later than January 31, 2014

Events	Each Cost	Qty	Total
Member Registration	\$25.00		
Non-member Registration	\$ 0.00		
Late or On Site Registration	\$35.00		
Lunch	\$20.00		
Dinner	\$30.00		
		Total	_____

District Registration not later than , 2014
 Please specify any food/meal preference

Make checks payable to CAP-VA District (No Refunds after 1-31, 2014)

Mail registration and check to
Tracey Bunch
4004 Vintner Lane Goochland, VA 23063
Any Questions? Call
Tracey @ 804-839-0178 or Chester @804-536-3989

Tentative Agenda

Friday

Registration 6:00 to 9:00 PM
 Executive Committee Meeting 8:00 to 9:00 PM
 Hospitality Room at 6:00 to 11:00 PM

Saturday

Board of Directors/General Session 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
 Lunch from 12:30 to 1:30 PM
 Breakout Session 2:00 to 4:00 PM
 6:00 PM (Social Time) 7:00 PM (Banquet / Entertainment)

Member Name _____ Club Name _____

Member/Guest Name _____ Club Name _____

January 2014 Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

The Board of Directors met on January 15, 2014, with eight members present. Highlights of the meeting are as follows:

- VP of Youth Mike Fitzella gave an update on the Essay Contest.
- Discussed the possible effects the reconstruction of Center Street (from Maple Avenue to Locust Street) will have on the Farmers Market. Devised a plan for considering ameliorative alternatives.
- Approved the membership applications of Kathy Cutri (sponsored by Laurie Cole) and George Stone (sponsored by Grant Marsh) and dropping Teresa Lindsey and Paul Henon from the rolls. Reviewed a list of prospective members.
- Discussed potential dinner meeting programs.

By email vote later in January, the Board approved donations to the Vienna Girls Softball to sponsor a team and Cunningham Park Elementary School for the purchase of T-shirts for graduates of the DARE (Drug Awareness and Resistance Education) program.

Do you want to help Alternative House?

At our January meeting, Jade Leedham, Development Manager for Alternative House, gave an informative and moving presentation on the work AH does to help teens in our community. Many of us were unaware of the need that exists, and the scope of AH's work.

Alternative House's website provides a helpful guide for individuals and groups wishing to donate to AH. The "Wishlist" (<http://www.thealternativehouse.org/wishlist.htm>) identifies items that are always needed, as well as special seasonal needs.

Jade noted that volunteers are also welcome, both individuals and groups working on special projects. If you are interested in an Optimist work group at Alternative House, contact Laurie Cole.



OPTIMIST CLUB OF GREATER VIENNA Board of Directors 2013 – 14

President	Tom Spengler
Secretary	Jim Houston
Treasurer	Tom Fraim
Immediate Past President	Laurie Cole
President Elect	Dick Gongaware
Vice President of Community	Michele Wright
Vice President of Finance	Jim Wilson
Vice President of Media Relations	Tom Bauer
Vice President of Membership	Joe Miller
Vice President of Youth	Mike Fitzella
Director of Community	Anna Ryjik
Director of Media Relations	Susan Bauer
Director of Membership	AK Mohamed Yaseen
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 class, 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