

# OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna

October 2016

## Calendar

### October 5 — Regular Meeting

Induction of 2016-17 Board  
Fairfax American Legion Post 177  
Social Time: 6:45 p.m.; Dinner: 7:30

### October 8 — Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to noon

### October 12 — Board Meeting

### October 15 — Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to noon

### October 15 — “Halloween on the Green”

11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

### October 15 — Caboose Open

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

### October 19 — Regular Meeting

### October 22 — Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to noon

### October 26 — Fourth Wednesday

Dinner at Culmore Teen Center—Team C

### October 29 — Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to noon

### NOVEMBER PREVIEW:

### November 2 — Regular Meeting

Fairfax American Legion Post 177  
Social Time: 6:45 p.m.; Dinner: 7:30

### November 12 — Caboose Open

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## Spotlight on Upcoming Events

We meet **October 5** to start the new Optimist year by **inducting our 2016-17 Officers and Board**. We will also take time to thank those who served for the past year. Soon-to-be Past President **Joe Miller** will have some parting words, and incoming President **Michele Wright** will sketch out her plans for the coming year. Be there to help ring out the old and ring in the new!



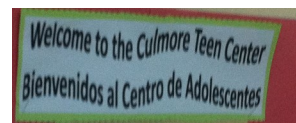
The Farmers Market is abounding with Fall produce—we just need some Fall weather to enjoy it! The Market is open through the last Saturday of October, so there is still time for you to come, help, shop, or just enjoy the community vibe! Let’s have a strong finish to the season!

**Volunteer opportunities** are never lacking for our Club. On **October 15**, you can join Anna Ryjik and other Optimists at the Town of Vienna’s “**Halloween on the Green**”. Come and lend a hand with pumpkin carving from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It’s a great time for the kids attending this annual event (and pretty fun for the grown-ups, too!). Contact [Anna](#) to volunteer.



Also on **October 15 the Caboose needs conductors**. Both shifts are open—1:00 to 3:00, and 3:00 to 5:00. Contact [Dan Mulville](#) or sign up at the [Club’s website](#).

Our ongoing “**Fourth Wednesday**” program, providing dinner and birthday celebrations to kids at the **Culmore Teen Center operated by Alternative House**, welcomes your help! Our four teams rotate the monthly duty, so each team is responsible for three dinners a year. **We need members on all four teams** to help with delivering the meal, providing/preparing food, compiling the gift bags. There is a role for everyone! Contact [Laurie Cole](#) for more information.



*Editor’s Note: The November Newsletter will be published after the first November meeting. Please watch your email for updated information.*



Serving the Youth of Greater Vienna  
for over 60 Years!

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



*From the President—*

Dear Fellow Optimists,

Fall is in the Air! The great pumpkin is visiting us at the Farmers Market for the month of October and the Farmers Market Committee is looking to the 2017 season.

The Childhood Cancer Campaign was successful in raising over \$30,000 for Growing Hope and childhood cancer research. Thank you to Anna Ryjik and Susan Bauer for making this happen. Christmas trees have been ordered by Jim Houston and Dick Lippert and our lot will be open the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Mike Fitzella, Laurie Cole, Rob Di-Rocco and Pat Hackerson have arranged for a calendar of wonderful events for the children in our community along with our continued work with the Culmore Teen Center.

We touch many lives by the weekly efforts of our members. All of this is something we can and should take great pride in doing. I know I do as I see and enjoy the faces of the children in the community as they guess how many jelly beans are in the jar, walk through the Caboose, visit the Farmers Market and come to the tree lot to buy their tree.

This is a new year for the Club. Small changes will come with the new Board as some of our dedicated members have chosen to give others the opportunity to shine. Everyone plays a role in the Club's success. It takes a lot of work to make this all happen each week. **We need you** – each and every one of you to volunteer as your schedule permits.

I look forward to the coming year as President and hope that each of you will help shape the future of the Club, have fun and show the Optimist spirit wherever you go.

Optimistically yours,

*President Michele Wright*

**Answer the Call to Volunteer!**

- ☞ *Be a Friend of Youth*
- ☞ *Represent our Club*
- ☞ *Help your Fellow Optimists*
- ☞ *Serve the Community*



**October Birthday Wishes to:**

- John Andrews – October 18
- Richard Plocica – October 25
- Tom Bauer – October 31

**Optimist Anniversaries  
in October**

- Jim Radja – 30 years
- Jim Houston - 23 years
- George Mills – 17 years
- Sherry Levitt – 2 years
- Steve Rabil – 2 years
- Jeff Bechtle – 1 year
- Steve Bukont – 1 year
- Nicole Pham – 1 year
- Khy Sweeney – 1 year
- Tara Voigt – 1 year





***\$33,000 raised for children and their families!***

Highlights, photos and “thank yous” from the 11th Annual campaign for Growing Hope

***Under Construction***

*Editor’s Note:* “Uncle!” So many pictures, so many people and businesses to thank...In the interests of getting the October Newsletter out the door, all the Growing Hope news will be sent separately.

Look for a special “Growing Hope wrap-up” in your email.

## September Board Meeting Highlights

The Board of Directors met on September 14 with 12 members present. Highlights of the meeting are as follows:

- Discussed plans for the Growing Hope Family Fun Day.
- For consistency and to prevent confusion, approved that the cost of meals at the Fairfax American Legion for guests, Reserve members and Friends of Optimists will be \$20. Cost for meals at other locations will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- Approved the membership application of Marlene Horner (sponsored by Barbara McHale).
- Approved including a donation in next year's budget to continue to support Veronica Day's Olympic training.
- Heard VP for Finance Dick Lippert report that permission to operate the tree lot at the Maple Avenue Shopping Center had been received from the shopping center owner and the Town of Vienna. The Madison High School baseball team and the Oakton High School football team have committed to again help with tree unloading and sales.
- Approved a donation for the Community Center Kids' Halloween Party to be held on the Town Green on October 15.

## In the Zone from Lt. Governor Joe Miller

Since I am the new Lieutenant Governor for Zone 6 of the Capitol Virginia District, I thought I would share some information about our Zone, District and Optimist International (OI). Before I became president of our club, I knew very little about our Zone and District composition and I thought this summary would help members understand our club and its connection to OI.

OI is a worldwide volunteer organization made up of more than 2,900 clubs and almost 87,000 members in more than 35 nations. The international headquarters is located in St. Louis, Missouri. There are 78 Districts in OI and each district has 6-14 zones.

We are in District 16, the "Capital-Virginia District", which covers DC, Virginia, and part of West Virginia. Our District has eight zones. The Optimist Club of Greater Vienna is in Zone 6 of the Capital-Virginia District, along with clubs in Great Falls, Herndon, Leesburg, Manassas, and Winchester. There are six Junior Optimist/Octagon (JOOI) Clubs in our Zone—four which our club sponsors.

Gail Headley is District Governor, and I am Lt. Governor for Zone 6. For more information, please go to <http://www.optimist.org/MembersMenu.cfm>.

I hope this summary helps with your understanding of the Greater Vienna Optimist Club's relationship with OI.

### OPTIMIST CLUB OF GREATER VIENNA Board of Directors 2016-17

President	Michele Wright
Secretary	Jim Houston
Treasurer	<i>vacant</i>
Immediate Past President	Joe Miller
President Elect	<i>vacant</i>
Vice President of Community	Anna Ryjik
Vice President of Finance	Dick Lippert
Vice President of Media Relations	Gary Moonan
Vice President of Membership	Kathy Cutri
Vice President of Youth	Mike Fitzella
Director of Community	Susan Bauer
Director of Social Media	Nicole Pham
Director of Membership	<i>vacant</i>
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.**

*Christian D. Larsen*