

# OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna

July 2017

## Calendar

### July 1 — Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to Noon  
301 Center Street South  
(Faith Baptist Church parking lot)

### July 4 — Independence Day



### July 5 — NO Meeting

### July 8 — Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to Noon

### July 12 — Board Meeting

7:30 p.m. Emmanuel Lutheran Church

### July 15 — Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to Noon

### July 15 — Caboose Open

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Shifts available; check the [website!](#)

### July 19 — Dinner Meeting

"GerryRIGGED" Movie and Discussion  
6:45 p.m. Social Time; 7:15 p.m. Dinner

### July 22 — Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to Noon

### July 26 — Fourth Wednesday Dinner

Culmore Teen Center — Team B

### July 29 — Farmers Market

## News and Notes

In keeping with our long-standing practice, **we will not meet on the first Wednesday in July.** Enjoy a happy and safe Independence Day!

That doesn't mean you will be totally deprived of opportunities for getting together with fellow Optimists. The **Farmers Market** does not skip a beat during the prime of the season! We need everyone to answer the call to volunteer at the Farmers Market. [Signing up online](#) is easy and you pick your dates and times. **A huge "thank you" to the folks who have signed up to be at the Market on the Fourth of July long-weekend.**



## GERRY RIGGED

TURNING DEMOCRACY ON ITS HEAD

Gerrymandering is a practice almost as old as America itself; does that mean it is inevitable?

Plans for the **12th Annual Growing Hope Childhood Cancer** fundraiser are underway. This year's event, Family Fun Day, will be held on **Saturday, September 23** on the Vienna Town Green from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. In addition to the usual festivities—games for children, the dunk tank and a moonbounce—a pink police car in honor of those with cancer will be available for family members and friends to write greetings and wishes on the actual car.



The **fundraising effort** requesting donations from local businesses, residents and the membership of the Optimists **starts NOW!** Local schools and JOI clubs have already begun participating. As in past years, most of the donations are given to Growing Hope Foundation, a local organization that provides social, educational, and financial resources for children in our area affected by cancer. A portion is donated to the Johns Hopkins Medical Center for pediatric cancer research. Please remember to donate at our next meeting or any time before Family Fun /Day—and we will see you there!



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,

We need YOU! Everyone should enjoy the lovely Farmers Market and the Caboose experience. These events will not occur without you!

Sign up and bring a friend to show what we do as Optimists and how we impact the community in a positive way.

We are looking for Business sponsors for the market – your logo will be placed on a bag that will be sold at the market. On average, we have over 1,200 people attend the market each week. This is the first phase of going green! Contact **Dan Irvine** [d Irvine@3summit.com](mailto:d Irvine@3summit.com) or 571-564-2161 to reserve your space.

Please go on and like our Facebook page and that of our vendors. We are working to have more involvement with the Town with regard to our PR efforts. If you are good at writing or good with social media – WE NEED YOU!

See you all at the Market – our second largest fundraiser for the Club – your Club.

Optimistically yours,

*Michele H. Wright*



### July Birthday Wishes to:

- Letitia Romero – July 8
- Sheryl Friedley – July 16
- Jeff Johnson – July 25
- Gary Moonan – July 28
- Nicole Pham – July 31

## You can call it “work”, but...

“Working” at June’s “Chillin’ on Church Street” event was all a matter of perspective. For cashiers Kathy Cutri and Laurie Cole, “work” meant sitting under a canopy (and therefore blissfully unaware of the intermittent drizzles of rain), greeting lots of familiar faces while doing a little mental math (*if a beer costs two tickets, and tickets are \$2 each, how much wood does a woodchuck chuck?*).

For Dick Gongaware, “work” meant reliving past days in the beverage trade and smoothly pulling the perfect draft for thirsty customers. And for Rich Ordman, whose official title was “rover”, reliable witnesses report that part of his job involved having an ice cream cone from one of the food trucks.



**The Optimists’ Brew Crew!** Sporting bright yellow “Volunteer” vests, (l-r) Tom Bauer, Michele Wright, Bruce Lauther, Lauren Wagner, Jim Hegel, and Dick Gongaware delivered fresh drafts from truck to table.

In return for our volunteer support at “Chillin’”, the Town of Vienna shared part of the proceeds with the Optimist Club. Jim Houston, our crew chief, says the response was good: “Some of the folks had such a good time, they have



### Optimist Anniversaries in July

- Laurie Cole – 12 years
- John Andrews – 3 years
- Angelique Ayala – 3 years
- Rob DiRocco – 3 years



already volunteered for the next event on Sept. 15.” But you can join in—save the date!

Many thanks to the Chillin’ on Church “work” gang: Dan Mulville, Lauren Wagner, Kathy Cutri, Susan Bauer, Tom Bauer, Laurie Cole, Michele Wright, Jim Hegel, Bruce Lauther, Dick Gongaware, Rich Ordeman, Tara Voight, Marc Erazo, Grant Marsh, June Fraim, Tom Fraim, and Pat Solan.

## Farmers Market Launches New Sponsorship Opportunity

The **Optimist Club of Greater Vienna** is excited to offer local businesses the opportunity to support one of our largest and most important fundraisers while also bringing visibility to their business within the local community. Sponsorship is for the entire Farmers Market season, which sees more than **1,200 visitors** to the market every weekend.

This is a unique opportunity to get regular exposure for your company while directly supporting local children. Contact [Dan Irvine](#) for more information.

GOLD Sponsor \$1,000 Donation (4 Available)	SILVER Sponsor \$500 Donation (6 Available)	BRONZE Sponsor \$200 Donation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Large two color logo, web address and phone number printed on the front of reusable grocery bags</li> <li>✓ Large two color logo, web address and phone number printed on banner at Optimist booth</li> <li>✓ Acknowledgement on Optimist website and social media</li> <li>✓ Recognition in promotional releases</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Company name, web address or phone number printed on the back of reusable grocery bags</li> <li>✓ Company name, web address or phone number printed on banner at Optimist booth</li> <li>✓ Acknowledgement on Optimist website and social media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Company name, web address or phone number printed on banner at Optimist booth</li> <li>✓ Acknowledgement on Optimist website and social media</li> </ul>

## Membership [Recruiting] Has It's Rewards

Our intrepid membership team doesn't take the summer off, and neither should we when it comes to keeping our Club vital. **Kathy Cutri and Lauren Wagner** are



throwing down a challenge: **"Recruit a Member!** Your Membership Team challenges each and every one of you to sponsor a new member. The member who brings in the most new members by January 1, 2018 will receive a bottle of Virginia wine. Your choice - red or white!"



## New JOI Club Coordinator

**Ed Wonder** has volunteered to take over the coordination of our Junior Optimist International clubs at Madison, Marshal, Oakton, and Louise Archer.

**Thanks to Ed** for stepping up, and to **Rich Ordeman** for his years of service in this position. We have very strong clubs in all of the schools, and our youth are doing fantastic work in the Greater Vienna community.

## Three Years on and Still Going Strong!

Our "Fourth Wednesday" program of providing dinner and a birthday party for the Culmore Teen Center marked completion of three full years of uninterrupted service in June! Thanks to all our team members for planning and preparing nutritious meals, delivering them to Culmore Center, interacting with the teens, and making sure that each young person feels special on her



or his birthday. A truly rewarding way to bring out the best in these kids!



On June 21, 2017, we recognized two local police officers for their service to the community.

**Lt. Russell Marsh** of the **Town of Vienna Police** and **MPO Wayne Twombly** of the **Fairfax County Police**, Fair Oaks District station, were honored with a presentation of plaques at the annual **Respect for Law** dinner ceremony.



Also in attendance were Chief Jim Morris of the Town of Vienna and Captain Cochrane and Lt. Krause of Fairfax County Police, as well as officers' family members. In addition, two high school students who are interested in law enforcement careers attended as well.

This year both departments honored officers with many years of service. Chief Morris spoke of the long career that Lt. Marsh has had with Vienna Police and his multi-faceted job duties on a small police force. Captain Cochran outlined the community involvement of MPO Twombly and his work in the school system and in particular with teens.

Anna Ryjik, V.P. for Community, presented the awards as part of the program by Optimist International that began in 1965.



Top: Chief Morris, Lt. Marsh and Anna Ryjik.

Above: Capt. Cochran, MPO Twombly and Anna Ryjik

## June Board Meeting Highlights

The Board of Directors met on June 14 with 9 members present. Highlights of the meeting are as follows:

- VP Youth Mike Fitzella thanked all members who assisted in the youth programs during the year stating he got “a lot of good help from a lot of good people”.
- Unanimously approved renaming our Helping Hands program the Sheryl Friedley Helping Hands Awards to honor our Past President and founder of the program.
- Discussed plans for the Family Fun Day for Growing Hope to be held September 23 to include methods for increasing attendance.
- Discussed staffing for the beer/wine sales fundraiser at Chillin on Church on June 15.
- As has been tradition, agreed not to hold a dinner meeting on the first Wednesday in July.
- Approved a donation to Community for Helping Others (CHO).
- Reviewed thank you notes for our donation for the Vienna Elementary School 5K.




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

President	Michele Wright
Secretary	Jim Houston
Treasurer	Tom Bauer
Immediate Past President	Joe Miller
President Elect	Susan Bauer
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	Lauren Wagner
Director of Youth	Jeff Bechtle
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*