

OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna

November 2017

Calendar

November 1 — Dinner Meeting

6:45 Social Time; 7:30 Dinner
Fairfax American Legion

November 7 — Election Day

Polls are Open 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.



November 8 — Board Meeting

7:30 p.m. Emmanuel Lutheran Church

November 15 — Carol Waite Brennan Awards Dinner

6:45 Social Time; 7:30 Dinner
Fairfax American Legion

November 18 — Caboose Open!

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

November 18 — Tree Lot Set-up

8:30 a.m. [Contact Dick Lippert](#) to sign-up.

November 21 — First Tree Delivery

6:00 p.m. at Tree Lot

November 22— 4th Wednesday Dinner

Culmore Teen Center — Team B

November 23 — Thanksgiving Day



November 24 — Second Tree Delivery and Final Lot Set-up

10:30 a.m.

November 25 — Tree Sales Begin!

9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

News and Notes

If you can remember all the way back to the end of September, our Family Fun Day raised a lot of money for Growing Hope. At our meeting on **Wednesday, November 1**, we will **present the check to Growing Hope** so they can start putting that money to work! Our program for the meeting will be a presentation by the **Mountain View High School Foundation**. This school helps FCPS students who are unable to attend their baseline high schools and are in danger of dropping out.

On **November 15**, we honor six outstanding high school students with the **Carol Waite Brennan Awards** and scholarships. Join us at the Fairfax American Legion as we honor seniors from Madison, Marshall, and Oakton high schools, and remember the contributions that Carol made to our Club. Come early so you can meet our students and their family members.

November means **TREES!** Our annual **Christmas Tree sales begin on Saturday, November 25**. ALL OPTIMISTS are assigned to a sales team and your Team Captain will be in touch with your schedule. But there is plenty to do before then:



The **first work day is Saturday, November 18**, starting at 8:30 a.m. to move the trailer and other materials from the Town storage lot to the Giant Shopping Center on Maple Ave. Volunteers are also needed to set up the stands and sign.



The **first delivery of trees** rolls in on **Tuesday, November 21**. Be on the lot at **6:00 p.m.** to welcome them and help supervise our young helpers from the Madison High School baseball team who will unload and stack the trees.

Eat a hearty **Thanksgiving dinner**, because you will need your energy!



Friday, November 24, at 10:30 a.m., we get our second delivery of trees (again with assistance from the Madison baseball team). We also do the final lot set-up so that we are ready for...



Opening Day on Saturday, November 25, at 9:00 a.m.!

Contact [Dick Lippert](#) to volunteer for set-up and deliveries.



Serving the Youth of Greater Vienna
for over 60 Years!

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



From the President ...

Greetings Fellow Optimists,

Last Tuesday morning I was at a breakfast for **Second Story** (the new name for Alternative House), one of the many organizations that our Optimist Club of Greater Vienna supports with both our resources and our time and talent through our **Fourth Wednesday** birthday dinners at the **Culmore Teen Center**. I was able to see firsthand how our support directly benefits at-risk young people. One of the girls from Culmore was featured in a film about her dream of being a police officer but in her country the police are as bad as criminals. She gave up on her dream until she came here to America and realized her dream was still possible. She attended our **Respect for Law** program last spring. *You*, as an Optimist, make these dreams possible for so many young people in our community. I was so proud to be our president and represent us at that breakfast.

We are going to need all hands on deck—or, in this case, on the lot—during this season of Christmas tree sales. The Farmer’s Market and our tree sales are our major fundraisers, without which we could not continue to fund our excellent youth programs and the many requests we get during the year from schools, teams and charities.

I am proud to be an Optimist member and I’m excited to be your president. I would like to challenge each one of you to “clone” yourself this year by inviting a friend, neighbor or colleague to one of our meetings so they can see some of the wonderful programs we have for youth and our community. YOU found fulfillment and friends in our club, why keep it a secret? Let your friends know about us. They’ll be glad you did. Be just as enthusiastic about your club as you are about your favorite sports team!

Madame President

Susan

From our Membership Team, Kathy Cutri and Lauren Wagner

“We had a packed NOW social gathering at Pazzo Pomodoro in Vienna in October. Huge thanks to Madame Prez, **Susan Bauer** for her huge assistance in organizing this! We had a few guests at this meeting and one membership has already been approved by Optimists International. **Welcome, Jerry!**

“Without new and continuing members who will be active with our fundraising and volunteer efforts, we will not be able to continue to provide the many scholarships, rewards, and other forms of support for the youth in the Greater Vienna area. Please consider bringing a friend, co-worker or acquaintance to a meeting so they can see how much fun we are!”

Questions, suggestions, and comments are always welcome. Email Kathy, membership@optimistclubofgreatervienna.org.



November Birthday Wishes to:

Mike Fitzella	November 1
Ed Wonder	November 4
Courtney Sargent	November 6
Steve Schuneman	November 6
Al Dunkerley	November 12
Jim Houston	November 19
Mike Byard	November 21
Michele Wright	November 24

Optimist Anniversaries in November

T.R. Cook	43 years
Tom Spengler	7 years
Mark Keam	7 years



Did we miss your Birthday or Optimist Anniversary? Please let us know at

[newsletter@](mailto:newsletter@optimistclubofgreatervienna.org)

optimistclubofgreatervienna.org



I love a parade!

Vienna’s annual Halloween Parade is a “can’t miss” community event, so we had to be there! Optimists Bruce Lauther, John Anderson, Kathy Cutri, Tom Bauer, Tom Spengler and Michele Wright marched alongside the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna parade entry. Our “float”, created by members Al Dunkerly, Bruce Lauther, Tom Spengler, Tom Bauer, and Yvonne Ha, touted our upcoming Christmas Tree sales.

Thank you to everyone who participated!

Meanwhile, elsewhere around Town...

Optimists Assisted at Marshall High School’s Ethics Day on October 11.

Bruce Lauther, Rich Ordeman, Dick Gongaware and Susan Bauer led discussion groups of high school seniors as they tackled a series of challenging ethical issues. This is an annual event that never fails to reward the adult participants with insights to our young adults’ world views!

Optimists Participated in “Halloween on the Green” on Saturday, October 14th.

Area children enjoyed family fun at Halloween on the Green, sponsored by Vienna Parks and Recreation. Activities included spooky crafts, games and prizes, storytelling, moon bounces, petting zoo, treats to eat, and a visit from the Vienna Singing Princesses.

Optimist Barbara McHale volunteered in the pumpkin patch where children carved and painted pumpkins. She was joined by her daughter Kathryn who also assisted children with their pumpkin decorating.

October Board Meeting Highlights

will appear in the next Optimistically Speaking.

OPTIMIST CLUB OF GREATER VIENNA Board of Directors 2017-18

President	Susan Bauer
Secretary	Jim Houston
Treasurer	Tom Bauer
Immediate Past President	Michele Wright
President Elect	<i>open</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	Bruce Lauther
Director of Social Media	Steven Rabil
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