

OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna

September 2017

Calendar

September 2 — Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to Noon

301 Center Street South

(Faith Baptist Church parking lot)

September 4 — Labor Day

September 6 — Dinner Meeting

Focus on Growing Hope

6:45 Social Time; 7:30 Dinner

Fairfax American Legion

September 9 — Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to Noon

September 13 — Board Meeting

7:30 p.m. Emmanuel Lutheran Church

September 15 — Chillin' on Church St.

Volunteers needed! See page 3.

September 16 — Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to Noon

September 16 — Caboose Open!

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

Shifts available! Sign up [at our website](#).

September 20 — Dinner Meeting

Program TBA

6:45 Social Time; 7:30 Dinner

Fairfax American Legion

September 23 — Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to Noon

News and Notes



The **Growing Hope Childhood Cancer Campaign** will be featured at our **next meeting** on Wednesday, **September 6th**. Co-chairs Anna Ryjik and Susan Bauer will update members on plans for the **12th Annual Family Fun Day to 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. 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.



At the September 6th meeting, we are asking members to:

- Make a personal donation to the fundraiser
- Sign up to volunteer for Family Fun Day

**September 24 — Family Fun Day
For Growing Hope!**

Vienna Town Green 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

September 27 — Fourth Wednesday Dinner Culmore Teen Center — Team A

September 30 — Farmers Market

8:00 a.m. to noon



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)



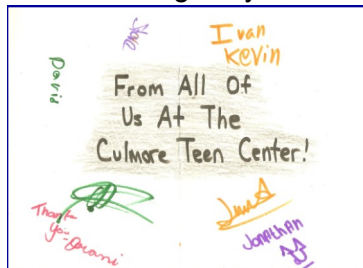
From the President ...

...is on hiatus for the month, as Michele & family enjoy a vacation.

Food, Fun and Friends at the Culmore Teen Center

We received this report from Optimist Bruce Lauther:

“Team C received a warm welcome when appearing to provide the latest Dinner and Celebrations at the Culmore Teen Center, Second Story, in Bailey’s Crossroads on Wednesday Afternoon, August 23rd. Tom Spengler, Past President ‘n’ Life Member, led our positive, smiling charge. A great dinner treat of hoagie style, mini-meat balls ‘n’ spaghetti sauce with cheese, sandwiches; water melon from our Farmers Marketplace ‘n’ a cheerful sheet cake were absorbed with relish by the young attendees. Yes, more than one Teen asked permission to take some watermelon home with him- or her- self.



Backpacks for school-bound Teens were issued. Also, the “gift cards”, provided by our Optimist Club of Greater Vienna, to enable Culmore Teens to stock up on school supplies, was a huge draw ‘n’ proved a smashing hit. We stopped counting the numbers of youngsters ‘n’ some escorted by a parent when the count passed six dozen.

Our new club field name tags stimulated many a ‘gracias...Mister Tom...or Señor Tom’, with a beaming smile of gratitude, from the Teens ‘n’ accompanying parents alike. One young Teen Lady said sincerely: ‘I want to reach out ‘n’ help people when I’m old enough.’

For those optimists in attendance, this was a heart -warming, memorable experience.”

Editor’s note: If you want to be part of a “Fourth Wednesday” team that prepares and delivers dinner once a month to the Culmore Teen Center, contact Laurie Cole. We have plenty of room for more Optimist who want to bring out the best in our local teens!



Do you shop on Amazon? Every purchase you make can benefit the Club’s Foundation. Go to “[smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)”. If you have not previously selected a charity, you will be prompted to select an

organization. Search for “Optimist Club of Greater Vienna”, then select it as your charity. If you have previously selected another organization and want to change it, go to the tab for your Account, and from there select the option to “Change Your Charity.”

The amount received per individual transaction is small, but it does add up. And if they are donating money, it might as well be to bring out the best in kids!



September Birthday Wishes to:

- Mike Battaglia – September 13
- Jim Spain - September 15

Optimist Anniversaries in September

- Courtney Sargent – 35 years
- Barbara McHale – 26 years
- Joe Miller – 7 years
- Brian Davenport – 3 years
- Jonathan Lyons – 2 years
- Marlene Horner – 1 year
- Bruce Lauther – 1 year
- Shavani Maharaja – 1 year
- Howard (Mickey) Williams – 1 year



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

NOW Event Needs Your Support

From Kathy Cutri, VP for Membership

Your Membership Chairs are in the process of planning a **NOW (New Optimists Welcome) meeting in October at the Vienna Arts Center**. Keep an eye on



your email for news once a date has been confirmed. We are asking our current members to plan to bring a friend or acquaintance that may be interested in pitching in a couple hours a month helping local students. It will be a casual affair with refreshments. Questions? Please

contact Kathy at [member-ship@optimistclubofgreatervienna.org](mailto:membership@optimistclubofgreatervienna.org).

Use Social Media to Build Interest in Optimism

Are you using your social media tools to reach out to potential Optimist Club members? Why not? It is easy, and we will make it even easier for you.

☞ **Just share!** If you are on Facebook, “share” our Club’s posts to your friends. You can do it with or without adding a comment. Of course with is better—something as simple as “This is what my Optimist Club is doing this month”—but even without the comment it helps spread the word. The same goes for “retweeting” on Twitter.

☞ **Write your own post (or tweet) about our Optimist Club!** Again, something simple is fine; it is all about getting the word out. Need a starting point? Here is a recent post by one of our members—feel free to copy and paste:

For my friends who are facing the start of the school year with a newly-empty nest, or who have graduated from PTA, scouts, and youth sports, and are looking for a way to keep contributing to our Vienna community: Please consider joining our local Optimist Club! I am a proud member of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna. We do a lot for Vienna, and I feel I get

Volunteer Opportunity: Raise Some Funds, Have Some Fun!

We are on tap to run the beer/wine sales at the Town of Vienna’s “Chillin’ on Church” street festival on Friday, September 15.



We get a portion of the proceeds for our efforts. Based on our previous experience, we are supposed to have 10 volunteers on duty from 5-9:30 PM. If we have enough volunteers, we will do two shifts - 5-7:30 PM and 7:30-9:30 PM, otherwise we'll work out something on the fly. If you want to volunteer, contact Jim Houston, info@optimistclubofgreatervienna.org. Objections to the opening pun should also be directed to Jim.

a lot out of membership in return.

The Optimist Club of Greater Vienna serves Vienna’s youth in a variety of ways—too numerous to mention here so check out the FB page or the Club’s website, www.optimistclubofgreatervienna.org.

There are lots of reasons to be part of a service club above and beyond the “service” part. You are modeling a commitment to others for your kids (and others); you meet interesting people; you have new experiences; and you learn a lot about your community.

We are in the “next generation” phase of shaping service clubs and I think you will find a lot to like. PM me and come to a meeting as my guest.

☞ **Go old school and call a friend!** If social media isn’t your thing, pick up the phone and invite a friend to a Club meeting.

The strongest growth in Club membership comes from the personal invitation. We are all membership committee members when it comes to spreading the word and building the future of our Optimist Club!

August Board Meeting Highlights

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

- Discussed plans for the Growing Hope Family Fun Day scheduled for September 23.
- Discussed planning for Christmas tree sales.
- Discussed Farmers Market operations.
- Discussed staffing for beer/wine sales at Chillin on Church for September 15

Subsequent to the meeting, by email, the Board considered and approved the membership application of Roger Doughty (sponsored by Al Dunkerley).



Celebrate Veronica Day Day!

The Town of Vienna and the Vienna Business Association are holding a **VERONICA DAY DAY, Saturday, September 16**, to help her raise funds for her bid to compete at the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyongchang, South Korea. **Veronica will be at the Farmers Market on the 16th**, to meet and greet her public.

A brief history: **“Veronica Day is a Vienna local and a 2007 graduate of Madison HS. She excelled in track and field while at Madison and attended Elon University on a D1 track and field scholarship. Upon graduation in 2011 Veronica tried out for the US Skeleton team. She was named to the National team and is currently in contention to be named to the 2018 Olympic Team. ...The US Olympic Committee is a non-profit organization and does not pay its athletes. That’s where you come in! It’s up to Veronica to raise the funds in order to travel and compete at the highest level.”**

Our Club has supported Veronica for the last few years and we are always glad to welcome her to the Farmers Market or as a speaker at Club events. Come say “hi” on Sept. 16th, and wish her well!

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