

# OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna

June 2018

## Calendar

June 6

Partners in Education

Fairfax American Legion

Social Time 6:45 pm; Dinner 7:30

June 9

Farmers Market

Park & Cherry Sts. SE

(Parking lot of Vienna Community Center)

8:00 am to noon

June 13

Board Meeting

7:30 pm Bauer Home, Vienna

June 16

Farmers Market

8:00 am to noon

June 20

Regular Meeting TBA

Vienna American Legion

Social Time 6:45; Dinner 7:30

June 23

Farmers Market

8:00 am to noon

June 27

"Fourth Wednesday" dinner delivery

Culmore Teen Center

Team D (Anna Ryjik, Captain)

June 30

Farmers' Market

8:00 am to noon

## News and Notes

Our VP for Youth, Mike Fitzella, is the hardest working man in show business this time of year. His latest production takes place on **June 6 at the Fairfax American Legion**: the annual **Partners in Education** program on a double-bill

with the presentation of our **Vocational Scholarships**. This year we will be recognizing a school counselor from each of our three high schools (Madison, Marshall, Oakton). We will also be awarding vocational scholarships to two young men who will be pursuing technical training in auto mechanics after graduation. Our social time will begin at 6:45 and dinner will be served at 7:30. Come and congratulate our teachers and students on their accomplishments.



Our Farmers Market is off to a gangbuster start! Vendors and customers are loving the new location.



Only two things could make it better: first, if the [adjective omitted] rain would stop (at least on Saturday mornings); and second, if we could have a full sign-up sheet of volunteers on our [website](#). Some physical labor is involved in first and last shifts of each market (setting-up and taking-down, respectively), but as your mother said, "Many hands make light work." The volunteer duties are mainly being an ambassador for the Market and for the Optimist Club. And you get to wear one of our cool new vests. You can do that! See page 3 for more photos from the Market and for information on how to sign up for your shifts.



Early calendar alert: We are on tap (heh, heh) to participate in the Town's **Chillin' on Church** selling beer on **August 17**. We need at least ten (10) members to volunteer that date. If you can help, please email [President Susan](#).



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 ...

Greetings Fellow Optimists,

If you were not able to come to the **Sheryl A. Friedley Helping Hands Awards** on May 2 at the Westwood Country Club let me catch you up on our exciting news! In honor of the 22<sup>nd</sup> year since Helping Hands was founded Sheryl graciously donated \$22,000 dollars to our club. Part of the donation has been set aside to establish the Sheryl A. Friedley LIFE Scholarship at George Mason. The Mason LIFE (Learning into Future Environments) program is a supportive academic university experience offering a four-year curriculum of study to post-secondary students 18 - 23 years of age with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We are grateful to Sheryl for enabling us to open the door to a higher education for students who have been underserved in the past.

Our **JOI clubs** gave fantastic presentations at the May 16 meeting with the assistance of **JOI Club Coordinator Ed Wonder**. The clubs have been active throughout the year doing various service projects for their schools and the community. These students are thinking only of the best, working only for the best and expecting only the best.

The **Farmers Market** is in full swing in its new location with happy vendors and customers. Our new vests are making it easy to identify the Optimists who are working the market. Thanks to **Anna Ryjik** for procuring our new blue T-shirts available for club members. You can pick yours up when you volunteer at the market. Please sign up in advance so the Farmers Market Managers are not scrambling for help at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour wondering if there are enough volunteers to cover the market.

One of the advantages of being the President is going to the district meetings. Now one might not see that as an advantage but you get to meet Optimists from the other clubs and find out what is happening in other clubs around VA. You also get to take part in seeing the district level competitions. The district oratorical competition took place on May 19. I am glad I was not a judge because it was tough. The students were all very good. I can't imagine myself at their age standing in front of a room full of people giving such a polished and poised speech as so many as those young students did. Actually, I can't do that now as well as they did but I hear practice makes perfect!

**Yvonne Ha, Donna Wohlscheid** and I went to the required meeting to participate in Chillin' on Church August 17. We need at least 10 volunteers to participate. If you would like to add your name to the growing list who have already volunteered for this fun event let me know by email.

Finally, **Tom and I** went to Wolfrap Farm Park as we do every year on Memorial Day weekend to hear The Marine Corps Band and see the Fireworks. We pay tribute to all of our service men and women but especially those in our own Optimist club of whom there are many. We thank you for your service.

Madame President,  
**Susan**



### June Birthday Wishes to:

Joe Bosco – June 2  
Dick Gongaware – June 5  
Barbara McHale – June 17  
T.R Cook – June 27

### Optimist Anniversaries in June

Jim Wilson – 21 years  
Mike Battaglia – 18 years  
Susan Bauer – 8 years  
Pat Solan – 3 years



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

[newsletter@  
optimistclubof-  
greatervienna.org](mailto:newsletter@optimistclubof-greatervienna.org)

## More from the Farmers Market

### Signing Up Online to Volunteer is an Easy 1-2-3!

1. The sign-up sheet on the website has slots for three names for three shifts on each market date. To volunteer for a shift, look for a blank box on the date and time you want to work.

Jun 9	6:00-9:00	Ann Harrison		
	9:00-11:00	Jerry Gerhards	Pat Hackerson	
Jun 16	6:00-9:00	Jerry Gerhards		
	9:00-11:00	Jerry Gerhards	susanbauer	
Jun 23	6:00-9:00	Jeff Johnson	Anna Ryjik	
	9:00-11:00	Tom Bauer	Jerry Gerhards	Susan Bauer

2. Put the cursor over the blank box, and you will see the message:

“**Validation:** Click the drop down and select your name.”

3. Click on the downward triangle and a list of names will appear. They are organized alphabetically by first name. Find your name, click on it, and it will appear on the schedule. That’s it!

## New Club T-Shirts Available to Market Volunteers

We’ve got a new look for our “Volunteer” T-shirts. Logos and text identify you front-and-back as an Optimist. Pair the new light blue shirt with the yellow Optimist vest and you are flashing the Optimist colors!



## Shed System “How To”

At our new location we have TWO storage sheds for Market gear. One shed is for signs, the other is for ... stuff that is not signs. As you pack up at the end of the Market, please follow this system. The opening shift next week will thank you.



SIGNS



NOT SIGNS

## TIME TO SPRUCE UP THE CABOOSE



Caboose Honcho Dan Mulville writes:

“I plan to start the Caboose prep and painting project on Tuesday, June 5, through Friday, June 8, from 9:00 to 12:00, and Monday, June 11, through Friday June 15, on the same schedule, weather permitting. The first week will be primarily preparation, scraping, and removing the existing decals. The second week will be final prep, priming and painting. All Optimists are welcome to join in the caboose renovation. I’ll have ladders and some scraping tools available. You’re welcome to bring your own tools as well.

“Vienna Paint and Decorating (the Benjamin Moore store at the corner of Maple Ave and Lawyers Road) has volunteered to donate the paint for the Caboose.”

Thanks!  A Note from Sheryl Friedley

Dear Optimist Family,

Please accept my sincere appreciation for your many kindnesses on the evening of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Helping Hands Awards. I was so moved by your kind words, your wonderful gifts, and your willingness to include longtime friends/colleagues from George Mason to share this special evening. Above all, I was inspired by the service of our young award recipients that evening as well as this club’s continued service to youth in the Greater Vienna Community. While the time went far too quickly, I thank you for giving me this incredible evening of celebration and prompting cherished memories of our years together. I will always be an Optimist of Greater Vienna in my heart—you truly continue to “bring out the best in kids.”

Optimistically yours always,



Sheryl, far left, and President Susan, far right, with the recipients of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sheryl A. Friedley Helping Hands Awards, at the presentation banquet on May 2, 2018.

## Highlights from the May 2018 Board Meeting

The Board of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna met on May 9, 2018, with seven members attending. Among the business conducted was the following:

- The Board gratefully noted Sheryl A. Friedley’s gift of \$22,000, which will be used for scholarships. An *ad hoc* committee will form to develop criteria for awarding the scholarships;
- Meeting location on the first Monday of the month will be Fairfax American Legion, as Vienna American Legion cannot accommodate us that night (despite previous representations);
- Plans for the upcoming JOI and Partners in Education meetings were discussed. Five candidates for the Vocational Scholarships have been identified and a winner will be selected;
- An updated directory has been prepared by Kathy Cutri and distributed. Membership information needs to be kept current with OI and the Club should be able to access to it;
- The need for someone to handle media relations (traditional and social media) was discussed. Further discussion ensued about Board vacancies.

## A Tip of the Conductor’s Hat to These Caboose Volunteers

Many thanks to **Susan Bauer, Jane and Les Carl, Ann Harrison, Dick Lippert, Roger Doughty and Jerry Gerhards** for volunteering in the Caboose during ViVa! Vienna, Memorial Day weekend. Extra props to **Jerry Gerhards** who worked four shifts during the event with an average of over 400 visitors each day.

### *There’s Room for YOU on the Optimist Club Board*

A Nominating Committee will form soon to recruit members for the 2018-19 Board. Board membership is a great way to meet more members, learn about Club operations, and put your mark on our efforts to serve Vienna-area kids. Please consider if this is a way you can help our Club grow and succeed!



### 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	<i>open</i>
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*