



# OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna

November 2021

## Calendar

November 7 — Daylight Saving Time Ends



November 10 — Board Meeting  
7:30 pm at Bauers' Home

November 17 — Carol Waite Brennan Scholarship Awards  
Via Zoom at 7:30 pm  
Invitation will be emailed in advance

November 25 — Thanksgiving



November 26 — Tree Lot Set-up

November 27 — Christmas Tree Sales Begin!



## News and Notes

**RSVP NOW!** The Westwood Country Club has suggested December 1st for our **annual Holiday Dinner**. To make it possible, we need a minimum of 40 attending. Pre-Covid we usually had 50 or more attending. To determine the level of interest we need an immediate response—please email [President Tom](#) with a **NO** or a **YES and #** attending.

**In Youth News:** We will celebrate the 2021-22 winners of the **Carol Waite Brennan awards** on **Wednesday, November 17**. Please join us **via Zoom at 7:30**. Watch your email for the meeting invitation, and contact Mike Fitzella or Gary Moonan if you have any questions.



The teachers at Canterbury Woods have decided to **cancel the CCDHH contest** again this year. It's just too difficult to conduct this program via Zoom or in person, wearing masks. **We still need someone to take over this program from Rob DiRocco**. If interested, contact Mike F.

We are planning to hold our essay and oratorical contests in early 2022. We will determine the safest way to move forward as the dates get closer.

**Susan Bauer, VP for Community, writes:** “Many thanks to the following Optimists for their participation and support in getting our ‘**All That Jazz**’ float ready for the **Vienna Halloween Parade**. The theme was the roaring 20's and we focused on the Jazz Age, Prosperity and a decade full of Optimism.



Optimist Flappers Susan, Fritz, and Monica

“The **James Madison High School Jazz Band** played lively 20's era music as Flappers **Monica and Brian Issac** were swing dancing on one side of the float as **Susan and Fritz** were dancing on the other side. **Dan "MacGyver" Gropper** did his magic with all the techie stuff to light up the float

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Serving the Youth of Greater Vienna for over 65 Years!

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



*From President Tom Bauer*

*Greetings fellow Optimists!*

The Halloween Parade was a smashing success! Thanks to tireless work from **Susan Bauer** to order decorations, plan the float and get all the wheels in motion. Special thanks go out also to **Dan Gropper and Fritz Irwin** for their efforts to secure the **Madison High School Jazz ensemble** and work out all the details for their safe transportation. Everything went perfectly until I turned the key to my son's truck at 7:30 and it wouldn't start. Thankfully, we were able to get it jump-started and took our place in line. The theme was the Roaring 20's and **Fritz, Susan, Brian and Monica Isaac** danced to the music alongside the truck. If anyone would like lessons in swing dancing, Brian and Monica would be the folks to ask- they were great!

Our next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, November 17th at 7:30 pm via Zoom and will be the **Carol Waite Brennan awards**. This is one of our premier events of our year so please try to attend and support our kids.

Finally, it's almost that time of year again. **Christmas tree sales will begin on Saturday, November 27th**, with setup on the day after Thanksgiving, the 26th. Tentative team assignments will be going out shortly. Please notify me if I have put you down in error or if you feel you will be unable to participate. We have ordered 800 trees this year and if last year is any indication, we should be sold out in about 3 weeks.

Susan is about to order **name tags** for our new members and any other member who may have misplaced theirs. Please send Susan an email with the correct spelling of your name and whether you want a magnetic or pin name tag.

Hope you all are enjoying our Fall weather and staying healthy. Looking forward to seeing you at the tree lot if not before.

*Optimistically,*  
*Tom*

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The Jazz Truck

and to make sure the band had electricity for the microphones and sound equipment. **Sally O'Connor** assisted with decorating.

“Even though our truck had a dead battery when the parade was ready to go, we kept an Optimistic attitude and found a lovely woman who lent us her car to jump the battery and off we went. It was a great night! **A special thank you to the JMHS Jazz Band students who played for us.**”

Jazz Band on the Move!



*Coming soon to a parking lot near you...*

# The Optimist Club's Christmas Tree Sale

Starts November 27

*You bet it's gonna be merry!*

## Board Meeting Highlights

The Board of Directors of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna met October 13. Seven members were present in person and one via Zoom. Among the business conducted was the following:

- Received Treasurer’s report that participation in Chillin’ on Church netted \$1560 plus \$90 in tips;
- Received and revised the proposed working budget 2021-22; approved revised budget and balance sheet by email vote after the meeting;
- Received president’s update on Christmas Tree sales plans;
- Approved one-time donation to Great Falls Optimist Club of \$1000 for their Thanksgiving/Christmas dinner program;
- Discussed, amended, and approved the draft “Policies and Procedures” prepared by Ed;
- Acknowledged Gary’s suggestion that BOD and members have an “elevator speech” ready to give when people ask about the Optimists Club;

- Approved \$600 for Halloween Parade participation expenses, which includes a donation to the Madison Jazz band.

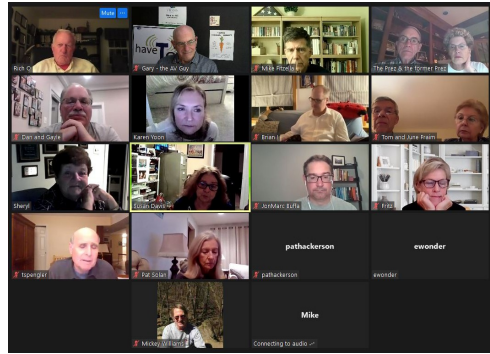
By email vote, the Club members elected JonMarc Buffa as Director of Membership, for 2021-22.

## 2021-22 Board of Directors Inducted

Capitol District Governor Susan Davis presided—via Zoom—over the induction of our Optimist Club’s 2021-22 Officers and Directors.

President Tom Bauer’s leadership team has a full agenda planned for the year. However, there are still openings on

the board that need to be filled. Can you commit a few hours a month to being part of the team? Contact Tom or any board member if you are interested!



### OPTIMIST CLUB OF GREATER VIENNA Board of Directors 2021-22

President	Tom Bauer
Secretary	<i>vacant</i>
Treasurer	Michele Wright
Immediate Past President	Tom Bauer
President Elect	<i>vacant</i>
Vice President of Community	Susan Bauer
Vice President of Finance	<i>vacant</i>
Vice President of Media Relations/Webmaster	Gary Moonan
Vice President of Membership	Fritz Irwin
Vice President of Youth	Mike Fitzella
Director of Community/Print Media	<i>vacant</i>
Director of Social Media	<i>vacant</i>
Director of Membership	JonMarc Buffa
Director of Youth	Ed Wonder
Director at Large	Steve Shannon

### *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*