



Optimistically Speaking

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna

July 2022

Calendar

July 2 - Farmers Market

8 a.m. - noon

Musical guest: Vienna Community Band

July 9 - Farmers Market

8 a.m. - noon

Musical guest: The Misfits

July 16 - Farmers Market

8 a.m. - noon

Musical guest: Swingology

Caboose open

1 - 5 p.m.

July 20 - Respect for Law Dinner and Awards

6:45 p.m.

July 23 - Farmers Market

8 a.m. - noon

Musical guest: Laurie Blue

July 30 - Farmers Market

8 a.m. - noon

Musical guest: Nitehawks



News and Notes

What an impact you make in Vienna as you volunteer to raise money to honor and encourage local students and others helping the community! In June, at the Partners in Education meeting, the Optimists honored local school educators **Michelle Gabro** and **Shelli Farquharson** for their hard work and dedication, as well as **Melvin Estrada**, a graduating senior from Marshall High School who won a vocational scholarship which he'll use in a two-year auto-tech program at NOVA. Thank you to **Ed Wonder** for doing such a wonderful job for this program. In addition, many of you showed up to raise funds by pouring wine and beer for thirsty guests at the Town of Vienna's Chillin' on Church event June 17th (see **Susan's** shout-outs below).

This month, at the Respect for Law dinner and program on July 20, the VO will honor representatives from the Vienna and Fair Oaks Police Departments, and **Braden Coward**, who will receive the **Jim Houston** Leadership award. According to VP of Youth **Mike Fitzella**, this award is given to a senior on the Madison High School baseball team in honor of longtime Optimist **Jim Houston**, who passed away in 2019. The award (a \$1,000 scholarship) acknowledges the characteristics that Jim liked about the Madison baseball players. Specifically, the award honors "one who shows leadership on a consistent basis throughout the year and is a player of high character who does the right thing because it's the right thing to do," says **Mike F.** In addition to being a member of the baseball team, **Braden** also served as president of the Madison JOI club this past school year, and as a lead mentor in the Madison Mentors program. In the essay that secured his scholarship win, **Braden** wrote: "The core difference between a baseball team and a baseball *program* is the latter's ability to be an impetus for positive change in the community. As a Madison Warhawk, I have spent four years playing in a program that has strived to uplift the Vienna community in everything that we do." That's a Vienna Optimist.



Braden Coward



Jim Houston



Serving the youth of greater Vienna for more than 65 years!

Visit us:

www.OptimistClubofGreaterVienna.org or
www.Facebook.com/ViennaOptimistClub



From President Tom Bauer

Greetings Fellow Optimists!

We certainly had a beautiful night and a big crowd for Chillin' on Church on June 17th. We haven't gotten the numbers yet but I'm sure we made a fair amount of money for the kids of the Vienna area. Thanks to all of our volunteers who checked IDs, sold tickets and poured beer and wine. We also had several Town Council members who asked to work with us. It really was a fun time! Liberty Amendments Month kicked off on June 18th and will continue until July 19th. This year's TOV Fireworks will be on July 1st at Yeonas Park. On the 22nd we had a social at our house catered by Scorpios and were able to enjoy the outdoors on our porch. We will continue to investigate venues where we can hold socials without breaking the bank. Financially, we are doing extremely well with all of our accounts in great shape. However, leadership wise, we are not doing as well. As required, I attempted to set up a nominating committee to come up with a slate of potential new officers but to no avail. I understand the time constraints that most of you have and the challenge of making a commitment for a year or more. Well, the same goes for Susan and I. Right now, I am looking at the likelihood of serving for a third consecutive term which is unprecedented in our club's history. Susan has served as President twice and has continued to serve both as secretary and vice president of community. We have decided that the '22-23 Optimist year will be our last on the board. We have both loved serving and all the friends we have made over about 15 years but we're not getting any younger. I sincerely hope that people will step up to take over these vital roles but, if not, somebody else will have to figure out how to keep us moving forward. Please give this some serious thought and let me know if you can add anything to this conversation. Hope you are having a great summer and that many of you will attend the July 20th Respect for Law meeting at the Moose Lodge at 6:45. The Jim Houston Award will also be given to Braden Coward at the meeting. Mike Fitzella will MC this event since Susan and I will be out of town.

*Optimistically,
Tom*



All aboard! Can you volunteer in the Caboose Saturday, July 16? The model railroaders will be opening the train station at the same time. We need volunteers from 1-3 and 3-5 p.m. and it's your last chance until September 17. No experience required, just a love of fun and desire to serve. Sign up on the club website or email [Dan Mulville](mailto:Dan.Mulville@gmail.com) at dmulville1@gmail.com. Thanks, Dan!

Sending out a standing O to all of our regular Farmers Market volunteers (you know who you are!) and a big "cheers" to our Chillin' on Church guest bartenders listed below. (Are you also now humming the "Cheers" tv show theme song like me?)



[Tom Spengler](#), [Monica Gomez Isaac](#), [Roger Doughty](#), [Steve Shannon](#), [Tom Bauer](#), [Tim Buckley](#), [Michele Wright](#), [Mairead Holly](#), [Howard 'Mickey' Williams](#), [Kelly Diamon](#), and [Jim Hegel](#).

**Board of Directors 2021-2022
Optimist Club of Greater Vienna**

President	Tom Bauer
Secretary, Acting	Susan Bauer
Treasurer	Michele Wright
Immediate Past President	Tom Bauer
President Elect	HOW ABOUT YOU?
VP, Community	HOW ABOUT YOU?
VP, Media Relations/ Webmaster	Gary Moonan
VP, Membership	Fritz Irwin
VP, Youth	Mike Fitzella
Director of Print/Social Media	Karen Yoon
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

On July 16, **Swingology** performs at the Farmers Market. Although the photo here doesn't include quite all their members, the band says the ensemble consists of guitars, violin, upright bass and occasional accordion and may make you feel like you're at a Parisian cafe or Prohibition era speakeasy. Performing hot club songs from the Great American Songbook in the style of Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli, this ensemble will take you back to the time of hot jazz, flappers and the speakeasy. The band adds that the only difference is you don't need a password to get into the party!

