



OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna

March 2022

Calendar

March 9—Board Meeting
7:30 p.m.

March 12—Caboose is Open!
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

March 15—Entry Deadline
“Promise Yourself Video Contests: Highlighting Tenets of the Optimist Creed”

March 17—St. Patrick’s Day

Sunday, March 20—Oratorical Contest

1:00 pm via Zoom
Please note the **day** and **time!**

March 29 — OptiForum
presented by Optimist International
8:00 p.m. online

“Optimism’s a Puzzle, Our Minds and Talents Are Some of the Pieces”

April Preview

April 2—Special Olympics Time Trials

Please note the **changed date!**

News and Notes

Do you hear the whistle blowin’? Vienna’s big red **Caboose opens on Saturday, March 12, at 1:00 pm!** Here is the word from **Chief Engineer Dan Mulville:**

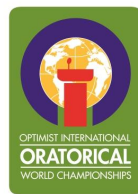
“Our Club manages the Caboose for the Town of Vienna. With Covid, the Caboose has not been open since 2019. We are happy to announce we are back!



“Kids have a grand time climbing the steps, spinning the brake wheel and looking out the cupola windows. In the past, Club members have shared the story of the Caboose and how it came to Vienna. Souvenir train tickets may be available as a giveaway. The openings usually coincide with the Model Train Club open house days in the Vienna Train Station. So, Caboose openings are a chance to get a big dose of trains!

“We need volunteer conductors to host our visitors. The openings are 4 hours, staffed by four (4) Optimist Club members in 2 hour shifts. The Vienna Caboose will first open on March 12th from 1 to 5 PM. The next opening will be April 16th. More dates to come.

“To volunteer, [click here for the link](#), then type in your first name and select your name. Welcome aboard!”



We are still in a hybrid world for our Club activities. The annual **Oratorical Contest will be held via Zoom**, following OI’s protocols for the event. Students from Thoreau Middle School and Madison High School will present their speeches on the topic “Staying Optimistic in Challenging Times.” Plan to attend virtually on **Sunday, March 20, at 1:00 p.m.**, and hear our students’ thoughts on this relevant topic. Look for the Zoom invitation in your email.

IMPORTANT UPDATE: the date for the **Special Olympics Time Trials** has been changed from April 9th to **April 2nd**.

The main event at Episcopal H.S. is still on April 23rd.



**Serving the Youth of Greater Vienna
for over 65 Years!**

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



From President Tom Bauer

Greetings fellow Optimists!

Susan and I are back from sunny Costa Rica where we enjoyed some great food and drinks, fellowship with a group of 23 others and, oh yes, a little pickleball for me. So sorry we had to miss the Essay Contest, however. Speaking of which, this year's contest winners were: Nate Goss, a freshman at Madison H.S., Mayra Rios, a junior at Madison and Angel Samsuhadi, a senior at Marshall. Prizes were \$1000, \$600 and \$400 respectively. Mayra's mom, Clara, has indicated she might be interested in joining our club, by the way.



Nate, Mayra, and Angel received top honors for their essays on "How an Optimistic Mindset Changes My Tomorrow" in our annual Essay Contest.

begin at 1:00 pm. I know it's a different time frame but please do your best to attend and support these great kids. If we are able, we will be inducting our two newest members, Mary Lu and Kelly Diamond.

We will once again be opening the Caboose this Spring, starting March 12th and also April 16th. Both of those dates coincide with the Model Railroaders at the train station so there should be a lot of kids. Gary has sent out a SignUpGenius link so all who feel comfortable can take a shift.

Finally, to all of you who have enjoyed our first rate newsletter for the last 8+ years, I want to take a moment to give Laurie Cole a rousing round of applause for all of her efforts in this regard. What a wonderful job she has done indeed. Laurie will be passing the reins to Karen Yoon who is our Director of Media Relations and has already been doing a bang up job getting us publicity in our local papers. Karen is a natural for this job so I'm sure you will find the transition to be seamless. Thank you Laurie from the bottom of my heart, and thank you Karen for your willingness to fill these big shoes.

Optimistically,
Tom

Our next meeting will be our Oratorical Contest on Saturday, March 20th via zoom again and will

Happenings from Optimist International

OPTIMISM IS A PUZZLE

Our Minds and Talents are Some of the Pieces



JOHN GROVER
2021-2022 Southeast Regional Vice President



PATSY GARNER
International President, Optimist International

March 29, 2022 ONLINE

5:00 pm Pacific / 6:00 pm Mountain / 7:00 pm Central / 8:00 pm Eastern **ONE HOUR**

Join Optimist International President Patsy Garner and Speaker, 2021-2022 Optimist International Southeast Region Vice President John Grover for a discussion on how diversity and inclusivity programs can have a positive impact on an organization.

Optimism Promise Yourself Video Contests:
Highlighting tenets of the Optimist Creed



Promise Yourself Video Contests:

What: Make a video that highlights a tenet(s) of the Optimist Creed.
Benefits: This new Optimist video contest will help share Optimism and the Creed with others.

Contest prizes open to public & one submission per Club:

- Divisions prize of \$250:
 - Youth, Age 17 and under
 - Adult - Age 18 and Over
 - Club - 1 per Club

Deadline for submission: March 15, 2022
Winners to be announced on March 30, 2022



For More Information and the registration link, [click here](#).

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Dear Readers and Friends,

It's time to file away the back issues and hang up the green visor here at Newsletter HQ. It has been my honor and pleasure to bring you the news of our Optimist Club (nearly) every month since November 2013.

I have not done this in a vacuum. I've had plenty of help from faithful and timely contributors over the years (that's you, Mike F.), the Presidents and Board Secretaries. The look of the Newsletter has evolved somewhat from the format I inherited and I believe it has been enriched by the graphics contributions from my personal graphics department, husband Harry. I can't sign-off without revisiting some of his greatest hits and thanking him for his generous help.

New management will publish next month's Newsletter. With Optimist Karen Yoon, our Director for Print and Social Media, you are in very good hands. I know Karen will bring fresh eyes and ideas to the Newsletter as she has to our Club's media presence. (Karen's input is already apparent in this issue, with the inclusion of more news and events from OI).

Thank you all for the kind words, feedback, and tolerance of our many "errata" messages over the years.

—The Editor



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

President	Tom Bauer
Secretary	<i>Acting: Susan Bauer</i>
Treasurer	Michele Wright
Immediate Past President	Tom Bauer
President Elect	<i>vacant</i>
Vice President of Community	Christina Jackson
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 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