



Optimistically Speaking

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna

March 2023

Calendar

March 7

Board meeting
7 p.m.

March 18

Caboose Open
1-5 p.m.
Volunteers needed --
Model Railroad open,
too. Email Dan or sign
up on website.

March 20

International Day of
Happiness

Save the Date:

April 23

Northern Virginia
Special Olympics Track
and Field Events
Episcopal High School
8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Timers needed -- see
box below for more info.

April 25

T.R. Cook Youth Awards
of Excellence
Warhawk Hall, James
Madison High School
7:30 p.m.

**KINDNESS
IS FREE**

sprinkle that stuff
everywhere



News and Notes



Town of Vienna treasure,
the beloved **T.R. Cook**
1929-2022



Club President
Tom Bauer



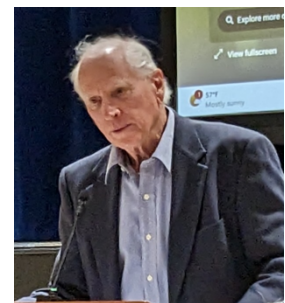
TOV Mayor
Linda Colbert



Linda Thompson,
Great Falls Optimist
Club

Thank you, **David Cook**, for taking this wonderful photo of your dear uncle.

Thank you, **Gary Moonan**, for your wonderful photos of T.R.'s memorial speakers. See Tom's message for more about T.R.



Dan Mulville, fellow
Optimist, neighbor,
friend



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!

Greetings fellow optimists! Looks like Spring is just around the corner. The daffodils and some trees are already sporting their colors. We get no snow to speak of and California gets a blizzard. Crazy!

I want to thank all of the Optimists who attended the TR Cook memorial service at the Community Center on Friday, the 10th. We had a great showing of club members and, in general, about 50 attended. Speakers included Mayor Colbert, Bob Dix, former Hunter Mill District Supervisor, Kathy Georgen, former Optimist and treasurer of VBA, our own Dan Mulville, Dwight Avis, former president of the Vienna Chamber of Commerce, and Linda Thompson of the Great Falls Optimist Club. There was also a surprise speaker, Don Perry, a business owner who once detailed TR's car. He credits TR with helping him build his business by providing photos for free and counseling on how to make oneself known in the business community. Gary got the last word with his "beware of snakes" joke that TR used to keep people from picking his flowers. TR was one in a million and, as we heard from all the speakers, he has left an indelible mark on Vienna, Great Falls and the Optimist Club. Betty Swartz, his longtime companion, was able to attend with help from Mike in Great Falls who also set up Zoom so TR's sister Jewell and assorted nieces and nephews could view the proceedings. Jewell later gave our club a \$1,000 donation in appreciation.

We also conducted our annual Essay contest on the 15th with Dan Irvine leading the way as usual and many of us enjoyed the presentation by the three winners. Our first prize winner was Teresa Huang from Oakton H.S. who received the \$1,000 cash award. Many thanks to our Optimist club judges, Bill Comerford, Shawn Dilles, and Roger Doughty. Our March meeting will be a social so stay tuned for time and place

*Optimistically,
Tom*



On Saturday, April 22, you and your guests have a chance to participate in an exciting and fun event that the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna has been helping with for 26 years!

It's the Northern Virginia Special Olympics Track and Field Event, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Episcopal High School in Alexandria. As an Optimist or a friend of an Optimist (and who wouldn't want to be that?), you will serve as a timer for athletes running the 100, 200, 400, 800, 1500, 3000, and 5000 meter races, plus the 400 meter relays.



Once again, **Mike Battaglia** is at the helm for recruitment for this fun event (thanks, Mike!). Can you help?

Contact Mike at mikebattaglia@cox.net or by phone: 703-855-2456. Mike says volunteers are needed for April 1 time trials, too. That event will be held at Paul VI High School, Chantilly.

"Think well of all,
be patient with all,
and try to find the
good in all"

- Muhammed Ali

**Board of Directors 2022-2023
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
Editor	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

CABOOSE OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE- 2023

SATURDAY, MARCH 18th	1 – 5 P.M.
SATURDAY, APRIL 15th	1 – 5 P.M.
SATURDAY, MAY 27rd	VIVA VIENNA 1 – 5 P.M.
SUNDAY, MAY 28th	VIVA VIENNA 1 – 5 P.M.
MONDAY, MAY 29th	VIVA VIENNA 1 – 5 P.M.
SATURDAY, JULY 15th	1 – 5 P.M.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th	1 – 5 P.M.
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14th	1 – 5 P.M.
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18th	1 – 5 P.M.
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27th	6 – 9 P.M.
VIENNA HOLIDAY STROLL	



You don't have to be a ferroequinologist to volunteer at the Caboose, but when you welcome visitors onboard, you might meet some! That's because a ferroequinologist is someone enamored by trains. And with the model railroaders showing off their deluxe train spread nearby at the same time the Caboose is open, both happy railfans and curious new travellers of all ages are sure to swing by. To claim your ticket to volunteer on the dates listed to the left, please visit the website or email **Dan Mulville** at dmulville1@gmail.com.