

OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna

August 2015

Calendar

August 1 — Farmers Market
8:00 a.m. to noon

August 8 — Farmers Market
8:00 a.m. to noon
Shifts available! Sign-up [online](#).

August 11 — NO Board Meeting

August 15 — Farmers Market
8:00 a.m. to noon
Shifts available! Sign-up [online](#).

August 19 —Happy Hour Meeting
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Diya Restaurant
2070 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna

August 22 — Farmers Market
8:00 a.m. to noon
Shifts available! Sign-up [online](#).

**August 26 — Fourth Wednesday
Dinner for Culmore Teen Center**
Contact [Laurie Cole](#) to help out!

August 29 — Farmers Market
8:00 a.m. to noon
Shifts available! Sign-up [online](#).

August 30 — Caboose Open
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Volunteers Needed for 3:00-5:00 shift!

Spotlight on Upcoming Events



We travel back to **Diya in August**, to enjoy a casual “happy hour” in the dog days of summer. Instead of a formal program we will share some announcements (see below!) and raise a glass

or two to our members, new and old. (Make that “new and long-standing”). Appetizers will be served, a cash bar will be open, and we hope to see everyone on **August 19 from 6:00 to 8:00.**

Saturday, September 26 is our annual Walk and Family Fun Day for Growing Hope. For the event’s organizers, that’s just around the corner! We will get a preview of this year’s plans—and an update on the work that is already in progress—at our August 19 get-together. Chances are good that there will also be information about **how you can help** make this year’s effort for Growing Hope our best ever. Who’s up for the dunk tank?!



Is it time to end our nomadic ways, and settle on a regular location for meetings? The Board is interested in your opinion of the various venues we have visited, as well as different meeting formats. Contact President Dick Gongaware, venue search committee Chair Dick Lippert, or the Board member of your choice.



Serving the Youth of Greater Vienna
for 60 Years!
Visit us at www.OptimistClubofGreaterVienna.org
We're on Facebook! [Facebook.com/ViennaOptimistClub](https://www.facebook.com/ViennaOptimistClub)



From the President—

Dear Fellow Vienna Optimists,

In the Simon and Garfunkel song *April Come She Will*, the lyrics include, “July, she will fly, and give no warning to her flight.” How true. In that seamless transition of the summer months, August enters unannounced, but lays claim to being the “end of summer bummer” (my lyrics this time). For us, it means the opposite. A happy hour meeting, for one, as our only meeting of the month. Plug in Wednesday, August 19th for your next Optimist Club meeting. We will be at Diya’s, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., for beverages and hors d’oeuvres. More details will follow.

This is a great opportunity to bring a friend or a prospective member to introduce them to the cast of characters which is the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna. By the way, we’ve added some terrific new members, so get to know them over a cocktail and some finger food. There is no formal agenda, but we’ll spend a few minutes talking about the Growing Hope festival scheduled for Saturday, September 26th. That date is sort of like the warning on a car’s side-view mirrors – it’s much closer than it appears. The Growing Hope Committee works very hard to raise tens of thousands of dollars for Growing Hope with this one event. They will need your support, so make sure that you attend to identify opportunities to help.

In Farmer’s Market news, the weather hasn’t been favorable. I’d like to acknowledge all the members who have stood in the rain, for hours, to ensure that the market remains open and functioning. It beats standing in an ice storm selling Christmas trees, but it’s still unpleasant. And speaking of volunteering, the schedule for September is disturbingly open. Please sign up for a few shifts via the club’s website, <http://www.optimistclubofgreatervienna.org/>.

Finally, kudos to Laurie Cole for creating a summer program out of virtually thin air for our July meeting. I regret that I was out of town, but the response from our members re: our guest speaker, Dr. Monique Saigal, and our combined meeting with the American Association of University Women was overwhelmingly positive. I could hear the applause in Florida. Folks, we can take advantage of out-of-the-box thinking like that. Have a suggestion for a guest speaker? Contact me ASAP. We’re already planning our fall line-up of meetings. Let’s make this a fun, informative, community-supporting fall, which of course means repeating as Grand Champions of Vienna’s Halloween parade ☺.

President Dick Gongaware



August Birthday Wishes to:

Tom Fraim – August 2
 Carla Brooks – August 5
 Angelique Ayala – August 10
 Jim Pammel – August 15
 Ken Glaser – August 18
 Cindy Stanton – August 19
 Grant Marsh – August 21

Optimist Anniversaries in August

Carla Brooks – 12 years
 Dick Carr – 12 years
 Tom Fraim – 12 years
 Gary Moonan – 12 years
 Dan Mulville – 12 years
 Jim Spain – 12 years
 Bob Steinfeldt – 12 years



No Board meeting was held in July. Any Board actions taken by email vote will be reported in next month’s Newsletter.

Volunteer Opportunities Don't Stop Just Because It's Summer!

In addition to our ongoing need for Optimists to staff the Farmers Market on Saturday mornings, there are other opportunities for you to keep your volunteering chops in shape over the summer. Here are a few:

**Support Creative Play
That Doesn't
Involve Computer Screens.
Volunteer at the Caboose.**

Be a Conductor on the Big Red Caboose for a couple of hours, and you will appreciate what a gift our stewardship of this icon is to the kids and families in our community.

Contact Dan Mulville to sign up.

"FOURTH WEDNESDAY" AD HOC TEAM FORMING FOR AUGUST

While our regular Fourth Wednesday Teams go on hiatus for the summer (sort of like Congress, but more productive), we continue to provide dinner and the monthly birthday party to the Culmore Teen Center. If you would like to help with the dinner on August 26th, contact Laurie Cole. Teams A-D get back on schedule in September—and now would be a great time to get on a Team roster. Laurie can help you with that, too.



Our friends at Alternative House put out this request for help—

“Our children and teens are constantly growing-- and they are HUNGRY, especially when they attend our programs after school.

We are in need of help with picking up FOOD donated by [#Food-ForOthers](#) and bringing it to our Teen Center in Falls Church (Culmore neighborhood), where we distribute the food to children in 4th-12th grades and their families.

Below are dates when we would need help with this:

August 13, 27; September 10, 24; October 8, 22; November 5, 19; December 3, 17.

Food for Others is located on Prosperity Ave in Fairfax.

If you or someone you know can help us bring food to the kids on ANY of those days, please contact our Resource Manager Christine at admin@TheAlternativeHouse.org or 703-506-9191.”

OPTIMIST CLUB OF GREATER VIENNA Board of Directors 2014 – 15

President	Dick Gongaware
Secretary	Jim Houston
Treasurer	Tom Fraim
Immediate Past President	Tom Spengler
President Elect	Joe Miller
Vice President of Community	Michele Wright
Vice President of Finance	Dick Lippert
Vice President of Media Relations	Tom Bauer
Vice President of Membership	Joe Miller
Vice President of Youth	Mike Fitzella
Director of Community	Anna Ryjik
Director of Social Media	Marnie Fienberg
Director of Membership	AK Mohamed Yaseen
Director of Youth	Jim Stivison
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