

The Optimist Monthly

Friend of Youth



October
2018

October 2018 Events

10/03: Keith David Reeves, Chair of the Virginia Society of Technology in Education, gave us a well-researched analysis of the differences between the Millennials and Baby Boomers. Below: Keith with Gloria Mora.



Among his findings are that the internet and social media have been producing a generation that has little interest in conformity and has great interest in world and environmental issues. Thank you, Gloria Mora, for inviting this speaker.

10/17: Pamela Hirsch, New Parent Support Group.



Pamela described her role as a contract worker for the US Army providing home visitation services to support and educate Army parents before and after childbirth. She has as many as 24 cases ongoing at any one time. Thank you, Gloria Mora, for asking Pamela to speak to us.

10/20: Optimist-Acorns Invited Us to a Dinner: The Arlington Optimist has been a long-time supporter of the Optimist-Acorn Junior Rifle Club. This year, the Acorn athletes, their parents, and fellow Optimists Stan Sitnik, Bill Terry, and Thrine Kane, invited the Arlington Optimist Club to join them for a dinner and air rifle shoot at the Izaak Walton League air rifle range.



Thrine Kane and Acorns President, Doug Lamb. Photos by the Acorns.



JB Whitlow takes advice from McKenzie Shedd, a sophomore at WT Woodson.

The Acorns provided dinner, equipment, and coaching by the athletes. Optimists Clayton Depue (with his wife, Margaret), JB Whitlow, Michal Simek (with his son, Luke), and Mark Whitenton (with his wife, Debbie) enjoyed the evening -- and were benefitted from the coaching! Bill Terry, a senior coach of the Acorns, was

unable to join us because he was busy contributing his time to help out Brian Kellenberger at a Boy Scout event in Pennsylvania. Thank you, Acorns President Doug Lamb, his daughter, Becca, and Thrine Kane for providing us with such a fun evening. Doug Lamb provided us with two "thank-you" notes from two of last summer's Acorn graduates to thank us for our contributions (see Appendix 2, below).



Michal Simek shooting like a pro. Photo by Clayton Depue.



Eight new Acorns this year. Congratulations!
Team re-building photo by the Acorns.

10/24: Meet 'n' Greet: This last Meet 'n' Greet for 2018 was an opportunity for several Optimists to catch up. Two guests joined us from the Opera Nova administration, Mimi Miller, President of OPERA Nova, and David Ryan, OPERA Nova's Treasurer, photo left. They expressed their gratitude for our donation to their group in September. For more about OPERA Nova and its relationship to the Optimists, see "Out and About" in Appendix 1 at the end of this newsletter.



Due to the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays, there will be no Meet 'n' Greet in November and December. Photo below, provided by Ken Williams. Arriving after the photo was taken were Robert Roudik and Richard Knight.



From l to r.: Marti Williams, Ken Williams, Sandy Bushue, Tricia O'Hara, Barbara Nicastro, Mark Zetlin, Sue Gartner, Peter Wehmann, Clayton Depue, Debbie Whitenton, and Mark Whitenton.

Upcoming Events

November

11/07: TBA. WGCC at 12:15. Do you have a suggestion? Contact Gloria Mora.

11/03: Central Fairfax Optimist Club Trivia Night: Our past Lt. Governor, now again president of the Central Fairfax Optimist Club, Anava Grabowski, invites us to their Trivia Night fund raiser. Tickets are \$15 per person. Stephen's Methodist Church, 9203 Braddock Road. Doors open 6:00 PM.

11/14: Inter-Service Club Council. WGCC at 12:00.

December

12/05: TBA Janet Dopenhaver, of the group, "Embracing Arlington Arts." Thank you, Mark Zetlin and Gloria Mora for inviting her. WGCC at 12:15.

12/12: Christmas Breakfast. Once again, Brian Kellenberger has volunteered to manage this wonderful annual event. WGCC 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM.

The President's Column:

Fellow Optimists. We have several immediate challenges facing us as we enter our new fiscal year of 2018-2019, which began October 1. Please take a moment to read this column.

Vacant Positions: First, with Leigh Hurley leaving, the position of President-Elect is still open. Please consider whether you might want to take on the position and be next year's President. If you are interested, please send your interest to our Nomination Committee Chair, Clayton Depue. We also need someone to take on the position of Scholarship Chair --preferably, someone who has had children who have come through the Arlington school system and is willing to take this duty on for a few years.

Billing: You may have noticed that you have not received a bill from the Arlington Optimists since March 31. Our financial accounting system has definitely suffered since Larry Gaydos, our beloved Treasurer for 20 years, retired

from his position last December. Although he helped keep records through March 31 (the end of our fiscal 2nd Quarter), no regular accounting of meals and guests has been regularly retained since then until October 1. This is not acceptable.

Accordingly, the Club is now forced to send out bills that only reflect active members' quarterly dues (\$110 in most cases) for the 3rd and 4th Quarters (April 1 to September 30) without regard to whether you attended more than the three luncheons during the quarter (that are included in your dues) or whether you brought guests to the luncheons. Our Club will lose many dollars from our Operating Fund (composed of our dues), but it is best that we move on without further missteps.

Shortly, you will receive a bill by email that charges you only your standard dues for the 3rd and 4th Quarters. You will not be charged for having more than three meals per quarter or for your guests (unless you want to voluntarily add \$25 for each guest you have brought to our luncheons from April 1 to September 30). However, those who attended the Gala will be charged for their attendance and their guests, since we have good records for that event, thanks to Robert Roudik, who has also arranged to maintain lists of members' attendance and their guests since the beginning of October.

Volunteer Needed: A volunteer is needed to record at each luncheon the Optimist members who are present and which of them brought guests. As we go forward into the new Optimist Fiscal Year, we are trying to make sure that all members are appropriately billed and that all efforts are made to ensure that there are no inordinate costs to the Club. If you are willing to volunteer to record the Optimist members present and which of them brought guests, please contact Gerry Marosek or Mark Whitenton. Your volunteer support to the Club would save our Club from having to spend hundreds of dollars to pay quarterly fees and luncheons for an outside contractor to do that trivial job.

New Funding Requests: At the Board meeting on October 17, the Optimist Board voted to require that all new requests for funding from our Club's Youth Account (composed of the net profits from the Christmas Tree Lot sales), and all requests to our existing funding for individual youth programs that exceed an increase of \$500 must present their requests in writing. The request must be provided to the Board at least a week before a scheduled Board meeting. In the case of a new request, they must attend a luncheon to explain to the membership how their program benefits Arlington youth. From now on, the Board will consider all requests -- both to continue and to increase our gifts -- in the context of what level of assistance their organization can be to help out at the Christmas Tree Lot.



Message from Santa: Sandy Bushue, Chair of the Christmas

Tree Committee, submits the following update:

"The time is here! The next time the Optimist newsletter is published we will have opened the tree lot! Season 2018 is about to begin, and I know it is hard to believe.

To remind all, the first delivery of trees is Tuesday, November 20 at 8:00 a.m. My work schedule has me in Minneapolis, MN that day so we need a couple of people to volunteer to manage the unloading party. The volunteers from Phoenix House will be there. All that is needed is for a couple of Optimists to direct and encourage the volunteers and help out the truck drivers. If you are interested in helping, please let me know.

JB will be setting up the lot beginning on the 16th. JB can always use help. If you are a frustrated carpenter "in heart", here is a good opportunity. I understand that JB keeps everyone busy if only to carry the wood and help to bolt the pieces together. Knowing JB, he will probably be on the lot the 17th or

18th as well so please stop by the lot or send JB an email regarding how he can best use you.

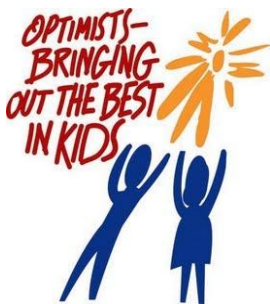
I hope to have the tree lot work schedule out later this week. Please ensure that you read the notes on the schedule as it relates to changing your working date and/or time.

This is going to be an interesting tree season. Like last year, there is a tree shortage, and it will be reflected in tree prices. Prices are really up this year. I hope the good economy will negate any issues.

I will be blasting email updates weekly to everyone. The tree lot is our only fundraising activity to support the kids in Arlington County. Let's make season 2018 the best yet!!!!"

Optimistically,

Sandy Bushue



MW # 95

*Arlington Optimist Club 16-005 ;
Mid-Atlantic Region 3;
Capital- Virginia District 16;
Northern Virginia Zone 4*

www.optimistclubofarlingtonva.org



Appendix 1

Out and About.

Tricia O'Hara provides the following report on her and Chanda Choun's visit to OPERA Nova on September 30.



Standing from left to right are the names of the performers: Elise Jenkins; Jocelyn Hunt; Sofia Parfomak, Arlington middle school student; Annie Gill; Tricia O'Hara; Chanda Choun; Jose Sacin; and Hai Jin, Pianist.

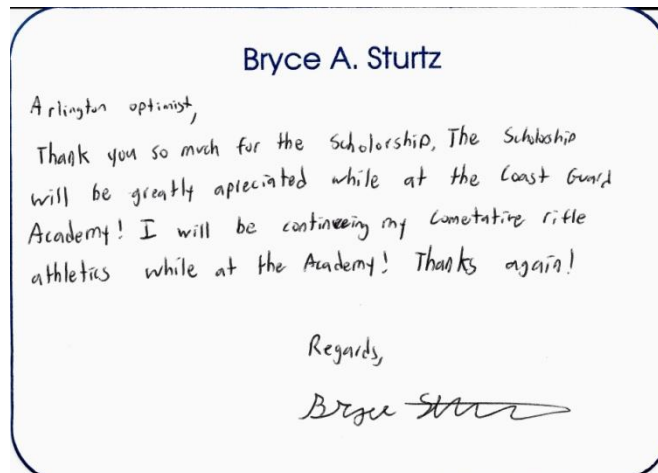
I attended the OPERA Nova Annual Brunch on 30 September 2018 and presented a check from the Arlington Optimists in support of the arts. AOC and OPERA Nova are partnering together in this way and they, in turn, will help us with our membership.

Chanda was their key note speaker and talked about "How Opera has made a difference in his life.

Appendix 2

Thank-you Notes from Two Acorns.

The funding that our Optimist Club provides the Arlington Optimist Acorns Junior Rifle Club is distributed by Optimist Bill Terry as grants to those Acorns who have excelled in the national competitions, such as the Junior Olympics in Colorado Springs, Colorado, in order to defray a portion of their (and their parents') travel and lodging costs for those competitions. Below are two notes of gratitude for last summer's grants from Bryce Sturtz, who is now at the Coast Guard Academy, and Anna Frazier, now a senior at WT Woodson H.S.



Thrine Kane, Bill Terry, Bryce Sturtz, Doug Lamb, and Mr. Sturtz.

Anna M. Frazier
4600 Valerie Court
Annandale, VA 22003
703-764-1524

August 15, 2018

Arlington Optimist Club of Arlington, VA
And the Arlington Optimist Acorns CJRC
c/o Bill Terry, Rifle Team Treasurer
4280 Sleepy Lake Drive
Fairfax, VA 22033

Dear Arlington Optimist Club of Arlington, VA,

I would like to thank you for selecting me as a recipient of a 2018 National Jr. Olympic Rifle scholarship to help defray the cost of competing in the 2018 National Junior Olympic Championships hosted by USA Shooting at the Olympic Training Facility in Colorado Springs, Colorado. It was both a privilege and an honor to represent the Arlington Optimist Club as a member of the Arlington Optimist Acorns CJRC in this National competition. I learned a lot about myself and the sport during the competition and scored a personal best during the event. I would like to thank the club and also the Acorns coaches who have provided me with the opportunities to complete my personal goal of qualifying to compete at this event this year. I have included a picture of me wearing my Arlington Optimist Acorn back tag and the team patch on my right shoulder during the competition.

Thank you again for awarding me this 2018 scholarship.

Sincerely,



Anna M. Frazier
Class of 2019

