

The Optimist Monthly

Friend of Youth



July
2019

July

No Luncheon was held on July 3.

7/17: Club Annual Meeting.



During this year's annual meeting, President Mark Whitenton presented several By-laws changes that had been developed and approved by the Optimist Club Board of Directors. All the changes were approved. Vice President Sandy Bushue gave a Christmas tree lot report, calling up JB Whitlow, Clayton Depue, Dick McHugh, Tricia O'Hara, Richard Knight, Bob Patton and Greg Clough to provide details. (Report below)

In addition, Ramon Montes of the Regratifying Foundation (photo below,) was present to receive a donation from the Optimist Club. He



explained the goals of the Foundation and how the Optimist's donation will benefit foster kids in Arlington. The Foundation encourages foster care youth to continue their education, learn about and consider professional careers, and set future personal and career goals before they leave foster care.

7/24: Meet & Greet. The Meet & Greet was held at the Holiday Inn due to renovations at the Westin, but still provided a chance to socialize during a very hot week.



From left to right, Peter Wehmann, Sue Crow, Mark Zetlin, Tricia O'Hara, Ken Williams, Jeff Englander, Sue Gartner, Richard Knight, and Sandy Bushue. (Photo by the waiter).

UPCOMING EVENTS

August

8/07: Luncheon- Jennifer Toussaint, Chief Animal Control Officer and Kat Williams, Director of Development Animal Welfare League of Arlington. Thank you, Shandra Niswander, for arranging for this speaker. WGCC at 12:15.

8/21: No Luncheon.

8/28: No Meet & Greet.

September

9/4: Tentative Speaker is Frank J. DiStefano, author of a new book, "The Next Realignment." WGCC at 12:15.

9/18: Respect for Law Program: Again this year, this important tribute to Arlington law enforcement will be managed by Shandra Niswander. WGCC at 12:15.

9/25: Meet & Greet resume. Westin Hotel from 5:30 to 7:00.

CHRISTMAS LOT UPDATE

Chair of the Christmas Tree Committee, Sandy Bushue, provides the following report:

Your dedicated tree lot committee held its 2019 planning meeting a few weeks ago. We are looking forward to another successful season.

Dick McHugh has led the White House ornaments sells for 10 years, but he is unable to do so this year with his daily lot manager commitments. If anyone is interested in helping with this effort, we are looking for volunteers. Please let me know.

Below is the list of the “the greatest” committee members ever!!!

Lot Construction/Operations - JB Whitlow
Captains - Brian Kellenberger
Greg Clough
Bob Patton
Andrea Baltatzis
Unloading Manager and Attorney - Richard Knight
Volunteers - Barbara Nicaastro
Daily Lot Managers - Clayton Depue and Dick McHugh
Public Relations - Tricia O'Hara

Since Thanksgiving is late this year, opening day is Friday, November 29 and the first unloading tree day is Tuesday, November 26, so lot construction begins Friday, November 22. Please mark these dates.

All Optimists, if able, must work the lot at least 2 shifts. I am going to work on the schedule early this year so please let me know what shifts work best.

Shift times are following:

Monday - Thursday: 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm and 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Friday: Noon to 8:00 pm

Saturday and Sunday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm; 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm; and 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By-laws Changes. The Arlington Optimist Club's By-laws were last updated in 2013, before Optimist International created a new category of membership, the Friend of Optimist (FOO). Accordingly, the By-laws needed amending to clarify that FOO's would be inducted and removed under the same rules and procedures as apply to regular members. Also, circumstances in the Club, especially the reduced membership since 2013 (from 56 then to 48 now, despite the fact we now have eight FOO's), suggested the need for additional changes to the By-laws to streamline the induction process for new members. All these proposed changes to the By-laws were adopted by the Board in May and sent to the membership for your review in the June newsletter. The amendments were adopted by voice vote at the July 17 luncheon and an updated version of the By-laws was emailed to all members on July 23. The amendments are again provided for your information in Appendix 2, below.

WE MISS YOU, JOHN KARINSHAK

The Club has received a letter from John Karinshak stating he will be "suspending" his membership due to very serious health issues. John has given the same notice to the other local organizations in which he has been active, including the Lions Club and the Better Sports Club. Despite his illnesses, John has made a one-time, generous donation to the Optimist Club of Arlington. His gift has been deposited into the Youth Club account in acknowledgement of his extraordinary personal contributions over the years as Chair of Coaches Appreciation Night (plus his leadership role in Arlington Babe Ruth Baseball) and the Christmas tree lot, where he has been an almost constant cashier in recent years.

John joined our Club in May 2004 and, until last year had been a very active member of our Club. He has been a past Board member and Youth Sports

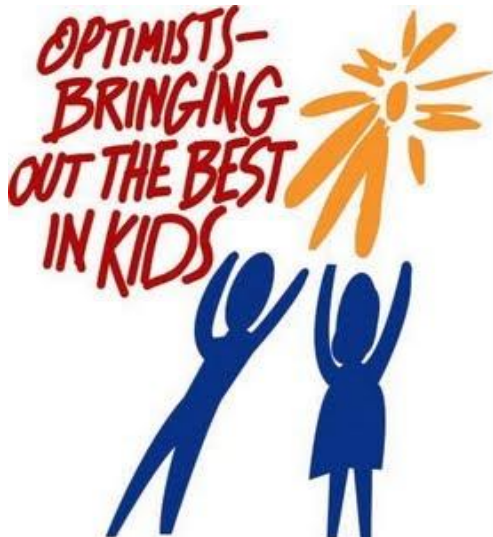
Coordinator. He is being cared for at home by his wife, Judith. We hope he will make a prompt recovery and be able to return to his impressive contributions to the Lions Eyeglass Recycling program and to our tree lot.

We certainly miss his passion and his dedication to our Club and the youth of Arlington.



John presiding Coaches Night, July, 20, 2016. John horsing around on the lot Nov. 29, 2017.

For more photos of John over the years, please see Appendix 1, below.



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

Appendix 1. Photos of John Karinshak 2012-2017.



Dick McHugh, JB Whitlow, and John building the lot 11-16-2012



John at the lot on Nov. 28, 2013.



John with Mark Whitenton sawing Nov. 11-13-2013



John in his seat on Dec. 18, 2013.



John on tree lot 12-21-2013, with Bill Terry as cashier. John sawing for a customer Dec. 12,2015.



John receives **lifetime achievement** award from Babe Ruth League President Phil Juliano May 17-,2015 at their 30th Anniversary celebration at Barcroft Park. (Photo provided by John).



John with guest at Club luncheon on January 18, 2016; and at Coaches Night with BRB Phil Juliano July 19, 2017



John with YULA coaches at Coaches Night July 19, 2017



John in the cashier's chair at the Christmas tree lot with Yorktown NHS on Nov. 29, 2017.

Appendix 2. Changes to the By-laws.

These amendments were approved by the membership at the Annual Meeting on July 17. An up-dated version of the Club's By-laws was sent to all members by email on July 23.

1. Quorum for Board Meetings (By-laws amendment to Art. IV, sec. 3): Leave official quorum at five as provided in the current By-laws, but require at least five affirmative votes for adoption of motions. Amendment: strike the second sentence in Art. IV, sec. 3 and replace with: "The presence of five members or a majority *of the currently members of* the Board, whichever is less, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, *provided that at least five Board members vote in the affirmative in order to adopt any motion.*"

2. Nominating Committee (By-laws amendment to Art. V, sec. 1): Still chaired by immediate Past-President as provided in the current By-laws, but replace the entire section with the following new language:

No later than March 1, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of *at least three persons to be chaired by the immediate Past-President and including the President-Elect and the current President. If any of the three are not able to serve, then they shall be substituted by the Sr. Vice President and then, the other Vice President.*

Notice of the appointment of the Nominating Committee and the names of its members shall be published in the next issue of the Club bulletin. "

3. Presentation of the Nominating Committee's selections (By-laws amendment to Art. V., sec. 3): Add a new requirement that the Nominating Committee's selections must be approved by the Board of Directors by replacing the first sentence of section 3 with the following: "Upon receipt of the selections of the Nominating Committee, *the Board of Directors may make changes and then must approve the list by majority vote and submit the approved list to the Secretary to publish* in the next issue of the Club bulletin . . ."

4. Delete the deadline by which the election must be conducted (currently, the last meeting in April) (By-laws amendment to Art. V, sec. 3) by striking the last sentence in this section and replacing it with the following new language: *The approved list of nominees must be announced*

at two general meetings before the members may vote, except that having the list published in the bulletin prior to the general meeting in which the vote will occur will suffice for one of those two general meetings.

5. Admission to Membership (By-laws amendment to Art. II, sec. 1.c.). The Board may approve all applicants for membership (including Friends of Optimists) without publication of the application in the newsletter (as required in the current By-laws) or a general membership vote. This requires striking Art. II, sec. 1.c., which currently states that: "Notice of the application [for membership] shall be published in the Club bulletin to inform the membership so that all members will have the opportunity to state objection if any."

6. Equal Treatment for Friends of Optimists (By-laws amendment to Art. II). Add new Art, II, sec. 2, as follows: *Section 2. Friends of Optimists shall be admitted to the Club under the same procedures as all other applicants for membership and expelled from the Club pursuant to the same procedures as other members under these By-laws.*

7. Precondition for Applying for Membership (By-laws amendment to Art. II, sec. 1.a): After the current sentence add the following new sentence: *Attendance at two Meet & Greets or other equivalent generally advertised Optimist social event will satisfy the requirement that an applicant has attended at least one regular meeting as a prerequisite for consideration for induction.*