

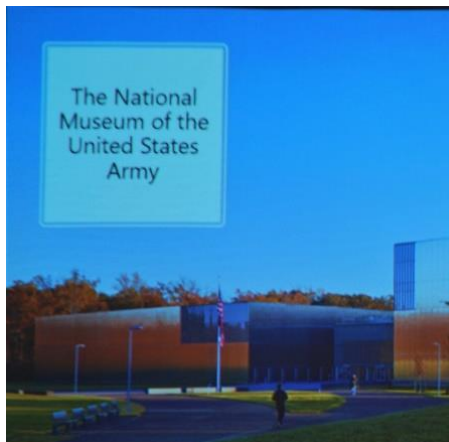
The Optimist Monthly

Friend of Youth
March 30, 2023



March

03/01: Army History Museum by Ted Edwards.



Ted told us about how the museum, which opened

Veteran's Day 2020, was funded and is continuing to expand. He explained there are 12 exhibits, representing various time periods in the US Army's history, which go from the its earliest days ("Founding a Nation") to the most recent engagements ("Modern Warfare") and a special exhibit that examines the relationship between the Army and American society. Thank you, Richard Knight, for inviting him.

03/15: "Arlington a Century Ago" by Peter Penczer. Peter is a "self-employed tour guide and historian" who has made available many photos of the early days

of Arlington. Photo below and the following description of the meeting submitted by Andreas Baltatzis: “Peter Penczer presented his collection of photographs and other documents showing Arlington from 100 years ago, [such as the one below of Hoover Field in the 1920’s (photo from the web)].



Peter showed some of the earliest mentions of Arlington during the name transition from Alexandria County. At that time the neighborhoods were connected by street car to Washington DC, as paved roads did not extend through the county. You could also take sightseeing airplanes rides from Washington airport, which is now the site of the Pentagon. Peter also shared the history of his own bungalow home that was moved from its original location. Peter was able to



travel down to Florida to meet the previous owner who shared pictures of historic Arlington.” Thank you, Frank O’Leary, for inviting him.

03/22: Meet & Greet at Texas Jack’s. This meeting was the first Optimist meeting



this year to present our grants to the youth clubs that we support. Steve Tinter, president of the Optimist Acorns Youth Rifle Club, was present to receive our Club’s grant from JB Whitlow.

Please see the article and photo at the end of this newsletter from Steve Tinter, explaining the many achievements of these young athletes. See photos left and below, taken by Brian Kellenberger.

A shout-out to Sandy Bushue for her

initiative in arranging times for all the sports clubs to join us at our meetings this year to receive their grants.



From l to r: Jeff Englander, Peter Wehmann, JB Whitlow, Chanda Choun, Steve Tinter (Optimist-Acorn Youth Rifle Club), Janette Reynolds (guest of our club), Gerry Marosek, Sue Gartner, Anne Zappas and Grace Dellapa (both guests of Chanda) and Steve Gerard (Assistant Scout Master with Troop 149). Missing from picture are Sandy Bushue, Chris Vargas (Scoutmaster Troop 149, who submitted payment to join), Dan Malatesta (a parent of a Troop 149 scout) and of course, Brian Kellenberger, who was taking the photo.

April – June

04/05: Elections in Arlington by Scott McGeary. Thank you, **Frank O'Leary**, for inviting him. WGCC at 12:15.

04/19: What's New on the Pike by Kim Klinger. Thank you, **Frank O'Leary**, for inviting him. WGCC at 12:15.

04/26: Meet & Greet at Texas Jack's. 5:30 to 7:00.

05/03: Save Our History! by Tom Dickinson. Thank you, **Frank O'Leary**, for inviting him. WGCC at 12:15.

05/17: Tales of the Treasurer's Office by Kevin Appel. Thank you, **Frank O'Leary**, for inviting him. WGCC at 12:15.

05/24: Meet & Greet at Texas Jack's. 5:30 to 7:00.

06/07: Paralyzed Veterans. The price they pay for their service by Susan Prokop.

President's Message by **Andreas Baltatzis**

Dear Optimists,

I want to wish you a happy Spring and look forward to seeing you at our lunches. I hope you can make it as we will be awarding checks to the sports organizations that we support throughout the year.

Here is the schedule for our awards so far:

- April 5 - AGSA (Arlington Girls Softball Association)
- April 19 - Babe Ruth, Hockey and Soccer
- May 5 - YULA

These would also be good events to invite a guest so they can see our great work supporting Arlington Youth.

Optimistically yours,

Andreas



Optimist Acorns

Steve Tinter, president and general manager of the Optimist Acorns Junior Rifle Club, provided us with the following statement and photo of this year's athletes.

"The Optimist's support is helping the Acorns continue their tradition of turning out young men and women who are able to compete at the highest levels on a 'national stage'. This year the Acorns athletes earned a total of 11 invites to compete at the USA Shooting National Junior Olympic Championship (including the Women's state champion in both smallbore and Air Rifle), to be held in April at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs as well as 15 slots at the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) Junior National Championship to be held in June at Camp Perry, Ohio, where they will compete against the top junior shooters from around the country."



mw: 146



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