

December 22, 2015

www.optimistclubofarlingtonva.org

The Optimist Monthly

Friend of Youth

Upcoming Events

January

1/06: Annual "Share Our Businesses" Luncheon. II Forno from 12:15 to 1:30.

1/20: TBA. WGCC at 12:15.

1/27: Meet 'n' Greet resumes at II Forno from 5:30 to 7:00 pm.

Christmas Tree Lot Report



Sandy Bushue provides the following report:

By the time we closed the lot on Dec. 20, we sold all but 11 of the 2,100 trees this



December

12/01 & 08 : Second and Third Loads of Christmas Trees Arrived. Thank you Sandy Bushue for all your hard and effective work to find, buy, and schedule the tree sales. Many Optimists helped with both unloadings. Unloading on Dec. 8:



Several Optimists who unloaded trees on Dec. 8: Brian Kellenberger, Jack O'Leary, John Karinshak, Sue Gartner, Barry Jackson (the truck driver), and ISCC's 2015 Man of the Year, Richard Knight. [Photo by Peter Wehmann] Other unloaders included Matt Kuhns, JB Whitlow, Barbara Nicastro, and Dick McHugh.

year! Although I don't have the numbers yet, it looks like we have had another record year, despite having fewer days between Thanksgiving and Christmas. I have sent several broadcast emails to the Club members, so I will not repeat everything here.



Sandy Bushue at Christmas Breakfast recognizing JB Whitlow for his invaluable service on the tree lot.

Thank you, everyone, for making this -- our 69th year of Christmas tree sales -- another banner year!! I will present a formal report to the club once all the receipts are in. For tree lot photos, see last page of this newsletter. Sandy Bushue.

Richard Knight again arranged for the Phoenix House to come out both days to help able-bodied Optimists to unload another 1200+ trees to keep up with brisk sales.

Sandy, you tirelessly work to make this critical fundraiser seem effortless, while taking so little credit for yourself. Thank you very much from all of us!!!!

12/02: Encore Stage and Studio. Sara Strehle Duke, the Executive Director of Encore Stage and Studio, told us about this innovative acting workshop for children. Thank you, Gloria Mora, for arranging for her to speak to us.



Sara Strehle Duke, Trish O'Hara's guest at the Christmas Breakfast, talking with Whiz Mountain.

12/16: Christmas Breakfast. We heard the Yorktown Chamber Choir and our guest speaker, Pastor Drew Hill of Memorial Baptist Church [photo below opposite].



Pastor Drew Hill

Thank you, Brian Kellenberger, for once again managing this wonderful event. **GREATJOB** (and classy program, below)!!

<p>Welcome Matt Kuhns, President Arlington Optimist Club</p> <p>Invocation Major Lewis Rockfeme Salvation Army</p> <p>Breakfast Buffet</p> <p>Induction of New Members Matt Kuhns</p> <p>Introductions Brian Kellenberger Christmas Breakfast Chairman</p> <p>Entertainment The Chamber Choir from Yorktown High School Roger Oliver, Director</p>	<p>Program</p> <p><i>Hope and Positive Vision</i></p> <p>OPTIMISTS- BRINGING OUT THE BEST IN KIDS</p> <p><i>Happy Holidays!</i></p>	<p>Speaker Pastor Drew Hill Memorial Baptist Church</p> <p>Closing Remarks Brian Kellenberger</p> <p>Songs Hark the Herald's Angel Sing O Come All Ye Faithful</p> <p>Benediction Lieutenant Alvaro Porras Salvation Army</p>
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Yorktown Chamber Choir, directed by Roger Oliver.

At the breakfast, Gail Lecce (sponsored by Ann Vito) and Betsy Cody (sponsored by Sue Gartner) [photo below] were inducted by President Matt Kuhns.



Stephen Toth, Tricia O'Hara, and Sue Gartner at the breakfast.



Also, please read Scott McCaffrey's very positive article in the Sun Gazette (posted Dec. 18) covering this event.

Ed. It is with considerable pride that I am pleased to send out this,

my 50th Optimist Newsletter! My thanks to the Optimists who helped produce this one, including Matt Kuhns, Brian Kellenbeger, Sue Gartner, Tricia O'Hara, Sandy Bushue, Peter Wehmann, and Frank O'Leary.

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

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**Christmas Tree Lot
Photos for 2015:**

12-20: Christmas Tree Lot Closes: after all but 11 of the 2,100 trees are sold! See Sandy Bushue's remarks opposite, above, and please take a look at some photos from the tree lot, below.





John Karinshak and new member Gail Lecce at the pod on Dec. 12.



Yorktown National Honor Society volunteers Molly Apsel, Amelia Johnston, and Lindsay Smith.



Gerry Marosek with an Optimist-sponsored soccer team member.



Any tree, so long as its a Fraser.



Mark Whintonon handing tree to OAR volunteer.



Terrible winter weather on Dec. 12 did not hurt sales.



Phil Juliano, president of Arlington Babe Ruth Baseball, with his volunteers.



Future customer (and Optimist)?



Inducted on Dec. 2, new Optimist Leigh Hurley (sponsored by Sandy Bushue) selling a fine tree on Dec. 14.



25-year customer Sidney Chetta (since 1990) and son, Tim.



Greg Clough, Andreas Baltastis, Mark Whintonon, John Karinshak



Almost all the trees sold well, even the biggest ones!