

March 27, 2015

[www.optimistclubofarlingtonva.org](http://www.optimistclubofarlingtonva.org)

# The Optimist Monthly

## Friend of Youth

### Upcoming Events

#### April

4/01: The Arlington Streetcar -- Lessons Learned. Our guest speaker is Peter Rousellot, founder of Arlingtonians for Sensible Transit. Thank you, Sue Gartner, for inviting him. WGCC at 12:15.

4/08: OAR's Second Chance Fundraising Breakfast. OAR assignees provided substantial help during the entire 2014 Christmas tree sales. Thank you, Sandy



#### March

3/04: Helping Families of Seriously Ill Children Cope with Stress. Claudia Lewis, Director of Community Relations and Media Contact for Ronald McDonald House in Greater Washington, D.C. Thank you, Jim Norris, for arranging for her.



Bushue, for providing us this opportunity to thank OAR. Sheraton Pentagon City, Arlington, from 7:45 - 9:00 am.

**4/15: The American Dream and Reverse Mortgages.**

Reverse mortgage specialist Richard Wills and our own Conley Ricker will present a program on the advantages, disadvantages, and projected costs of taking on a reverse mortgage. Thank you, Conley. WGCC at 12:15.

**4/22: Meet 'n' Greet.**

Willow: 5:30 to 7:00 pm.

**4/22: Oratorical Finals** for Swanson and O'Connell contestants. Swanson Intermediate School at 6:30.

## May

**5/6: Carla de la Pava.** Our most recent member is

**3/06: Hockey Match Between Yorktown & W-L.** Our Club supports both teams. At this "grudge" contest, Yorktown won 4 to 1 -- however Yorktown has many more seniors graduating out than does W-L. So it seems next year is up for grabs. Thank you, John Karinshak, for putting together this opportunity for the Arlington Optimist Club to showcase its support.



Club President Mark Whinton drops the ceremonial puck. Photo courtesy of Amy Puglisi, head of Arlington Youth Hockey.



Optimists Stephen Toth and John Karinshak.

Arlington County's new Treasurer (and successor to Optimist Frank O'Leary), will update us on Arlington's finances and the challenges of running for election.

Thank you, Ann Vito, for inviting her. WGCC at 12:15.

**5/20: Luncheon:** Oratorical Contest Winners! Please come and hear these six talented intermediate school students give their thoughts on "How My Optimism Will Help Me Press On To the Greater Achievements of the Future." Thank you, Richard Knight, for chairing this program again this year. WGCC at 12:15.

**5/27: Meet 'n' Greet.**

Willow: Please come and bring prospective members!

5:30 to 7:00 pm.

## **Announcements**

**New Members:** At the

**3/18: Essay Contest Winners.** We heard the thoughts of students on "Optimism Should Be Our Priority." This year's Essay Contest winners are all from Bishop O'Connell: 1st Place is Caitlin Mea; 2nd Place is Madeline O'Brien; and 3rd Place is Katherine Katz. Congratulations to you all! Caitlin Mea's essay has been automatically forwarded to the District competition. Caitlin should hear back on the District results by April 30. Thank you, Erica Burson, for serving as Essay Contest Chairman for your 13th year! And thank you, Tricia O'Hara and Brian Kellenberger, for assisting Erica this year in judging the essays!



Erica Burson, Catlin Mea, Madeline O'Brien, and Katherine Katz.

March 18 luncheon. we inducted two new members: Carla de la Pava, sponsored by Sue Gartner and introduced by Carla's previous boss, Frank O'Leary ; and Steve Bouchard, sponsored and introduced by friend, JB Whitlow. Please take a moment next time you see them to congratulate them and get to know them!



*Frank O'Leary, JB Whitlow, Steve Bouchard, and Carla de la Pava*

**Reminder: New Website Address:** Please note our Club's new website is: [www.optimistclubofarlingtonva.org](http://www.optimistclubofarlingtonva.org). Sorry it is a long



*First place winner: Caitlin Mea, Freshman*



*Second place winner: Madeline O'Brian, Junior*



*Third place winner: Katherine Katz, Junior*

address, but it is descriptive and, more importantly, differentiates us from the Arlington, Texas club. Our Club's new email address: [info@optimistclubofarlingtonva.org](mailto:info@optimistclubofarlingtonva.org).

Also, we want to recognize O'Connell English Teacher Mary Lou Wentzel for her support of the Essay Contest. For more than a decade, this dedicated educator has helped O'Connell students improve their writing skills by participating in the Optimist Essay contest.



Erica Burson, Caitlin Mea, Madeline O'Brien, Katherine Katz, teacher Mary Lou Wentzel, and O'Connell Assistant Head of School Carl Patton.

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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