

# The Optimist Monthly

## Friend of Youth



June  
2019

### June

**6/05: Dr. Irma Becerra, President, Mary Mount University.** Dr. Becerra gave us a thorough briefing on the very positive changes she has made to expand the undergraduate and graduate programs, as well as substantially increase the size of the student body. She also noted that Mary Mount has more international students than most colleges in the area.



Dr. Becerra and Erin Mendenhall, who invited her to the luncheon.

Also at the luncheon, it was announced that the Board of Directors has approved the slate proposed by the Nominating Committee, chaired by Clayton Depue, for the 2019-2020 Officers and Directors. The slate is as follows:

President: Mark Z (automatic)  
VP: Sandy Bushue  
VP: Richard Knight  
Treasurer: Gerry Marosek  
Secretary: Shandra Niswander (new)  
President-Elect: Jeff Englander (new)  
Past President: Mark Whintont (automatic)  
Senior Board members with one year left;  
1. Michal Simek (automatic)  
2. Brian Kellenberger (automatic)  
3. Bob Patton (new -- was Shandra).  
New Board members with two years (2019-2021):  
1. Erin Mendenhall (since she only filled a partial term)  
2. Erica Burson  
3. Andreas Baltatzis

Thank you, Clayton, from all of us, for seeing the completion of this slate.

**6/19: Paul Ferguson**, ex-Arlington County Board member (1996-2007) and now Clerk of the Circuit Court of Arlington and Falls Church. Paul gave us information on his duties as Clerk, which includes issuing the most marriage licenses for our area. He related many interesting anecdotes about several Club members. He also had several interesting stories about ex-congressman Charlie Wilson. Thank you, **Frank O'Leary**, for inviting your long-time friend, Paul. See photo below.



Also at the luncheon, the members voted for the Optimist Board slate for 2019-2020 by acclamation, after a motion by **Clayton Depue**.

**6/26: Meet and Greet.** With the Westin Hotel's bar closed for renovations, **Shandra Niswander** was able to arrange for the Residence Inn. See, photo below, provided by Shandra, who suggests that this event included the youngest attendee ever.



From left to right: **Shandra Niswander**; **Richard Knight**; **Chanda Choun**; **Tricia O'Hara**; **Jeff Englander**; **Robert Roudik** holding his daughter, Molly; and **Peter Wehmann**. Not in the photo are **Shelly Bennett** and **Sandy Bushue**.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **July**

**No Luncheon on July 3.**

**7/17: Lucy Bowen McCauley, Founder and Artistic Director of Bowen McCauley Dance Company.** Thank you, **Linda Chandler,** for arranging for this speaker. WGCC at 12:15.

**7/24: Meet & Greet.** Back again at the Westin 5:30 to 7:00. Please join us and bring a prospective member!

## **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: To be determined.** 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 and Greets resume.** Westin Hotel from 5:30 to 7:00.

## **Notice: Proposed changes to the By-laws.**

These proposed amendments, approved by the Board on May 14, will be voted on during the luncheon on July 17.

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 serving Board members, 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.*

## **Loss of A Valued Colleague: Lloyd Hicks**

**Sandy Bushue provides this note to the membership:**

We lost a great Optimist last week, Lloyd Hicks.

Lloyd lived the Optimist creed to its fullest. He was a regular attendee of the lunches and an important team member of the Optimist Tree Committee. Lloyd ensured the tree lot had saws that were operable and sharpened. He helped with signage and was a daily lot manager a few seasons. Lloyd moved to his beloved Williamsburg a few years ago I believe.

His obituary (below) outlines more about Lloyd. I was aware of this football coaching talents. He loved the game and his pottery skills were renown.

We lost a great man and God gained a great angel.

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/washingtonpost/obituary.aspx?n=lloyd-hicks&pid=193278985>

Sandy Bushue



**mw: 102**

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