

The Optimist Monthly

Friend of Youth

July 2020



July

07/15: Luncheon at WGCC! Our first luncheon back since March was a welcome opportunity for many to socialize once again. In lieu of the scheduled speaker, Frank O'Leary explained the different forms of electoral contests that occur in Virginia (General Election, Special Election, Primary, Closed Party Caucus, Open Party Caucus) and the concept of "plurality" versus "majority" outcomes. Frank



then followed by discussing some of his pet peeves - misunderstood expressions and words commonly improperly used or understood in English (For example: "*Can't cut the mustard!*" doesn't sound physically challenging does it? - "*Can't cut the muster!*" is the correct expression - "unfit for military service."

During the luncheon, President Mark Zetlin presented Club Treasurer Gerry Marosek with the Club's Optimist of the Quarter award. Congratulations, Gerry!

July 22: Meet & Greet: was held Texas Jack's BBQ from 5:30 to 7:00, but COVID concerns dampened attendance. Better attendance is hoped for September 23, when Meet & Greets are scheduled to resume.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 5: President-Elect Jeff Englander, manager of this year's Essay Contest, is bringing two of the three Essay Contest winners (see the Optimist Monthly of March 2020). They will be presenting their essays to us. WGCC at 12:15.

August 19: As customary, there is no second luncheon planned for August.

August 26: As customary, there will be no August Meet & Greet.

September 2: Erin Mendenhall and Jenn Winter will be presenting "Fighting Poverty in Kenya." Thank you, Erin for volunteering to speak to us. WGCC at 12:15.

September 16: To Be Announced. WGCC at 12:15.

September 23: Meet & Greet at Texas Jack's BBQ from 5:30 to 7:00.

President's Message

Fellow Optimists!

I hope everyone is safe and healthy in these challenging times!

Although we have difficult circumstances we are in phase 3 of reopening in Virginia!

That means that indoor dining has resumed with social distancing in place. That also means that we have restarted our luncheons and Meet and Greet happy hours!

It means that we can get back to exposing potential recruits to our club and our culture!

Please join us for a luncheon again soon if you have not been to one lately!

And please remember your friends, neighbor and business contacts in telling them about our great club and the work we do!

Stay safe,

Mark Zetlin

Website Update

Sandy Bushue provides the following report:

We have spent the last three months redoing the Optimist website. The task is now complete and I encourage you to take a look if you have not already done so.

www.optimistclubofarlington.org.

The new website has many new features including:

- ability to submit new member application and \$45 registration fee - electronically**
- ability to accept on-line donations**
- ability to pay dues on-line**
- ability to join the member section titled “Members Only”. This section acts as an archive and provides access to various documents to include current By Laws, Program Information, Directory and the entire of collection of past newsletters.**

Bob Bohle receives credit as the webmaster who has worked tirelessly and cheerfully on this project. He also set up a twitter, instagram and LinkedIn account for us and has been tweeting and posting information about our Club.

Bob, thank you for your excellent work.

Debbie Whitenton and Gerry Marosek played a critical role in assisting in setting up the Pay Pal account. They worked very hard. Greg Clough recommended Bob and helped with some of the technical features. To those who provided information on the program - Jeff Englander and Richard Knight - a big thank you. Most importantly, a big thank you to Mark Zetlin who pushed and led this effort that was long over-due.

2020 Optimist Tree Lot Report by Sandy Bushue



The tree lot Committee had its first planning meeting this past week. The meeting began by welcoming Chanda Choun who agreed to be a weekly tree lot captain.

The Committee unanimously agreed to proceed with the tree sales adhering to any COVID requirements. Since tree selling is a 100% outdoor activity, the Committee believes that tree sales may not be adversely impacted by COVID.

Acorns and BabeRuth Baseball, sport teams that benefit from the lot, communicated that they are 100% on-board with the 2020 Optimist Club tree lot and will provide volunteers. We are also checking in with our other sports teams.

There are 2 positions that must be filled. A daily lot manager (maybe 2) and someone to be in charge of White House ornaments are needed. If you are interested, please let me know.

Tree lot season is only 3.5 months away.

NOTICE OF BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS

Optimist International (O/I) is requiring all Clubs to conform their By-Laws to a standard format with standard language on many subjects. Our current By-Laws are substantively very close, but a number of provisions need to be revised to use O/I's specific verbiage. Also, some re-ordering and modest re-naming of our

titles was required. For your information, a summary of the changes is provided in the Appendix to this newsletter. The Board of Directors has approved of the draft changes. Since these changes are compulsory and no additional changes were made to our current By-laws, this Board-approved version has been submitted to O/I for its approval. Thank you, Bob Patton and Mark Whitenton, for incorporating the O/I amendments into the current Club By-laws, and Bob, for preparing this summary of changes. A copy of the revised By-laws is now available on the Club website in the " Members Only" section.



mw: 115

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

Appendix

**NEW BY-LAWS FOR THE
OPTIMIST CLUB OF ARLINGTON
WITH PROVISIONS MANDATED BY
OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL**

7-26-20

Summary of Changes

Article I. Name: OI mandated

Article II. Mission: OI mandated

Article III: Membership

- 1. OI mandated. Do not know if this poses a problem for non-Club tree lot persons.**
- 2. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. I, section 1.**
- 3. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. I, section 2**
- 4. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. I, section 3**
- 5. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. I, section 4**
- 6. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. I, section 5**

Article IV: Admission to Membership – Same as Club By-Laws, Art. IV except added a Section

- 2 which is identical to existing Club By-Laws, Art. X, section 1.**

Article V: Termination of Membership

- 1. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. III, section 1.**
- 2. OI mandated. Differs from existing Club By-Laws, Art. II, section 2 by reducing to 2 the number of missed payments of dues, and upon payment of dues in arrears within the 30 days, reinstatement is automatic. If no such payment, termination is automatic.**
- 3. OI mandated. Nearly identical to existing Club By-Laws, Art. III, section 3 except includes conduct unbecoming to OI. Does not address whether any explanation is necessary. Suggest not mandating explanation and leave to the**

Board's discretion whether to provide explanation under the circumstances presented in each case.

4. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. III, Section 4.
5. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. III, Section 5.

Article VI: Directors.

1. OI mandated. Existing Club By-Laws, Art. VII does not address the minimum required number of directors. Perhaps could say "As of the date of the amendment to these By-Laws, the Club Board of Directors consist of four directors." Also suggest phrasing: "Beginning October 1, 2020, two (2) directors are to be elected each year and two (2) other directors are to be elected every year subsequent."
2. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. VII, section 1.
3. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. VII, section 2 but existing language on vacancy is duplicative of OI mandated section 1 and is suggested to be deleted.
4. Same as Club By-Laws, Art. VII, section 3.

Article VII: Officers. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. VI.

Article VIII. Election Procedure

1. OI mandated the first sentence, which is same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. V, section 1. [Does the Club have a Sr. Vice President and Vice President? If not, should this be changed?]
2. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. VI, section 3, except last sentence on Friends of Optimist, mandated by OI.
3. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. VI, section 3.
- 4-10. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. VI, sections 4-10

Article IX Meetings:

1. OI mandated with addition of existing Club By-Laws, Art. IV, section 1 as to once a month.
2. OI mandated Suggest changing Presiding Officer to President.
3. OI mandated. Suggest dropping reference to French-speaking clubs.
4. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. IV, section 3.

Article X. Revenue

1. OI mandated
- 2-6. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. VIII, section 1-5.

Article XI. Committees. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. VIII.

Article XII. Miscellaneous

1. OI mandated. Suggest omitting word "Clubs".
2. OI mandated. Same as existing Club By-Law, Art. VIII, section 5.
3. OI mandated.

4. OI mandated. Replaces existing Club By-Laws, Art. X, section 4.

5. OI mandated.

6. OI mandated

7. OI mandated.

8-9. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. X, sections 2 and 3.

10-13. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. X, section 6-9 and 11. Section 10 is deleted as duplicative of Art. IX, section 4.

Article XIII. Not For Profit Organization: OI mandated and same as Club By-Laws, Art. XIII.

Article XIV. Amendments.

1. OI mandated.

2. OI mandated.

Article XV. Dissolution

1. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. XV, section 1.

2. OI mandated.

3. OI mandated.

Article XVI. Indemnification of Directors and Officers. Same as existing Club By-Laws, Art. XVI.