

# The Optimist Monthly

Friend of Youth

November 2020



## November

**11/0 4: The World War I Memorial by Edwin Fountain. Thank you again, Frank O'Leary, for inviting him. (Photo, left, provided by Bob Bohle). It was an action packed meeting! In addition to Edwin's terrific presentation, Jeff Englander presented our Past President, Mark Zetlin, with a plaque thanking him for a job very well done during this past year. (Photo, right below, provided by Bob Bohle).**



**Finally, Jeff inducted Bob Bohle, who has been improving our website as the new "website master" and added our presence on FaceBook. See photo, left, also provided by Bob Bohle.**



**11/18: Prison Reforms** by Jeffrey Washington had to be POSTPONED due to the most recent Covid restrictions imposed by Richmond. Thank you yet again, **Frank O'Leary**, for inviting him and trying to schedule him again next year.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**December 2: Delegate Patrick Hope.** Thank you, **Frank O'Leary**, for arranging for this speaker. WGCC at 12:15. Please RSVP to **Debbie Whitenton** (debd509@aol.com) if you can attend. **NOTE:** This will be the last Optimist event (other than the comradeship at the Christmas Tree lot) for 2020.

**December 16: CANCELLED - Annual Christmas Breakfast:** Unfortunately, the current Covid restrictions require nine-time Christmas Breakfast manager, **Brian Kellenberger**, to cancel this year's event. No luncheon is planned for this day, nor is there a Meet & Greet in December.

## **President's Message by Jeff Englander**

Dear fellow Optimists,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday celebration. We have a lot to be thankful for this year despite the virus effecting our lives. Even with the virus, we have vaccines on the near horizon. Hopefully, we will have everyone back at our luncheons and happy hours in the next few months. We miss you!

Our calendar year is ending on a great note! We are running well ahead of the daily tree sales of years past. Approximately 750 trees sold in three days. That is AMAZING! WOW! Thanks all around to the members of the tree committee and the volunteers who worked so hard to make this event happen.

Since October 1<sup>st</sup>, we have had seven new members who have filled out their applications online. John Hilton and Bob Bohle have been sworn in as members. The remaining five will be sworn in soon.

All is great from a Club perspective. May you and your families stay healthy and safe.

Optimistically yours,

Jeff

## Optimist Tree Lot Update: by Sandy Bushue



We are off to a great start. We made the front page of the Sun Gazette!!! Kudos to Tricia O'Hara!!! See the article at [https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/d85df45a-d226-4bc2-800c-75a1d56073e2/downloads/Arlington 11-26-20.pdf?ver=1606306421924](https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/d85df45a-d226-4bc2-800c-75a1d56073e2/downloads/Arlington%2011-26-20.pdf?ver=1606306421924) .

The unloading party was last Tuesday. The Phoenix House and the “guys on the street” were our helpers. See photos in Appendix 2, below. That was just one of two trucks!

PLEASE check the lot schedule in Appendix 1 and note your dates and times!!!! If you cannot find the schedule, please let me know and I will resend.

I am pleased to report on the wonderful job JB Whitlow and crew did in building the lot!! It is really fabulous. Best one to date!

I have checked out our lot security patrol in the early morning hours a few days ago. Our “guard” is great -- I sure would not mess with him!!! There will be no “tree snatching” with him there! Also, he has it all mapped out.

Brian Kellenberger is the lot captain this week. Three cheers for Brian!!!! Let's support him here! Attached as Appendix 3 is the list of responsibilities of the tree lot captains.

Note: Our grower cannot deliver trees on Tuesday, December 1. The new unloading date is Wednesday, December 2 at 8:00 a.m.!!!! This is the last and smallest tree load so please join us if you can!!! It should go fast. Sorry to have to change this date!!! The truck scheduling is always the biggest challenge!! I hope one year we can get it perfect. Richard Knight arranged his calendar to accommodate this change. Thank you Richard!!!

Kudos to Brian Kellenberger this weekend. He was hopping-busy as the first tree lot captain of the 2020 tree lot season. It appears we had a record breaking weekend. Michal Simek reported that trees were selling “briskly”. Everyone showed up for their shift! A big thank you to Sue Gartner, Peter Wehmann, Michal Simek, Tim Landis (newest member), Collin Brown (past member) and

Barbara Nicastro. I think Brian Kellenberger worked every day and recruited his son who is home from college!!!

Thank you to all of you!!! You ARE making a difference!!! **Please join the unloading party on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2 at 8:00 am!!!!**

Optimistically and hoping all of you had a Happy Thanksgiving - we have so much to be thankful for!!!

Sandy Bushue

### Two Thanksgiving Day photos from Fellow Optimists:



Sue Gartner & Peter Wehmann dining out.  
(Photo by Peter)



Debbie & Mark Whitenton wishing all a Happy Thanksgiving. (Photo by Mark)



**mw: 119**  
**Optimist Club of Arlington 16-005;**  
**Mid-Atlantic Region 3;**  
**Capital- Virginia District 16;**  
**Northern Virginia Zone 4;**  
**[www.optimistclubofarlingtonva.org](http://www.optimistclubofarlingtonva.org)**

# Appendix 1: Christmas Tree Lot Schedule (November 20) by Sandy Bushue



## Tree Lot Calendar 2020 SCHEDULE (Final 11/20/2020)

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** If you need to change your scheduled date and time, it is up to you to find your replacement. Out of courtesy, please contact the lot captain who is responsible for that week:  
 11/27-12/4: Brian Kellenberger (kellenbergerbk@gmail.com / 703.501.0343); 12/5-12/11: Andreas Baltatzis (abaltatzis@gmail.com / 703.862.3452);  
 12/12-12/18: Jeff Englander (Englanderjettrey@gmail.com / 703.300.3028); 12/18-12/22: Bob Patton (rpattin@hotmail.com / 703.981.3412).  
 The Optimist directory is on the website at [www.optimistclubofarlingtonva.org](http://www.optimistclubofarlingtonva.org). Please sign-up as a member to access the directory.  
 You may want to do so now.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>BABERUTH 11/27</b>	<b>BABERUTH 11/28</b>
						12:00 - 4:00 p.m. Gartner/Wehmann	5:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Simek
						4:00 - 8:00 p.m. Kellenberger	1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Kellenberger
							5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Landis/Drew
	<b>BABERUTH 11/29</b>	<b>BABERUTH 11/30</b>	<b>BABERUTH 12/1</b>	<b>BABERUTH 12/2</b>	<b>BABERUTH 12/3</b>	<b>BABERUTH 12/4</b>	<b>BABERUTH/YULA 12/5</b>
<b>Captain: Kellenberger</b>	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Nicastro/Collins	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Gartner/Wehmann	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Bohle	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Whitenton's	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Bouchard	Noon - 5:00 p.m. Gartner/Wehmann	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Bushue/O'Hara
	1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Kellenberger	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Bushue	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Whitow	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Zetlin	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. White	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. White	1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Baltatzis
	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Simek						5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Choun/Drew
	<b>BABERUTH/YULA 12/6</b>	<b>BABERUTH/YULA 12/7</b>	<b>BABERUTH/YULA 12/8</b>	<b>BABERUTH/YULA 12/9</b>	<b>BABERUTH/YULA 12/10</b>	<b>AOBS 12/11</b>	<b>12/12</b>
<b>Captain: Baltatzis</b>	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Landis/Collins	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Bouchard	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. TBD	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Bushue	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Bouchard	Noon - 5:00 p.m. Bushue	<b>ACORNS ALL DAY/ EVERY SHIFT</b>
	1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Simek/Choun	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Bushue	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Baltatzis	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Zetlin	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Baltatzis	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Russell/Collins	
	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Simek						
	<b>12/13</b>	<b>AOBS 12/14</b>	<b>AOBS 12/15</b>	<b>AOBS 12/16</b>	<b>AOBS 12/17</b>	<b>12/18</b>	<b>12/19</b>
<b>Captain: Englander</b>	<b>ACORNS ALL DAY/ EVERY SHIFT</b>	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Hilton	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Whitow	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Hilton	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Whitenton's	Noon - 5:00 p.m. Whitow	9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. TBD
		5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Englander	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Englander	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Englander	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. TBD	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. TBD	1:00 - 5:00 p.m. TBD
							5:00 - 8:00 p.m. TBD
	<b>12/20</b>	<b>12/21</b>	<b>12/22</b>	<b>LOT MANAGERS:</b> Gerry Marosek and Erica Burson are the daily lot managers. Erica will open the lot Monday - Thursday by 2:00 pm. Gerry will open the lot on Friday at Noon and Saturday and Sunday by 9:00 am.			
<b>Captain: Patton</b>	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. TBD	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. TBD	2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Whitow	Here is their contact information: <b>Gerry Marosek</b> 571.275.0697 (gmarosek@retnischcompanies.com) and <b>Erica Burson</b> 703.524.1921 (egum@verizon.net). The Lot Captains will close the lot on their assigned weeks shown along the side of the calendar.			
	1:00 - 5:00 p.m. TBD	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. TBD	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. TBD				
	5:00 - 8:00 p.m. TBD						

## Appendix 2: Christmas Tree Lot Construction and Tree Unloading



Pod placement with JB Whitlow helping. (Photo by Clayton Depue)



Second of two truckloads before the opening. (Photo by Peter Wehmann)



Unloading team. (Photo by Peter)



Unloading team at work. (Photo by Peter).



Unloading team finishing a big job. (Photo by Peter).

# Appendix 3: Tree Lot Captains Responsibilities

By Sandy Bushue



## Optimist Club of Arlington LOT MANAGER and LOT CAPTAINS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### VOLUNTEER TASKS

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, volunteers cannot park in the parking lot. Please find parking on neighborhood street. The parking lot is for customers only!

Follow CDC Guidelines at all times: 6' FEET APART and MASKS MANDATORY for all volunteers.

**MAX LOT CAPACITY: 25**

### Coaches & Parents

- 1) An Optimist is the cashier (Only)
- 2) Operating the chain saws safely  
Note chainsaw operations: (Safety is paramount)
  - Wear goggles if needed
  - Keep hands away from saw; grip safety shield on saw
  - Ensure saw has oil throughout the shift
  - Ensure there is NO string near saw blade; the string will gum up the saw causing it to not work
  - Clear customers and volunteers from saw area at all times particularly when operating saw
  - Use gloves
- 3) Organize youth and other volunteers on lot
  - Helping Customers with trees
  - Tying trees to the top of cars
  - Cutting twine and making rolls to be used to tie trees on cars
  - Sweeping lot
  - Replenishing trees at the end of every shift
- 4) Tree lot merchandise available:
  - Fraser Fir Trees and White Pine
  - Wreaths
  - Garland
  - White House tree Ornaments
  - Medium size tree stands
- 5) For any emergency or if you have questions:  
Contact lot captain for the week as noted on the Optimist lot schedule calendar. Captain information is at the top.

### Youth Volunteers

- 1) Review lot set up  
(Trees are organized by size)
- 2) Assist Customers in finding a tree:
  - Determine size
  - Pull tree out and twirl around
  - When customer selects a tree, carry to front of "shell" for fresh cut
  - Tie trees on top of cars
- 3) Sweep Lot/Keep tidy
- 4) Make twine rolls to be used to tie trees on top of cars
- 5) Replenish trees
- 6) Be courteous and optimistic at all times