

The Optimist Monthly

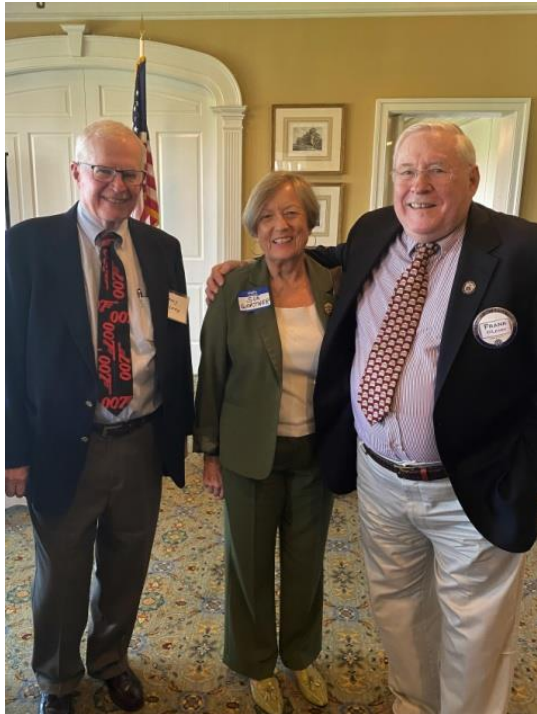
Friend of Youth

April 2021



April

04/07: Dr. Gerald K. Haines, former Chief Historian of the Central Intelligence Agency; presented *The Importance of Aerial Observation in Collecting Intelligence.* Dr. Gerald K. Haines served as the CIA's expert on flying saucers. However, at our luncheon, Frank O'Leary summarizes his discussion as follows:



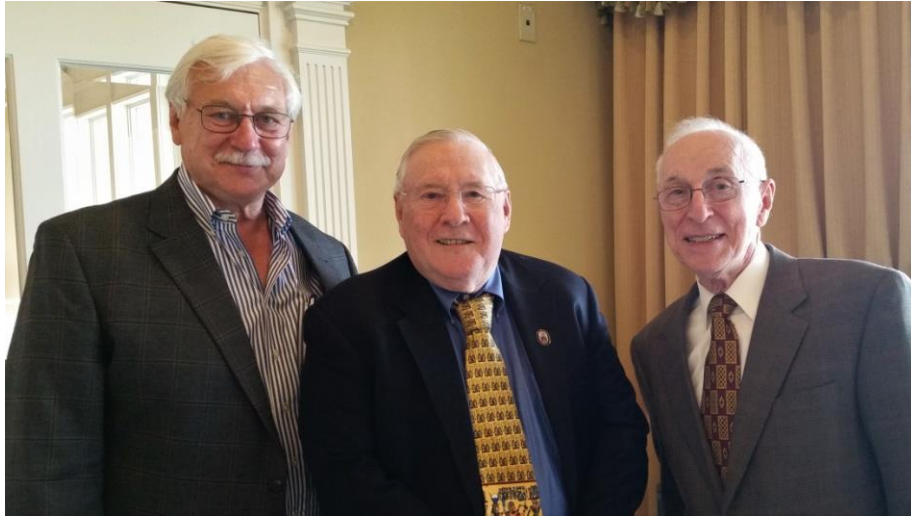
Dr. Haines spoke on the importance of aerial observation in collecting military intelligence and assessing our adversaries' capabilities. He charted the CIA's development in this area starting with ultra high (70,000 feet) balloons which were explained as weather balloons when they frequently crashed at places like Roswell, NM. He continued with Kelly Johnson of Lockheed and the "Skunk Works" and how Johnson aggressively promoted his genius aircraft - the U2. He closed with the accomplishments and characteristics of the SR-71 Blackbird (coast to coast in one hour at 2,700 MPH).

Thank you, Frank O'Leary, for encouraging him to reschedule again to share his information with us. (See photo, above, of Dr. Haines, Sue Gartner and Frank O'Leary provided by Brian Kellenberger).

04/21: Scott McCaffrey addressed the question, *Has Arlington Lost Its "Way?"* The "Arlington Way" when first promulgated by the County Board emphasized decision-making that maximized the involvement of the citizenry.



Thank you, Frank O'Leary, for inviting Scott, who has always been a special friend to our Club and has always been receptive to Tricia O'Hara's press requests on our behalf. (See above photo of Scott's talk, provided by Jeff Englander).



Attending the luncheon were “The three Treasurers”: Gerry Marosek; former Arlington County Treasurer, Frank O’Leary; and long-time member and past Club

Treasurer, Larry Gaydos, who was invited by Sue Gartner. (Photo by Peter Wehmann).

Peter Wehmann provided the following reflections on Scott McCaffrey's talk:

Scott is the long-time Editor of the Arlington Sun Gazette -- since 1994. He spoke about the relative stability and continuity of Arlington



County Board members, and John Vihstadt's one-term service as an Independent. Also, which was enlightening to me, was the fact that unlike other constituencies, the Arlington County Board appoints/hires/fires the County Manager, rather than having him elected, as a Mayor would be. (See Peter Wehmann's photo, upper right, of Scott with Frank O’Leary, who arranged for Scott to speak to us).

04/28: Meet & Greet at Texas Jack's. Several potential members were present at Thursday's meet and greet. See photo, next page, provided by Sue Gartner.



From l.to r.: Brian Kellenberger, Peter Wehmann, Chanda Choun, Sue Gartner, Jannette Reynolds (friend of Lola Reinsch), Jeff Englander and Gavin Authier (guest).

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR MAY

05/05: Our speaker will be Jeff Washington. Jeff will address "the American Correctional System, Can It Be Improved? As provided by Frank O'Leary, who invited him:

Jeffrey Washington, our speaker on May 5, has served as Deputy Executive Director for the American Correctional Association since August 1995. Serving under the Executive Director conducting Association business, he is responsible for liaison between the Executive Director and Association staff, and liaison to the press and media. In the absence of the Executive Director, he serves as the Executive Director, attending to Association business and making key decisions relating to the day-to-day operation of the Association and overall operations. He meets with the Executive Committee, with the Executive Director, to set Association goals and objectives and he travels nationwide to promote the Association and national correctional policies.

Mr. Washington has served in many positions for the American Correctional Association from 1995-present. Those positions include regional administrator, deputy administrator, administrator, director and deputy executive director. In 1998, he was proud to serve as best man in the wedding of our May 19 speaker, Jim Turpin.

05/19: Jim Turpin will speak to us about "Political Symbols - Foreign and Domestic. Jim was invited by Frank O'Leary, who provides the following:

Jim Turpin, our speaker on May 19, will be addressing the subject of how political symbols and posters are employed by political parties. He is the proud possessor of hundreds of such items and an expert authority on the subject.

Jim is a graduate, with Honors and Distinction, from the Virginia Military Institute. He also did graduate work in Public Administration at the University of Virginia and holds post graduate certificates in government relations from George Washington University.

Professionally, Jim has a long record of advocacy for trade and professional associations at the state, federal, and international levels. His current and past clients include the Virginia Waste Industries Association, National Solid Waste Management Association, American NuKem, Horsehead Industries, American Correctional Association, and the American Subcontractors Association, OneVirginia2021, and the Virginia Wine Council. Working with the Virginia General Assembly, since 1976, he has successfully lobbied on a number of high profile and controversial, including solid and hazardous waste and juvenile justice reform. This past year, Jim led the lobbying effort for the recently passed Constitutional Amendment changing the method used for redistricting legislative districts. Jim also served as Chair of the Board for the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice for six years.

Jim and his wife Susan previously operated Democracy Vineyards in Lovingston, Virginia and he has served as Chair of the Virginia Wine Council, Vice President of the Virginia Wineries Association, and a Director of the Virginia Winery Distribution Company. He also is a former Board member of the Virginia Agribusiness Council. Of note, Jim was a NASCAR licensed crew member in the late 1980's and early 1990's. Again, thank you Frank for arranging a full slate of interesting speakers.

05/26: Meet & Greet. Many of the new members over the years have joined as a result of their first meeting us at the monthly Meet & Greets. Recruitment is key! Please come over to Texas Jack's and bring a colleague who may have an interest in joining our Club. 5:30 to 7:00.

President's Message by Jeff Englander *Standing room only!*

Fellow Optimists,

This is a great time to be an Arlington Optimist, for so many good things are happening right now and in our future.

April saw two highly successful luncheons with the room filled to capacity. The second luncheon had people standing in the back. We are very lucky to have a wonderful membership who comes out to support our Club activities. Three cheers to Frank O'Leary for scheduling outstanding speakers.

Our Meet 'n' Greet Happy Hour this week hosted two prospective members who have told me they are eager to join us. These two, plus the other nine in the queue, will help us grow to exceed my goal of 10 new members joining OCA by September 30th. If you have a neighbor, a work colleague or a social networking friend who you feel who be a benefit to the Club, please invite them to a luncheon or a Meet 'n' Greet. Let's beat our 2021 goal of 10 new members!

My thanks to Mark Whitenton for his research skills -- he found out that our Club was first approved by OI on December 26th, 1946. That means we will be celebrating our 75th birthday this December!!! We should come up with suggestions on how our Club can celebrate this awesome occasion.

May looks to be even better than April with our luncheons and Meet 'n' Greet. Please plan on attending one or all three events. We want to see everyone.

All the best of health and happiness to you and your family,

Jeff



mw: 124
Optimist Club of Arlington 16-005;
Mid-Atlantic Region 3;
Capital- Virginia District 16;
Northern Virginia Zone 4;
www.optimistclubofarlingtonva.org