

Central Fairfax Optimist

By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities, and ourselves.

Hope Lives Here



January 2024

<https://fairfaxoptimist.org>

Central Fairfax Optimist Club P.O. Box 1271 Fairfax City, VA 22038 Email us at fairfaxoptimists@gmail.com Board meeting 2nd Tuesday each month at the VFW 8469 5703 Vogue Road 730PM. Zoom Jan-Feb. Club dinner meetings April-July on 4th Wednesday @ Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Blvd.



Optimist International President:
Tracy Huxley
oitracyhuxley@gmail.com

OI Vice President:
Donna Aker
donna_aker@hotmail.com

Capital Virginia District Governor: Skip Foy
(757) 870-0766
recre8tor@yahoo.com

Lieutenant Governor
Zone 4: Anava Grabowski
(540) 341-8203
grabo.anno@comcast.net

Central Fairfax Optimist Club
President: Dee Rushforth
(703) 625-8946
dee.rushforth@gmail.com

Vice President:
Anava Grabowski
(540) 341-8203
grabo.anno@comcast.net

Vice President:
VACANT

Secretary:
Carol Williams
(202) 379-8894
ccw6469@gmail.com

Treasurer:
Sue Bond
703-425-0309
sbond1@gmu.edu

Club Foundation Rep:
Michele Hanson
703-425-1036
michele.hanson@gmail.com

Hope Lives Here in 2024!

We start New Year with the anticipation of our many activities and scholarship opportunities for the children of our community. Here's a calendar preview:



- New Ghana School Project
- Essay Scholarship Contest
- Limburg Scholarship Contest
- Oratorical Scholarship Contest
- Respect for Law/Safety Patrol
- Cub Scout Packs and Scout Troops
- Grabowski Scholarship
- Our Club's 38th Birthday

Hot News

We still have a Vice President vacant position. Please volunteer to help Vice President Anne Grabowski in this critical position.

On April 24th, we elect a new slate of officers for the 2024-2025 Optimist year.

That means we need each member to step up and participate in the leadership and management of our Club. Without viable participation, none of the above events will happen and will deny kids the opportunities.

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JANUARY

- 3**— Inter-Service Club Council 12-1 pm @ the Moose Lodge 3529 Chain Bridge Rd. Fairfax
- 14** — Essay Contest entry deadline
- 16** — Club Board meeting 7:30 pm on Zoom (Claudia Morcelo will host all Zoom meetings)
- 24**— Club meeting 7:30 pm on Zoom
- 26**— Info on Limburg Scholarship sent to Woodson, Robinson, Lake Braddock and Fairfax High Schools
- TBD** — Info on Oratorical Contest sent to Schools
- TBD** — Cub Scout Pinewood Derby

FEBRUARY 2024

- 1— OPTIMIST DAY**
- 7**— Inter-Service Club Council 12-1 pm @ the Moose Lodge 3529 Chain Bridge Rd. Fairfax
- 13** — Club Board meeting 7:30 pm on Zoom
- TBD**— Zone meeting prior to District meeting
- 23-24**— District meeting, place TBD; CCDHH contest
- 28**— Club meeting 7:30 pm on Zoom
- 28**— Essay Contest Winning Entry due to District
- TBD**— Oratorical Contest deadline

BIRTHDAYS

JANUARY

29th Patricia Hertig

FEBRUARY

4th Michele Hanson
 5th Dave Gundry
 11th Carol Williams
 24th Trinket Troy

ANNIVERSARIES

JANUARY

2nd Kim and Ralph Moden
 7th Douglas and Stephanie Harden
 29th Pat and George Hertig

FEBRUARY

None this month. Let's recruit someone!!

FINANCE SUMMARY (1/12/2024)

Operating Account	\$1,250.66
Community Service	\$7,437.04
Youth Fund (9/30/23)	\$5,203.97



Club News

PRESIDENT'S POINTS

You can see from the first page, a mixture of hope, excitement, and challenge. Doesn't it make you be proud to be an Optimist: a member of Optimist International, our Capital Virginia District, AND ESPECIALLY our very own Central Fairfax Optimist Club? HOPE LIVES HERE.

All the excitement and optimism in the world won't make hope become a reality unless you personally commit to team with others in and outside our Club to make it happen. Our Mission has three aspects of bringing out the best: youth, community, and ourselves. We do community service according to the needs of the community and interests of the members. The needs of the community also includes those of our youth. Our Club's programs and projects target some of those needs.

What about the needs of our members? We enjoy each other's company and the social aspects of our Club. Our activities give us a chance to make a difference in the life of a child. Life-long learning keeps our minds active, and there are numerous opportunities available from Optimist International. Please take the time to explore them. Our members are generous with both resources and time. The Optimist International Foundation supports us in so many ways. CAPVA District Governor requests all members to support the OIF by donating a Dime-a-Day (\$36.50). Donations to the OIF with our Fairfax Youth Fund 16026 in the memo line are tax-deductible donations that support our community service and scholarships.

The time you give to support the Club and its activities is greatly appreciated. I'm concerned that our people may get over-extended. We also want to ensure the things we do align with your interests. Please reach out to whomever is an activity chairperson and offer to help. Don't hesitate to ask a friend to help with something our Club is doing. That friend may become a member or a Friend of Optimist.

Where can you help? First, learn what our Club is doing. The newsletter, emails, our website <https://fairfaxoptimist.org>, and best of all: in person at Board and/or Club meetings. You are always invited even if you aren't on the Board. This is where most of the planning is done. Our Board met January 16th. Here are some highlights:

- Limburg Scholarship increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000; Grabowski Scholarship from \$500 to \$1,000.
- Planning for the new school in Ghana is progressing and we will work with the Optimist International Foundation to establish the appropriate account to fund the project.
- Anne Grabowski needs 3 judges and 1 timekeeper for the Club Oratorical Contest.
- Our Club will sponsor the registration of up to four contestants for the District Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH).
- Due to the typically bad weather in January and February we will use Zoom for meetings.
- April is the month to vote for the 2024-2025 Board of Directors. This includes President and Vice Presidents. We need you to volunteer for these positions NOW!

Thanks to everyone for your continued support. Hope Lives Here and you make things happen!.

Yours in Optimism,

Dee

President



Club News (continued)

Ghana: A New School for the Children
Isn't it beautiful? Let's make it real!





The Puzzle!

Happy New Year! Have you been doing the puzzle in our Club's newsletter? If so, then great! If not, why not? Please let the editor know one way or another.

Can you find the words below? Do you have any suggestions for next month? Please send them to fairfaxoptimists@gmail.com

K M B N O I S S I M U I C C N
 J T U S C H O O L H H W G I S
 B I D F E A A R R Q J E A F Z
 C U G D E E R C O B J T L K C
 S R E Q B Y B M W T E S S A Y
 F C T W H G A O V R C Q N H S
 Q E V S E N U O A S T E G D L
 E R D I A N L X A R R A R D E
 T X A G S U S Q N Q D A J I A
 A O E N N I H P V G C T E F D
 N R E T O V O E Y H H B Q Y E
 O U E A P Z C N I F I A S V R
 D E L O X J X L M T H E N W G
 R Z D W T E D S Q L U E U A B
 S R M G G H I B F D T I N I P

Print this page and circle the words or just go down the list and find them.

Words can go in any direction.
Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

BOARD
 CHILD
 DIRECTOR
 DUES
 GHANA
 MANAGER
 NEW
 RETAIN
 VISION
 VOTE

BUDGET
 CREED
 DONATE
 ESSAY
 LEADER
 MISSION
 RECRUIT
 SCHOOL
 VOLUNTEER
 YEAR

What words would you like to see in February's puzzle?
Send them to:
fairfaxoptimists@gmail.com



And in conclusion!!

The Optimist Creed

Promise Yourself --

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness, and prosperity to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

Christian D. Larson

Mission

By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities and ourselves.

Vision

Optimist International will be recognized worldwide as the premier volunteer organization that values all children and helps them develop to their full potential.

Purposes

1. To develop optimism as a philosophy of life utilizing the tenets of the Optimist Creed;
2. to promote an active interest in good government and civic affairs;
3. to inspire respect for the law;
4. to promote patriotism and work for international accord and friendship among all people;
5. to aid and encourage the development of youth, in the belief that the giving of one's self in service to others will advance the well-being of humankind, community life and the world.



Member FDIC

Our Kids thank you for your continued support!



Contact our own Bob Devery to plan your travel. Thanks for your support Bob!

Thanks to all our sponsors! Your generous donations are greatly appreciated.

Smiles for Centreville

14245-P Centreville Square
Centreville VA 20121



Prestige Dental Specialists

7617 Little River Turnpike Suite 910
Annandale, VA 22003