



Optimistically Speaking

The Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna – Nov/Dec 2025

News and Notes

Calendar

Board Meeting

11 November 2025
7 PM (virtual)

Tree Lot

Fri, Sat, and Sun
Starting 28 Nov

Holiday Party

9 December 2025
Westwood C.C.
7 PM

Club Social

2 November 2025
Tango Pastry
3 PM

Anniversary and Holiday Events Coming Up

Our club observes its 70th anniversary this year and everyone is invited to attend a celebration on 28 November!

We will unload the tree order that morning and celebrate at 3 pm. We hope you will join everyone in the Giant parking lot to “unveil” our newly painted trailer and recognize the 70 years of service our club has provided to Vienna. Bring your neighbors and friends – everyone is invited!

The tree lot will be open this year on Fridays 4 pm to 8 pm, Saturdays 10 am to 7 pm, and Sundays 10 am to 7 pm. Mickey Williams will be serving as the tree lot captain this year and a signup genius will be set up for volunteers and high schoolers working for community service credits soon.



Serving the youth of greater Vienna for more than 70 years!

Visit us:

www.OptimistClubofGreaterVienna.org, [Instagram](#) or [Facebook](#)





Holiday Party

The Club holiday party will be held this year on 9 December at the Westwood Country Club in Vienna. There is a signup genius set up for reservations. Members attend for free and the cost for guests/non-members is \$50 (with a \$2 transaction fee).

In the spirit of service to our community, attendees are requested to bring a donation of a gift card (from Target, Walmart, or a local grocery store) to be presented to Fairfax County's Shelter House. The Shelter House will present the gift cards to needy residents over the holiday season. We suggest you purchase \$10 and \$20 cards to make up whatever amount you are comfortable donating. If you cannot attend the holiday party but would like to donate, please contact Jacque Brewer or Wendi Carroll to arrange pickup.

Shelter House, Inc, is a community-based, non-profit organization providing crisis intervention, safe housing, and other supportive services. They formed in 1981 and were one of the first organizations chartered by the country to operate a shelter. They now have five shelter facilities and several housing programs. Last year, they served 3723 individuals and over half of that number were children.

Farmers Market Thank You Social

All members are invited to the next club social on 2 November at 3 pm in Tango Pastry. Tango Pastry is located at 380 Maple Avenue under the Sunrise of Vienna Assisted Living Facility. We encourage everyone to join in for great pastries and a special thank you to all who made our successful Farmers Market Season possible.



From President Wendi Carroll

Reflections on my first month as OCGV President

As I wrap up my first month serving as President of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna, I am filled with both gratitude and excitement. It has been an inspiring beginning – one marked by new ideas, renewed energy, and the unmistakable spirit of optimism that connects us all.

In these first few weeks, I've had the privilege of meeting many of our members, both longtime friends and new faces. Each conversation reaffirmed what makes our organization so special: our shared commitment to bring out the best in youth, our communities, and ourselves. From local service projects to planning sessions for the year ahead, I've seen firsthand the dedication that fuels our club.

Looking forward, my focus is on strengthening collaboration across our community, focusing our youth engagement initiatives, and finding new ways to serve our community with creativity and compassion. I believe that optimism is not just a mindset – it is a movement, and together we have power to make lasting impact.

Thank you for welcoming me so warmly into this role. I'm honored to serve alongside each of you and can't wait to see what we will accomplish in the months ahead. Let's continue to share hope, inspire growth, and lead with optimism in all that we do.

With optimism and appreciation,

Wendi

**Board of Directors 2025-2026
Optimist Club of Greater Vienna**

President	Wendi Carroll
Secretary	Jacque Brewer
Treasurer	Michele Wright
Immediate Past President	Monica Gomez Isaac
VP, Community	Kara Ariail
VP, Digital Communications	Brian Isaac
Director, Digital Communications	Jacque Brewer
VP, Membership	Dan Woltman
VP, Youth	VACANT

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 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. Larsen