



Friendly Flyer



March

2008

President's Message

It seems like yesterday I was writing my message for the February issue of the Friendly Flyer! My how time flies when you are having fun, really busy or getting ready for vacation!!

Speaking of being busy, spring is always a very busy and active time for our club. There are numerous functions and events that occur during this time. We begin with Back to Baseball Night, our Annual Sports Banquet, the Bat-a-thon® fundraiser, the beginning of *Friday Night Live!*, Herndon Festival, Partners in Education, the presentation of our scholarships, the Oratorical Contest, and the HHS All Night Graduation Celebration and the infamous "Casino!!"

The Task Force is moving forward with great diligence and for this I offer my heartfelt thanks.

I will miss sending and receiving emails during March, but am looking forward to reading books, relaxing, snorkeling, and soaking up the sun on the sunny beaches of Hawaii and in the South Pacific. Until my April President's message!!

Laura

P.S. The April issue of the Friendly Flyer won't be sent out until after the 10th of April.



Sports Banquet

The annual sports banquet will be held on Thursday, March 13th at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road in Herndon.

Jerry Carter, VP of Sports, is making a few changes to the format of the banquet. This year, the club is honoring the Commissioners and the Board Members of the Sports Leagues along with the Coaches. The volunteers for the Optimist Sports programs put in hundreds of hours and without their efforts the Optimist Club couldn't offer all the quality sports programs to the Youth in the Herndon area.

The social starts at 6:30 and a dinner buffet will begin shortly after 7 PM. The cost will be \$15.00 and Carolina Brothers will be the caterers.

If you haven't already RSVP'd to Debbie Hill, **PLEASE** do so ASAP. She can be contacted one of two ways: (703) 471-0333 or by email at: debbie.hill@hilcoinc.net.

Friday Night Live!



Needed: Volunteers to help out with one of the Club's largest fundraisers. We provide the entrance gate marshals for the Chamber's summer concert series *Friday Night Live!* The hours are from 6:00 to 10:00 every Friday night, except for Friday night festival weekend. George has two shifts, 5:45 to 8 PM and from 7:45 to 10:15. Hope you will consider volunteering for several of the Fridays during the summer.

George can be reached at: 703-435-1668-H, 703-969-6414-C or you can email him at ljpgprice@aol.com.



Friendly Flyer



March

2008



BOARD ACTIONS AT MEETING OR THROUGH EMAILS

The board voted to spend up to \$2,500 for a statue at Haley Smith Park in conjunction with the dedication of the Raleigh Emory field.

The board agreed to have a joint meeting that will include Marshal and ABC training. This meeting is set for April 23, 2008 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church.

Festival & Friday Night Live! Training

Our April meeting will be one you should try to attend especially if you will be volunteering to work in the Optimist Booth during Herndon Festival or volunteering to marshal at Friday Night Live!.

This year we are joining forces with the Chamber - Friday Night Live! and will have a joint training for ABC and Marshals.

Calendar at a Glance

- March 9 – Back to Baseball Night**
- March 13 – Annual Sports Banquet**
- April 23 – Marshal & ABC Training**
- May 2 – First Friday Night Live!**
- May 21 – Partners in Education,
Scholarship Awards**
- June 16th – All Night Grad Celebration**

If you attend this ABC training, then you don't have to attend the ABC training that Parks and Recreation will have prior to the Festival. George has always tried to have a Marshal training (which generally turns into a party) to help answer questions or concerns from the gate marshals but to also hear ideas for improvement.

Mark your calendar now for Wednesday, April 23, 2008. The training will start at 6 PM at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road in Herndon.

Kudos to HOYC - Cheerleading

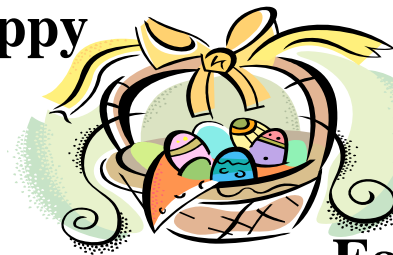
Herndon Optimist Youth Cheerleading sent 2 squads to the SpiritFest Cheerleading Competition in Laurel, MD on Saturday, February 2, 2008. Both squads received 1st place in their divisions. The competition included teams from Maryland and Virginia.

On Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 7 PM in the Council Chambers, Herndon Optimist Youth Cheerleading will receive Certificates of Recognition for their achievements.

For more information, please visit the Herndon Optimist website at www.herndonoptimist.org or

www.herndonoptimist.org/sports/cheerleading/index.shtml

Happy



Easter



Friendly Flyer



March

2008

Oratorical Contest

Mary Burger has been busy contacting schools to participate in the club's annual Oratorical Contest. This year's topic for the speech is: *"Why Me? Why Not?"*

The local level of the competition will be held on Friday, April 25, 2008 at 6 PM in the Town Council Chambers.

The Zone competition will be held on Saturday, May 10, 2008 at 10 AM, also in the Town Council Chambers, and like prior years Herndon is hosting the competition.

The District Competition will be held on May 17 in Harper's Ferry, West Virginia.

Mary will need help with the local as well as the Zone competitions. If any member is free on either April 25th or May 10th, please contact Mary at 703-437-1759 or at MaryB38@verizon.net to let her know you can help.



HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY

MAY THE LUCK OF THE
IRISH BE WITH YOU!

Haley Smith Park Statue Update

HOYB was offered an opportunity to assist in financing a statue at Haley Smith Park in time for the April dedication of a field named for Raleigh Emery, a former Optimist Club member and long time umpire. The HOC Board decided that the Club should provide the financing, not an individual sport league. Therefore, the Board passed the following motion:

It is moved that the Herndon Optimist Club donate up to \$2,500 for the purchase of a statue at Haley Smith Park, that the HOC Board work with and have a final say in the statue and placement of said statue at the park, and that there be a plaque denoting that the statue was paid for by HOC with the year of the donation.

In the meantime, Councilman Dennis Husch proposed a 3-statue memorial which would cost approximately \$12,000, before the discount. He suggested that someone from HOC might be interested in spearheading the fundraising for this effort. Thus far, no one has stepped forward to spearhead this effort.

Since President Laura Price will be out of the country from March 4 through April 6, the finalization of this effort will be delayed until later in April. The board will wait to hear if anyone is willing to step forward to spearhead further fundraising. At the club meeting on February 28, no members indicated that they were willing or able to step up to the plate and work with Councilman and Optimist Member Dennis Husch to handle fundraising. Further information will be forthcoming later.



Friendly Flyer



March

2008

Herndon Optimist Club Task Force Sports Programs Review

The Task Force is on track with the timeline presented in last month's newsletter. During the last four weeks, we have met with the commissioners of each of our six sports programs – Cal Ripken Baseball; Babe Ruth Baseball; Softball; Football; Lacrosse; and Basketball.



Although many issues were discussed in these initial interviews, two primary topics dominated our discussions.



One topic was the hiring of a paid sport administrator. There was virtual unanimity among everyone that a paid administrator could relieve the programs of much of the administrative burden required to run our programs. The Task Force is preparing a list of duties that such an administrator would perform. We are also exploring funding options to pay for this assistance.



The second topic relates to the future organization of our sports programs and of the Optimist Club itself. The primary purpose of this task force is to ensure the successful continuation of our sports programs. To this end, we have been studying several alternatives. At this point in time, we have not reached a consensus.



We expect to report our findings to the Board at their next meeting in early April. At that time we also expect to have a list of recommendations.



If you have any questions or concerns regarding the work of this task force, please contact any member of the group.

Phil Goetkin
Jerry Carter