



MAY

Friendly Flyer



2009



President's Message

Thriving Together

It is hard to believe that spring youth sporting events are well underway. Keeping these programs alive and healthy, particularly in light of the shortage of facilities, is a challenging task. We are blessed that we have our Commissioners and so many volunteers to support these programs. Thank you and good luck, folks.

It is time to begin thinking about the new Board of Directors for the Club. We are planning for transition in September – and given the fast pace of the summer, the time for planning is upon us. Alicia Amico has agreed to chair the Nominations Committee. I hope that her inquiries are well-received by you all and that you give some serious thought to stepping up and helping the Club grow and prosper. **If you are unable to serve on the Board, there are still many projects and opportunities available to you.**

Ad Hoc Committee programs continue to evolve with the top priority now being a 501(c)3 application. We are in the interview stage for a first-time, new Executive Administrator for the Club and look forward to getting some professional assistance so that we can lighten the load for so many who have provided “tons” of volunteer time. I expect final interviews in June.

The “Right Side” Committee has provided some solid ideas for re-energizing our Club (see our web site for the presentation) and I hope to develop a revised 2009-10 Action Plan for the Club with our Executive Committee in the near future.

In the meantime, please look for ways to contribute to our community and the Club by volunteering. We need lots of help for the festival (contact Jasmine*) and Friday Night Live! (contact George and Laura*). (*See page 4.)

Together we can make the difference.

Rick

rick.thoesen@verizon.net
(H) 703 437-5966





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Oratorical Contest Results Announced

The Herndon Optimist Club, under the chairmanship of Mary Burger and Susan Michaely, held its annual Oratorical Contest in the Herndon Town Council Chambers on the evening of April 24.

Ten contestants, all from St. Joseph's School, participated and spoke on this year's topic "To me, Optimism is....".



First Place was awarded to Sarah Betti, who spoke enthusiastically on the theme of never giving up hope as she tied in such historic figures as Christopher Columbus and Helen Keller to demonstrate their tenacity and powerful optimism.

Second Place was awarded to Kaitlyn Ernstmann. Elizabeth McNulty received Third Place.



Betty Graves, retired English teacher from Herndon High School; Barbara Glakas, Fairfax County High School teacher; and Vice Mayor Connie Hutchison, Executive Director of the Herndon Dulles Visitor's Center, served as contest judges. Rick Thoesen, President of the Optimist Club, was emcee for the evening. Jeff Delmontagne and George Price also provided contest support.

Congratulations to the winners, and thanks to all of the volunteers for making this a memorable occasion for the participants.



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Hochstein Selected Herndon Citizen of the Year by Rotary Club

Congratulations to Optimist Club member Ted Hochstein who was selected as the 44th recipient of the Herndon Citizen of the Year award by the Rotary Club of Herndon. On May 20, Ted will be honored at an award ceremony preceded by a cocktail reception and dinner.

Calendar at a Glance

May 20 – Partners in Education,
Scholarship and Oratorical Awards
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
1090 Sterling Road, Herndon, VA

6:00 Social // 6:30 Dinner (\$10)
Followed by meeting and program

June 17 – HHS All Night Graduation Party
(Herndon Community Center)

Optimist Club Members Recognized as Outstanding Volunteers

At the Town of Herndon annual Volunteer Appreciation Night, Optimist Club members Diane D'Amico and John DeYoung were announced by Mayor Steve DeBenedittis as two of three outstanding volunteers for 2009. Congratulations, Diane and John, on your well-deserved Distinguished Service awards.

2008-09 Committees

*Partners in Education
& Friday Night Live!*

George Price

Oratorical

Mary Burger

HHS All Night Graduation Party

Howie Haslbeck

Club Bartender & Membership

Thomas Merial

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Peggy Walker

Scholarship

Peggy Walker & Jan Umphrey

Additional members are needed for these existing committees and other committees formed as Rick moves forward with the year.

If you are willing to help or need additional information about any committee, please contact Laura Price at 703-435-1668 or at ljpprice@aol.com.



HOC Scholarships

A panel of HOC member judges selected the following HHS seniors to each receive a \$2,000 scholarship for the 2009-10 school year:

- Doug Burger
- Carrie Kurtz
- Zachary Leach

The HOC is proud to provide monetary support to these talented young people as they begin their college educations.



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Optimist Club Vital Part of Herndon Festival

The Optimist Club has always been an active supporter of the Herndon Festival and this year is no exception! Many HOC members have already volunteered to serve as marshals and to man a shift at the HOC food/beer booth during the May 28-31 Festival. Contact Jasmine Faubert, volunteer coordinator, at faubert@comcast.net if you want to volunteer.



Ready for Week 4

Having defied the weather odds for three weeks running, Friday Night Live! is off to a fabulous start with great crowds, great music, great food & drink, great volunteers, and great sponsors. Now in its 15th season, Friday Night Live! is touted as the most popular free outdoor concert series in the DC area, offering outstanding music, affordable food/beverages, and all-around good fun for singles and families alike.

The band schedule and other FNL! information can be found on-line at www.herndonrocks.org.

Come out and enjoy Friday evenings on the Town Green through Friday, August 28. No FNL! on **May 29** but there are plenty of opportunities to volunteer at the **Herndon Festival** (see article on this page).

Optimist Club members are relied upon as part of the event staff whether marshalling, pouring beer, issuing ID wristbands, or counting money. Thanks to those of you who have already volunteered!

Contact George Price at ljjprice@aol.com if you can spare a few hours on a Friday night to take part in this all-volunteer event.



HHS All-Night Graduation Party ~ June 17 ~



The HOC casino will be “buzzing” at the Class of 2009’s all-night graduation party on **Wednesday, June 17** at the Herndon Community Center.

Committee Chair Howie Haslbeck’s daughter is graduating that evening so he really needs some folks to step up and volunteer, especially for set-up!! Set-up begins at 9:30pm. Volunteers are also needed as dealers and cashiers from 10:30pm until 2:30am.

If you can volunteer, send Howie an email at howard.haslbeck@verizon.net.

Be part of an “Evening to Remember” for the Class of 2009!!

