



October

Friendly Flyer



2008



President's Message

Thriving Together

The greater Herndon community is a better place thanks to the wholesome volunteer work of the Herndon Optimist Club over many decades. While volunteerism in our sports programs is doing very well, we are faced with the prospect of recruiting the next generation of volunteers to participate and lead at the club level. As such, the many strong leaders who served in past decades can relinquish formal leadership roles as we thrive into the next decade.

Our Board will address such strategic issues in the October and November Meetings and provide an Action Plan for our membership. As we plan to reach out and grow, we must explore new ways to energize and refresh our meaningful and very important mission of community service – and thrive.

During the first leg of our journey, the Board will revisit the recommendations of the Task Force and the resulting bylaw changes that will restructure the club's Board to include more participation by the sports organizations. We will work for your support of these changes.

I thank everyone for your encouragement as I absorb the roles and responsibilities of President and express a sincere appreciation and respect for the outstanding leadership demonstrated by Laura Price. I look forward to working with the entire Board in our efforts to serve our wonderful community.



Rick

October Meeting Respect for Law



In keeping with tradition, our club will once again sponsor the presentation of the Herndon Police Department's "**Valor Awards.**" This is always a favorite meeting for the club.

The meeting will be held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Thursday, October 16. The evening will start off with the social from 6:00 to 6:30 with dinner at 6:30, and the program will follow dinner around 7:30.

Cost for the event is \$15.00. If you plan to attend, please RSVP asap to Debbie Hill at: Debbie.hill@hillcoinc.net or 703-471-0333.

2008-09 Herndon Optimist Board

President	Rick Thoesen
VP Youth	Thomas Merial
VP Sports	Jerry Carter
Sec/Treas	Roger Moss
Sports Treas	Rogers Harrison
Director	Debbie Hill
Director	Jasmine Faubert
Past President	Laura Price

*May past accomplishments
open doors to future success,
may today's dreams
be tomorrow's dreams come true,
and may all you've learned
give you confidence
to be all you can be.*



Unknown



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Calendar at a Glance

October 16 – Respect for Law

No meeting in November

December - Holiday Party

January 21 – Bylaws Meeting

February 18 – Surprise Event

March 28 – Sports Banquet

April 22 – Joint ABC/Marshal Training

May 20 – Partners in Education,
Scholarship and Oratorical Awards

All meetings will take place at
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
1090 Sterling Road, Herndon, VA.

6:00 Social

6:30 Dinner

Followed by meeting and program



BOARD ACTIONS THROUGH EMAILS OR MEETINGS

The Board approved two \$1,000 scholarships: one went to Brian Thompson who will attend West Virginia University; the other went to R.J. Hill, who will attend UVA.



Lacrosse Budget was passed.

Cheerleading Budget was passed.



The Board voted to keep 10% of the net proceeds from the Festival Booth.

The Board voted to participate in the 2008 Herndon Homes Tour.



The Board voted to allow HOY Baseball (Cal Ripken) to take \$7,600 from their capital account to make field improvements at Four Seasons.

The Basket Budget was passed:

- To allow HOY Football to take \$2,500 from their capital account for the purpose to purchase the trailer.
- To allow HOY Baseball (Cal Ripken) to use the money that was requested for field improvements – \$7,600 – to be used for the site plan and installation of the scoreboards at Haley Smith Park. The Board was advised that the field improvements have been completed by volunteers at no cost.





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Past President's Message

It seems like yesterday I was trying to put together a president's message for the September 2007 issue of the Friendly Flyer.

The 2007-08 Herndon Optimist year has flown by. It has kept me busy, off the streets and out of the malls; however, it didn't prevent me from taking trips to foreign countries, having fun in the sun or attending VT football games!!

It has been a year filled with many fond memories, and you the members are the reason for so many of the memories. Without your help, dedication and support for the club, the many things that the club set out to accomplish would not have been possible. For this my heartfelt thanks goes to each and every one of you.

It is time for me to step down, but that doesn't mean I will not remain active with the club's programs. I am looking forward to serving on the Board under Rick's leadership as he and the 2008-09 Herndon Optimist Board move forward to revitalize and implement changes necessary for our club.

Laura



Herndon Festival 2008

The Herndon festival was a big success. For the first year ever, the Herndon Optimist Youth football program organized and ran the booth for the festival. With only a couple hours of rain the whole weekend, it went off without a hitch. We at Herndon Optimist youth football would like to thank all of our football and cheerleading coaches, parents, and volunteers who helped make the festival a big success. We would also like to thank all of the current Optimist members for their support and guidance throughout the whole weekend. Can't wait until next year!!

Jasmine and Terry



Terry Keeping Cool at the Herndon Festival

Youth Appreciation Week

Monday, November 10 thru Sunday, November 16 will be proclaimed as Youth Appreciation Week. The Town Council will hold a presentation on October 28.

The presentation will be during a Town Council Public Session at 7 PM in the Council Chambers. Any Optimist member wanting to attend is encouraged to do so.



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September 24th Meeting Highlights

Members and guests gathered at Herndon's Golf Course Club House for a celebration of the 2007-08 year and to kick off the incoming year. Incoming president **Rick Thoesen** elected not to have a formal installation but more of a casual and networking format.

After dinner, President **Laura Price** thanked her committee chairs for the year and presented them with certificates of appreciation. Chairs were as follows:

Howie Haslbeck for his endless efforts in running the "Casino" for the HHS All Night Graduation Celebration.

Mary Burger for her continued commitment to seeing that the Oratorical Contest runs smoothly for both our club and the zone competition.

Jan Umphrey for all her time and effort in coordinating and selecting the club's scholarship winners for the year.

Peggy Walker for her never-ending patience in editing, formatting, and proofing the Friendly Flyer.

Rick Thoesen for taking over as Chair of the bylaw committee.

George Price for his continued commitment to coordinating the marshals for Friday Night Live! along with chairing the Partners in Education Awards Program.

Jasmine Faubert and **Terry Petty** for their work to make the 2008 Herndon Optimist Festival booth run without a hitch!!

Phil Goetkin for the many hours, meetings, emails, and work done on the Task Force to come up with ways for the club to move forward to meet the needs of its members and sports programs. (His entire committee was also acknowledged: **Chris Figg, Jerry Carter, Howie Haslbeck,** and **Rick Thoesen**.)

Laura thanked her Board and presented each one with a token of her appreciation.



Laura presented a "**Rookie of the Year**" award to **Jasmine Faubert, Terry Petty** and **Thomas Merical** for all their help, leadership and dedication to the club during the past year, for jumping in with both feet, and for not stopping during the year.

Life Member Awards were presented to two members: **George Price** and **Jim Clark**. This was followed by the presentation of the **Optimist of the Year Award** to **Roger Moss** for his contributions to the club by checking members in at meetings, keeping the club's books in order, volunteering at FNL, updating the website with the newsletters, placing pictures on the website, responding to the president on whatever she had on her mind, and always having a British Smile on his face.

Last but certainly not least the **Outstanding Service Award** was presented to **Jerry Carter** for his 15 plus years of loyal service to the club and the numerous positions he has held, including Vice President of Youth, President Elect, President, Festival Chairman, Homecoming Parade Chairman, Bat-a-thon[®], Friday Night Live! – and the list goes on. However, he is best known as the Vice President of Sports and has served in this capacity for over 10 years. Jerry also serves on the Athletic Council of Fairfax County as the Herndon Representative.



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2008-09 Committees

*Partners in Education
& Friday Night Live!*

George Price

Oratorical
Mary Burger

HHS All Night Graduation
Howie Haslbeck

Club Bartender & Membership
Thomas Merical

Friendly Flyer
Peggy Walker

Scholarship
Peggy Walker & Jan Umphrey

Herndon Holiday Homes Tour
Diane D'Amico & Jan Umphrey

Additional members are needed to help with these committees and other committees that will be 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 ljgprice@aol.com.

Bylaw Update



At a special HOC Board meeting held on May 8, 2008, the following motions were made with regards to the Task force report:

1. The HOC should continue under a restructured Board of Directors based on functional areas that would better reflect the fact that the HOC primary mission, focus, and responsibility are providing recreational sports opportunities for the youth of the Greater Herndon Area.
2. A paid administrator position should be established to oversee and execute many of the responsibilities currently embodied in the HOC Youth Treasurer, as well as other responsibilities common to all the sports programs and other duties as defined by the Board.
3. The HOC shall continue to explore obtaining 501C3 status.

Rick Thoesen, Bill Tirrell, and Bob Rhyne have worked on updating the Club's bylaws to encompass the suggestions of the Task Force along with the above motions.

The committee has completed their modifications of the bylaws and the HOC Board approved the changes at the September Board meeting with minor changes to be made.

The proposed bylaw changes are now in the process of being copied and mailed to every HOC member. The mailing of the bylaws should occur around the 14th of October.

The proposed bylaws will be voted on at a general club meeting set for January 21, 2009.





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Holiday Homes Tour of Herndon

Saturday, December 6, 2008
10:00AM - 4:00PM

Beginning this year, community organizations have the opportunity to sponsor a home by securing a home and supplying volunteers for that home on the day of the tour. The HOC Board voted at their May Board meeting to participate in the community project.

All advertising will contain the involved organizations' names; promotional material can be handed out at the individual homes; and the program will note the sponsoring organization and contact information for each home. There is no cost to the organization and all proceeds will go to the Herndon Visitors Center.

This year the Optimist Club will sponsor Quail Hollow, the Kephart home at 761 Dranesville Road. Other homes are Merrywood, sponsored by The Friends of Laura Ratcliffe; The Dupstadt home sponsored by the Herndon Fortnightly Club; The Margolis home sponsored by the Herndon Women's Club; and The Nachman home, sponsored by the Rotary Club. The refreshment stop will be at the newly opened ArtSpace at 750 Center Street, sponsored by the Downtown Alliance.

Tickets go on sale beginning November 1 from HOC members **Diane D'Amico**, **Linda Figg**, and **Mary Burger**, or at the Depot in downtown Herndon. Buy a ticket, and support the Optimists and other Herndon community organizations.

To volunteer, please call Diane at 703-437-0938 H, 703-437-1883 W or email her at DamicoDiane@gmail.com.

Diane D'Amico



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2008-09 DUES

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Roger Moss mailed out dues renewal notices the end of September. If you haven't received your notice, please contact Roger Moss at: rcm0ss@verizon.net.

Next Issue of the Friendly Flyer

The November issue of the Friendly Flyer will contain the 2007-08 year end budget figures as well as the budget for the 2008-09 year.

The HOC Board meeting dates will also be included in case any member or sports league needs to bring something to the Board's attention. Please keep in mind that the Board can conduct business between meetings and has the ability to approve items through email motions.



HOLIDAY PARTY



For now, it looks like the party will be held on Saturday, December 13 or Saturday, December 20 at Laura and George's house.

Mark your calendar now and look for the final date in the November Friendly Flyer.