



JACKSONVILLE JOTTINGS

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Optimist International Mission Statement—By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in kids.

Next Zoom Meeting

Thursday January 7 at 7:30 PM. Look for a Zoom invite in your mailbox that week. I will have a fun task for you to do. Teri Branch, MDSD Optimist Director for Optimist International Foundation, will be joining us. Share the title of a good book that others may want to read this winter.

Children's Cancer coin banks

Mary Ann has coin banks on counters in shops. Please drop in some coins as you visit our community stores.

St. Vincent Villa, Aquinas Group

The Villa's mandate is to love, serve, and teach. They help children 6-14 with educational, behavioral, and emotional needs that are not met in their homes and communities.

We were assigned the Aquinas Group for 11-13 year old boys. They are on a 3rd or 4th grade track. We made 11 packs and an extra in case a new boy arrived.

Our generous members donated all kinds of items: two envelopes with supplies to complete art tasks, word search books, puzzles, coloring books, magic markers, crayons, color pens and pencils. Hats (2 each), socks 2-4 pairs, T-shirts, rice krispies, chips, small toys, and books.



Barbara Crain, my granddaughter Allie and her friend Will, helped me pack on a November Sunday afternoon the Optimist logo string bags, with Optimist flashlight and pen and all the goodies. They were so full we barely closed them.

An extra box had construction paper, leftover supplies, stapler, books for the better readers, and Thanksgiving Dinner place mats.

My husband, Pat, delivered the bags before Thanksgiving so the boys would have something to be thankful for.

Sunnye Fredia, Community Outreach Coordinator, was appreciative of our efforts. She knew the boys would love the projects and clothes. Some of the children have so little of their own.



Guess who's behind these masks?

Optimist Club Officers 2020-2021

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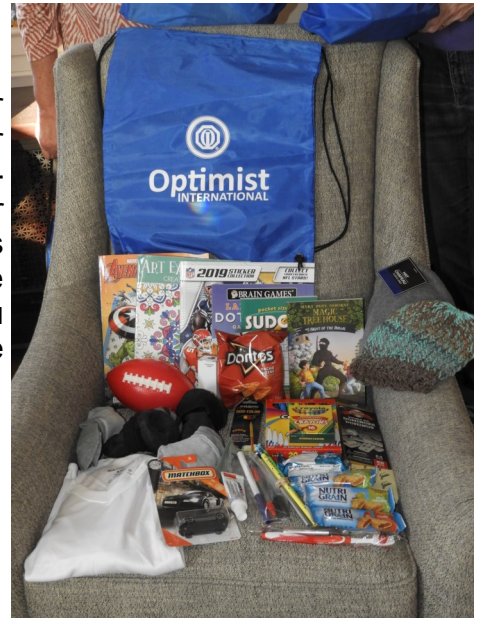
CLUB MEETINGS
First Thursday of Month
7:30 PM

01/7/21
Zoom meeting

St. Vincent Villa, Aquinas Group, continued

Sunnye is a daughter of an Optimist dad, so she knew about our community service. We are both so proud of the Greater Jacksonville members for going out of their way to order on-line, visit dollar stores, and make hats to help the boys smile and feel loved during the holidays.

I also want to give a shout out to my friends Mary Soper (donations), Judy McLaurin (check) and Susan Bond (check) for contributing towards our project. There are so many of our family and friends that help us make a better place for those that are in need. Thank you my lady friends and all the members of Jacksonville.



Club dues billings were mailed

There are only a few members who have not returned their dues. Please let us know your intentions if you have not yet returned a check. We are billed from Optimist International for all members rolled into this new year that started October 1. We appreciate your support throughout the year and hope to bring you all the programs you wish to support.

Thank you to many members who added a donation to your checks for our club projects.

Please take a moment to remember fondly the members we lost this past year:

Dave Ward-a charter member, Past President, and board member, passed in May. He and Dennis Lane were my Optimist mentors. I joined Jacksonville because of their Jaycee backgrounds, love for family and community. Dave was organized, always smiling, willing to work, mentor and help all members. He provided a meeting site since our inception.

Pastor Partee Boliek-a 26 year member and club chaplain, passed in January. He was pastor for 40 years of St. John’s Lutheran Church in Sweet Air. He would dress in buckskin and give lectures on history. The club and community enjoyed his speeches. He wrote a book about his long living family from NC.

Bob Rigger-a charter member, passed in April. He was a retired woodshop teacher in Baltimore County Schools and the community college. His wife, Dink, would cook for the club and for projects.



Happy December & January Birthdays!

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Lyal Peyton | 12/4 |
| Mike Borowitz | 12/9 |
| Ashby Shanks | 12/30 |



Shop with a Cop for 100 children was held in early December and kicked off on December 12. Because of Covid 19, it was not a group procession of Optimists and Police as usual. Police delivered Walmart gift cards to families divided by Timonium, Arbutus, and White Marsh stores... Optimism made it happen for our young folks.



Stock Market Challenge

This year particularly after the COVID lack of fundraisers, we will need your support. We want to support the programs that are dear to our hearts and commitment to the community: Essay Contest, HOBY, Children's Cancer Fund, St. Vincent Villa, and many more. Please "play" along with us when the envelopes arrive in late January.

Keep in your thoughts

Ann Lane—had another hospital stay this fall and has moved into assisted living. Her address is 8830 Walther Blvd. #121, Parkville, MD 21234.

Terri Parrish is still recuperating from surgery and struggling with physical therapy and getting back to her normal exuberant self.



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.