



GREATER JACKSONVILLE OPTIMIST CLUB CALENDAR 2024-2025
Meetings, Projects, and Community Opportunities
St. John's Lutheran Church, 3911 Sweet Air Rd., Phoenix, MD

October 2024

Dues billing mailed September, follow up. Barbara Crain
No membership meeting
Beginning of essay contest: "How Optimism Has Paved My Road to Success"
Thursday, Oct 17, 6pm, 40th Anniversary Dinner Celebration. Strapasta's
Newsletter Sept/Oct sent in Sept

November 2024

Saturday, November 1-3 - MDSO Optimist Conference Gettysburg
Jacksonville Elementary School teacher's appreciation. Education Week
Thursday November 7, Membership meeting
Monday November 11 8pm Zoom, Fireworks meeting
Annual review of by-laws – Adam Drescher
Essay contest info sent to Fallston HS "How Optimism Has Paved My Road to Success"
November newsletter

December 2024

Thursday, December 7 membership meeting
Monday, December 9, 8 pm. Fireworks Zoom meeting, if needed
Saturday, December 14 – 7:30 am Shop with a Cop Walmart Hunt Valley
Saturday, December 14 – noon, Wreaths Across America, Dulaney Memorial Gardens (Steve
Wheeler) and Parkwood Cemetery (Loch Raven Opt)
December Newsletter

January 2025

No club meeting
No Fireworks Zoom meeting
Elementary under 11, art project
Jan/Feb newsletter
SMC/club newsletter mailing/fundraiser kick-off – Chair Carol A
January 27 Essay contest submittals due to club

February 2025

Stock Market Challenge (SMC) fundraiser continues
Optimist Day February 1 – wear Optimist attire
Thursday, February 6 – membership Zoom or in-person meeting 7:00 pm
Friday 1/31 to Sunday 2/2, 2nd Quarter MDSO Conference California, MD
Monday, February 10, 8 pm, Fireworks meeting
Essay judging 1st and 2nd week (club winner due to MDSO 2/28/25)
Friday, February 28 –SMC deadline postmarked or handed to a board member

March 2025

Thursday, March 6 – membership meeting 7 pm.

Monday, March 10, 8 pm, Fireworks Zoom meeting
SMC newsletter & start info
SMC mid-point end Friday March 29
Optimist elementary age Visual Arts Competition

April 2025

Thursday, April 3 – membership meeting 7:00 Essay winners reading & awards. (Spring break 4/14 thru 4/21)
Newsletter with mid-point SMC ratings emailed
Monday, April 14, 8 pm, Fireworks meeting
Sunday, April 20 Easter
Friday to Sunday, April 25-27 MDSO Optimist Conference Grand Hotel, Ocean City
Wednesday, April 30 SMC ends

May 2025

Thursday, May 1 – membership meeting 7:00
May newsletter with SMC end
Monday, May 12, 8 pm, Fireworks meeting
Report due to Opt Int of 2025-26 club officers. New 2-year terms.

June 2025

Raffle sales for Fireworks Fri/Sat/Sun all month
Thursday, June 5– membership meeting 8 pm (Carol at HOBY)?
Thursday – Sunday, June 5-8, HOBY Towson University
Monday, June 9, 8pm Fireworks in person meeting
Late June 8 pm, Fireworks meeting if needed
June Newsletter
Saturday 28 Fireworks; rain date possibly July 5.

July 2025

July membership meeting canceled
July/Aug newsletter
TBA F/U Fireworks meeting

August 2025

August 7 membership meeting
Fri-Sun August 15-17 MDSO Optimist Convention, Lancaster Hilton Garden Inn

September 2025

Thursday, September 4 – membership meeting 7 pm
Dues billing sent out
September newsletter
Thursday September 18 - Club Anniversary date (project or event to be determined)
Club Pride Report due
Sept or Oct Welcome back elementary school year for teachers/admin gift card

Ongoing projects annually

Childhood Cancer Family Support coin boxes – Chair Adam Drescher
Aluminum can drop off at Price’s farm for Childhood Cancer. 2626 Stockton Rd, Phoenix, at fenced site by road near barn. See the Optimist sign on the fence.
Villa’s Closet or another project – Chair Carol P
Club/Zone Oratorical Contest if a chair steps up “How Optimism Has Guided Me Through Trying Times”

Meeting dates and projects may be changed, added or deleted as required.

Carol Applegate
President 2016-2025
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CA 8/29/24 & distributed to board for comment