

January 2021



Optimist Club of
St. Charles

OPTIMIST NEWS

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Pio's Server Appreciation

Amanda Mackey has been setting up the room and serving lunches for our meetings for over 4 years. This year she worked while expecting a baby and then returned to serve our lunches soon after having her new baby. Amanda has provided excellent service while navigating the challenges of Covid protocols and ever-changing meeting agendas. In recognition for her outstanding service, Past President Steve Harker presented Amanda with a holiday gift and words of appreciation at a recent meeting. Nice job again this year Amanda!



President

Fred McGinley



My Fellow Optimists,

As we start 2021, let's reinvigorate our Optimism, press on to the greater achievements of the future. What can you do to motivate yourself? The end of the year is a definite line in the sand to meet those lofty goals you had at the beginning. At times during the year, I clearly think of how I want to improve myself, but making a plan and holding myself accountable is the other half of the coin. Accomplishments are healthy for the soul.

As a club, we can recommit to the basis of our club existence, helping the youth of our community. Even though the Optimist year begins October 1st, the new calendar year represents a fresh start to rededicate ourselves. Remember to set goals, make a plan, work the plan and achieve results. Sounds so easy, but can be very difficult. Every day, ask yourself how can I improve?

*Optimistically yours,
Fred*



**"NO ONE HAS
EVER BECOME
POOR BY GIVING"**

ANNE FRANK

SPEAKERS & RECENT EVENTS

Angela Berra of NAMI



Angela Berra, Director of the National Alliance on Mental Health—St. Louis, spoke via Zoom. NAMI-STL was founded in 1978 and serves 7 counties in the area to reduce the stigma of mental illness. They provide mental health treatment at no cost to children and adults. Their community services include education, presentations, support groups and fund-raising events.

See NAMI-STL website for further details:
<http://namistl.org/>

Salvation Army Holiday Campaign



Salvation Army Kettle Collection Chair Alan Suit did his usual good job lining up Optimist volunteers to “ring the bell” at Schnucks Market at Lindenwood Commons. Charities in the area and around the country have been challenged to help those in the community who need assistance. Please remember to support charitable organizations by volunteering and by your donations of goods and money.

Blackhurst “Breakfast with Santa”



The annual Breakfast with Santa was held on December 12th at Blackhurst Elementary School. This year it was an in-car event. Optimist Club Event Chair and Coordinator Mike Ebert reported a successful event with families receiving needed items including gift cards donated by our club. A table of goodies and Santa greeting drive-thru visitors are pictured above.

Christmas Music Program



Although the St. Charles High School Choir was not able to perform due to Covid restrictions, our Club made its normal donation to the school's music department. We are looking forward to resuming the annual festive Christmas music programs next year!!

Source of Image: 123rf.com

SPOTLIGHT ON 2021 CLUB EVENTS!!

◆ *ESSAY and ORATORICAL CONTESTS*

⇒ *Club volunteers needed!!*

- *3 judges for the Essay Contest; judging to be done in early February*
- *3 judges and 1 timekeeper for the Oratorical Contest; scheduled via Zoom for early March*

Contact Bob Beckman to volunteer

◆ *CLUB'S 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION*

⇒ *Chairperson needed to plan and organize this important milestone event!!*

◆ *OFFICER and BOARD ELECTION COMMITTEE*

⇒ *Committee chair and 2 committee members are needed for the election to be held in April 2021*

INTERESTED? See Board Meeting Minutes in the December Newsletter for details about the events

QUESTIONS? Contact Bob Beckman or a Board member

Note: The Club will follow St. Charles City & County government guidance/guidelines for holding club events and meetings during the pandemic crisis.

MILESTONES AND LOOK-AHEAD



January Schedule

January 5	Noon Meeting
January 12	Noon Meeting
January 19	Noon Meeting (Board Meeting to follow)
January 26	Noon Meeting

Birthdays

January 4	Dr. Jason Sefrit
January 15	Mark Cook
January 24	Mike King

Membership Anniversaries



January:	Joe Gegg—8 years
	Carl Sandstedt—41 years

Wedding Anniversaries



January 14	Fred & Lori McGinley
January 20	Paul & Ellen Heid
January 20	John & Lorraine Sarantakis

Speakers Preview



January:	Speakers and special programs to be announced
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ST. CHARLES CLUB OFFICERS (2020-2021)

PRESIDENT	FRED MCGINLEY (314-393-0706)
PRESIDENT-ELECT	BOB BECKMAN (636-947-9023)
VICE PRESIDENT	GERRY PRINSTER (314-973-2928)
SECRETARY	ELLEN PARKER (636-441-6857)
TREASURER	DAVE BORGMEYER (636-723-0275)
PAST PRESIDENT	STEVE HARKER (636-947-3179)

BOARD DIRECTORS

MARK COOK (314-520-0913)	MIKE EBERT (314-402-9039)
ALLEN FIELD (314 398-8742)	MARY KROGMEIER (636-734-5903)
JACK ROSS (314-287-0569) (Jack also serves as Zone 7 Lt. Gov.)	DALE WESTBY (314-550-7723)

CLUB MAILING ADDRESS

Optimist Club of St. Charles
P.O. Box 234
St. Charles, Missouri 63302

Club Website: <https://scoptimists.weebly.com/>

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