

December 2020

OPTIMIST NEWS

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2019-2020 "Pig Fund" Recipient

This year's recipient of the "Pig" funds collected during weekly meetings is the Foster Adoption Support Team (FAST) nonprofit organization. Pat Lepski (pictured below) attended our meeting on November 24th and provided a summary of the many actions taken by the FAST organization to help make lives better for foster and adoptive children. FAST offers a food pantry, special events for the kids, advocacy, moral and financial support. Following the presentation, Fred McGinley presented Pat with our Club's donation of \$500.



President Fred McGinley



My Fellow Optimists,

As we close out calendar year 2020 and prepare for the Christmas season, let us take into account our blessings this year through an upside-down world. Life does throw curve balls, and everyone saw a big one this year. Our daily lives have been disrupted and uncertainty continues on the horizon. The children in our school districts and private schools must learn differently. As in life, some are able to adapt easier to change than others. Our club has and will continue to help where we can, encourage when needed, and be there as part of the back-stop for our community.

Wishing all of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

*Optimistically yours,
Fred*



**PLEASE
SUPPORT
OUR LOCAL
CHARITIES**

SPEAKERS & RECENT EVENTS

SCSD Junior Wrestling Program



Rocky Vercher and Scott Anderson spoke on the St Charles Junior Wrestling Program. Rocky and Scott have been able to navigate COVID-19 restrictions and make it possible for the kids to wrestle. It has been our pleasure to assist the wrestling program with a donation for practice facilities and working with Scott, Rocky and the Boys and Girls Club of St. Charles County to help make this possible.

Bicycle Infrastructure



Alan Suit showed a video on how infrastructure can be used to integrate vehicles with bicyclists and pedestrians young and old for safer modes of transportation. His second video was on actions being taken by the Dutch to reduce accidents and deaths to cyclists and pedestrians on their roads. As the popularity of walking and cycling increase, this is an important topic in our community.

Hardin Middle School “Veterans Celebration on Wheels”



On Veterans Day, students at Hardin Middle School, including the Peer Ambassador / Junior Optimist group that our Club sponsors and HMS band members, honored Veterans in the community with a drive through event. Veterans were greeted by cheering students and were given a breakfast treat in recognition of their service to our country. A virtual assembly and slideshow were available for students who were not able to participate directly due to Covid-19 protocol. Peer Ambassador leader Randi Riggins reported that the event was a success. For 2021, they are hopeful to return to their normal celebration involving everyone in the school. Job well done by these students in honoring those who served our country!!

SPOTLIGHT ON 2021 CLUB EVENTS!!

- ◆ **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Projects**
 - ⇒ *Elena Cook is the chairperson of this new event. Looking forward to hearing her ideas*
- ◆ **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 for early March*
 - *Contact Bob Beckman to volunteer*
- ◆ **CLUB'S 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**
 - ⇒ *Chairperson needed to plan and organize this important milestone event!!*
- ◆ **CLUB OFFICER and BOARD ELECTION COMMITTEE**
 - ⇒ *Committee chair and members are needed in the 1st quarter of 2021*

INTERESTED? See Board Meeting Minutes on pages 4 & 5 for details on these and other 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*

**OPTIMIST CLUB OF ST. CHARLES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
November 17, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER: President Fred McGinley called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

ATTENDANCE: Bob Beckman, Dave Borgmeyer, Mark Cook, Allen Field, Steve Harker, Fred McGinley, Ellen Parker, Gerry Prinster, Jack Ross, and Dale Westby.

SECRETARY REPORT:

- Bob Beckman noticed a mistake in last month's board minutes. New Business, section 8h was missing Mark Cook as the second on the motion and that the motion had passed. Ellen Parker will make the correction.
- Mark Cook moved to approve the minutes of October 20, 2020 as amended. Steve Harker seconded. The amended minutes were approved.

TREASURER REPORT: Treasurer Dave Borgmeyer reported that:

- All accounts are in good shape.
- As of October 31, 2020, the general checking account had a balance of \$4,059.51. The savings account had a balance of \$5,070.50. The CDs total \$37,233.45. General Accounts total was \$46,363.46. The Scholarship Fund balance was \$184,730.36. The dues account showed a balance of \$2,310.29.
- Gerry Prinster moved to file the financial report with the auditor. Allen Field seconded. Motion passed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Covid-19 Issues & Upcoming Speakers: President Fred McGinley mentioned that potential speakers were hesitant about coming to meetings to speak in-person. He suggested cutting back regular noon meetings to two per month. Feedback was that if we cut back, member attendance might drop. We can possibly set up speaker presentations on Zoom and use videos as fillers. No action taken. Meetings will continue as regularly scheduled.
- Dave Borgmeyer moved to waive the December Board Meeting and if circumstances arise that need Board action, we could have a special meeting or hold a meeting on Zoom or through email. Mark Cook seconded. Motion passed
- President McGinley stated that he would be out of town for the December 15 meeting. Past President Steve Harker agreed to run the meeting.
- The December 22nd and 29th regular noon meetings will be cancelled for the holidays.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **STEM:** Member Elena Cook will be meeting with the St. Charles School District STEM representative to discuss a possible event to replace the annual spelling bee.
- **Oratorical and Essay Contests:** Chairman Bob Beckman will be contacting Randi Riggins at Hardin and Elena Cook from the Boys and Girls Club to organize this year's contests. The Essay Contest will be held in early February and the Oratorical Contest in early-to-mid March. He will be requesting volunteers for both these events in December.

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**OPTIMIST CLUB OF ST. CHARLES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
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COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued):

- Committee Chairpersons are needed for two (2) events next year:
 1. [Club's 50th Anniversary Celebration](#): A volunteer is needed to form and head up a committee to celebrate the club's 50th anniversary this year. A suggestion was made to celebrate the milestone in the Fall in conjunction with the end of the year installation banquet.
 2. [2021 Election Committee](#): A volunteer will be needed early next year to chair an election committee for the Club Officer and Board election in April 2020.
- [Golf Tournament](#): The 2020 Golf Tournament raised about \$4500.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- CD's: Fred McGinley moved to cash in \$7,000 of the Enterprise Bank CD when it matures to add to our New Frontier Bank Savings Account and roll over the remaining \$30,000 into a new CD. Allen Field seconded. Motion passed.
- Pig Fund Recipient: Continue looking for suggestions for the 2020-2021 Pig Fund donation. Recipient will be chosen at a later meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- [Blackhurst Drive-thru Santa Gift Cards](#): The annual Breakfast with Santa will tentatively be held on December 12, 2020. Mark Cook moved to approve spending the \$500 previously budgeted amount for the Blackhurst Event (ten gift cards for \$50 each). Gerry Prinster seconded. Motion passed.
- [Project Invite](#) (Roger Deppe's proposal): This item was tabled until the next board meeting in January when Roger can attend.
- [Megan Meier Donation Request](#): Ellen Parker moved to donate \$50, our Optimist Club anniversary age, to the Megan Meier Foundation. Steve Harker seconded. Motion passed.
- [Pioneer Expedition \(Duchesne HS Dinner Auction\) Donation Request](#): Since this event is not until April 2021, this item was tabled until a later date when we have a better idea of if/when we can resume our fundraising efforts.
- [SCHS Christmas Choir Event and Donation](#): Fred McGinley will contact Jeff Marion (chairperson) and the school to see if they can arrange a virtual concert.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- 18 thank you notes were sent to sponsors of the 2020 Golf Tournament.
- A thank you note was sent to Marilyn & Fritz Steinhoff for their \$1,000 memorial donation in remembrance of Ralph Sundermeier.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Deadline for the next newsletter will be November 30, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT: Allen Field moved to adjourn the meeting. Jack Ross seconded. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m .

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Parker, Secretary

MILESTONES AND LOOK-AHEAD



December Schedule

December 1	Noon Meeting
December 8	Noon Meeting
December 15	Noon Meeting (Board Meeting Cancelled)
December 22	Holiday Break—No Meeting
December 29	Holiday Break—No Meeting

Birthdays

December 10	Shelly Reuther
December 14	Debra O'Neal
December 20	Roger Deppe

Membership Anniversaries



December:	Julie King—7 years
	Rick Pundmann—38 years

Wedding Anniversaries



December 31	Mike & Julie King
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Speakers Preview



December 1	Alan Suit, Importance of Bicycle Infrastructure
December 8	Angela Berra, National Alliance on Mental Illness via Zoom
December 15	Christmas Music Program
December 22	No Meeting
December 29	No Meeting



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)	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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