

January 2022

OPTIMIST NEWS

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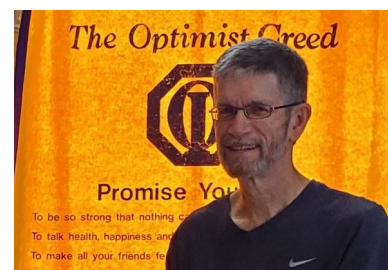
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Thank you Amanda!!

Amanda Mackey has been setting up the room and serving lunches for our meetings for over 5 years. This has been the second year that Amanda has navigated the challenges of Covid protocols, changing meeting needs, and fluctuating attendance while consistently providing outstanding service. She also served during our 50th Anniversary and Induction Dinner. The Club presented Amanda with a well-deserved holiday gift in appreciation for her service. Thank you so much for all you do, Amanda!



President Bob Beckman



December came and went quickly this year but not so fast that our Club did not take time to serve in the community while enjoying Christmas music in a noon meeting.

The holiday music was provided by the St. Charles West High School choir led by Choir Director Andrew Scott. Once again, the students in the choir delighted us with festive songs that put everyone in the holiday spirit.

For community service, we "rang the bell" for the Salvation Army on two chilly nights at the Schnucks store at Lindenwood Commons, and provided gift cards for much needed food supplies for families in need at Blackhurst Elementary School.

Despite many challenges this past year, we accomplished much by holding an enjoyable banquet, adding new members, continuing several events, receiving much appreciated donations by Club members, and building the foundation for a successful 2022.

Happy New Year everyone!

New Member: Ken Mullen's membership application was approved and he is now a member of our Club. Ken is a retired teacher living in St. Peters. He is interested in community service and youth activity events by our Club. We are thrilled to have Ken as our newest member!

SPEAKERS & RECENT EVENTS

St. Charles West Choir



Choir Director Andrew Scott and 15 choir members entertained Club members with a medley of holiday songs that got everyone in the Season's spirit. After having to cancel an in-person event last year due to the pandemic, it was rewarding to host this group of talented singers this year. In return, our Club presented the Choir with a check for \$200 to help offset some of their expenses in performing at school events. Every year, we have one of our most highly attended meetings to hear the high school choirs sing. SCW Website: <https://www.stcharlessd.org/scw>

St. Charles County Police



Chief Kurt Frisz and Media & Communications Relations Coordinator Val Joyner from the St Charles County Police Department spoke on law enforcement efforts in the County, and police engagements in the community that are building positive relationships with its citizens. On the latter topic, Val and Chief Frisz spoke on successes of programs such as "Shop with a Cop", "Chief for a Day" for youth, and "Walk & Talk" engagements by police officers in the neighborhoods.

Website: <https://www.sccmo.org/406/Police>

Blackhurst Santa Drive-Through



Blackhurst Elementary School held their annual event to provide much needed groceries to local families. Similar to last year, Covid has changed the event from a Santa Breakfast to a Santa Drive-Through, but the student's enthusiasm for helping out in the community was not diminished, and the little ones still got to talk to Santa about their Christmas wishes. Our Club donated ten \$50 gift cards from Midtowne Market for families to purchase their groceries for the holiday.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing



Event Chair Alan Suit organized a cheerful group of volunteers to "ring the bell" at the Salvation Army kettle outside Schnucks Lindenwood on two frosty nights in December. Shoppers were happy to see our bell-ringers and generous in their donations to a good cause. Many thanks to volunteers Gerry Prinster, Dale Westby, Dave Borgmeyer, Bob Beckman, Ellen Parker, Alan Suit, Mike Ebert, Roger Deppe, Carl Sandstedt, Allen Field, and the Krogmeiers.

CLUB EVENT INFORMATION

Event Calendar and Chairpersons

Month	Optimist Club Events & Fundraisers	Chairperson
January	Spelling Bee at Jefferson Intermediate	Ellen Parker
February	Essay Contest (Recognition in April)	Bob Beckman
March	Oratorical Contest (Recognition in April/May)	Bob Beckman
April	Spaghetti Dinner	Sharon North
April	Shower of Love	Reuther/Prinster
May	Quicklane Ford Fest & Community Test Drive	Rick Pundmann
May	Respect for Law Day	Jack Ross
May	First Responders Recognition	Dale Westby
May	High School Scholarships (Recognition)	Mike Ebert
June	Golf Tournament	Dean Krogmeier
June	Fishing Derby	Mark Cook
July	St. Charles County Fair Beer Garden	Dale Westby
August	All Ford Car Show	Rick Pundmann
August	Festival of the Little Hills (<i>Type of Event is TBD</i>)	Mark Cook
August	School Supplies Donations	Mary Krogmeier
September	Board Installation Banquet	Outgoing President
November	Youth in Government Day (March in 2022)	Couillard/Hauser
November	NHC Thanksgiving with JOI (at NHC facility)	Mike Ebert
December	Salvation Army Bell Ringing	Alan Suit
December	Santa Breakfast at Blackhurst Elementary	Mike Ebert
December	High School Choir Christmas Sings	"Open" for 2022

Events and dates are subject to change. Please contact Bob Beckman for updates.

◆ ORATORICAL CONTEST

⇒ **Club volunteers still needed!!**

- **1 judge and 1 timekeeper for the Oratorical Contest; scheduled early March**
- **Contact Bob Beckman to volunteer**

◆ BOARD of DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

⇒ **Nominations Committee Chair and members are needed in the 1st quarter of 2022!!**

INTERESTED? See Board Meeting Minutes for more details on these and other events.
 QUESTIONS? Contact Bob Beckman or any Board member.

**OPTIMIST CLUB OF ST. CHARLES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
December 21, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER: President Bob Beckman called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm.

ATTENDANCE: Bob Beckman, Dave Borgmeyer, Mark Cook, Roger Deppe, Allen Field, Paul Hauser, Dean Krogmeier, Ellen Parker, Gerry Prinster, and Jack Ross

SECRETARY REPORT:

- Mark Cook moved to approve the minutes of November 16, 2021 as read. Paul Hauser seconded. Motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT:

- Main November expenses were the down payment to reserve the golf course for our annual tournament and the JOI Club membership fee. Main income was from the weekly lunches. Main expenses coming up in the next few months include the awards for the Spelling Bee, and the Essay and Oratorical Contests.
- As of November 30, 2021, the general checking account had a balance of \$8,445.22. The savings account had a balance of \$5,572.81. The CDs total \$30,503.55. General Accounts total was \$44,521.25. The Scholarship Fund balance was \$184,230.75. The dues account showed a balance of \$2,497.27.
- Discussion centered around increasing our scholarship awards this year. Although college costs have increased, our income has not. If we increase the amount for each scholarship, we will have to dip into the corpus of our Scholarship fund. Currently, our OI Scholarship Fund is self-funding. We make enough on the interest each year to offset the \$5,500 we award each year. We will keep the amount of each scholarship the same for now.
- It was pointed out that some of the years in the financial statement were listed as 2020 instead of 2021. Dave will correct those oversights.
- Mark Cook moved to file the October financial report as amended with the auditor. Allen Field seconded. Motion passed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- President Beckman posed the question as to what we should do about getting together for meetings with the increase in Covid cases. After discussion it was decided that we continue to keep having our meetings as we do now which is still in compliance with St. Charles County guidelines. The ultimate decision of any changes to meeting format will be up to the president.
- Speaker suggestions for next year were discussed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Helping Hands:** We were not able to get a table for the event this year. Elena Cook attended to get ideas for next year. She will report back at next month's meeting.
- **Santa Breakfast:** The breakfast was held at Blackhurst as a drive-thru meet and greet for Santa. We donated ten \$50 gift cards from Midtowne Market to give to needy families.
- **Jefferson Spelling Bee:** Chairman Ellen Parker reported that the spelling bee will be held on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 6:00 pm in the Jefferson gym. Snow date will be January 27, 2022, same time, same place. Recognition will be at the noon meeting on February 15.
- **Essay Contest:** Chairman Bob Beckman reported that three judges have confirmed (Allen Field, Ellen Parker, and Jack Ross). We will have about 16 entries. A follow-up note was sent to the Boys and Girls Club to see if they have any additional entries.

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

- **Oratorical Contest:** Will be held either the first or second Saturday in March. Hopefully it will be held in person at Hardin Middle School. If that is not possible, it will be held on Zoom like last year. Volunteers are needed for a timekeeper and a judge, plus a back-up for emergencies. Roger Deppe and Gerry Prinster volunteered but we still need more.
- **Golf Tournament:** Chairman Dean Krogmeier reported that he will be getting the flyer out soon and needed recommendation on changes, particularly asking if we should raise the price. Discussion centered around raising the cost to \$125 and including a mulligan, as well as raising the cost of a hole sponsorship to \$125. The consensus was to increase prices since our cost for golf and food would also be increasing. The tournament will be held at St. Peters Golf Course on June 6, 2022 starting at 7:30 am.
- **Nominating Committee:** Should be formed by February. Please volunteer your service to help select nominees for next year's officers.
- **Membership/Marketing Committee:** This committee will reconvene after the first of the year.
- **Spaghetti Dinner:** We have Blanchette Memorial Hall reserved for April 22, 2022.
- **Ford Fest:** Nothing definite but could be held May 14, 2022.
- **Fishing Derby:** Chairman Mark Cook reported that plans are still up in the air as he is waiting to hear back from Community Living. He will check into setting up a date .

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Pig Fund:** Ellen Parker moved to donate this year's Pig Fund to the St. Charles Parks and Recreation Scholarship Program. Mark Cook seconded. Motion passed. This program provides funds to children/families who cannot financially afford a recreational program, day camp, or aquatic season passes.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Goodfellas of St. Charles:** This organization was chosen by the Salvation Army for their Silver Wing Award (top donor for the year). Gerry Prinster moved to donate \$200 to the St. Charles Goodfellas organization to aid in their community service projects. Ellen Parker seconded. Motion passed.
- **Megan Meier Foundation:** Generic request for donation. No action taken for lack of a motion.
- **Youth in Need:** Generic request for donation. No action taken for lack of a motion.
- **New Member Approval:** Gerry Prinster moved to approve Ken Mullin as a new member, sponsored by Mike Ebert. Roger Deppe seconded. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Thank you note was sent to Carl Sandstedt for matching 50% of our club's donation to Salvation Army.
- President Bob Beckman sent an email to tentative new member Susan Noonan and Secretary Ellen Parker sent her a hard copy of her welcome letter inquiring as to her intention of registering as a member. She responded to Bob that she is currently unable to become active at this time due to her many other commitments but will hopefully be able to join later.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Deadline for the next newsletter will be December 28, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT: Mark Cook moved to adjourn the meeting. Gerry Prinster seconded. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Parker, Secretary

MILESTONES AND LOOK-AHEAD



Club Schedule - January

January 4	Noon Meeting
January 11	Noon Meeting
January 18	Noon Meeting (Board Meeting to Follow)
January 25	Noon Meeting

Birthdays

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



Membership Anniversaries



January:	Joe Gegg—9 years
	Carl Sandstedt—42 years

Wedding Anniversaries

January 20	Paul & Ellen Heid
January 20	John & Lorraine Sarantakis



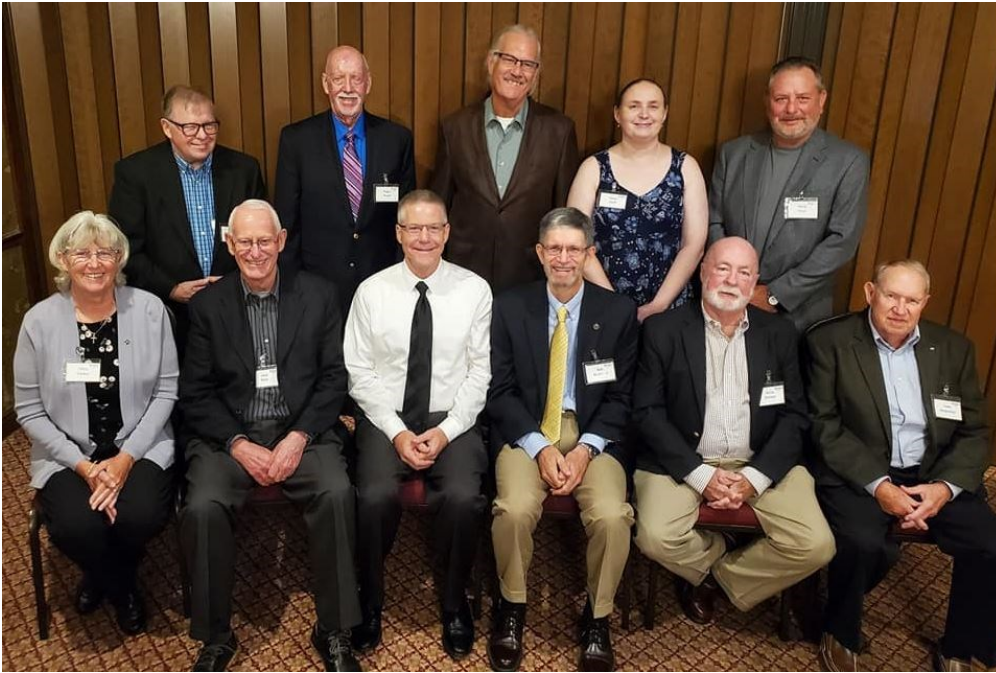
Speakers Preview

January 4	Tom McIntyre —The Neptune Society
January 11	David Snyder — Frank's Heroes
January 18	Bill Brunner — Sleep in Heavenly Peace (Beds for Kids)
January 25	Major Nathan Harms — Salvation Army St Charles



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

2021-2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT	BOB BECKMAN
PRESIDENT-ELECT	GERRY PRINSTER
VICE PRESIDENT	PAUL HAUSER
SECRETARY	ELLEN PARKER
TREASURER	DAVE BORGMEYER

DIRECTORS:

1 YEAR TERMS

MARK COOK

ALLEN FIELD

JACK ROSS

(Jack serves as Zone 7 Lt. Gov.)

2 YEAR TERMS

ELENA COOK

ROGER DEPPE

DEAN KROGMEIER

CLUB INFORMATION:

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

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

Like us on Facebook! Search "Optimist Club of St. Charles, MO" or the following link:
<https://www.facebook.com/Optimist-Club-of-St-Charles-MO-416164208567872/>

Meetings: We meet weekly on Tuesdays at 12:00 p.m. in Pio's Restaurant,
403 1st Capitol Dr, St. Charles, MO 63301. Visitors are welcome.