

Merry
Christmas
to you and
yours!



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OPTIMIST NEWS

Club of St. Charles, Missouri

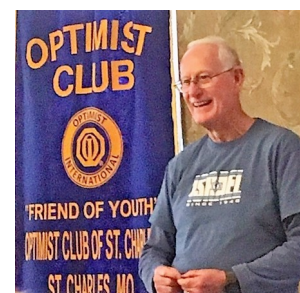
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The Board has not yet identified an appropriate recipient for this year's Piggy Bank donations. If you have any suggestions for worthy groups, please pass on to President Jack or another board member before the December 18th

From the President (Jack Ross)



Last week at the meeting my Optimistic saying was "Being an optimist does not mean you do not feel the sorrow of present suffering." By Steve Pease

As we mourn the loss of our dear friend, Lori Wooten, that saying, I felt, was completely appropriate. As I look back on my life, I believe I have been an optimistic person long before joining St Charles Optimist Club in 2013. Life sometimes kicks us when we are down. I have, as you also probably have, experienced some very major set backs in my life. The pessimist stays down and deals with these things with anger, self-pity or in some other destructive manor. The optimist steps back, evaluates the options, picks the best path to recovery and moves on expecting and believing that the terrible problem is not going to define the rest of my life. Does this process happen in minutes or overnight? Certainly not, but if you focus on the good, and in my case, the good plan God has for me, eventually you will walk out of the valley of grief and pain. My prayers are being lifted up for family and friends of our precious friend, Lori Wooten.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Alan Suit is scheduling Bell Ringers for December 10 and December 13 at the Schnucks at Lindenwood Commons. Slots are still available! **Schedule attached.**



**VOLUNTEER
BELL RINGERS
NEEDED!**

Ring a bell...help change a life

"A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."

PROGRAM REFLECTIONS



On November 11, Dulcie Couillard presented awards to students participating in this year's Youth In Government event. Mayor Sally Faith was gracious enough to attend as well. Thanks Dulcie for another great educational event!



The club showed its appreciation to Amanda, our faithful server, for all of her hard work and good will. Mr. Steve Harker is seen (photo to the right) presenting her with a \$300 check at the December 4th meeting. Thanks for everything Amanda!



BOARD ACTION

In November, the board voted to raise the amount for "flowers" to \$50 per event (for funerals, etc.).



Mark Sikma (left with Jack Ross), Pastor at Element Church, and founder of the non-profit group We Love St. Charles spoke to the club about the upcoming "Love Awards" to be held at Jefferson Intermediate School on December 21st. The board unanimously voted to once again sponsor the awards in the amount of \$3000. We can't wait to see what students are recognized this year for simply showing love and kindness to others.

It's Not Christmas Until The Choir Sings!

The club always enjoy hearing the beautiful voices of students from our local high schools. Pictured below are members of the St. Charles High School Choir under the direction of Ms. Courtney Gibson! Gotta love it!



February 7, 1961—November 25, 2018



In honor of Lori Wootten, the board approved donations of \$125 to each of the non-profits she held dear: Care to Learn SC and We Love SC. Lori's servant leadership and kind heart touched many hearts and her legacy will live forever.

Events Calendar



- December 4 Noon Meeting at Pio's
- December 10 Bell Ringing (Lindenwood Schnucks)
- December 11 Noon Meeting at Pio's
- December 13 Bell Ringing (Lindenwood Schnucks)
- December 18 Noon Meeting at Pio's with Board Meeting to follow
- December 21 "Love Awards" @ Jefferson Intermediate School

December 25 NO MEETING



Birthdays



- December 10 Shelly Reuther
- December 11 Paul Wilke
- December 19 Joe Bryan
- December 20 Roger Deppe
- December 21 Craig Dodson

Anniversaries

None



SPEAKERS PREVIEW

- December 4 SCHS Choir
- December 11 Kerry Maltzman,
SCSD Early Childhood Center
- December 18 TBD
- December 25 NO MEETING



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(Front row) Dave Borgmeyer, Fred McGinley, Jack Ross, Steve Harker, Ellen Parker, Jeff Marion

(Back Row) Mary Krogmeier, Mark Cook, Bob Beckman, Carl Sandstedt, Roger Deppe

(Not Pictured) Joe Gegg

CLUB OFFICERS

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