

OPTIMIST NEWS

Optimist Club of St. Charles, Missouri

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President Steve Harker



Life is all about timing. So why does it seem like timing never works in our favor?

Several years ago, Linda's older brother Kenny was riding his motorcycle down a curvy road in Marthasville, after leaving an event he was at with friends. Kenny was hit and killed on a curve by a pickup truck traveling in the opposite direction.

I've often wondered, what if Kenny would have momentarily misplaced his keys (delaying his departure) that fateful afternoon? Ironically, that short, lifesaving inconvenience would have most likely irritated him. He may have even left the event in a bad mood. Ten seconds, added or subtracted to either vehicle, would have saved his life that day, as they would have came in to the curve at different moments. Such is fate.

We can't know how many times fate has worked to our advantage in our lives. Ever pull up on a crash that has just occurred? What would have happened if that last stop light you sat at was green, rather than red? The fact is, that when timing works against us, we tend to have more of a consciousness of it and we can allow it to anger us. Subscribing to the notion that fate is out of our control, allows us to achieve serenity. To be too noble for anger.

Good timing, and fate, are responsible for you meeting your loved ones, landing that dream job, or even becoming an Optimist. In fact, the medical odds of the conception of "you" were over 100 million to 1. You hit the lottery before you were even born! Now that's looking at the sunny side of everything.

Steve

Youth in Need Donation

Demetria Lightfoot from Youth in Need (YIN) was the speaker at our meeting on January 7th and gave an overview of the many services they provide to area youth. YIN has been serving the greater St. Louis area since 1974, when volunteers reached out to the agency's first client. Today, more than 400 full- and part-time staff serve more than 8,000 of the area's most vulnerable children, teens and families at nearly 100 locations in six counties in eastern Missouri. In recognition, our club presented YIN with \$1000 collected from the "Pig fund" during our 2018-2019 noon meetings.



Lindenwood Lions Football



Jed Stugart, Head Coach of the Lindenwood University Men's Football team, was the speaker at our noon meeting on January 21st. Coach Stugard gave an interesting wrap up of the Lions' 2019 season and a preview of a promising 2020 season with a large number of returning starting players. Lindenwood ended the 2019 season with a 9-4 overall record, while going undefeated (7-0) in its first season in the Great Lakes Valley Conference to win the 2019 GLVC Championship. Lindenwood then reached the second round of the NCAA Division II Playoffs, losing to No. 10 Northwest Missouri State to end the Lions' season.

SC County Dept of Health



Sara Evers, St. Charles County Assistant Director of Public Health, and Doug Bolnick, Public Information Officer, spoke at our meeting on January 14th. The Health Department offers many services to county residents including Emergency Preparedness, Health Services, Humane Services, Environmental Health and Protection, and Recycling. See their website for further details.

Judge Brittney Smith



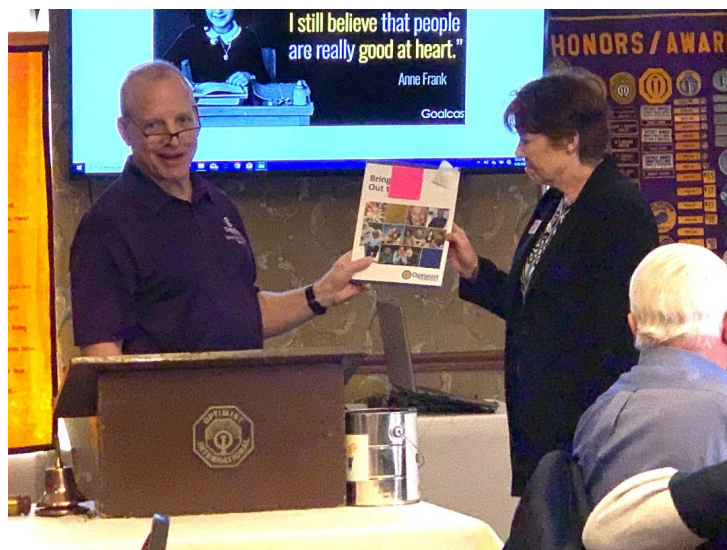
The Honorable Judge Brittney R. Smith, Associate Circuit Judge for the 11th Judicial Circuit, has a background as Defense Attorney. Public Defender, Special Victims Prosecutor with the St. Charles County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, and now Circuit Judge. Judge Smith spoke on her interesting background and experiences from her past and current positions.

Spelling Bee Competitions



Ellen Parker, Club Chair for the Spelling Bee, reported that the Jefferson Intermediate School Spelling Bee was held on Tuesday, January 14th in the Jefferson library, and the District Elementary Spelling Bee was held on the same day at Monroe Elementary School. Finalists from the Elementary competition are shown with their certificates in the top left photo and the Jefferson finalists are shown in the photo at right. The top three finalists will attend our noon meetings on February 18th and 25th, respectively, to receive their awards.

Kathy Lenihan—New Club Member



Welcome Kathy !!

Items of Interest to Club Members:

- 1. NEXT OPTIMISTIC HOUR:** Our next "Optimistic Hour Event" will be held on Thursday, February 27th at Lindenwood University where our Club will attend the Women's and Men's Basketball games. Arrangements are in work with the Lindenwood Athletic Department. Lindenwood is making game tickets available to club members and their guest at no charge. Soft drinks and happy hour type food will be served, with the Club's 50/50 funds paying for a portion of the refreshments. Our club will also be recognized during the event. The Women's game starts at 5:30 PM—the Men's game at 7:30 PM. We need a firm count of members who plan to attend in order to finalize arrangements. Please let Bob Beckman know by email or phone by Monday, February 10th if you plan to attend. We are looking for of a good turnout and making this an annual fun social event.
- 2. Club member Mary Krogmeier** is being honored for her service to Youth in Need at their 33rd Annual Celebration of Youth Gala on March 7, 2020 at Ameristar Casino Resort & Spa. If you would like to attend the Gala in support of Mary's recognition, ticket information is available on the St. Charles Youth in Need website or see Steve Harker. Congratulations Mary on your well deserved recognition by YIN!!!
- 3. Sharon North, Club Chair for the Spaghetti Dinner,** is requesting members get out and sell tickets to the event scheduled April 17th. Also, please solicit sponsors for the paper placemats (need company business cards). Club volunteers are needed to cook and serve. This is one of our largest fund raisers. Your help is needed to make it a success.
- 4. Fred McGinley, Club Chair for the Golf Tournament,** is getting an early start on this year's event. This is another of our big fund raisers and a good turnout of golf teams and sponsors is needed. The event is being held at St. Peters Golf Course on June 1st. Fred will send out player and sponsorship flyers soon. Plan on attending a fun day on the links!
- 5. Mike Ebert** is selling tickets for a "Friday the 13th Irish Happy Hour" being held by the St. Charles School District Foundation. See the flyer below for more information.



SCHEDULE OF 2020 CLUB EVENTS

Month	Optimist Events & Fundraisers in 2020	Chair Person	Co Chair
January	Elementary & Intermediate Spelling Bees	Ellen Parker	
February	Essay Contest	Bob Beckman	Ed Gettemeier
March	Oratorical Contest	Bob Beckman	Ed Gettemeier
April	Spaghetti Dinner	Sharon North	Dale Westby
April	Shower of Love	Shelly Reuther	
May	Quicklane Ford Fest & Community Test Drive	Rick Pundmann	Jack Ross
May	Respect for Law Day	Jack Ross	
May	High School Scholarships	Mike Ebert	
June	Golf Tournament	Fred McGinley	Alan Suit
June	Fishing Derby	Mark Cook	Jack Ross
July	St Charles Fair Beer Booth	Dale Westby	
August	All Ford Car Show	Rick Pundmann	Jack Ross
August	St. Charles Festival of the Little Hills Beer Booth	Mark Cook	
August	School Supply Donations	Mary Krogmeier	
October	Installation Banquet	Steve Harker	
November	Youth in Government Day	Dulcie Couillard	
November	NHC Thanksgiving with JOOI	Mike Ebert	
December	Salvation Army Bell Ringing	Allen Suit	
December	Santa Breakfast	Mike Ebert	
December	High School Choir Sings	Jeff Marion	

The above table shows the current schedule for this year's club events and fundraisers, along with the current listing of Chairs and Co-Chairs for the events. We have been very successful for many years in running these events due to the hard work and knowledge of the Chairs, Co-Chairs and the many volunteers who enthusiastically come out to cook, serve, judge, take fish off hooks, and whatever else is needed to make the events a success. Please continue to support these events and encourage your friends and family to attend as they enable our club to financially support the youth of St. Charles County!!

Current openings for Co-Chairs are highlighted in "yellow". Co-Chairs are important positions that provide assistance to the Chair and a succession plan if the Chair is unable to continue. Contact Steve Harker or Bob Beckman to volunteer or for information.

OPTIMIST CLUB OF ST. CHARLES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES (minor edits for space)
January 21, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: President Steve Harker called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm.

ATTENDANCE: Bob Beckman, Dave Borgmeyer, Roger Deppe, Steve Harker, Fred McGinley, Ellen Parker, Gerry Prinster, Carl Sandstedt, and Dale Westby. Also in attendance was Jean Kent.

SECRETARY REPORT:

Gerry Prinster moved to approve the minutes of December 17, 2019. Roger Deppe seconded. The minutes were approved.

TREASURER REPORT:

- Treasurer David Borgmeyer reported that the General Fund was low because of no income these past few months, but still have expenses. Still need to pay for spelling bee plaque engraving, as well as essay & oratorical medallions and cash awards. Per Treasurer David Borgmeyer's recommendation, Carl Sandstedt moved to allow David, if necessary and at the treasurer's discretion, to transfer money from the New Frontier Savings Account into the General Checking Account, but not to exceed \$1500. Fred McGinley seconded. Motion passed.
- David also reported that the dues account is in good shape and that 2nd quarter dues have been paid. The 48 members of our club have all paid in full. The scholarship account is also in good shape.
- David reported that our club had been approved as a tax-exempt organization for 2018-2019.
- Roger Deppe moved to file the financial report with the auditor. Fred McGinley seconded. Motion passed.

PRESIDENT REPORT:

- President Harker distributed a report of the 50/50 Fund. As of January 14, 2020, there is \$145 in the fund.
- Youth In Need sent us an invitation for their "Celebration of Youth" gala. Mary Krogmeier is an honoree. Roger Deppe moved to have the club purchase two tickets for member and guest to attend. Dale Westby seconded. Motion passed.
- Roger Deppe moved to purchase a half page ad in the amount of \$175. Bob Beckman seconded. Motion passed. Ellen Parker will create a design for the ad to congratulate Mary on behalf of the club and send it in.
- Michael Boles, East Missouri Governor, is looking for help organizing third quarter conference. If interested, let Steve know.
- President Harker received his new credit card since the old one had been compromised. Treasurer David Borgmeyer reported that the credit card company is investigating the bogus charge.
- There is a fifth week in January, so we would normally have an Optimistic Hour. It was suggested that we use the "Optimist Night" at Lindenwood (if approved) as an Optimistic Hour.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Spelling Bee: Ellen Parker reported that both Spelling Bees went well. Recognition for the Elementary winners will be February 18, and the Jefferson winners will be recognized February 25, both at the regular Tuesday noon meetings.
- Membership Committee: Chairman Fred McGinley reported that the group met at the beginning of the month and discussed level of involvement of members and recruitment ideas. They will be making phone calls to non-involved members to determine what the club could do to rekindle an interest.
- Golf Tournament: Chairman Fred McGinley reported that he had received a contract from Bear Creek for the same cost as last year. He also looked into cost of St. Peters Golf Course, which was a bit cheaper. Dave Borgmeyer moved to give the committee the right to make a decision about the location for the tournament. Dale Westby seconded. Motion passed. Fred also stated that Alan Suit will help to co-chair the event.
- Essay/Oratorical Contests: Chairman Bob Beckman reported that everything is set and ready for the essay judging. Nothing to report on the oratorical contest.
- New Awards Recognition for First Responders and School Resource Officers: Dale Westby is still looking into possible dates for the award recognition luncheons.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Goals for the Year: Members should present ideas for involvement & recruitment of new members to Membership Committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Megan Meier Foundation donation request: No action taken.
- Process to analyze charitable organization seeking donations over and above budgeted items: Ellen Parker moved to table this discussion until next board meeting. Gerry Prinster seconded. Motion passed.
- EMO 2nd Quarter Conference: President Harker stated that he would be unable to attend. If anyone is interested in attending as club representative, let him know. Dave Borgmeyer suggested that we should definitely send a representative to the 3rd Quarter Conference to present the annual checks to OI.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Thank You notes received: Jefferson Love Awards, Youth In Need (\$1000 donation), Salvation Army (\$200 donation), Boys and Girls Club (\$200 donation).

ADJOURNMENT: Gerry Prinster moved to adjourn the meeting. Bob Beckman seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Parker, Secretary

Events Calendar



February 4	Noon Meeting
February 11	Noon Meeting
February 18	Noon Meeting (Board Meeting at 1pm)
February 25	Noon Meeting
February 27	Optimistic Evening Event Lindenwood Basketball Game

Birthdays



February 6	Richard Green
February 9	Allen Field
February 9	Carl Sandstedt
February 12	Joe Gegg
February 20	Alan Suit

January Attendance

January 7	19 Members & 2 Guests
January 14	16 Members & 2 Guests
January 21	18 Members & 1 Guests
January 28	17 Members & 2 Guests

Anniversaries



February 12	Paul & Kathleen Wilke
February 27	Alan & Brenda Suit

SPEAKERS PREVIEW

February 4	Kristin Wilmes, Nurse Practitioner - Autism Advocate
February 11	Susan Shields, St. Charles Police K-9 Officer
February 18	Ellen Parker - Recognition of Spelling Bee Winners
February 25	Ellen Parker - Recognition of Spelling Bee Winners



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ST. CHARLES CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	STEVE HARKER (636-947-3179)
PRESIDENT-ELECT	FRED MCGINLEY (314-393-0706)
VICE PRESIDENT	BOB BECKMAN (636-947-9023)
SECRETARY	ELLEN PARKER (636-441-6857)
TREASURER	DAVE BORGMEYER (636-723-0275)
PAST PRESIDENT	JACK ROSS (314-287-0569)

CLUB BOARD MEMBERS

ROGER DEPPE (636-723-1937)	GERRY PRINSTER (314-973-2928)
MIKE EBERT (314-402-9039)	CARL SANDSTEDT (636-293-9559)
MARY KROGMEIER (636-734-5903)	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/**](https://scoptimists.weebly.com/)

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