

December 2023

# OPTIMIST NEWSLETTER



## NOVEMBER RECAP



Julie Hernandez from St. Louis Crisis Nursery (across 4th Street from Pio's) gave an in-depth presentation on their services provided for "Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect." They act as a Safe House for children up to 12 years of age during family emergencies and other times of need. Our club makes an annual donation. Volunteers are needed—see their website for info. <https://www.crisisnurserykids.org/>

Youth in Government chair Dulcie Couillard arranged for students from Orchard Farm, Duchesne, St. Charles High and St. Charles West to visit St. Charles County government facilities and meet with SCC officials. County Executive Steve Ehlmann accompanied the group for lunch at Pio's.



Aaron Eller, East Regional Branch Manager of the St. Charles City-County Library, gave a detailed presentation on all the resources and services offered by or through the Library System. These include books and periodicals (paper and digital), programs and classes, and many others. Aaron also explained ways for citizens to get involved. <https://stchlibrary.org/>

Anna Kusnierkiewicz, Sr. Development Director of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Gateway Chapter, gave an informative presentation on the disease, medical treatments and medications, and the many public activities run by the Gateway Chapter. Anna challenged our club to support the Foundation in 2024 through volunteering, sponsorship, in-kind donations, attendance at events, or hosting an event. [www.cff.org/chapters/gateway-chapter](http://www.cff.org/chapters/gateway-chapter)



## President Paul Hauser



Dear Optimist Members,

The Holiday Season is upon us and I am looking forward to the club's Christmas Program on December 12th featuring the St Charles West High School Jazz Ensemble. Spouses, significant others and guests are cordially invited to attend. Please let us know if you plan to bring a guest so we can inform Pio's of the expected attendance.

Fred McGinley graciously set-up the Salvation Army bell ringing in December at Schnucks-Lindenwood. With a quick call to Fred or myself, we can get you on the schedule to ring for Christmas Cheer. More time slots can be added.

Helping Hands for the Holidays is on December 13th at St. Charles Convention Center. Donations are given to St Charles County residents in need. Items requested for these donations include:

Winter weather items such as coats, hats, gloves, and scarves; Socks and underwear; Personal care items.

We are booking speakers and programs for January and February. If you want to share a subject with the club, please contact a speaker and let's get a date booked in the coming year.

Wishing you and your family health and happiness in this joyful season and the coming year.

Paul

## DECEMBER MEETINGS & EVENTS

- December 5** Noon Meeting  
Travis Welge—SC County Assessor
- December 12** Noon Meeting  
SCW Jazz Band—Christmas Program
- December 13** Helping Hands for Holidays  
SC Convention Center
- December 19** Noon and Board Meetings  
Dr. Michele Gillentine—Earlens Hearing Center
- December 26** No Meeting—Holiday Break

# 2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



## OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: PAUL HAUSER

SECRETARY: ELLEN PARKER

PRESIDENT-ELECT: RICK DALEEN

TREASURER: DAVE BORGMAYER

VICE PRESIDENT: ELENA COOK

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## DIRECTORS:

### 1 YEAR TERMS

MARK COOK

MIKE EBERT

STEVE HARKER

### 2 YEAR TERMS

DON JAMISON

FRED MCGINLEY

CHUCK RATERMANN

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## CLUB INFORMATION and SOCIAL MEDIA

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

**Meetings:** Our weekly meetings are held on Tuesdays at 12:00 p.m. at Pio's Restaurant, 401 First Capitol Dr, St. Charles, MO 63301.  
Board meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month.  
Visitors are welcome.