

June 2020



Optimist
INTERNATIONAL

Optimist Club of
St. Charles

OPTIMIST NEWS

Message from Club President Steve Harker:

A few of us Optimists were fortunate to attend a "happy trails" celebration for K9 Officer Phoenix, as he heads off into retirement. You may remember, Phoenix came to one of our meetings and gave us an impressive demonstration of his discipline and skills awhile back. Congratulations Phoenix!!

I recognized several of the Police Officers at the celebration, many of whom I haven't seen in years. Officers I routinely ran calls with when I was at the fire department. We started talking about how our families are, how big our kids are now, and how long until retirement.

I was reminded of how these were all really good guys, who work really hard despite how tough their job is. Men and women just like you and me, who are trying to balance the challenges of their job, raise their children, and support their families.

I was surprised that not a single word was mentioned about the police incident in Minneapolis. It was as if everyone knew everyone was thinking about it, but nobody wanted to mention it.

It has been said that nobody hates a bad cop more than a good cop. Unfortunately, every profession has a "bad cop" or two. Bad behavior tends to make headlines more than good behavior. It is human nature to generalize people based on our perceived impression of them. These are often influenced by these headlines. Similar to peaceful protesters being thrown in with opportunistic instigators who have been burning, looting, etc.

I often wonder what the world would be like if everyone lived the "Optimist Creed". What would happen if you give every living creature you meet a smile?

You are telling them that you have no pre-conceived notion about them. You make no assumptions based on the color of their skin, the uniform they wear, their socioeconomic status, their religion, etc.

Just imagine how different things might have played out (on all sides), if everyone lived by this creed. De-escalation instead of escalation, open arms rather than a clinched fist, etc.


You know, there might just be something to this creed thing!!

*Optimistically yours,
Steve*



MAY 2020 CLUB ACTIVITIES

Oratorical District Contest

Source of Image:  Optimist INTERNATIONAL



The Oratorical topic was “Just iMagine a World without Boundaries.” Hardin MS student Vivian Jones represented our Club in the East Missouri District Contest on May 30th and competed in a strong field of 8 contestants. She delivered a fantastic speech and presentation. While she did not finish in the top 3, her growth in public speaking over the course of three contests was clearly evident. We look forward to Vivian and all the contestants who entered this year’s Club contest competing again next year for another opportunity to win a college scholarship from OI. An Oratorical recognition lunch is being planned in July.

Retirement Celebration:



K9 Phoenix of the St. Charles Police Department, was recognized during a retirement ceremony on Friday, May 29th. Newly promoted Lieutenant Susan Shields invited our Club to attend his retirement ceremony and Steve Harker was able to attend. Phoenix and another Police K9, Nitro, and their handlers, Officers Rick Fischer and Dan Allen, respectively, were our guests during a Club meeting in February and impressed us with their skills and training.

Pictured at right: Officer Rick Fischer and Phoenix at the retirement ceremony

UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS

Updates from Steve Harker

- Good news! I spoke with Pio's about resuming live meetings. We are scheduled to begin Tuesday, June 2nd at 12:00 noon!! Pio's will have some changes in place, regarding social distancing. There will only be 4 people sitting at each table, our food will be plated for us (not buffet style), and there will only be 30 people (total) allowed upstairs.
- The annual Mustang Car Show has been cancelled, and there are no plans to reschedule. It was to be held on August 1st at Pundmann Ford. We usually set up our trailer and sell "brats", hot dogs, and drinks. Thank you Rick for hosting this event in the past and keeping us updated. Hopefully we'll be back in 2021.
- The annual Fishing Derby is cancelled. Thank you Mark Cook for keeping us up to date and for your work on this in the past.
- The Election Committee has decided to postpone movement on nominations for office in 2020-21 until our live meetings resume. If you have any questions, or interest in running for office, please contact Fred.
- Our Optimist Golf Tournament has been rescheduled for September 21st at the St. Peters Golf Course. Still looking for help, teams, sponsors and hole sponsors. Thank you Fred, for all your hard work on this.
- The Spaghetti Dinner is currently still a go for October 23rd. Thank you Sharon and Dale for your work on this. Please mark your calendars to help out that day.
- Looks like the St Charles County Fair is still a go as well. Mark your calendars for July 30th to help out at the beer stand. Let Dale know if you can help. It's always a good time.

Steve

CALL FOR SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT:

Alison Griffith, our Club's Facebook page administrator, is soliciting input from Club members on what you are doing and how you are spending your time during this uncertain period. An inspirational quote is a bonus too! If you would like to participate, please email the following information to Alison at: agriffith@stchlibrary.org

- *Your name and how long you've been with the Optimists*
- *1-2 photos*
- *A brief description of what is happening in the photo or a quote you want to share*

**OPTIMIST CLUB OF ST. CHARLES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
May 19, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER: President Steve Harker called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm on Zoom.

ATTENDANCE: Bob Beckman, Dave Borgmeyer, Roger Deppe, Mike Ebert, Steve Harker, Fred McGinley, Ellen Parker, Gerry Prinster, Carl Sandstedt, and Dale Westby.

SECRETARY REPORT:

- Gerry Prinster moved to approve the minutes of April 21, 2020. Dave Borgmeyer seconded. The minutes were approved.
- Ellen Parker reported that she received an email from OI Foundation that reported the top ten things they accomplished this year. See attachment 3 from this month's agenda.

TREASURER REPORT:

- Treasurer Dave Borgmeyer reported that he requested and received \$5,000 from the campaign fund for this year's senior scholarships.
- As of April 30, 2020, the general checking account had a balance of \$1,710.50. The savings account had a balance of \$6,769.01. The c/d's total \$37,065.56. General Accounts total was \$45,545.07. The Scholarship Funds balance was \$187,322.86. The dues account showed a balance of \$121.39.
- Roger Deppe moved to file the financial report with the auditor. Dale Westby seconded. Motion passed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- President Harker asked if anyone knows when Pio's would be opening back up. Dale Westby stated that he had heard they would open for inside dining around June 1, 2020 and that for our meetings upstairs we would be limited to 30 people.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Election Committee:** Chairman Fred McGinley reported that Jack Ross and Alan Field have volunteered to run as board members, and that Gerry Prinster volunteered to run as either a board member or Vice-President, whichever is needed. Committee is still looking for willing candidates.
- **Oratorical Contest:** Chairman Bob Beckman reported that one of the contestants from our local contest (Vivian Jones) finished in the top two at the Regional competition and therefore qualified for the District competition on May 30, 2020 where she has a chance to win a scholarship. Bob also reported that he is looking at dates in July to recognize the winners of both our essay and oratorical local contests.
- **Respect for Law Recognition:** The tentative date for this recognition is still June 23, 2020.
- **School Resource Officers and First Responders Recognition:** Chairman Dale Westby reported that the proofs for the plaques are made. School Resource recognition is scheduled for June 16, 2020 and recognition for first responders is on hold.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

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- **Scholarship Committee:** Chairman Mike Ebert reported that the Orchard Farm and St. Charles High School scholarship winners have been chosen. St. Charles West applicants are in the process of being judged.
- **Golf Tournament:** Chairman Fred McGinley reported that the annual Golf Tournament fundraiser is locked in for Monday, September 21, 2020 at St. Peters Golf Course. He will be changing the flyers to reflect the new date.
- **Spaghetti Dinner:** The annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser is set for October 23, 2020 at Memorial Hall. Signs will reflect the new date.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Roger Deppe suggested that we address the policy for including student pictures in our media releases and on our website based on the SCSD guidelines before the recognition for our oratorical/essay /scholarship winners. Secretary Ellen Parker will add this to the agenda for our June board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Ellen Parker moved to donate \$195, in the form of a scholarship, to a needy student at St. Charles West for the registration fee for the college comp class through the Care to Learn organization. Dave Borgmeyer seconded. Motion passed. Further research revealed that Care to Learn could only be involved if the donation were for health, hunger, or hygiene purposes. The check would need to be made directly to St. Louis University instead of Care to Learn.
- OI virtual conference invitation. Secretary Ellen Parker shared the email with the board inviting our club to attend the national convention. See attachment 1 from this month's agenda for information on how to register.
- OI By-Laws Update: Secretary Ellen Parker reported that OI has changed the wording in the by-laws and that each club needs to reflect those changes in their individual local club by-laws. She will email our current by-laws and the revised by-laws to each board member and add it to the June agenda for discussion and approval.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Care to Learn sent notice that their 2020 Gala fundraiser has been cancelled.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Deadline for the next newsletter will be June 2, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT: Dave Borgmeyer moved to adjourn the meeting. Fred McGinley seconded. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Parker, Secretary

Events Calendar



June 2	Noon Meeting
June 9	Noon Meeting
June 16	Noon Meeting (Board Meeting at 1:00 PM)
June 23	Noon Meeting
June 30	Noon Meeting (Election of Board Members)

Birthdays



June 8	Cheryl Graber
June 14	Rich Krill
June 14	Kathy Lenihan
June 17	Ellen Parker
June 21	Linda Sanchez

Meeting Attendance

In-person meetings were not held in May

Anniversaries



June 2	Steve & Linda Harker
June 6	Joe & Jeri Kloeppe
June 10	Richard & Marge Green Mike & Connie Ebert
June 15	Jack & Ellen Parker
June 16	Andrew & Lynn Stewart
June 18	Dale & Dee Westby
June 28	Joe & Barb Gegg

Speakers Preview

June 2	Fred McGinley—Meeting Kickoff
June 9	To be announced
June 16	School Resource Officer Recognition (Dale Westby)
June 23	Respect for Law Recognition—Tentative (Jack Ross)
June 30	To be announced



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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

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

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