

May 2020



Optimist
INTERNATIONAL

Optimist Club of
St. Charles

OPTIMIST NEWS

Message from Club President Steve Harker:

Every year, there are wildfires out west. These wildfires cause millions of dollars worth of damage, kill humans and wildlife, and cause enormous destruction to the landscape. These wildfires also cause untold suffering.

Inevitably, in the aftermath of the destruction, there is a renewal. Plants that never had enough light to grow, are blooming. Seeds that previously never made it to the forest floor because of dead organic matter, are now germinating new plants. These new plants attract new animals. Invasive plants, that previously choked out indigenous plants, are now gone. Pine cones that are covered in pitch, must be melted by fire to release the seeds, are planted. Fire makes the soil more fertile, and some plants and animals actually require fire for germination or nutrition.

As we look at the sunny side of everything, take a moment to reflect on the ways these challenging times can create a renewal in our lives. People are finding out that they can actually work from home. There is less traffic, less pollution and lower gas prices. We can use this time to better connect with our families, get caught up on that project or hobby, or finally binge-watch that series you've been wanting to see. There's a silver lining, you just have to look for it. When it is raining and the sun suddenly comes out, there is a rainbow somewhere. Put your back to the sun and look for it. It's there, I guarantee it.

Today I attended a drive-by parade for a very dear friend who is a Doctor in Cardinal Glennon Emergency Department. He contracted COVID-19, became gravely ill, went on a ventilator (80% die at that point), he got worse and went on ECMO. Most people assumed he was going to die. He recovered and went home.

There were dozens and dozens of cars in the parade (see picture at right). Police escort, ambulances, fire trucks, etc.. When the news crews interviewed him, he broke down and cried. He said that he never imagined that so many people were pulling for him, praying for him, etc.


This has been a very trying event, but our Cardinal Glennon family has never been closer.

***Optimistically yours,
Steve***



ESSAY AND ORATORICAL CONTEST RESULTS

Essay Contest

Source of Image:  Optimist INTERNATIONAL




The Essay topic was “Is Optimism the Key to Achieving the Dreams You iMagine?” There were 15 contestants who submitted essays in our Club contest. The Top 3 essays were submitted by:

- 1st Place: **Urias Carryl, Home School Academy**
- 2nd Place: **Andrew Schneider, Hardin Middle School**
- 3rd Place: **Emily Johannes, Hardin Middle School**

Good job by all contestants and congratulations to our Top 3 finishers.

Oratorical Contest

Source of Image:  Optimist INTERNATIONAL



The Oratorical topic was “Just iMagine a World without Boundaries.” There were 8 contestants competing in our first-ever virtual Club contest. All the speakers did an excellent job, with the following speakers finishing in the Top 3:

- 1st Place: **Anastasia Cook, Boys & Girls Club of St. Charles County**
- 2nd Place: **Vivian Jones, Hardin Middle School**
- 3rd Place: **Gavin Vaughn, Hardin Middle School**

Anastasia and Vivian advance to the District Regional contest. If one or both finish in the top 2 spots, they will advance to District to compete for scholarships.

PROJECTS AND EVENTS

Items of Interest to Club Members:

- 1. CLUB EVENTS:** See Committee Reports in the Board Meeting Minutes (Pages 4 and 5 that follow) for status of near-term events. Also, the following events are rescheduled:
 - Golf Tournament is tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 21st.
 - Spaghetti Dinner is scheduled for Friday, October 23rd.
- 2. CLUB OFFICER AND BOARD MEMBER NOMINATIONS:** The annual election for 2020-21 club officers and board members will be held at a date to be determined. The Nominating Committee is soliciting Club members, especially those who have not previously served, to consider running for a Board position. Contact Fred McGinley, Bob Beckman, Mary Krogmeier, Gerry Prinster, or Dale Westby for more information.
- 3. 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
- 4. ST. CHARLES COUNTY FAIR:** Fair Board is inquiring on availability of our Club to work the Beer Garden on July 30th. Contact Dale Westby as soon as possible to volunteer.

"Songs for Coronavirus Shelter-in-Place"

(Song titles and select lyrics we can relate to during our time spent indoors)

- 1. STYX:** "Too Much Time on My Hands" "It's ticking away with my sanity"
- 2. Statler Brothers:** "Flowers on the Wall" "Now don't tell me I've nothin' to do"
- 3. Joe Walsh:** "Life's Been Good" "Lucky I'm sane after all I've been through"
- 4. Simon and Garfunkel - "I Am a Rock"** "I touch no one and no one touches me"
- 5. The Beatles:** "Let It Be" "There will be an answer, let it be"
- 6. The Temptations:** "I Can't Get Next To You" "The things I want to do the most, I'm unable to do"
- 7. Huey Lewis and the News:** "Jacob's Ladder" "All I want from tomorrow is to get it better than today"
- 8. Diana Ross & The Supremes:** "Someday We'll be Together" "Someday day, some sweet day we will be together"
- 9. Bee Gees:** "Staying Alive" "Life goin' nowhere, somebody help me, yeah I'm staying alive"
- 10. Bobby McFerrin:** "Don't Worry Be Happy" "In every life we have some trouble But when you worry you make it double"

Source of Lyrics: LyricFind

**OPTIMIST CLUB OF ST. CHARLES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
April 21, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER: President Steve Harker called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm on Zoom.

ATTENDANCE: Bob Beckman, Dave Borgmeyer, Roger Deppe, Mike Ebert, Steve Harker, Mary Krogmeier, Fred McGinley, Ellen Parker, Gerry Prinster, Jack Ross, Carl Sandstedt, and Dale Westby. Also in attendance were Mark Cook and Alison Griffith.

SECRETARY REPORT:

- Jack Ross moved to approve the minutes of April 7, 2020. Gerry Prinster seconded. Approved.
- Ellen Parker will contact Golf Committee Chairman Fred McGinley to double check the tentative reschedule date for the 2020 Golf Tournament.

TREASURER REPORT:

- Treasurer Dave Borgmeyer reported that St. Charles Junior Baseball/Softball had returned the club's annual donation of \$600 since they will not be having baseball/softball leagues this year.
- Dave reported that he was out of signed checks and wanted to know if he should send out checks with only one signature. President Harker recommended that we not waive the requirement for two signatures on checks. All agree. Dave will get together with Mark Cook to sign more checks.
- Bob Beckman stated that he will need checks for the winners of the club oratorical contest and a check for the entry fee for the follow-on contests for the winners.
- As of March 31, 2020, the general checking account had a balance of \$2,202.16. The savings account had a balance of \$6,768.73. The CD's total \$37,065.56. General Accounts total was \$46,036.45. The Scholarship Funds balance was \$186,095.33. The dues account showed a balance of \$121.39.
- No motion was needed to file the March financial report with the auditor since that motion was made, seconded, and approved at the April 7, 2020 meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- President Harker reported that he had contacted Duchesne High School to keep our \$500 donation to be used in some capacity for their on-line auction as voted on at the April 7, 2020 Board of Directors meeting.
- President Harker announced that former president Jack Ross has been nominated to serve as Lieutenant Governor for Zone 7. Congratulations Jack!

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Oratorical Contest:** Chairman Bob Beckman reported that our club oratorical contest is tentatively set for Saturday, May 2nd on Zoom. He will send out information about the contest when he hears back from the sponsor, Megan Hallam. Jack Ross, Mary Krogmeier, and Steve Harker will be judges, and Bob Beckman will be the timer. Thank you to those members for volunteering. The top 2 winners of our club contest will compete in the District Regional competition on May 11. The top 2 from that contest will compete in the District contest.
- **Respect for Law Recognition:** Chairman Jack Ross stated that this will be postponed until after the pandemic issues have cleared up and we can have a meeting. The tentative date for this recognition is June 23, 2020.
- **School Resource Officers and First Responders Recognition:** Chairman Dale Westby reported that everything is set to go except putting the meeting dates on the plaques. Tentative recognition dates are May 26, 2020 for First Responders and June 16 for School Resource Officers.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Page 2 of 2

- **Scholarship Committee:** Chairman Mike Ebert reported that the Orchard Farm scholarship winner has been chosen. Remaining applications from other schools will be evaluated later. He is looking into tentative dates at the end of the summer to recognize the winners at a club meeting.
- **Fishing Derby:** Chairman Mark Cook reported that the 2020 Fishing Derby has been cancelled. We will be able to use everything next year.
- **Election Committee:** The committee will send out an email to all club members seeking volunteers to run for office or as a board member in our upcoming 2020-21 election. The wording for the email has been approved by the board and can be found in Attachment 2 of the April 21, 2020 agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **2020-21 Elections:** Fred McGinley, chairman of the election committee, moved Pursuant to Section 8c of the April 7, 2020 board of director meeting minutes, the St. Charles Optimist club will hold club elections when the club can meet in person at a regular scheduled Tuesday meeting. The election committee will prepare the ballot before said meeting. If by June 1, 2020, it is determined the St. Charles Optimist Club cannot meet in person by July 1, 2020, then the election committee will administer an online election, procedure to be determined at a later date, to be completed no later than June 30, 2020. Mike Ebert seconded. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Optimist International Learning Management System:** President Harker will send out an email to board members requesting input about this system to determine if it would be necessary or beneficial for our club.
- **By-Laws Discrepancy in Wording:** Vice-President Bob Beckman brought to the Board's attention that there is a discrepancy in the wording between Articles VI and VII of our by-laws when listing the members of the board of directors. Article VI lists the President-Elect as an officer, but Article VII fails to include this officer position as a member of the Board of Directors.
- Roger Deppe moved to correct that mistake and add the President-Elect position as a member of the Board of Directors in Article VII. Since correcting this might involve changing the by-laws, the motion was withdrawn. Action on amending or correcting this discrepancy will be tabled until we find out more information.

CORRESPONDENCE: None received.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Deadline for the next newsletter will be May 4, 2020.
- Alison Griffith is doing a great job on the Facebook page. She reported that she has posts through the end of April but needs more for May. Send in your pictures and comments or quotes about what you are up to or how the pandemic is affecting you.
- Special thanks to Mark Cook for taking care of the trailer.

ADJOURNMENT: Gerry Prinster moved to adjourn the meeting. Dave Borgmeyer seconded. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Parker, Secretary

Events Calendar



Our weekly meetings at Pio's in May are cancelled due to COVID-19. Look for notices from Steve Harker when in-person meetings will resume.

The next Board of Directors virtual meeting is scheduled via Zoom on May 19th. Club members are welcome to call in. Access numbers will be sent out prior to the meeting.

Meeting Attendance

No in-person meetings were held in April

Birthdays



- | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| May 4 | Mary Krogmeier |
| May 5 | Jean Kent |
| May 11 | Steve Harker |
| May 20 | Paul Hauser |
| May 22 | Mike Ebert |

Anniversaries



- | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|
| May 6 | Dave & Sharon Borgmeyer |
|--------------|------------------------------------|

Speakers Preview

On hold pending the resumption of meetings



shutterstock - 140398567



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/>

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/>