



Twin City Area Optimist Club

P.O. Box 475

Festus, Missouri 63028

www.twincityoptimist.org

Follow us on Facebook

Affiliated with Optimist International
Serving Youth and Community since 1919

July 2022 News Making a Difference For the Kids

August 4, 2022
NOW MEETING
(New Optimists Welcome)

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(New Optimist Welcome)
August 4, 2022
During our regularly scheduled noon meeting



Jean Naeger introduces NOW guest
Donna Long.



Megan Siracusa introduces NOW
guest Theresa Letterman.

Elizabeth Check

Elizabeth offered her final lunch prayer as a TCA Optimist on August 4th. She and her husband Tim moved to Arizona to be closer to family. Missouri was a steppingstone in Elizabeth's rich and fulfilling life. She gathers friends wherever she goes but hopefully the Mango ladies will continue to hold a special place in her heart. We wish her well in her new life in The Grand Canyon State. Holidays just won't be the same without her festive attire.



President Elect Carroll Metzger presented Elizabeth with a Certificate of Appreciation for her service to our club.



Certificate of Appreciation

This certificate is proudly awarded to

Elizabeth Check

Elizabeth, your many activities and leadership within the club and the community at large represent the best of Optimists, while making the community a better place for children. You supported the club in so many activities including The Tea Party, decorations for events, leading the group in prayer before meetings, collecting jewelry for a community project, and involving yourself and Twin City Area Optimist Club in the Homeless Youth Initiative. You were always a willing volunteer for the clubs many activities. You could always be counted on to have the best costume and the best hats. Your joy in life, your enthusiasm for helping the community, and your optimism will be greatly missed. In appreciation, this certificate is awarded by a grateful club.

*Members of Twin City Area Optimist Club
#30165*



July 11, 2022 OI Convention Report Mary Hatfield and Phyllis Neff



The Optimist International Convention 2022 was held in Reno, Nevada, June 30th - July 3rd. Mary Hatfield and Phyllis Neff represented our club. Phyllis was selected for the Optimist Leadership Academy that took place on June 28th. It was an all-day training that was specific to skills of leadership. Mary was a speaker at the convention sharing information as Chairperson of the Optimist International New Club Building Committee.

The convention kicked off with bowling at the National Bowling Academy, a spectacular place with 80 lanes of bowling. The Heritage of Optimism Brunch was at an automobile museum. Mary Hatfield and her husband Joe danced the night away at the President's Dinner and Ball.

Classes were offered for officer-elects, Optimist Institute (formerly known as LMS), Childhood Health and Wellness project ideas, Marketing, and more. You had the opportunity to choose trainings you wanted to attend led by well-prepared presenters. Mary attended the public relations/marketing/social media seminar. She chose this one because she will be serving EMO District in this capacity next year. The main thing that she learned, that perhaps could apply with our club, is the value of boosting our posts and boosting our events which is very inexpensive to do.

Also, the general membership/business sessions which everyone attends were very informative and inspirational. President Patsy Garner gave an emotional account of her early adult years with abuse and struggle. She said optimism really made a major impact on her and her family.

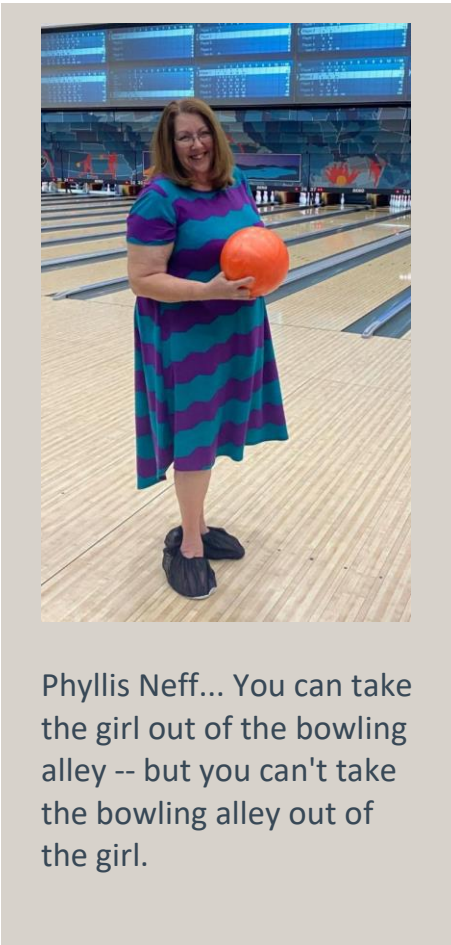
There is also business conducted at these general business sessions, including voting on bylaws amendments. Our club is entitled to 12 votes. If 12 people had attended, they could have raised 12 placards to express our club's position on the different matters to be voted upon.

The convention was an opportunity to get to know others from around the world who are doing exactly what we do here in the TCA Optimist Club, making things better for the youth of our community. We are all a part of Optimist International and interaction with attendees was very inspirational and left a good impression on both Mary and Phyllis.

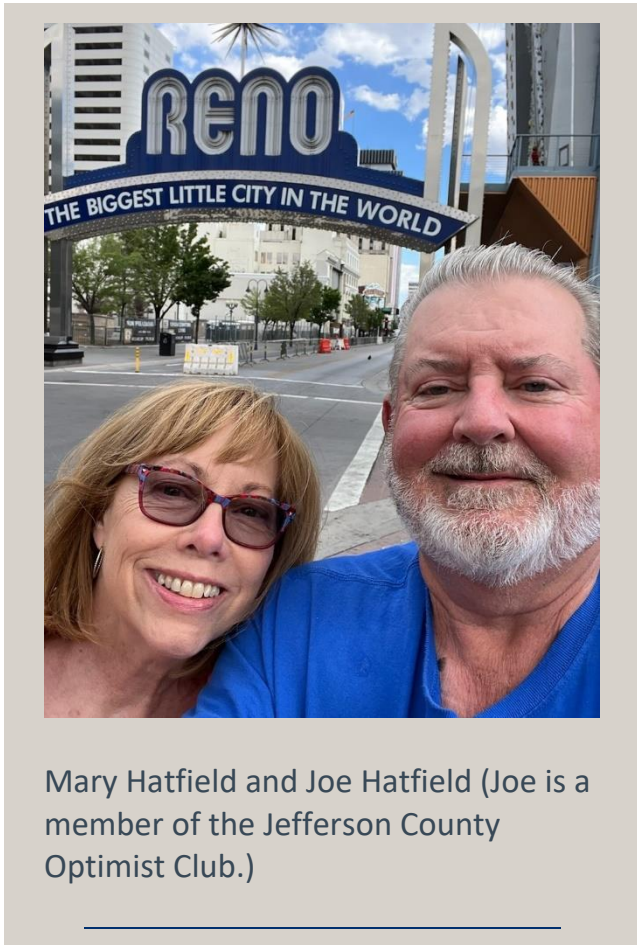
Thank you, Mary and Phyllis, for representing the members of the Twin City Area Optimist Club at the 104th Optimist International Convention.



Phyllis Neff completes Optimist Leadership Academy Training.



Phyllis Neff... You can take the girl out of the bowling alley -- but you can't take the bowling alley out of the girl.



Mary Hatfield and Joe Hatfield (Joe is a member of the Jefferson County Optimist Club.)



EMO Members attend district dinner at OI Convention

AWARDS



Past President Mary Kay Scott took time to present honors for 2021-2022 on August 11th.

Pictured Ruth Ann Adams - Sponsoring new member, Cathy Elliott - Honor Club Secretary, Mary Kay Scott- Honor Club President, Laura Elbl- Sponsoring new member.

Not pictured: Mickie Huskey-Sponsoring new member, Pat Parsons- Honor Club Treasurer, Katie Huck - received pin for sponsoring 10 members (cumulative).

July 18, 2022 Old Bag Auction

Old Bags Auction
Date: Thursday August 18, 2022



20 bags
earned \$2180



**Thank you to Committee Chairs
Carol Schanz and Pat Parsons**

Carroll Metzger found a bottle of margaritas in her bag. The \$100 bill in her hand was the payment for her bag.





Ellie King's haul was a red scarf, shower gel, and a \$50 Target gift card.

Gerty O'Leary was a double winner, one bag for herself and one for her daughter. She found a slew of personal care items such as body lotion, body wash, spa mask for face, feet and hands, a necklace, a beautiful scarf and such.



Phyllis Neff found two Godiva chocolate bars, a bag of Godiva chocolate caramels, a booklet of coupons for local businesses, antique style bracelet, and a \$100 gift card. She paid \$50 for her bag. She said "it was wonderful".



Beth Peyton won a gorgeous black Kate Spade handbag. The clue was “some like it hot, some like it cold, some like it in the pot 9 days old.” Inside were a \$15 Starbucks card, a \$15 Dunkin’ Donuts card, and two \$15 Dairy Queen cards. Also, a lovely body lotion from Bath and Body. She loves Starbucks and stopped there after Mass on Sunday morning in Longview, TX. There was a homeless lady sitting there with a free cup of water, so she gave her one of the Starbucks cards. Beth hopes she got something yummy to eat.



Laura Lohman won a beautiful Michael Kors bag. Tag read: “For women, it’s what helps make the world go round” with a gorgeous Van Gogh scarf, chocolate bars and two \$15 Starbucks gift cards.



Pam Cernik said the auction was fun. Her bag contained makeup, facial, and hair care products.



Mickie Huskey won a bag with Karen Huskey's handywork.

HINT:
The Old Bag Jamboree
(Sung to the tune of the theme song of Addams Family)

It's creepy and it's kooky
Mysterious and spooky
It's all together ooky
The Old Bag Jamboree



JoAnn Thompson had double the pleasure, purchasing two bags.

Black and white and read all over; black and white purse with a red scarf and black and

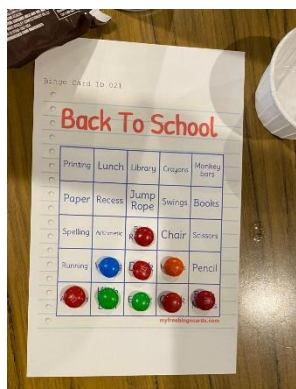
Treats
Shrieks!

white scarf tied to the handles. What goes with reading? Coffee! A neat mug, special coffee, and a Leader publication. Gift cards for Dunkin Donuts, Panara, and Starbucks. Could it get any better? I don't think so.

Eeks!
The Old
Bag Jamboree!



August 25, 2022
Back to School Bingo



Thanks to Debbie Hogenmiller for a fun evening meeting full of laughter, fun, and chocolate!



Angie Eisenbeis is another winner with BINGO caller Debbie Hogenmiller in the background.



Sherry Armstrong is a winner. Dorothea Kehm might have won if she had not eaten all her markers (m&ms)



Judy Kuhlman and Barb Schmidt pick a prize.



Laura Elbl is happy with her PINE MOUNTAIN gift card.

And there were prizes too!

East Missouri Optimist Convention August 26-28, 2022



Members from around the district met August 26-28, 2022, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel-St. Louis Airport, for training, fellowship, and celebration.

Friday evening brought members together for conversation and games.



Governor Lauren Dell pins
Governor Designate Ernie
Wren

Saturday comprised new officers training, general business sessions, and speed dating training. (Four 15-minute training sessions).

Saturday evening's gala included a delicious dinner, installation of officers, and the Inaugural Governor's Choice Awards with our very own Phyllis Neff as Mistress of Ceremonies. Music and dancing followed the award ceremony.

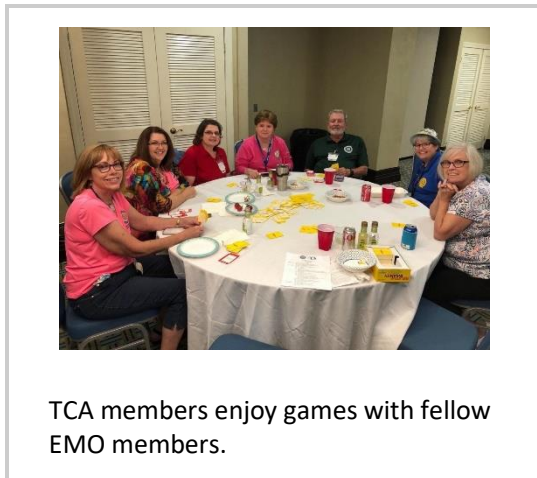
Sunday morning included a training session and the memorial for all the East Missouri members who passed away this year. There were 23 deceased members including TCA Optimists Angie Ball and Arlene DeGonia.



Angie and Arlene remembered
with candles.



TCA member Phyllis Neff was installed as Governor Elect for
2022-2023



TCA members enjoy games with fellow
EMO members.



Debbie Hogenmiller receives pin for
sponsoring her first new member.



Phyllis Neff and Jean Naeger receive awards at 2022 EMO Inaugural Governor's Choice Awards



Mary Hatfield, Kathy Todd, Jean Naeger, Phyllis Neff, and Carroll Metzger attend Governor's Gala.

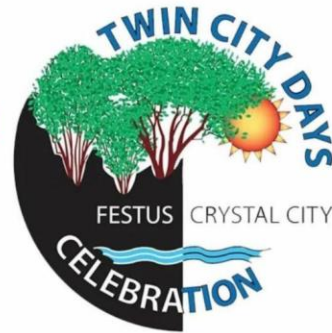
CLUB PROJECTS

Twin City Days Bowling Event (Next event)

Members, this is an event open to the community, giving us an opportunity to put a face to optimism. We need you to spread the word with family and friends. We want this to be a HUGE success. Please plan to help, contact Debbie Hogenmiller, Project Chair to volunteer. The JOI Club will also participate.

GET INVOLVED!

LET'S STRIKE
UP SOME FUN



Family Bowling Event

DATE: Friday September 9, 2022

TIME: 4:30-6:30 p.m.

PLACE: Quonset Lanes
2004 N. Truman Blvd.
Crystal City

For more information contact:
Phyllis Neff: 636-795-3665

Per person:
one FREE Game
FREE shoe rental

Sponsored by:



Brenden's Friday Backpack Drive
(Completed)



Community Food Drive to Support Brenden's Friday Backpack

Date: Thursday August 4, 2022
Time: 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
Place: Taytro's Bar and Bistro Parking Lot
331 North Creek Dr., Festus, MO

Sponsored by Twin City Area Optimist Club

Items Requested:
Soups, (tomato or chicken noodle)
Vienna Sausages, Chili, Ramen Noodles,
mac n cheese, breakfast bars, Pops Tarts.

Snacks: trail mix, Rice Krispies Treats,
beef jerky, peanut butter or
cheese crackers

(PLEASE CHECK EXPIRATION DATES!)

In cooperation with



3,310 items donated

Thank you, Project Chairperson Debbie Hogenmiller, for organizing this community drive.

We appreciate the volunteers who worked with Debbie in the sweltering heat to load

Brenden's van:

- Mickie Huskey
- Beth Watts
- Kirstie Zych
- Janet Mace
- Kami Kimes

Thank you to members who dropped off food or cash donations.



Book Club

Book Club is taking a break in September. Please watch for new book selections coming soon.

Nurses for Newborns Drive

(Completed)



Thank you, Project Chair Karen Huskey, for collecting, storing, and delivering members' donations



Donated Items

From Kim Donovan, Cathy Elliot's daughter:
changing pad

baby bathtub
Little People farm
10 various toys
9 rattles & teethers
6 books
4 dolls
46 stuffed animals/toys

From Mrs. Barb Jackson, a neighbor and friend of Barb Schmidt:
4 tummy time quilts
61 infant sock caps

The rest is from membership as a whole

ultrasonic diffuser
teether
4 digital thermometers
1 gently used car seat
1 gently used Pack-n-Play
1 new Pack-n-Play
13 bibs
11 tummy time quilts
Foods-total=35 pieces
2 6 pks of raisins
2 4 pks of pudding
2 6 pks of applesauce
2 4 pks of fruit cups
5 macaroni & cheese
2 6 pks granola bars
2 2 pks fruit puree drinks
Clothing-total=60 pieces
NB & 0-3m=20
3-6m=10
6m=7
6-9m=13
9m=3
12m=4
18m=1
4T=1
5T=1
homemade crochet & knit caps=115
homemade knit mitten sets=2
homemade knit washcloths=2

2 bottles
1 bottlebrush
2 25 count hand & face wipes pkgs
1 25 count make up remover pkg
1 diaper rash cream
17 baby wash/shampoo
2 baby lotion

Diapers=1,818
Diaper wipes=4,034

Amazing job ladies. Thank you for your donations.

Childhood Health and Wellness



Jeffrey Vitt - first day as High School Freshman; he continues to be in remission.



Hailey Walker is attending the Missouri School for the Blind. She is staying in the dorm and making friends while learning how to live blind. She returns home on the weekends. Her tumor has decreased over the past 6 months. She'll be 13 in October!

JOI CLUB





JOI Club members pictured with Ronald McDonald figure.

Debbie Schumaker, JOI Adult Advisor presents \$100 check to Ronald McDonald House representative.

The JOI Club had their 3rd annual pool party in July. Everyone enjoyed swimming for a couple hours and roasting hot dogs.

On August 4th, the club visited the Ronald McDonald House. Members delivered cleaning supplies, household goods, and a \$100 check. JOI members recently held a brunch raising \$400 to pay for items on the Ronald McDonald House wish list. They also delivered soda tabs into the little Ronald McDonald. After touring the facility, everyone went out for pizza.

In September, club will hold election for JOI cabinet.

Debbie Schumaker
JOI Adult Advisor

Carol Schanz
JOI Chair



FUNDRAISERS

Katie Huck is also selling Mouse Race tickets at weekly meetings.

Please remember this is a club fundraiser. We need everyone to participate by buying/selling tickets, donating raffle items, helping with setup/cleanup. Remember together we are better!



MOUSE RACES

**Twin City Area
Optimist Club
Fall Fundraiser**

DATE: Saturday September 17, 2022

TIME: 7 pm (doors open at 6 pm)

PLACE: Festus VFW
900 VFW Dr., Festus, MO

Non-Refundable Tickets

\$20 in advance

MUST BE 21 OR OLDER

**ATTENDANCE PRIZE:
TABLET COMPUTER**



Purchase tickets by phone: 314 471 7213

Venmo: @TC-Optimist2122

Mail: P.O. Box 475, Festus, MO 63028

Tickets include beer, snacks, & soda

*Thank you for
supporting our kids*

SAVE THE DATES



Note upcoming noon meeting events. To assist with projects, please contact Committee Chair.

Raffle Quilt Reveal - Ticket sales begin- September 1

Chair: Karen Huskey

Gold and Platinum Sponsor Appreciation - September 22

Chairs: Jean Naeger and Barb Schmidt

Installation of Officers- September 29

Chairs: Party Committee



Members meet every Thursday from Noon - 1 p.m. at Taytro's. Please RSVP by 8:00 a.m. on Monday by contacting Cathy Elliott.

The last Thursday of the month is an evening meeting held at Poppy's Parlor. Meeting starts at 6:00 p.m. If you would like to order food, please contact Phyllis Neff on Monday prior to meeting.

Our Club will continue looking at the sunny side of everything and being committed to bringing out the best in our area youth.

**Board of Directors
2021-2022**

**President
Gerty O'Leary
636-208-1395**

**President Elect
Carroll Metzger**

**Past President
Mary Kay Scott**

**Secretary
Cathy Elliott**

**Secretary Elect
Debbie Hogenmiller**

**Treasurer
Laura Elbl**

**Treasurer Elect
Carroll Metzger**

Board Members

Our VENMO account,
@TC-Optimist 2122, can be
used to make donations to our projects or
Fundraisers.

**Please make sure to include your phone
number and a memo indicating what the
donation is for.**

2020-2022
Janice Boyd
Judy Kuhlman
Barb Schmidt

2021-2023
Elizabeth Check
Pat Parsons
Judy Williams

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