



THE OPTIMIST CLUB OF COLUMBIA (Downtown Optimist)

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Downtown Optimist Club Zoom Meeting Newsletter

March 22, 2021

Members attended: Rick McKernan, Mary Dewey, Ed Musterman, Scott Stager, Tony Parisio, Larry Fick, Red Leighton, Brian Haberberger, Eva Vazquez and Special Guest Lister Florence and Laura Dell

Prayer/Pledge for March 22: Mary Dewey Prayer and Scott Stager Pledge

Birthday: Ed and Sue Musterman 35th Wedding Anniversary on March 22.

Board Meeting Thursday, March 18: We have 3 funding request: Greg Gilmore from the Daniel Boone Baseball and Softball League \$700. Julie Dorn from the Central and Northeast Missouri Food Bank \$5000. Diamond Council Paul Blythe \$1050. Rick will make a presentation.

Board approved the funding for Central and Northeast Missouri Food Bank buddy pack for \$5000.00. The new Buddy Packs are purchased from a third party already packaged, reducing the old packs' intense volunteer and storage needs. Because they are ordered pre-packaged instead of relying on what food is on hand, The Food Bank can regularly change the packs' items to make them more enjoyable and nutritious for kids. The old packs often included the same food each week, so they lacked variety. The new Buddy Packs also have more nutritional value, improving students' health and their ability to focus in the classroom. Staple items of the program, like cereal, shelf-stable milk and peanut butter, will still be in the new packs.

With this necessary change, the price of a single Buddy Pack also needed to be updated. The old price only included the cost of food and had not been updated for several years. The new Buddy Pack price consists of food, transportation, storage, and staff to fully represent the program's expenses.

With all those factors included, The Food Bank spends approximately \$7.50 to supply one Buddy Pack to a student, giving them the nutrition they need for the weekend.

Board also approved the funding for Diamond Council Softball/Baseball league for \$1050, which will be the sponsorship of 3 teams this year. Each team will cost \$350.

Board also approved \$1500 for the Soap Box Derby that will take place on Sunday, June 6. This money will go towards repair the cars; help with cost of the banners the day of the race and other items, which are need to run this great event.

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Board also approved for us to buy a Zoom account for \$1500. This way we can have longer club meeting on Monday, offer some evening meeting for members who can't make it the noon meeting and the Soap Box Derby can have meeting with the drivers. Speaking of evening meeting there will be on Thursday, April 8th at 5:30 pm (meet and greet the new members)

Board also approved to donate to OI foundation for \$500.00. Board approved for C.O. to go ahead to order the Christmas trees for this Christmas tree lot.

We approved 4 new members and 1 when he turns in his social dues. The new members are: Bryan Haberberger (Christmas tree lot), Corey Koch, Kerry Fishel (Geocaching family), Kevin Cauley (dentist in town), and Eva Uazquez (retired teacher). Other new members from October are: Kristen Bailey (teacher at West Middle School), Joe Weber, and Robert Bellinghausen.

Lister and Laura talked about the East Missouri Optimist 3th qtr. conference which will held in Arnold, Missouri. The cost will \$60 for the early bird by April 5 and after April 5 it will cost \$70. The cost does pay club members to go to these conferences. If you stay the night that will be on your own cost. These conferences are great way to learn more about the Optimist from other member from other club besides having a great time too.

High School Scholarship deadline is March 15. Right now, we have over 30 students who have applied right now. Nadia Ryakhmyaullov is the club member who took over for Cyrilla Galbreath this year. Each scholarship is \$100 and we give 6 out each year between the 4 high schools.

We are raising money for a bench in Jim's memories that will place along the walking trail that Shirley walks at Lenoir Home. Please let me know if you want to donate. Money can be sent to me at Mary Dewey 5938 Shelly Dr. Fulton, MO 65251. Make check out to Downtown Optimist Club and after I have all the money collected who wants to donate.

Eva Uazquez is a retired Spanish/English teacher. Born and raised in Portugal. She got her Doctor agree from the St. Louis University. Moved to Columbia with her husband 30 years ago. She loves going back to Portugal ever year to see family and the Portugal food.

Bryan Haberberger is BHC Clinic Tech whose office is in the basement of Boone Hospital. He moved from Washington, MO 3 year ago for a job. Went to University of Mizzou in 2010 through 2014. He was a Shepard of one cantor from the geocaching at Shepard Park and volunteer at our Christmas Tree Lot last year.

Tony Parisio, President



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