



THE OPTIMIST CLUB OF COLUMBIA (Downtown Optimist)

Mailing address: P. O. Box 1959 * Columbia, MO 65205-1959

Web: www.downtownoptimistclub.org

Downtown Optimist Club Zoom Meeting Newsletter

May 24, 2021 at 12:09 pm

Members attended President Tony Parisio, Rick McKernan, Mary Dewey, Steve Winter, Scott Stager, Jerry Sullivan, Bryan H., Red Leighton, Ed Musternan Guest Lister Florence and Ernie Wren

Prayer/Pledge for May 24 Ernie Wren , Prayer Scott Stager, Pledge

Birthday/Anniversary: Mary Dewey 51th Birthday will be on Saturday, May 29

In person meeting will start back up after Memorial Day at Simmon Bank (801 East Broadway) in the conference room. Will need to know who will come for the in person meeting by Friday before the Monday meeting to Tony Parisio. This way John Jones can reverse the conference room if there are people coming. If you don't fill comfortable in meeting in person we will still be doing the meeting by Zoom. If you have any questions please contact Tony Parisio.

Bryan Haberber let us know that his last day here in Columbia will be on June 24. He is moving with his girlfriend to Syracuse, New York where his girlfriend is during her interim there.

We approved the 2 funding request from the Board Meeting on Thursday, April 15 the Fun City Youth Academy for \$5000.00 (for field trips, and other items needed to run the summer program) and Cornerstones of Care for \$2000.00. Kristen from the Columbia office will come to the May 20 board meeting and talk about where the money will go for at the Columbia office and the youth and family here. The money for the Cornerstones will be used for the extra expects that come in throughout the year. June board meeting will be on June 24th not on June 17th.

To let everyone that Jack Beard is no longer our treasurer. Jack has been missing for the last two week and no one has heard from him since he left the doctors. His business is now closed too. C.O. Scheffer will take over until October when we can find another treasurer.

High School Scholarships Nadia Ryakmayatullof has been reading all the applications finally came up with 6 winners will receive 1 thousand scholarships each. The winners are Jade Leighty from Hickman High School, Landon Viers and Morgan McBees from Battle High School, Xavier Forte and Jadehee from Rock Bridge High School, and Arlexus Cisneres Ochan

from Douglass High School. Thank you Nadia Ryakmayaullov for all your hard work on this and handing out the awards to the winners.

Rick McKernan talked about our upcoming Soapbox Derby on Sunday, June 13. "All hands on deck for this event." They are still looking for more drivers 3 to 4 in each divisions. They will be looking for volunteers for this event. Mizzou Swim Team will not be with us this year. Because, half of the team will gone for the Olympic Trail and the other half will heading there for the next round. The volunteers will be able to help 6 to 8 hours and be able to lift the cars onto the trailers. Rick will be looking Optimist members to drive the trucks with the trailers on them up and down the hill to pick up the kids and their cars. John is going to check with the bank members to see if they want to volunteer for this event. We need about 20 people for driving the 4 trucks. The shifts will be 2 to 3 hours each. We will be checking with the other Optimist Club in Columbia and Ashland to help drive. We also need volunteers to help lift and put the derby cars on the trailers if you know any groups that can help please let Rick know.

Mary Dewey talked about the Family Fun Fests that is a program that the Parks and Recreation host every summer for families to come out to the park and have fun. She has signed up the Optimist Clubs in Columbia for an information booth so we can talk about Optimist how we help the youth in the community. We have information for parents to take with them and game for the kids to play while we are talking the parents. The dates and theme for this event are on Wednesday from 5 to 8 pm. The first park on June 16 will be at Cosmo Park theme Bicentennial Birthday Bash. Next Park on July 21 will be at Clary-Shy (Farmer Market) theme Healthy Habits. Third Park on August 18 will be at Albert-Oakland theme Bookworms and Butterflies. The last park on September 15 will be at Cosmo-Bethel Park theme Creative Kids. C.O. Scheffer will send out the sign up Genius out this week for people to sign up and help with the Family Fun Fests.

Steve Winter is working on having a social dinner on Wednesday, September 1 Hamburger, Brats, Tater salad, lettuce salad, dump cake, and Central Dairy Ice Cream. More information will come out later. Can't wait to see everyone again.

Our guest speaker Erine Wren:

As a member of the Ashland Optimist Club for 25+ years, I have successful experience in a variety of areas that I believe will benefit EMO clubs:

- I was the last "Distinguished President" for the Ashland Optimist Club (2001)
- During my year as club president, we brought in over 25 new members, most of which are still active to this day.
- I have started up new programs and events for the club that have become annual favorites such as Halloween "Spooktacular" and Bikes for Foster Kids

- I am also experienced in OI programs: Oratorical, Essay, Respect for Law, Youth Sports, and yes, I play golf. LOL!

I have served as Club and President and three times as Lt. Governor. Now that I am retired from the State, I feel I have the time and energy to be Governor 100%. I teach business and management classes at Columbia College online, which I do from any location. I believe that as an instructor for Columbia College, I have the insight in knowing that each student is unique, with their own needs and methods that lead them to success. Similarly, each club is unique, and has its own needs that need to be addressed. During my term as Governor-Elect, I would like to visit every club in EMO, learning what it is they need from EMO to strive successfully. As Governor, I would follow through by again visiting and working with each club, ensuring that their needs are met. As our clubs open up from the pandemic, we will need to also focus not only on new members, but on membership retention, re-engaging with many of our members. My three priorities as Governor-elect will be to support the Governor in achieving her goals, learning all that is needed to be a fully effective governor, and developing a growth plan with each individual club. I retired from the state as a Project and Grants Administrator, and would like to offer my skill sets to clubs as needed. As an Optimist, we never stop learning and growing. As Governor-Elect I will be watching, learning from those at EMO. My goal is to build upon the success of my predecessors, and to finish my term as EMO Governor leaving our district in a higher level of sustainability for future leaders.

Closed with the Optimist Creed that was led by Steve Winter

Meeting end at 1:05 pm

Tony Parisio, President



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