



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

February 2023 News Making a Difference For Kids

Message From President Carroll Metzger



On this bright, sunny winter day, I look forward to some exciting club spring events. I am happy to see in the not too distant future, meetings which include essay and oratorical winners (and their proud families) as well as the Youth Appreciation luncheon honoring high school students from our area schools. While many of our efforts support those with great needs, it also is rewarding and exciting to be with those young people who will be the leaders of the future. These meetings in the spring are some of my favorites. I would also like you to be thinking of possible new members for our NOW meeting in April. It is at this meeting when we introduce ourselves to potential new members. New members bring new ideas and enthusiasm for our mission. I encourage you to think of neighbors or friends to whom the Twin City Area Optimists would be a good fit.

Let's hope the end of winter is kind to us. Stay safe.

Carroll

Welcome New Members



Dana Hanna

Allie Kister

Dana Hanna and Allie Kister joined our club on February 9, 2023. Welcome ladies, we are happy you are joining us.



Sponsor Debbie Hogenmiller with new member Dana Hanna, new member Allie Kister with sponsor Ruth Ann Adams, and President Carroll Metzger

January 26, 2023 Swap Meet



Thanks again to Evening Project Chair Jennifer Jones for another fun evening.

Each person who brought an item to the swap meet received a number then, when your number was called, you picked an item from the table. After all the items were chosen then the



Karen Huskey was VERY sad when she had to give up this treasure! Fortunately, there were more smiles than frowns throughout the evening.

numbers were re-drawn, and you could steal an item from someone else. A couple of hot items were stolen several times adding much to the evening.

Patty Meyer



Apparently, the fern was a big hit.



February 2, 2023 Board Meeting Review

Highlights from Board Meeting

- Invitation to Jefferson College Scholarship Donor and Recipient Luncheon on February 24. Around six members will be representing the club at the luncheon.
- Monthly dining out fundraisers are being planned.
- Distributed 616 coats-hoodies since September.
- Proposal to hold New Member Coffee every 4-6 months. Members, sponsors and board members would attend.
- Motion was proposed and passed to proceed with applying for 501c3 tax status.

Happy Optimist Day

Optimists from all over the world celebrated National Optimist Day on the first Thursday of February (February 2). Members/Clubs were encouraged to make random acts of kindness. Please note new group photo at bottom of page taken at our meeting.



February 9, 2023 Valentine Party

Club members wrote messages in Valentine's Day cards that were delivered to the residents at Fountainbleau Nursing Center. Judy Lowe shared a history of love and devotion and asked questions that resulted in some shocking answers. Did you know Pat Doenges was engaged only a few DAYS before getting married and Gerty O'Leary was engaged SIX times? We shared so-called beauty tips used over the years involving such things as vegetable oil, iodine and Preparation H to name a few. We also played a game naming the artists of love songs and had delicious cupcakes!

Beth Watts





February 16, 2023
New Hope Outreach Center
Homeless in Jefferson County
Speaker Casey Kindt



Casey Kindt from New Hope Outreach Center was our guest speaker on February 16. She talked about the homeless issue that is quickly becoming a problem in Jefferson County. There currently are NO sheltering options for homeless individuals facing this difficult situation within our county. New Hope Outreach is working to find solutions to help these individuals. To learn more about the efforts of New Hope Outreach Center and their mission and partners visit: newhopeoc.com. Learn more about how you can volunteer.

Email: newhopeoutreachctr@gmail.com

Mail: 5919 Antire Rd.
High Ridge, MO 63049

CLUB PROJECTS

Head Start
Easter Food Drive

Head Start - Easter Baskets and Food Supply

Please bring to weekly meetings
March 9-16-23-30. 5 like items
donations are accepted.

Project Chair: Pam Cernik 314-709-0491

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

HAND SOAP
BODY WASH
NO TEARS SHAMPOO
SHAMPOO
CONDITIONER
LIQUID HAND SOAP
RAZORS
TOOTHBRUSH AND TOOTHPASTE

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

DISH SOAP
LAUNDRY SOAP
FABRIC SOFTENER
SPONGES
DISH TOWELS
CLEANING PRODUCTS
TOILET PAPER

FOOD ITEMS

CANNED VEGETABLES
CANNED SOUP
CANNED FRUIT
CANNED CHILI
BEANS: CANNED OR DRY
CEREAL/OATMEAL
CANNED TUNA/CHICKEN
PEANUT BUTTER
APPLESAUCE
MAC AND CHEESE
SALT AND PEPPER
PASTA AND PASTA SAUCE
STAPLES: FLOUR, SUGAR

Cash donations accepted.

Book Club

Below is Book Club reading list for the remaining Optimist year. Make note, we will meet the second Thursday of each month immediately following our noon meeting. We will discuss the previous month's book.



Reading List January - September 2023

January - *One More River to Cross* by Jane Kirkpatrick

February - *A Time for Mercy* by John Grisham

March - *A Spark of Light* by Jodi Picoult

April - *Unbroken* by Laura Hildebrand

May - *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult

June - *The Cabinet of Curiosities* by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child

July - *The Whole Town is Talking* by Fannie Flagg

August - *The Dutch House* by Anne Patchett

September - *Dandelion Summer* by Lisa Wingate

Book Club will meet after our club meetings at 1:00 p.m. the second Thursday of each month.

Oratorical information and application are available on our website. [Oratorical Contest \(twincityoptimist.org\)](http://twincityoptimist.org)

Oratorical Chairs: Mary Kay Scott and Phyllis Neff

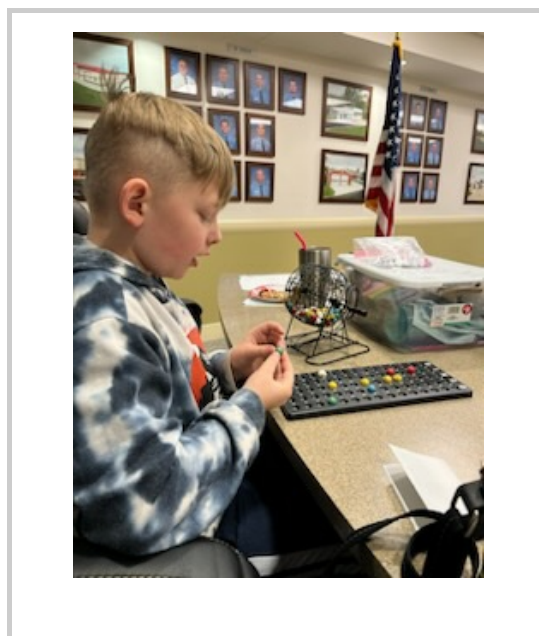
**Twin City Area
Optimist
Oratorical Contest**

Deadline to apply
February 27, 2023

Local contest will be held
March 20, 2023 (time/place TBD)

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
ORATORICAL
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

JOI Club



The JOI Club met on February 2 with President Proxy Addisen calling the meeting to order. The “Valentine” meeting had 10 members in attendance. The members discussed fundraiser ideas and decided on a fair of some kind with details to follow.

Rodney Bickel of Missouri Kids Unplugged was the guest speaker. Missouri Kids Unplugged strives to educate kids and their parents on the benefits of “unplugging” from electronic devices and experiencing the wonders of nature through various activities. He asked for volunteers for their annual fundraiser auction that was held on February 11 at the Quality Inn in Festus. Marcus and his grandmother Debbie helped at the event as well as club Advisor Debbie Schumaker.

A Valentine party followed the meeting and was enjoyed by all.

Debbie Schumaker

JOI Adult Advisor

Carol Schanz
JOI Chair



FUNDRAISERS

Scratch Off Ticket Raffle

Beth Watts will be chairing this fundraiser. You can purchase chances at March meetings, mail in your payment to our club P.O. Box, or use Venmo as shown on flyer.

*Strike It Rich!
Been looking for your
pot of gold?*



**Scratch Off Lottery Tickets Raffle
Drawing Thursday March 30, 2023**

**ONE ENTRY FOR EVERY \$10 DONATION:
VENMO @TC-OPTIMIST 2122 OR
CHECK TO TCA OPTIMIST CLUB,
P.O. BOX 475, FESTUS, MO 63028
(INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER)**



Benefiting Youth/Community Projects

Dining Out



10190 Highway 21
Hillsboro, MO

Dining for a Cause
Benefits Twin City Area Optimist Club



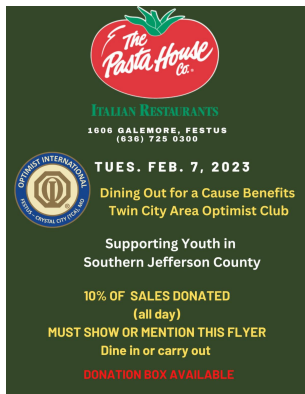
March 6, 2023

4-8 pm --No flyer needed

10% of total receipts donated

Dine in or carry out

**Supporting youth of
Southern Jefferson County**



Dining Out

The February dining out fundraiser earned \$153 from the Pasta House. Thanks again to Project Chair Kathy Todd.

Any questions relating to dining out fundraisers should be directed to Kathy.

SAVE THE DATES



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

- March 1 Board meeting at the home of Janet Mace
- March 6 - Dining Out -Dairy Queen - Hillsboro

March 9 - Bunny Craft

March 16 St. Patrick's Day party -- wear green

March 23 Essay and Oratorical winner's luncheon

March 30 - Evening meeting -- Scratch off tickets raffle drawing

April 3 - Shopping for Head Start

April 6 - Easter/Passover/Spring Party

April 13- NOW meeting (invite potential new members)

April 16 - Tea Party- Elks - Committee Chair Ruth Ann Adams

April 20 - Youth Appreciation Luncheon

Sock Bunny Craft



How to make the EASIEST **NO SEW** SOCK BUNNY



FeelingNifty.com

During the March 9, 2023, meeting members will craft a simple sock bunny.

Club will provide rice, fiber fill, and rubber bands.

Members, please bring sock/s, fabric scissors, and any embellishment's you want to add to your bunny. (ribbons, permanent markers, buttons, etc.)



EASY NO-SEW SOCK BUNNY





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.

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.

**President
Carroll Metzger
910-264-6852**

**President Elect
Peggy Scott**

**Past President
Gerty O'Leary**

**Secretary
Debbie Hogenmiller**

**Secretary Elect
Ruth Ann Adams**

**Treasurer
Laura Elbl**

**Treasurer Elect
Janet Mace**

Board Members

**2021-2023
Pam Cernik
Pat Parsons
Judy Williams**

**2022-2024
Cathy Elliott
Katie Huck
Patty Meyer**

**Keep current with club activities,
like us on Facebook, and
visit our website.**



Visit our website

Twin City Area Optimist Club | P.O. Box 475, Festus, MO 63028

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