



Twin City Area Optimist Club

January 2018

President's Column



President's letter January 2018

It's a brand new year with lots of possibilities. The club has moved to a new meeting location, it's starting evening meetings, and it's looking forward to more opportunities to help the youth of our community. You may recall in my first President's letter in October I asked you to embrace the Optimist International theme, "Optimist Strong – Be the Difference!" I would like you to continue your efforts to enrich our club through your volunteer spirit. Be strong in stepping out of your comfort zone and helping with a new project. Be the difference by

offering your talents to create success in club activities.

I have said before I would like to see more **FUNraisers**. By that I mean activities that help to generate income while having a fun time and recruiting new members. In February join your fellow Optimists and their friends for a stenciling party at Pinch of Salt on Sunday February 11th. I'm **more than optimistic** that this class will fill up and we will need to schedule another. Get on the phone, email, Facebook, and invite your family, friends, and coworkers to join your team at the 24th Annual TCA Optimist Trivia Contest on Friday, March 9th. This is always a fun night, you don't want to miss it! I don't know about you but this gal is getting a little cabin fever so I'm really looking forward to stenciling and trivia.

As president, I'm here to serve the best interests of the club. To do that I need input/involvement from members. I'm always open to new ideas, new methods, while valuing club traditions. Please feel free to share your ideas, concerns, etc. with me. Together we can continue to grow.

One more thing, for all the members out there who aren't attending meetings, we miss you, the club needs you, but most importantly the kids need you. **I challenge each of you to attend a meeting this next month.** Sometimes life gets in the way and you can't attend meetings or you are out of the habit. Sometimes it can be a bit scary to come back, but I promise none of us bite! If you cannot attend during the day consider attending the January 25th evening meeting at 6 p.m. at Thai Rama in Festus.

Stay optimistic ladies and mark your calendar for Thursday, February 1st, it's Optimist Day. Wear your Optimist logo wear that day and share your Optimist story to everyone you meet. I might even have a little surprise if you attend meeting.

Optimistically Yours,
Jean Naeger

Board Meetings:

January: Barb Schmidt

February: Co-hostesses: Susan Nardizzi(home) and Cheri Phillips

COMMITTEE CHAIRS: If unable to attend, please email a report to Jean Naeger

Lunch meeting venue changed to:

Poppy's Restaurant

2000 North Truman Blvd.

Crystal City, MO

Room available at 11:00 a.m. Meeting begins at Noon

Evening meetings: Last Thursday of Each Month, venue to be determined

Programs: January 4:

January 11: Update

January 18: Pinch of Salt

January 25: Evening-Thai

February 1: Mercy Dietician

February 8: Valentine Party

February 15: Update

February 22: Evening Meeting- Thai Rama

HeadsUP!™

To quote an anonymous Optimist, "Coming to Poppy's is like coming home!"





Girls Night Out at The Russell House was a welcome event after so much bustle during the holidays!



Junior Optimist

Officers: 2017-2018

President: Loren Macon

Vice President: Sophie Hensley

Secretary: Ayden Eldridge

Treasurer: Jacob Bohler

Sponsor: Katie Huck

News Flash:

The JOI Club meets the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at Mercy Jefferson Hospital. Katie would like assistance by members to attend a meeting and provide a snack. **(Katie: 314-520-6340)**

Next meeting will be Thursday, February 1, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
Speaker will be re-scheduled for next month.

JOI will start collecting items for the Jefferson County Rescue Mission.

Most needed items: canned vegetables, pork and beans, canned pasta including ravioli, Spam, dried beans, rice, noodles, stews, dumplings, canned meats, packaged meals, peanut butter.



Backpacks for Foster Kids are current at this time. Congratulations on winning the Second-Place award for Backpacks for Foster Kids project. This will be in the next TORCH magazine. Amy Keller from Optimist International will also be putting an article in the TORCH magazine about the Winterfest Project! Our JOI Club is AWESOME!



January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4 Ellen Ravenscraft Meeting at Poppy's	5	6
7	8 Donna Easter	9	10	11 Becky Tipton Update Meeting at Poppy's	12	13
14 Cheryl Phillips	15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	16	17	18 Meeting at Poppy's Pinch of Salt	19	20
21	22	23	24 Nancy Doering	25 Kathy Fehlig Evening Thai Rama 6:00 pm 6:00 p.m.	26	27 Pam Cernik

Perfect Attendance Requirements: members interested in being recognized for perfect attendance should use the monthly calendars to record her attendance. On the dates of weekly meetings, please mark attendance or non-attendance as follows: **Check for meeting attended, X for Missed meeting, E excused due to illness or out of town.**

Make up credit: Make up credit is given for attending board meetings or participating in any club activity. Members should track make up credit earned and record it on the monthly calendar when it is used.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Mercy Dietician	2	3
4 Cindy Cherry	5 Board Meeting Susan Nardizzi home	6 Terri Flagg Linda Portell	7	8 Valentine Party	9 Mary Hatfield	10
11 Pinch of Salt activity for those who signed up	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15 Update	16 Dorothy Stafford	17
18	19 Presidents' Day	20	21 Bernie Sikorski	22 Evening Meeting Thai Rama 6:00 pm Carol Schanz	23	24
25 Staci Templeton	26	27 Peggy Scott	28			

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Annual Headstart Parties

Once again our club gathered together to bring Christmas joy to the children of the Head Start program of southern Jefferson County. They met at DeSoto on December 5th and at Hematite December 7th.

This project is one of the oldest of our club. It had its beginnings early by a charter member, Mavis Witte,

bringing the needs of these children to the attention of our membership. Since that early date we have never neglected this project. It has grown over the years and the Head Start Committee works on it the entire year. In recent years Martha DeMent, Kitty Ebersoldt and Tracy Anderson along with members who volunteer many hours worked tirelessly to make it a success. Santa and Mrs. Claus always arrive to entertain and hand out gifts of sweatshirts, stocking hats, mittens, socks, shoe vouchers and toys for each child. Over the years the "much coveted" role of Mrs. Santa has been played by the following members of our club. Joyce Koch, Elsie Williams, Mary Kay Scott and Jean Martin. **So sign up**, we are all ready to share the joy of putting smiles on the faces of these little ones this year!!!!!!!!!!!!

GUEST SPEAKERS



Carroll Metzger and her daughter shared the history and tradition behind the candle ceremony of the Jewish holiday Hanukkah.



We had Amy Baum from CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) speak at the meeting. This organization is a non-for-profit organization that supports local caseworkers with individual mentors for foster children. They are looking for volunteers. If you would like more information on this, see Carroll Metzger.

Barb Schmidt's Million Dollar Spaghetti!
(another tasty dish from our Board Meeting hostess's kitchen)

Ingredients

- 1 (16 ounce) package spaghetti
- 1 pound lean ground beef or sausage combination
- 1 tablespoon of black pepper
- salt to taste
- 1 (16 ounce) jar spaghetti sauce (I used Prego)
- 1/2 stick butter, cut into small chunks
- 1 cup whole milk cottage cheese
- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened (not fat free or light)
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/2 onion, diced
- 3 cloves of fresh garlic, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon fresh parsley
- 1 8oz Package of Mozzarella cheese
- 1/4 cup of freshly grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 8oz package shredded Cheddar cheese

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350F
2. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil & cook spaghetti until 'al dente'
3. Place the chunks of butter in the drained spaghetti and mix until coated, set aside.
4. In a large skillet, on medium-high heat, add the diced onions,, pepper, garlic and the olive oil together until onions are slightly cooked, then add your ground beef & cook until browned throughout with the onions. Drain the beef.
5. Add in your jar of pasta sauce & parsley, then mix well until fully incorporated, put on very low to simmer.
6. In a large mixing bowl, combine the cream cheese, sour cream and cottage cheese until well blended.
7. Add in your spaghetti to the large bowl with the creamy mixture, toss until well coated.
8. In a 9x13-inch casserole dish, pour creamy spaghetti mixture in and top with 3/4 of the pasta sauce, TOSS WELL.
9. Add HALF cheddar & half mozzarella to the creamy spaghetti mixture, TOSS WELL again
10. Add the remaining pasta sauce evenly over the top the the pasta
11. Top with remaining cheeses, evenly
12. Bake in the preheated oven for about 25 minutes or until cheese is completely well melted. .
13. ENJOY!



OPTIMIST CREED

Promise yourself –

*To be so strong nothing can disturb your peace of mind. * To talk health, happiness, and prosperity to every person you meet. * To make all your friends feel that there is something in them. * To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true. * To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and expect only the best. * To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own. * To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future. * To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile. * To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others. * To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

Twin City Area Optimist Club

P.O. Box 475

Festus, MO 63028

www.twincityoptimist.org

2017/2018 Officers

President: Jean Naeger, 636-285-3052

Past President: Cindy Cherry, 636-937-9294

President Elect: Mary McDowell, 636-937- 2175

Secretary: Mary Kay Scott, 314-846-6417

Secretary Elect: Nancy Doering, 636-586-1519

Treasurer: Debby Schumaker, 314-471-7213

Treasurer Elect: Leisa Spiker, 636-931-7285

2016/2018 Board Members

Carroll Metzger

Elsie Williams

Pat Doenges

2017-2019 Board Members

Marsha Greenstreet

Phyllis Neff

Carol Schanz

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Newsletters are distributed every month. The deadline for submitting articles and photographs is the 7th day of the month. Please send information and pictures to Nancy Doering nancdoering@yahoo.com or Elsie Williams tiswilliams3235@att.net

Don't panic- events that have passed can be included in the next newsletter!!!!

