



Twin City Area Optimist Club

May, 2018

President's Column

Dear Fellow Optimists,

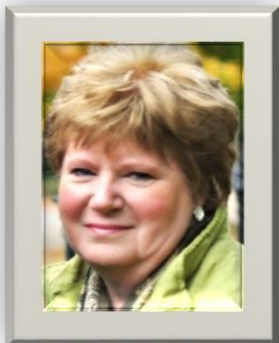
Service, commitment, friendship this is what Optimists means to me and I hope this rings true for all of you.

The Optimist Club gives me a way to serve my community. It is not a selfless act, it is a selfish act. I need to keep busy, I need to be creative, and I need to be challenged. The club allows me to be useful and productive.

I need to commit, without commitment good intentions often lose out to the daily activities of life. It is easier to sit back and **let others do the work, but that isn't fair to the club.** If I commit to something I will show up, I will do the work, I will help my club.

It may be selfish on my part but I want more friends. **I can't have enough! I don't share my most personal thoughts with** anyone, but I do like to share little bits of myself with friends. I like to share stories, laugh, and enjoy new experiences with friends. The TCA Optimist club has brought me more friends and that makes me very happy.

I encourage all my fellow members to join in club projects and fundraisers. Share the work and share the fun. Yes work can be fun with your Optimist friends. The club has quite a few volunteer opportunities coming up, please sign up and show up. **Volunteers are needed for upcoming "Fun Day at the Crystal City Park" on Saturday June 9th.** This will be joint venture with the JOI Club. Monday June 11th is the Parker Decker Memorial 12th Annual Youth Golf Tournament. This is the second year the club is partnering on this community event. There will be other projects announced shortly. I encourage you to read the club emails and visit both our group and public Facebook pages. This will keep you up to date on club activities. If you are unsure how to access these two groups please contact me.



May 31st **will be our "Pot Luck in the Park".** This is a great opportunity to bring your spouse or a friend who would like to know more about Optimists. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. **There will be lawn games, food, and I'm sure a laugh or two.**

Share your need for service, your commitment to the club, enjoy your Optimist friends, **and remember in all you do to be "Optimist Strong – Be the Difference!"**

Optimistically Yours,

Jean Naeger, TCA President



Board Meetings:

May 7: Ellie King(home) and Pat Doenges

June 4: Carroll Mezger

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

Lunch meeting venue:

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:

May 3: Mercy! Mercy! What's New with Donna Masters

May 10: 30th Anniversary Celebration

May 17: Update

May 24: Respect for Law

May 31: Evening meeting at the park



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**)

Remaining projects for this year are: Windsor Head Start Talent Show, Ronald McDonald House Collections, Open Houses at Schools and Art in the Park.

The Reel Optimism video was presented to the adult club-it was awesome!



Check for meeting attended, X for Missed meeting, E excused due to illness or out of town.

100



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Beth Vincent	2
3	4	5 Marie Needy	6	7 Update	8	9 Fun Day at Crystal Park
10 Megan Meyer	11 Parker Decker Memorial 12 th Annual Golf Tournament	12	13	14	15	16 Abbigail Schuh
17	18 Carol Hagen	19	20 Katie Huck	21	22	23 Mary Renner
24	25	26	27	28 Bunco at Marsha Greenstreet home	29	30 Judy Williams

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.

Please turn in attendance records to Peggy Scott. Thank you!



After much research Caryl Harness presented a program for our 30th Anniversary celebration. At Jean Naeger's request, Becky Ruth, a former member and now Representative in the Missouri House, sent a declaration for thirty years of our club's service to the community. Poppy's supplied a birthday cake. Having served the youth of our community for thirty years, our members have worked hard to help in many activities to make life better for them. Members Marsha Greenstreet, Judy Meyers, Elsie Williams, Leisa Spiker, Jane Kost, Judy Lowe and Sue Boyer, wearing various versions of our Optimist shirts, gave short stories of past experiences as members.



The Optimist Board which meets monthly is shown here after a lovely meal, working hard to find more ways to serve the youth of our county, such as fundraisers and grants like the one received from the Jefferson Foundation. (see below)



Money may not grow on trees, but it can be found for a good cause through the Jefferson Foundation. Thanks to Jean Naeger, Dorothea Kehm, Carroll Metzger, Judy Williams, Barb Schmidt, Mary McDowell, Mary Kay Scott, and Carol Hagan who spent many hours working on the grant that resulted in a \$5,000.00 award for our coats project next year! Congratulations for such a great success for the kids of Jefferson County.

Twin City Area Optimist Club

P.O. Box 475

Festus, MO 63028

www.twincityoptimist.org

2017/2018 Officers

President: Jean Naeger, 314-495-2822

Past President- Cindy Cherry: 636-937-9294

President Elect: Mary McDowell- 636-937-2175

Secretary: Mary KAY SCOTT- 314-846-6417

Secretary Elect: Peggy Scott, 314-420-0897(home) 636-931-7560(work)

Treasurer: Debby Schumaker, 314-471-7213

Treasurer Elect: Leisa Spiker, 636-9317285

2016/2018 Board Members

Carroll Metzger

Elsie Williams

Pat Doenges

2017-2019 Board Members

Marsha Greenstreet

Phyllis Neff

Carol Schanz

TWIN CITY AREA OPTIMIST CLUB POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Revised: 05/07/2018

Policies may be changed by each administration, if desired, with a favorable vote of two-thirds of the Board at an official Board meeting.

ALCOHOL: The club will not serve alcoholic beverages at Club events when youth are present or when the public image of the Club would be adversely affected.

ATTENDANCE: Excused absences are provided for illness or for attendance at funerals, work, jury duty, Armed Forces service or travel that takes the member out of town on meeting day. Each member will be responsible for keeping a monthly record of her attendance and activities. Using the calendar published in the monthly Newsletter, or a written or electronic report, members will list meetings attended and any activities that may be used as make-up for days missed. The member will also tally the number of meetings attended for that month, and the number of activities, and place that number in the appropriate location. All attendance records will be given to the Secretary-Elect. Attendance is kept from October 1 through September 30. No make-ups will be carried over.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES: The President, Treasurer or Treasurer-Elect may sign checks. A minimum of two signatures are required.

BADGES: Badges are purchased by the club.

BANK: The depository for Club funds will be Commerce Bank in Jefferson County for continuity of service and because no fees are charged.

DISTRICT MEETINGS AND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS: The Club shall budget a reasonable expenditure for registration fees for members to encourage participation at District meetings and Conventions and at Optimist International Conventions. This amount shall be divided equally toward the cost of each member who attends the meeting. An invoice will be mailed to each attending member after the meeting if there is a balance owed for registration.

Members who may be serving as District or International officers and who are being reimbursed by the District or Optimist International for attendance at District or International Convention meetings will not be reimbursed by the Club unless the amount from the District or Optimist International does not cover their registration fee. In that event, the Club will reimburse in an amount the same as other Club members who are attending.

Members who register for district meetings or international convention, but do not attend will be billed for the meeting.

DONATIONS: Club donations will not be made to individuals, but to group youth projects with the approval of the Board. The only exceptions are that of Childhood Cancer or to assist a child sponsored by the Club who qualifies to attend a Zone, District, State or International event. A proposal stating the registration fee and travel expenses of the child will be presented to the Board on behalf of the child who has so qualified and a vote taken by the Board whether to approve the registration and travel expenses. The Childhood Cancer Campaign (CCC) may give funds for the direct aid to childhood cancer victims and/or their family as determined by the Childhood Cancer Campaign Committee.

DUES: Billings shall state that dues may be paid annually or semi-annually. **REMOVE:** Invoices will go out immediately following the East Missouri District Convention and received by the membership on or before September 1. Annual payment is due October 1, and semi-annual payments are due on October 1 and April 1.

Failure to pay dues by deadline will result in the member being removed from the Club roster. Article V – Termination of Membership, Section 3 of the Optimist Club By-Laws, as specified by Optimist International, will be STRICTLY enforced. It states as follows: “Any member who is two (2) or more months in arrears in the payment of dues or fees to the Club may be suspended from membership. He or she will be provided written notice by the Secretary. Upon payment of arrears within 30 days of said notice, the member's suspension shall end automatically. If such member has not paid within said 30 days, membership shall automatically be terminated and the secretary shall so notify him of that termination.”

Special circumstances for non-payment of dues should be brought to the attention of the treasurer.

The Club will pay the dues for the Secretary and the Treasurer for the year in which they serve in that capacity. A member of the club who is also the JOOI Club adult adviser may have dues paid as long as she serves in this capacity.

DUES FOR PAST PRESIDENTS: In recognition of their service, Past Presidents pay a reduced amount for dues as established by the board.

EXCESS FUNDS: Any excess funds in the Club's checking account will be put into an easily accessible interest-bearing account.

FELLOWSHIP: The Fellowship Chairperson will ensure that:

- a) Cards are sent for members' birthdays, illness, sympathy and other appropriate occasions;
- b) Upon the death of a member's spouse or child, a \$25 donation is made to the Twin City Area Childhood Cancer Campaign in memory of that spouse or child unless the family designates a different charity;
- c) An angel statuette or guardian angel will be purchased at the time of a member's death and given to the family at the visitation by an attending member; and
- d) The Fellowship Fund is funded by the Club's portion of the 50/50 raffle, monies from brags, pictures in the paper, birthdays, and fines.

FIFTY/FIFTY: The 50/50 drawing will be held at Club meetings. The winner is required to keep the winnings with the Club's portion going to the Fellowship Fund.

FINES: A fine of \$1.00 will be collected weekly for any member who does not wear their name badge during the meeting, who has their picture in the paper, who has a birthday, or who has a brag. These fines go to the Fellowship Fund.

FUND RAISING: All fund raising of this Club will comply with national, state and local laws. Proceeds from such projects will be used ONLY as provided in Article X, Section 4 of the Club's Bylaws. Separate revenue and expense records will be kept. Legal advice will be sought before entering into any contractual agreement on behalf of the Club, if deemed necessary by the Board of Directors. Up to 20% of all fundraisers will be transferred to the General Fund. All fundraisers must be approved by the Board. No member will solicit donations or cash from members at any meeting. No solicitation for activities other than the club's projects will be allowed. Any solicitation for items to be used for club projects (i.e. Oktoberfest, Trivia Night, and Holiday Baskets) must be approved in advance by the Board. With prior approval, information about community events or other non-profit events may be shared by placing flyers on tables during weekly meetings.

GUESTS: Whether a first-time guest is a potential member or a friend/relative of a Club member, the guest or the Club member shall pay for that meal. The only exception to this shall be: Youth Essay Winners, Youth Oratorical Winners, Youth Appreciation Guests (plus one chaperone), the individual recipients for Respect for Law Day awards, and guests at scheduled NOW events. The Program Chair shall encourage program presenters to share information during their presentation but not directly solicit sales or donations during the presentation. One program presenter will receive a free meal when invited for that meeting's program.

Should an additional speaker assist with the presentation, meal for the additional speaker will be covered by discretion of the Program Chair. The **Program Chair or** Club member inviting the speaker should make clear this expectation. A Club member who gives a program is responsible for their own meal payment.

MEALS: Members who sign up for an evening meeting but do not attend will be billed for the meal. Noon meal billing is due upon receipt.

MEETINGS: Meetings will be held on all Thursdays approved by the Board of Directors. Cancellations will be handled as follows:

- a) If the Festus School District is closed due to inclement weather, the luncheon meeting will be canceled; or
- b) If the President, after conferring with two other officers or Board members, agrees to cancel the meeting before 9:00 a.m. (time needed to notify the venue), the meeting will be canceled and members notified by e-mail prior to 9:30 a.m. **Members who do not have email will be called.**
- c) **If an evening meeting has to be in cancelled, members will be notified by email 4:00 p.m., if possible. Members who do not have email will be called.**

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION:

1. Application should be submitted to the Club President.
2. The Club President will present the member application at the first board meeting following receipt of the application.
3. Once a member is approved by the board, a copy of the application should be given to the Secretary to submit to OI.
4. The Club President or the Secretary will send the new member information to:
 - a. The member(s) responsible for updating the roster and email list;
 - b. The club bookkeeper for dues billing;
 - c. The fellowship chair;
 - d. The newsletter chair; and to
 - e. The badge chair.
5. The Club President will send a welcome letter to the new member. This should include information about weekly meetings and upcoming events and possibly a suggestion for joining a committee.
6. Upon receipt of the new member packet from OI, the Club President will schedule the induction of the new member at a weekly club meeting.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: The Board authorizes the Treasurer to pay bills on a timely basis and present a report at the next Board meeting.

POLITICS: The Club will affirm its role in civic affairs but will not take positions in matters of partisan politics.

ROSTER / E-MAIL: The Club shall recruit a member to keep the roster and e-mail list current a minimum of three times per year. E-mail addresses and cell/home phone numbers listed on the club roster are not to be used for forwarding non-Optimist information **or for business solicitations.** The sharing of personal joys, announcements, requests, etc. on the Club's Facebook Group page is encouraged.

TREASURER'S (CHECK-IN) TABLE: The following procedures assist the Treasurer and Treasurer-Elect to accurately record deposits for weekly meetings:

1. All club members are responsible for checking their payment status (paid or billed) before the beginning of each meeting.
2. Reimbursements for Individual Members:
 - a. Club members requesting reimbursement for expenditures paid out of their own pocket should submit the receipt to the Treasurer or Treasurer-Elect in the envelopes supplied in the basket on the table.
 - b. Reimbursement will be issued the following week or, if time permits, after the meeting.
 - c. For emergency reimbursements, club members should contact the Treasurer or Treasurer-Elect after the meeting.

3. Reimbursements for Chairs:

- a. All receipts for reimbursement should be submitted to the Treasurer or Treasurer-Elect in the envelopes supplied in the basket on the table.
- b. All checks for vendors or venues will be made payable to the vendor or venue. No blank checks will be provided to chairs for any event.
- c. All funds must be deposited by the Treasurer or Treasurer-Elect.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON MAY 7, 2018.

"I am an optimist. It does not seem too much use being anything else."

-Winston Churchill

Please submit articles/pictures for newsletter by the 7th of the month! Thanks!

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



[This Photo](#) by

It is with great sorrow that we report the death of a long- time member of our club, Sharon Sue Anderson. Sharon worked as a proofreader and advertising salesperson for Leader publications in Festus and was a 50- year member of First United Methodist Church of Festus-Crystal City. She was also a member of Beta Sigma Phi and the Twin City Optimist Club, and served on the board of directors of the Jefferson Count Family YMCA in Festus. She was an avid reader and cherished spending time with family and friends. She will be long remembered and missed by our Optimist Club. Members of the club gave a reading of the Optimist Creed during the May 23rd visitation at Vinyard Funeral Home.



Cranberry Walnut Squares by Phyllis Neff

These are super easy and quick to make. Full of flavor and crunch.

Ingredients:

½ cup Soft butter
½ cup Brown sugar
¼ cup White sugar
1 tsp Vanilla
1 Egg

1 cup Flour

1 cup Old-fashioned oats
½ tsp Cinnamon
½ tsp Baking soda
½ tsp Salt
½ cup Coarsely chopped walnuts
½ cup Dried cranberries

Directions:

Mix together butter, sugars and vanilla till creamy. Beat in egg. Combine dry ingredients and mix in. Mix in dried cranberries. Mix in nuts. Spread in greased oblong (11x7x2) pan. Bake at 375° for 14 to 18 minutes. They will be soft to the touch when hot but will continue to cook as they cool. Be careful not to overcook. When the edges are golden and pulling a little away from sides, they are done. Makes 24 squares.

