



# Twin City Area Optimist Club

P.O. Box 475

Festus, Missouri 63028

[www.twincityoptimist.org](http://www.twincityoptimist.org)

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Affiliated with Optimist International

Serving Youth and Community since 1919

## April 2022 News Making a Difference For the Kids

### 2022-2023 Slate of Officers

Membership voted on April 14, 2022, to affirm TCA Optimist Club's slate of officers and support Phyllis Neff as candidate for East Missouri Optimist (EMO) District Governor Elect for 2022-2023.

#### TWIN CITY AREA OPTIMIST CLUB VOTE 2022-2023 OFFICERS APRIL 14, 2022

President	Carroll Metzger
President Elect	Peggy Scott
Past President	Gerty O'Leary
Secretary	Debbie Hogenmiller
Secretary Elect	Ruth Ann Adams
Treasurer	Laura Elbl
Treasurer Elect	Janet Mace
2022-2023 Board Members	Judy Williams Pat Parson Elizabeth Check
2022-2024 Board Members	Patty Meyers Katie Huck Cathy Elliott

A vote to affirm will be taken:

The Twin City Area Optimist Club, in a majority vote, does hereby give their full support to Phyllis Neff in being considered for Governor-Elect and Governor of the East Missouri District of Optimist International.

April 7, 2022  
 NOW (New Optimists Welcome) Meeting

Seven guests attended the recent NOW meeting. To date, two guests have submitted their applications for membership. Beth Watts, and Kirstie Zych will be considered for membership at the May board meeting. We are "optimistic" more guests will return their applications.

**NOW MEETING**  
 (New Optimist Welcome)  
**April 7, 2022**

During our regularly scheduled noon meeting

To invite a guest, notify Marsha Greenstreet at [mgreenstreet@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mgreenstreet@sbcglobal.net)  
 Provide the following information for each guest:

NAME  
 ADDRESS  
 PHONE  
 EMAIL ADDRESS

April 14, 2022  
 Easter Party



The TCA Optimist ladies arrived in their finest bonnets, caps, ears, feathers, ribbons, and lace. A few added notions included!





*In your Easter bonnet, with all the frills upon it, you'll be the grandest lady in the Easter Parade.*



April 21, 2022

## Welcome Essay/Oratorical Winners and Guests

The club was pleased to host the winners of our Oratorical and Essay Contests. Members were impressed with the poise and optimistic attitude each of these students displayed while sharing their essays or oratorical speeches. Members were delighted the students' parents were able to join us, along with Senn-Thomas Middle School Principal Tracy Lewis.

Oratorical winners Olivia Drinen and Olivia Blair will move onto the next level of completion with the East Missouri Optimist District on Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations to all our winners.





Pictured: Second Place Oratorical Winner Olivia Blair, First Place Oratorical Winner Olivia Drinen, First Place Essay Winner Ava Beers, Third Place Essay Winner Lucas Warren, Second Place Essay Winner Liliana Knickman, not present Third Place Oratorical Winner Kristen Hopkins



Senn-Thomas Middle School Principal, Tracy Lewis joined oratorical winners.



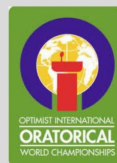
Olivia with her parents  
Kelly and Jason Drinen



Olivia with her parents  
Vanessa and Patrick Blair



**First Place  
Oratorical Winner  
Olivia Drinen**



**Second Place  
Oratorical Winner  
Olivia Blair**

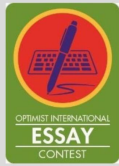




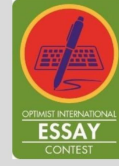
Ava with her parents  
Jennifer and Brent Beers



Liliana with her sister Emma  
and mother Alicia Knickman



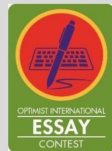
First Place  
Essay Winner  
Ava Beers



Second Place  
Essay Winner  
Liliana Knickman



Lucas with his father  
John Warren



Third Place  
Essay Winner  
Lucas Warren



## CLUB PROJECTS

### Head Start Easter Baskets

Thank you to our members who donated five like items for the Head Start Easter Baskets. As always, our members were very generous. Their donations of both items and cash, along with budgeted club funds, provided several months of groceries and other household essentials. Five families selected by local Head Start staff will benefit from this project.

Thanks to our shoppers, Debbie Hogenmiller, Nell Austin, Beth Peyton, Mary Hatfield, Martha DeMent, Barb Bates, and money counter Sue Boyer. Katie Huck also assisted prior to shopping and Carol Schanz purchased meat for families. Martha DeMent and Kitty Ebersoldt made Easter baskets for the children.

Special thanks to project chair Pam Cernik for completing her first Head Start Food Basket Project. The rain could not stop our mighty volunteers from completing their tasks.





A little "selfie" with shoppers Mary Hatfield, Sue Boyer, Project Chair Pam Cernik, Martha DeMent, Barb Bates, Beth Peyton, and Debbie Hogenmiller in the back.



Martha DeMent and Sue Boyer



Debbie Hogenmiller



Beth Peyton and Barb Bates



Nell Austin



"I've fallen and I can't get up", no, that's just Martha DeMent reaching for the raisins!

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## Head Start Lending Library



The TCA Optimist Board of Directors approved the purchase of two lending library structures to be built as an Eagle Scout project. One will be placed

outside DeSoto Head Start and the other at the Fun 23 location. The board voted to send \$371.06 to cover material costs. Plaques will be included to recognize our club as donor.

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## Nurses for Newborns

Ladies, now is the time to uncover those sewing machines, limber up your crocheting/knitting fingers, and shop the sales for Nurses for Newborns. Karen Huskey has agreed to continue chairing this project. She will coordinate drives on July 21 (day meeting) and July 28 (evening meeting) for receiving items members have handmade or purchased.

Below is a list of suggested items the agency could use and links for instructions or patterns for handmade items. Please direct any questions to Karen.



**MISSION:** Nurses for Newborns provides a safety net for families most at-risk in order to prevent infant mortality, child abuse, and neglect by providing in-home nursing visits which promote healthcare, education, and positive parenting skills.

**VISION:** Families of all babies will receive the healthcare, education, and support they need so that every baby will be healthy, safe and nurtured in their home and able to fulfill their full potential.

**WISH LIST:** \*\*\* Priority items are Pack 'n Plays, larger sized diapers (4 & 5), diaper wipes, baby lotion, baby shampoo and baby wash, digital thermometers, canned food, bottle brushes, and newborn baby clothing.\*\*\* We DO accept gently used items. All items must be clean and in workable/usable condition.

Tummy Time Quilts

Baby Care Items (lotion, shampoo wash)

Baby Formula (preferably Enfamil w/Lipil)

Canned Food/Fruits

Infant Sock Caps

Baby Wipes

Bottles

Clothing (preemie-4T)



Diapers (all sizes & Pull-Ups)	Diaper Wipes
Gift Cards (gas, groceries)	High Chairs
Peanut butter & Jelly	Granola bars
Mac & Cheese (and other boxed pastas)	Canned pastas
Meals in a can (stew, chili, soup)	Cereal
Fruit juice in boxes or cans	Fruit rolls
Raisins	Graham crackers
Applesauce	Cheese and crackers
Fruit cups	Pretzels
Car Seats (5 point car seats only less than 5 years old)	

Websites with more information and patterns for tummy time quilts and infant sock caps:

**Purpose of tummy time:**

[https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/infant-and-toddler-health/expert-answers/tummy-time/faq-20057755#:~:text=Tummy%20time%20%E2%80%94%20placing%20a%20baby,flat%20spots%20\(positional%20plagiocephaly\)](https://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/infant-and-toddler-health/expert-answers/tummy-time/faq-20057755#:~:text=Tummy%20time%20%E2%80%94%20placing%20a%20baby,flat%20spots%20(positional%20plagiocephaly))

**Patterns for tummy time quilts:**

<https://www.freequiltpatterns.info/free-tutorial---tummy-time-baby-quilt.htm>

(Any pattern you choose is acceptable for a tummy time quilt. The primary element is size rather than design. A tummy time quilt should be between 32" x 32" to 36" x 36".

**Patterns for infant sock cap (knit):**

<https://www.lovecrafts.com/en-us/l/knitting/knitting-patterns/free-knitting-patterns/free-baby-hat-knitting-patterns>

**Patterns for infant sock cap (crochet):**

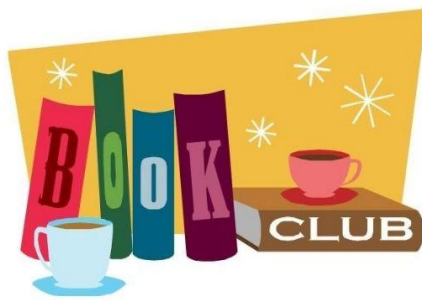
<https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/baby-hat-crochet-patterns-4129118>

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## BOOK CLUB

The book club will meet at **5 p.m.** at Poppy's before the evening meeting on **Thursday, April 28th** to discuss *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. As always, please send book suggestions to Mary Kay Scott.





## Reading List May-August 2022

- May:** *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger  
**June:** *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah  
**July:** *Run Rose Run* by Dolly Parton and James Patterson  
**August:** *Yellow Wife* by Sedaqa Johnson

**Book Club meetings will start at 5 p.m., prior to the start of the evening meeting on the last Thursday of the month.**

## JOI CLUB



Captain Ken Strathmann spoke on his job with JPAD as an EMT. He also let the members enter the ambulance to see how it works. It was a very good educational program.



Abigail, Elizabeth, Audrey, Kristen, Jordan.  
Brooklyn in front, Marcus in back.

JOI members getting up close and personal  
with EMT training equipment.

*Debbie Schumaker*  
JOI Adult Advisor

*Carol Schanz*  
JOI Chair



## EMO DISTRICT/ZONE 10



### Zone 10 Meeting

Zone 10 of the EMO District will have a meeting at the Southside Optimist Club's regular meeting on Wednesday April 27th at Pietro's Restaurant at 6:00 p.m. Arrive at 5:30 p.m. to order food.

Pietro's (Italian Cuisine)  
3801 Watson Rd  
St. Louis, MO 63109

**RSVP to Lt. Governor Phyllis Neff by 9 pm, Tuesday, April 26th.**



## EMO Third Quarter Conference

East Missouri Optimist District  
3rd Quarter Call Letter  
April 29-30; Drury Inn, Chesterfield, MO  
Calling All Optimists!!!

Don't miss the Oratorical Contest!!  
AND

the Winning Essay  
ALONG WITH

OI Representative Ronda Vaughn  
Register Today!!

Early Bird Registration (Now until April 8) \$55.00

## FUNDRAISERS



As of April 7, 2022, we have 53 sponsors with donations totaling \$16,205. We have also received pledges from seven past members in the amount of \$335. Several more businesses have committed to sponsoring but we have not received their checks.

Marketing /Sponsoring Chair Jean Naeger is pleased with yearly results. This is the fifth year of our sponsorship program and each year the total revenue has increased. Jean had a personal goal of \$15,000 this year. She is excited the goal has been exceeded.

Jean would like to thank Judy Williams, Arlene DeGonia, Karen Huskey, Barb Schmidt, Nicki Russell, Katie Huck, Cathy Elliott, Debbie Hogenmiller, and Marsha Greenstreet with helping to make follow-up calls after request letters were mailed in January. You would be SURPRISED!! how many letters were said to not have been received. Amazing since we only had a handful of undeliverable mail. The follow-ups resulted in re-mailing/emailing letters with quite a few new/renewed sponsors. The follow-up is key to success.

## SAVE THE DATES



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

**Youth Appreciation - May 5**  
Chair Barb Schmidt

**Mother's Day Party - May 12**  
Party Committee



**Respect for Law - July 14**  
Chairs Cindy Cherry and Cheyenne Pratt

**Old Bag Lunch - August 18**  
Chairs Carol Schanz and Pat Parsons

**April 28- May 26 Evening Meetings**  
See information below

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At the April 28th evening meeting Patty Meyer and Jean Naeger will teach you how to upcycle an ordinary large tin can into a hanging bucket. The can will already be bent, and holes drilled for hanger. You can choose from the two patriotic themed bucket patterns shown below. **NOTE: Florals are for display purposes only.**

We will provide all the materials needed to complete project (there may be a small fee to cover supply costs). You will base coat the bucket with paint, add a layer of Mod Podge, and decoupage a napkin onto the bucket. If you prefer a different pattern, feel free to bring a napkin or tissue paper of your choice. It would be helpful to bring paint brushes (2-inch paint brushes work best.)



Bicycle pattern



Flag pattern

From trash to treasures.  
Create a bucket using a large tin can. This is the size used in commercial kitchens, schools, churches, etc.

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During our May 26th evening meeting, we are very excited to introduce Spotlight Community Theatre to our club. Currently there are three troupes performing small productions to clubs/groups in the area. There are two student troupes and one adult troupe. This is a great benefit to the community and Spotlight Community Theatre welcomes the opportunity to tell you more about what is planned for the future.

Below is the list of adult performers who will be presenting a one act comedy for us. Some of the actors may be your relatives, friends, neighbors. You will not want to miss this performance.



## CAST LIST

<b>Casting Director</b>	Eric Haynes
<b>Roger</b>	Charlie Labitska
<b>Melissa</b>	Monica Lee
<b>Coach</b>	Nikki White
<b>Joe</b>	Debra Leland
<b>Josie</b>	Carly Giger
<b>Maria</b>	Marji Peters
<b>Martin</b>	Dan Hewitt
<b>Catherine</b>	Carly Giger
<b>Meg</b>	Haylee Evans
<b>Charlize</b>	Karen LaPlant
<b>Agent</b>	Dawn Blanton
<b>Josh</b>	Nikki White
<b>Edmund</b>	Marji Peters
<b>Amy</b>	Haylee Evans



# MOUSE RACES



## Twin City Area Optimist Club Fall Fundraiser

### SAVE THE DATE

Saturday September 17, 2022  
Festus VFW Post 3777

Help us help the kids



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.

#### Board of Directors 2021-2022

President  
Gerty O'Leary  
636-208-1395

President Elect  
Peggy Scott

Past President  
Mary Kay Scott

Secretary  
Cathy Elliott

Secretary Elect  
Debbie Hogenmiller

Treasurer  
Laura Elbl

Treasurer Elect  
Carroll Metzger



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.**

#### Board Members

**2020-2022**  
Janice Boyd  
Judy Kuhlman  
Barb Schmidt

**2021-2023**  
Elizabeth Check  
Pat Parsons  
Judy Williams

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Visit our website

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