



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

September 2021 News Making a Difference

Thank You Madame President Mary Kay Scott 2020-2021



Quite a year it has been! Serving as president during a pandemic is certainly challenging but President Mary Kay handled it with tenacity, humor, and a positive attitude. Navigating meetings with ZOOM, mask wearing, social distancing, and let's not forget a change in venues added to her trials. Thank you Mary Kay for never giving up on our mission to serve area youth.

NEW OPTIMIST WELCOME



Ruth Ann Adams

**ARLENE DEGONIA HONORED INTO
CRYSTAL CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS HALL OF FAME**

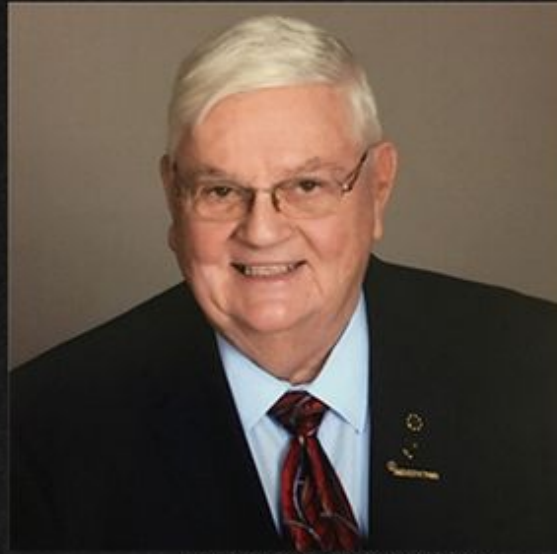


TCA Optimist member Arlene Faye Simms DeGonia was recently installed into the Crystal City Public Schools Hall of Fame. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education from Southeast Missouri State University (1957),

she taught for Hillsboro Public Schools and Louisville School System, then taught for the next 33 years at Crystal City Public Schools. During that time, she taught in various capacities, including early childhood, physical education and junior high science. Notably, she coached the Junior High Volleyball Team for over 18 years. Arlene also earned a Master's of Education with Academic Honors from SEMO. After retirement, Arlene served as a School Management Evaluator for the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education. She continues to serve the community through leadership in the Jefferson County Retired Education Association and the Retired NEA. Arlene is also an active member of SAVE (Jefferson County Sheriff's Volunteers) and Friends of Festus Library. She has been a member of Twin City Area Optimist Club for over 20 years.

Congratulations Arlene, a well deserved honor for a very special Optimist.

EMO DISTRICT NEWS



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Donald R. Sievers

Don Sievers was a past East Missouri Optimists District Governor (1993-1994). He also served as Optimist International President (2008-2009).

EMO 1st Quarter

Conference

Meet OI President Patsy Garner



Oct. 22-23, 2021

ZONE 10



Zone 10 Meeting

Date: Wed. October 13, 2021

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: Pietro's

3801 Watson Rd., St. Louis, MO

Come hungry. We will eat and meet.
RSVP to Phyllis Neff **call/text: 636 795 3665**
by Tuesday evening the night before.

CLUB PROJECTS

Twin City Area Optimist Club



Annual Art Contest

November 14, 2021

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Elks Lodge 1721

4 Elks Acres, Festus, MO

**TWIN CITY AREA OPTIMIST
ANNUAL ART CONTEST NOVEMBER 14, 2021
APPLICATION FORM**

(Use one application for each piece of art you submit, fill in the entire form, attach to back of entry, please print)

NAME _____
PHONE _____ AGE _____ TOTAL # of Works Submitted _____
ADDRESS _____ CITY, STATE _____ ZIP _____
SCHOOL _____ ART TEACHER _____
TITLE OF WORK _____ MEDIUM _____

RULES:

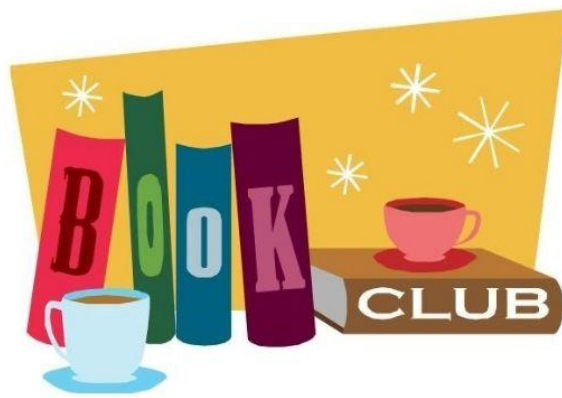
1. The Art Contest is open to students, ages 12-19 who attend Jefferson County middle and high schools.
2. All art must be original and created only by the student. Copies not permitted.
3. The art medium may be charcoal, pencil, oils, tempera, watercolor, or any other medium on paper, canvas or three-dimensional. All photography must be the student's original work.
4. Each entry **MUST** be matted (rigid backing).
5. Each entry must be accompanied by a completed Application Form and attached to the back of the mat or canvas. Please tape top edge only. Please print name and information clearly.
6. Entries will be limited to (3) per artist.
7. Entries will be accepted at Festus Public Library, 400 W. Main Street, Festus, Missouri on Tuesday, Nov. 9, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Wednesday, Nov. 10, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
8. All entries must be picked up on Nov. 14 following the exhibit and awards presentation. Note: The Twin City Area Optimist Club, Festus Library, and Elks Lodge 1721 are not responsible for loss, theft, or damage of the artwork.
9. The art contest showcasing exhibits for the student artists and guests will be held Sunday, Nov. 14 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. with an awards presentation at 3:00 p.m. and attendance prize drawings at 3:30 p.m. at Elks Lodge 1721, 4 Elks Acres, Festus, MO 63028

-----Optimist File-----

STUDENTS: Complete all the information below, but do not detach form. Please print.

Name _____ Age _____
School _____ ENTRY # _____
Title of Work _____
Medium AGE GROUP _____
Total number of works _____

BOOK CLUB



Reading List for September-October

The Lost and Found Bookshop by Susan Wiggs, September
The Magic Hour by Kristen Hannah, October

Please note: Book Club will meet 45 minutes before October evening meeting at Poppy's. We will discuss both September and October books. All are welcome.

JOI CLUB

September 2021 Junior Optimist Update

- We are placing a Junior Optimist application in the dictionaries for local school 3rd grade students.
- BB 5K is October 23rd at Larry Crites Memorial Park at 8 am. Still looking for students to turn in suicide essay and participate for an opportunity for a \$500 scholarship. Also need walkers of all ages.
- Halloween party for October 24th from 1 to 3 pm at Larry Crites Memorial Park at pavilion #20 by gazebo. We will have costume and pumpkin carved/decorated contest
- Shopping for the Crisis Nursery will be Thursday November 4th at 7 pm at Walmart. Arrive at 6:30-6:45 pm. This will be in place of JOI monthly meeting.
- This is Katie's last meeting as JOI Adult Adviser after 17 years. Debbie Schumaker will be your new JOI adviser and Carol Schanz will be the JOI chairman.

Election of new JOI officers for 2021-2022:

President: **Addisen Eldridge**

Vice President: **Kristen Hopkins**

Secretary: **Olivia Blair**

Treasurer: **Audrey Staley**



Katie Huck
JOI Adult Advisor

Debbie Schumaker
JOI Chair



3rd Annual BB 5K



5K Teen Suicide Awareness Walk Saturday, 8AM October 23, 2021 At Larry Crites Memorial Park (Formerly West City Park)

Cost of 5K - \$30
Includes t-shirt, certificate of appreciation, snacks, fruit and Behavioral Health information
Unable to walk, T-shirts may be purchased for \$20
Student cost without t-shirt \$10
Sweatshirts only-\$30 or \$45 as participant
Checks to TCA Optimist at PO Box 475, Festus MO 63028 or Venmo @JOI63028

Student scholarship winners of funds raised will be announced after the 5K

**ALL AGES ARE
WELCOME TO
PARTICIPATE**

**Contact information:
Debbie Schumaker 314-471-7213,
Katie Huck 314-520-6340, or
Carol Schanz 314-222-4344**



Junior Optimist International
 3rd Annual 2021 5K Run/Walk for Bryan Brennan
 Take 10 for BB ... "Teen Suicide Awareness/Prevention"
 Waiver and Consent Form

Please read the information below and to the right carefully.

By completing the form below and submitting your information, you are agreeing to the Rules and Conditions outlined here for participation in the Optimist Walk at Larry Crites Memorial Park formally West City Park located in the far back pavilion (north end).

If under age 18 years, you must have your parent or legal guardian's consent to participate, and a parent/legal guardian must attend with you and sign in on Saturday October 23, 2021 at 7:30 am. Walk starts at 8 am.

We have new t-shirt or sweatshirt color this year: **Blue**

Cost is \$30.00, which includes your T-shirt or \$45.00 for a sweatshirt. If you do NOT wish to participate the cost of the T-shirt is \$20.00 or \$30 for a sweatshirt. Deadline to order shirt is October 1, 2021. Must receive fee before we can order your T- shirt. **Student fee without shirt is \$10.00.**

Send payment and form to Twin City Optimist Club, Attn: Debbie, P.O. Box 475, Festus, MO 63028 or to Venmo @ JOI63028.

*form must be filled out, submitted per text, e-mail, or mail.

Any questions call Debbie at 314-471-7213 or Carol at 636-222-4344.

Participant info:

Name: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Phone Number: _____

Shirt Size: _____ Type of shirt _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian/Participant Signature: _____

Date _____

By submitting this form, I hereby agree to participate in the Junior Optimist Walk at Larry Crites Memorial Park formally West City Park, Festus, MO and I confirm that I have read, understand and agree to the Rules.

In addition to giving full consent for my participation, I do hereby waive, release and hold harmless the organizations named below, its sponsors, volunteers, supervisors and representatives for any injury that may be suffered by me in the normal course of participation in the designated activity and the activities there to, whether the result of negligence or any other cause.

I authorize the use of the participant's name and any photos taken of the participant, during the Junior Optimist Walk at Larry Crites Memorial Park formally Festus West City Park project solely for the purposes of promotion of this or future events.



*Proceeds of the BB 5K will go to a local school.

*All ages are welcome.

FUNDRAISERS

In Time for the Holidays

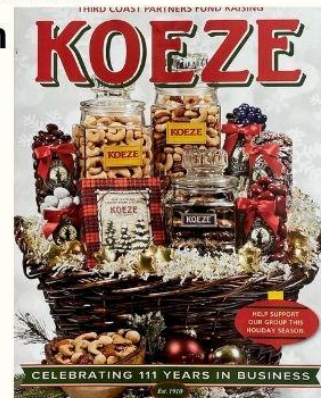
Contact Fundraiser Chair
 Patty Meyer to receive
 catalog and place order.

Call/text 314 313 7744 or email:

patty342001@aol.com

Order deadline: Nov. 18th

10% discount
 off catalog
 prices



**RESTAURANT GIFT
CARD RAFFLE
DRAWING THUR.
OCT. 14, 2021**



Raffle for restaurant gift cards
One entry for every \$10 donation

NAME

PHONE NUMBER

Donations can be made thru Venmo
TC-Optimist2122
or mail check and this card to:
TWIN CITY AREA OPTIMIST CLUB
PO BOX 475, FESTUS, MO 63028



**RESTAURANT GIFT
CARD RAFFLE
DRAWING THUR.
OCT. 14, 2021**



VALUE: \$935

Taytro's \$50
Texas Roadhouse \$50
Main & Mill \$30
Taco Bell \$25
Best Kept Secret \$20
Petit Patee \$50
Brio \$25
Gianino's \$50
La Pachanga Mexican \$25

Las Brisas \$30
The Brick Bistro \$30
Twisted Tree \$100
Cozy Kitchen \$30
St. Louis Bread \$45
Starbucks \$25
Pasta House \$40
Red Lobster \$75
Pogolino's \$25
Longhorn Steakhouse \$25
Russell House \$25
Cracker Barrel \$50
Trattoria Giuseppe \$20
Farmhouse Style Restaurant \$20
Roberto's Trattoria \$50
Saigon \$20



MEETINGS

**Club member Jean Naeger adds a little creativity to
September 16, 2021 meeting**

Jean showed members how to
create a simple paper rose.
Many types of flowers can be



created using coffee filters. It is a very inexpensive way to produce flowers for special events, decorating, and gift wrapping. With limited time during meeting, Jean chose a rose bud, some members added additional filters to make a larger full bloom flower. Of course some may have mistaken filters for party

hats! For more ideas go to:

[\(479\) Pinterest](#)

and search for coffee filter flowers or check out YouTube for tutorials.



Samples of how to use paper flowers. Hydrangeas used as a centerpiece for EMO 2nd quarter conference. Gift wrapping ideas with paper rose.



Sherry Armstrong prefers to use filter as party hat.



To create a larger rose, simply add one or two additional coffee filters.

Old Bags Auction

Date: Thursday September 23, 2021



**Thanks to all who donated 13 bags/contents and
the lucky ladies who purchased the bags.
Fundraiser earned \$1465**



OUTWIT--OUTPLAY--OUTBID!

Optimist members pulled out all the stops to

keep us guessing, laughing, and playing each other to raise bids. Contents of bags included the usual gift cards, chocolate, wine, beauty products, jewelry, etc. Cindy Cherry's donated bag may have been the highlight of the day. She not only donated a beautiful bag but gave us a little breast cancer awareness reminder. Mary Kay Scott won the bid and models her boobs scarf. Gives a whole new meaning to "booby prize".



Auctioneer Ellen Bridgewater keeps up the pace while Phyllis Neff walks the room showing off bags.



Judy Williams examines a bag trying to decide to bid or not to bid.



Masked members get ready for a lively auction.



Pat Parson presents bag donated by Kami Kimes/Hillsboro Title to winner Gerty O'Leary.

Special thanks to Pat and Phyllis for chairing this event.

President's Farewell Dinner, Roast and Installation of Officers
Date: September 30, 2021



**2020 -2021 Board of Directors
Thank you for your service**

Gerty O'Leary, Mary Kay Scott, Patty Meyer, Debbie Schumaker, Janice Boyd, Barb Schmidt, Cathy Elliott, Laura Elbl, Pat Parsons, Jean Naeger, and Phyllis Neff, (not pictured Megan Siracusa and Judy Kuhlman)



2021-2022 Board of Directors Installation of Officers

Past EMO District Governor Mary Hatfield installs new board of directors including Past President Mary Kay Scott, President Gerty O'Leary, Secretary Cathy Elliott, Secretary Elect Debbie Hogenmiller, Treasurer Laura Elbl, Treasurer Elect Carroll Metzger, board members Pat Parsons and Elizabeth Check. (not pictured President Elect Peggy Scott, board member Judy Williams) In addition board members Janice Boyd, Barb Schmidt and Judy Kuhlman will continue their service through 2022.

Presentation of Scrapbook

President #1, Marsha Greenstreet presents Mary Kay with her president's scrapbook. Thanks to Ellen Bridgewater for creating this special gift.



A President Gets Her Wings

President Mary Kay enjoyed a good natured roast. Memories of an unprecedented COVID year were a recurring theme.

Thanks to MCs Judy Lowe and Caryl Harness for their delightful script.



CONDOLENCES

Dennis Richard Smith

Dennis Richard Smith, beloved husband of member Kim Smith, passed away on August 30, 2021. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Kim and family for their loss. To view

obituary click link: [Obituary Listing - Dennis Richard Smith](#)
(mahnfuneralhome.com)



Members meet at Taytros every Thursday at Noon - 1 p.m. The last Thursday of the month is an evening meeting. Time and place TBD.

Our Club will continue looking at the sunny side of everything and being committed to bringing out the best in our area youth.

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



[Visit our website](#)