



THE OPTIMIST CLUB OF COLUMBIA (Downtown Optimist)

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Downtown Optimist Club Zoom Meeting Newsletter

March 15, 2021

Members attended: Rick McKernan, Mary Dewey, Ed Musterman, Scott Stager, Tony Parisio, John James, Jerry Sullivan, Eva Vazquez (maybe a new member), Corey Koch (maybe a new member), Special Guest Lister Florence and Guest Speaker Andy Woody (City of Columbia Fire Department Chief)

Prayer/Pledge for March 15: Jerry Sullivan Pledge and Rick McKernan Prayer and

Birthday: Mary and Robert Dewey 16th Wedding Anniversary on March 19.

Board Meeting Thursday, March 15: We have 3 funding request: Greg Gilmore from the Daniel Boone Baseball and Softball League \$700. Julie Dorn from the Central and Northeast Missouri Food Bank \$5000. Diamond Council Paul Blythe \$1050. Rick will make a presentation.

Update for us having in person meeting at HyVee. Tony said, "Right now they are letting any groups in. They are using the room to give out the COVID-19 shots." He will be trying to getting an evening meeting together at the Clubhouse soon.

High School Scholarship deadline is March 15. Right now, we have about 5 students who have applied right now. Nadia Ryakhmyaullov is the club member who took over for Cyrilla Galbreath this year.

We are raising money for a bench in Jim's memories that will place along the walking trail that Shirley walks at Lenoir Home. Please let me know if you want to donate. Money can be sent to me at Mary Dewey 5938 Shelly Dr. Fulton, MO 65251. Make check out to Downtown Optimist Club and after I have all the money collected who wants to donate

We also talked about getting started on new officer and new board members for 2021-2022.

Work on trying to do a service project at one the daycare or camps here in Columbia

Guest Speaker: Andy Woody our City of Columbia Fire Department Chief: email andy.woody@como.gov

The Columbia Fire Department is a diverse organization of 148 dedicated men and women providing emergency medical, fire, rescue, and prevention services to an area of roughly 68 square miles and a population of over 123,000 residents. We operate out of nine fire stations

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spread throughout the city with a goal of serving our citizens and visitors with outstanding customer service.

He talked about us having 12 fire trucks 4 trucks on reverse. There are 3 trucks for each stations. 9 Fire Stations with 2 additional stations being prepared. We have acquired land at Scott and Highway K and that station is being designed and we are searching for land in the area of Broadway, east of Highway 63.

We have 12 fire companies and 2 chief officers staffed 24/7 in these stations. We respond to around 40 calls for service daily. 70% of those are emergency medical services related. All personnel are EMTs or Paramedics allowing us to provide excellent and advanced pre-hospital and pre-ambulance care. We do not transport patients.

We are trained and equipped to deal with all hazards including: provision of emergency medical services, residential and commercial structure fires, motor vehicle incidents including fires, accidents and those with entrapment, industrial accidents, technical rescues such as confined spaces, trenches, or high angles, water rescue, hazardous materials mitigation, wildland fires, and even explosive ordnance disposal or the bomb squad (this is a joint endeavor with MUPD and CPD).

We are rated as an ISO class 2, which is great for insurance rates! We are also Internationally accredited; one of less than 5% in the country to hold both of these distinctions.

We also respond out of the City to assist other agencies any time we are requested, provided there are no major events in the City at the time. Reverse trucks are at hand when they are need when trucks go out for training or a call. He as Station 1, which is the main station on Orr Street, can get up to 12 calls a day and Station 6 is on 3112 Chapel Hill Road could get 1 to 2 calls a day.

Other stations located around Columbia are: #2 is at 1212 West Worley, #3 is at 1000 Ashland Rd (Mizzou Campus), # 4 is at 2300 Oakland Gravel Road, # 5 is at 1400 Ballenger Lane, #7 is at 400 Green Meadow Circle, # 8 is at 2301East Nifong Blvd and # 9 is at 201 Blue Ridge Road.

Each fire fighter have to take 35 to 40 hours a month of training. I have asked Andy to send me more information about what he talked about on March 15 but I do not have it yet. When I do, I will send you out more information about the City of Columbia Fire Department.

Tony Parisio, President



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