



Twin City Area Optimist Club

P.O. Box 475

Festus, Missouri 63028

www.twincityoptimist.org

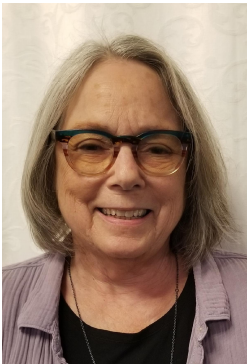
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Affiliated with Optimist International

Serving Youth and Community since 1919

October 2022 News Making a Difference For the Kids

Message From President Carroll Metzger



Greetings! For me fall is just a glorious time. As I look out my window and watch the colors on the trees change every day, I am reminded of the wondrous cycle of life. In the life of our club, fall also is an active and changing time: new officers and directors make sure we stay on track. Completed and upcoming activities are described in the monthly newsletter. Community projects such as the BB-5K Walk for Suicide Awareness and Prevention, Food Collection for Head Start Families and, of course, Christmas Parties for Head Start Children are now either completed or in the planning stages. The Art Contest provides students throughout the community with the opportunity to showcase their creative talents. We also are grateful to the Jefferson Foundation for the

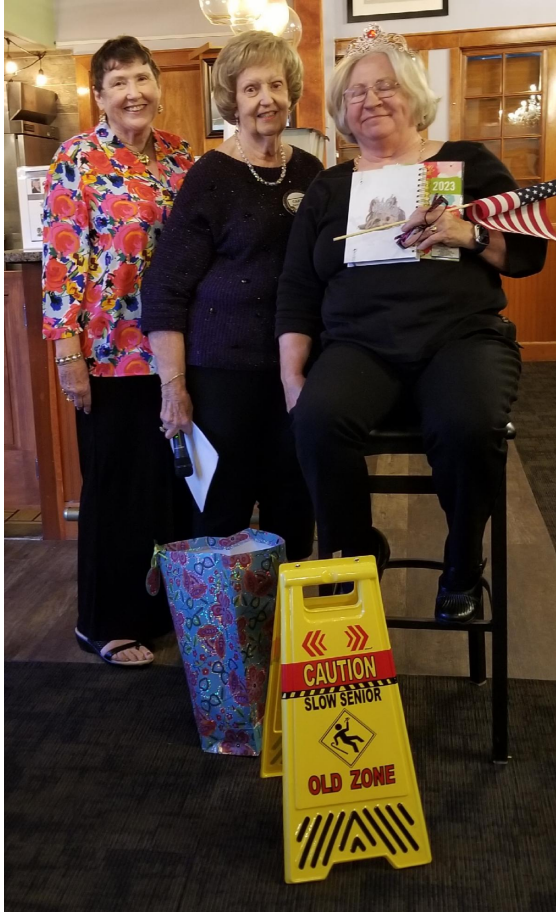
funding of our Coats for Kids Project. Schools already are contacting us to provide coats for students in need. Not to be forgotten, our own fundraising efforts including BUNCO, Koeze Nuts, and Oberle sales are important in funding our youth and community projects throughout the year. All this culminates with a Christmas Party at our weekly lunch meeting that is not to be missed. I hope each of you will find some way to participate in the club's activities. It is your input and contribution that makes the Twin City Area Optimistic Club what it is.

Happy Fall, Carroll

September 29, 2022 Installation of Officers President's Roast

President Gerty O'Leary we will miss your wit, your patience, and your wisdom. Thank you for your leadership and unwavering support.

It's certainly been an interesting Optimist year; meetings with masks, meetings without masks, and everyone hoping they'd escape the clutches of Covid.



Gerty took her roast with a smile and a clever comment or two. She collected all the "lovely gifts" the party committee presented her. She received a dictionary so she would know the difference between induce and induct while officially welcoming new members. She received a tub of cake frosting and chocolate bars to satisfy her cravings. A flag was offered because at one meeting she said "we would have to imagine the flag" that wasn't there. However, she was standing right in front of it! Of course, there is a pole in the center of the room that hasn't gone anywhere but seems to always be in Gerty's way. She received other "priceless" gifts.

Judy Lowe presented gifts to Gerty, and Caryl Harness served as Mistress of Ceremony.



2021-2022 Club Officers and Board Members

Front Row: Peggy Scott, Barb Schmidt, and Carroll Metzger

Back Row: Cathy Elliott, Debbie Hogenmiller, Laura Elbl, Mary Kay Scott, Judy Kuhlman, Judy Williams, Pam Cernik, Janice Boyd, Gerty O'Leary, and Pat Parsons

Thank you ladies for your service.



2022-2023 Club Officers and Board Members

Front Row: Peggy Scott, President-Elect- Laura Elbl, Treasurer- Patty Meyer, Board Member- Debbie Hogenmiller, Secretary- Katie Huck, Board Member

Back Row: Carroll Metzger, President- Gerty O'Leary, Past President- Pam Cernik, Board Member- Judy Williams, Board Member- Ruth Ann Adams, Secretary-Elect- Cathy Elliott, Board Member- Janet Mace-Treasurer-Elect, and Pat Parsons-Board Member



Installation of Officers

Past EMO Governor Mary Hatfield swears in new Board of Directors.

**October 6, 2022
Aging Ahead - Bernita Reinarman**

Resource Center Assistant Bernita Reinarman was our speaker on October 6th. She informed our club of the services and programs the Aging Ahead Center provides, including Meals on Wheels Program. The center is looking for volunteers to deliver meals. COVID shut down the hot meal program, and frozen meals are delivered just once a week. They are hoping to start hot meals delivery

soon when drivers are available. Normally Meals on Wheels not only provides food but daily friendly contact with clients to assure their safety, and well-being. To learn more about this center please visit: www.agingahead.org



October 13, 2022

Upset the Apple Cart and Board Meeting Review



New President Carroll Metzger upset the applecart at the October 13th meeting. All members, upon entering the meeting, received a table number and were asked to sit at the apple table assigned. We do tend to sit with the same members each week, and it is nice to have the opportunity to visit with others. Carroll also brought a jar of her homemade apple butter to auction off to the highest bidder. A \$20 bid from Barb Schmidt won her the delicious seasonal treat.

Of special note, club was awarded a \$300 matching grant for our Parents as Teachers Project from Optimist International Foundation. Three new projects were approved by the board of directors which you will be hearing about in the near future.

A \$200 donation was approved for Jefferson County Foster Children's Fund Holiday Party. Over 700 Jefferson County children are in protective custody; they have been handed difficult circumstances.

October 20, 2022

Main to Mississippi Project - Matthew Unrein



Matthew Unrein, Assistant City Administrator and Director of Public Works for the city of Festus was our speaker on October 20th. He presented our club with an overview of the plan and scope of the Main to Mississippi Project.

M2M - Great Streets the Cities of Crystal City and Festus were awarded a grant for Great Streets Initiative planning assistance by East-West Gateway Council of Governments. This Great Streets project seeks to fortify Main Street, Bailey, and Mississippi between the two city halls and

improve connections among the neighborhoods.

The goal to unite two cities resulted in creating a brand for regional marketing. The Glass District, a name developed in partnership between businesses and stakeholders in both Festus and Crystal City, pays homage to the history of the two communities. Crystal City was the town with the furnace and the forge that made the glass and Festus is where the factory workers sought entertainment and services. Festus and Crystal City are bound together by this history and common interests. Our futures are forever intertwined.

Mr. Unrein shared the vision for the project which will include improving connectivity, enhancing local economies, improving ecology, and creating attractive, interesting places. For more information about this project visit: www.cityoffestus.org



Welcome Back!

It has been fantastic to see members continuing to make a comeback to club meetings.

Cheri Phillips, Shirley Coile, and Linda Portell reunite at our October 20th meeting. Beth Winkeler has started attending meetings when her work schedule permits.



He's a Keeper

Laurie Lohman turned 40 and her husband Gene stopped by our meeting to surprise her with flowers.



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Bring your jars of peanut butter for EMO First Quarter Conference. Collection at October meetings or drop off to Phyllis Neff --Quonset Lanes.

CLUB PROJECTS

Dictionary Project

“Educators describe third grade as the time when a student transitions from learning to read to reading to learn.”



Students from Our Lady Catholic School in Festus



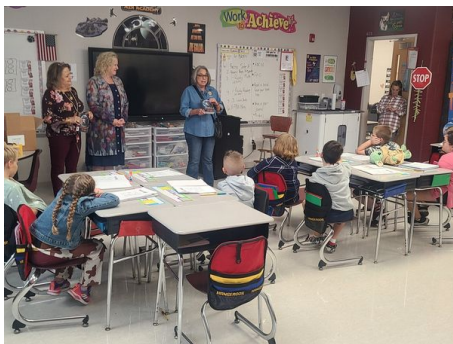
Mrs. Lisa Kennedy's third grade class at Hillsboro Elementary, along with TCA Optimists Jean Naeger, Karen Huskey, and Vickie Campbell





Grandview third graders

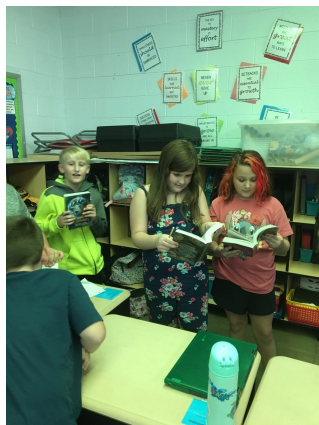
Sunrise third graders



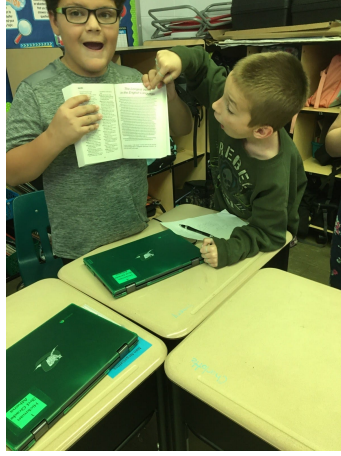
Kirstie Zych, Angie Eisenbeis, Alicia Cummiskey, and Carroll Metzger deliver dictionaries to Festus Elementary. Not pictured Debbie Hogenmiller

Ruth Ann Adams, Beth Peyton, and Carroll Metzger delivered dictionaries to Pevely Elementary.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped deliver dictionaries:



- Mary Hatfield
- Debbie Hogenmiller
- Ginny Skaggs
- Karen Huskey
- Vicki Campbell
- Jean Naeger
- Ruth Ann Adams
- Barb Schmidt
- Judy Williams
- Carroll Metzger
- Kirstie Zych
- Beth Peyton

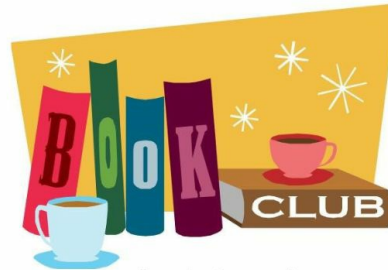


Mary Hatfield delivered dictionaries to Athena School. It looks like the students were pretty excited to receive their dictionaries!



Book Club

Book Club is back! Anyone who has read *The Book of Lost Friends*, please plan to join in discussion on October 27th at 5:00 p.m., prior to our monthly evening meeting at Poppy's Parlor.



Reading List for October -January

October *The Book of Lost Friends* by Lisa Wingate
November *Firefly Lane* by Kristen Hannah

Book Club will not meet in December

January *One More River to Cross* by Jane Kirkpatrick

Please note: Book Club will meet at 5:00 p.m. prior to evening meeting at Poppy's. You do not have to read every book to attend book club. All are welcome.

Childhood Health and Wellness



Emma on the way to see the art therapist. Today they painted and played with play-doh.

Emma is doing well, still in her maintenance phase and has to go in for chemo much less often. The family has received a lot of well-deserved community support and lately has not needed help from the Optimists. The family appreciates our prayers and support!

Tammy Moran
Childhood Health and Wellness Chair

Head Start Thanksgiving

Head Start Thanksgiving Baskets

Needed: 5 like items
 Deadline: Nov. 17, 2022
 Chairperson: Pat Parsons 314-223-4309
 Bring items to Oct. 27th, Nov 3rd, 10th, or 17th, weekly meetings.

Suggestions for 5 like items:

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

Hand soap	No tears shampoo	Deodorant
Body wash	Toothbrush & toothpaste	Razors
Shampoo & conditioner		

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Dish soap	Cleaning products	Bleach
Laundry soap	Toilet paper	Paper towels
Fabric softener	Sponges	Can opener
Saran or glad wrap	Aluminum foil & baking tin	Dish towels & dish cloths
Ziploc bags – various sizes		

FOOD ITEMS - NONPERISHABLE

Canned vegetables	Boxed powdered milk	Coffee / tea bags
Canned fruit	Beans – canned or dry	Flour
Canned tuna	Sugar	Canned chicken
Cake mixes	Cake icing	Brownies
Mac and cheese	Pasta & pasta sauce	Canned soup
Vegetable oil	Canned chili	Salt & Pepper
Cereal	Crackers	Oatmeal
Instant Oatmeal	Ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise	
Peanut butter	Applesauce	Grape jelly
Jello	Boxed mashed potatoes	Rice-a-roni
Boxed stuffing	Can or jar turkey gravy	Hot chocolate
Juice	Jiffy Corn Muffin	Can cranberries
Side dish packages		

Art Contest

Contact Patty Meyer, Art Contest Chair to volunteer. This is our largest project open to the community. Many hands are needed to assist. For more information visit our website: [Art Contest \(twincityoptimist.org\)](http://twincityoptimist.org)

Twin City Area Optimists Art Contest



Annual Art Contest
 November 6, 2022
 2:00pm – 4:00pm
 Elks Lodge 1721
 4 Elks Acres
 Festus, MO



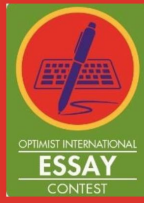
Essay Contest

Visit our website to learn more about 2023 Essay Contest [Essay Contest](http://twincityoptimist.org)

Twin City Area Optimist Essay Contest

twincityoptimist.org

Essay Chair: Mary Kay Scott and Co-Chair
Debbie Hogenmiller



Essays must be postmarked
by January 31, 2023



JOI Club



TCA President Carroll Metzger with new JOI officers: Secretary Addisen Eldridge, President Olivia Blair, and Treasurer Blake Neff. Not pictured Vice-President Audrey Staley.



KK, Abby, and Kimber writing greeting cards for nursing home residents.



Abby Gianladis Represents JOI Club

Junior Optimist member Abby Gianladis was present on Saturday, October 15th at the Missouri Kids unplugged Balloon Glow.

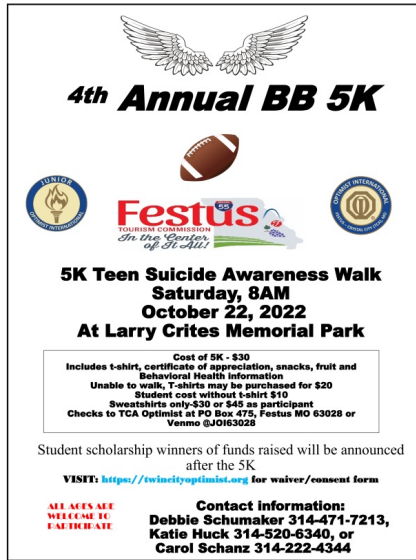


Carroll Metzger, President of the TCA Optimist installed new officers for the 2022-2023 year during their October meeting. New officers include President Olivia Blair, Vice President Audrey Staley, Secretary Addisen Eldridge, and Treasurer Blake Neff.

Members made greeting cards for residents at Autumn Ridge Nursing Center. The club is invited

to attend a Halloween Trunk or Treat at First State Community Bank on Friday October 21 from 6:30-8:00 pm.

New projects for coming year were suggested: Jefferson County Rescue Mission, Talent Show for Head Start, Animal Shelter, and Caroling this Christmas.



4th Annual BB 5K

Festus
TOURISM COMMISSION
In the Spirit of St. Louis

5K Teen Suicide Awareness Walk
Saturday, 8AM
October 22, 2022
At Larry Crites Memorial 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
VISIT: <https://twincityoptimist.org> for waiver/consent form

ALL AGES ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE

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

Check back in November for photos of event.

Debbie Schumaker
JOI Adult Advisor

Carol Schanz
JOI Chair



FUNDRAISERS

BUNCO

36 members and guests enjoyed a night of long-awaited BUNCO. Getting together with friends and earning some money is a win-win. Bunco night earned the club **\$870**.



Special thanks to our hostesses/co-chairs Tabitha Brauch, Carol Schanz, and Karleh Brauch





Of course, there is a smorgasbord of delicious food.



A good time was had by all, especially 50/50 winner lucky Judy Kuhlman. Judy won \$285.



Winners

Joe Neff won the most Buncos, while Judy Kuhlman had the most losses (well except for her 50/50 win). Pat Sweet placed third, Pat Parson placed second, and Julie Ferrell placed first



Quilt Auction



And the winner is.... Kim Elbl. Congratulations Kim on winning the latest quilt raffle. We truly appreciate member Karen Huskey for creating and donating this Shoo-Fly pattern quilt. The online raffle earned the club \$1140.

SAVE THE DATES



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

October 28-29

EMO First Quarter Conference, Columbia, MO

November 6 - Art Contest

Chair: Patty Meyer

10/27, 11/3, 11/10, 11/17 - Head Start Thanksgiving Baskets Collection

Chair: Pat Parsons

November 17- Koeze nut orders due

Chair: Ellie King

SPECIAL THANKS FOR THE SWEET TREATS

Thanks to all our members who have brought in desserts the first meeting of the month. We have enjoyed so many delicious sweets this past year. Below are two recipes from our October dessert day from Katie Huck.

Irresistible Cream Cheese Squares



The name says it all: these are truly irresistible. Irresistible Cream Cheese Squares have an ooey-goey, creamy, and sweet center surrounded by crispy, buttery pastry and a cinnamon-sugar top. You may have trouble not eating these when you see them piled high on a plate. Irresistible Cream Cheese Squares are perfect for any gathering and will satisfy anyone's sweet tooth... right up until they reach for another one!

Ingredients

- 2 (8-ounce) cans refrigerated crescent roll dough ✓
- 2 (8-ounce) packages cream cheese
- 1 1/4 cups white sugar, divided
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup margarine, melted
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.
2. Grease a 9x13-inch pan.
3. Press 1 can of the crescent roll dough into the bottom of the prepared pan.
4. In a medium bowl, beat the cream cheese, 1 cup white sugar, and the vanilla until smooth and creamy.
5. Spread the cream cheese mixture over the dough in the bottom of the pan.
6. Unroll the second can of crescent roll dough and lay it on top of the cream cheese mixture without pressing down.
7. Pour or brush the melted margarine on top of the top layer of crescent dough.
8. Combine the remaining 1/4 cup white sugar and the ground cinnamon.
9. Sprinkle the cinnamon sugar over the melted margarine.
10. Bake until the top is crisp and golden, about 25-30 minutes.
11. Let cool for about 5 minutes before serving.



Glazed Apple Bundt Cake



4.9 from 41 reviews

Author: [Sally](#) Prep Time: 30 minutes Cook Time: 1 hour Total Time: 2 hours, 30 minutes

Yield: serves 10-12

Tender and moist homemade apple Bundt cake smothered in a buttery brown sugar glaze. Your new favorite cake for the crisp fall weather.

Ingredients

APPLE BUNDT CAKE

- ✓ 3 cups (375g) **all-purpose flour** (spoon & leveled)
- ✓ 1 teaspoon **baking soda**
- ✓ 3 teaspoons **ground cinnamon**
- ✓ 1/2 teaspoon **ground nutmeg**
- ✓ 1/2 teaspoon **salt**
- ✓ 1 and 1/4 cups (300ml) **vegetable oil**
- ✓ 1/2 cup (120g) **plain yogurt** or **sour cream**, at room temperature
- ✓ 1 and 1/4 cups (250g) packed light or dark **brown sugar**
- ✓ 1/2 cup (100g) **granulated sugar**
- 3 large **eggs**, at room temperature
- 1 Tablespoon **pure vanilla extract** (yes, 1 full Tablespoon)
- 3 cups (360g) peeled and chopped **apples**, about 2–3 large apples

BROWN SUGAR GLAZE

- 1 cup (200g) packed light or dark **brown sugar**
- 1/4 cup (1/2 stick or 57g) **unsalted butter**
- 1/2 cup (120ml) **heavy cream**
- 1/2 cup (60g) **confectioners' sugar**, sifted

Instructions

- 1 Preheat oven to 325°F (163°C). Spray a **10-12 cup Bundt pan** with nonstick spray. Set aside.
- 2 Whisk the flour, baking soda, cinnamon, nutmeg, and salt together in a large bowl until combined. Set aside. In a medium bowl, whisk the oil, yogurt, brown sugar, granulated sugar, eggs, and vanilla together until combined and creamy. Pour the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients and slowly whisk until no large lumps remain. Try to avoid over-mixing. Carefully fold in the apple chunks. If you feel 3 large apples is too much, feel free to cut down to 2 apples. I like a lot of apple chunks in my cake!

- 3 Spoon/pour the thick batter into the prepared bundt pan. Bake for 55–75 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the cake comes out clean. The baking times may vary depending on your oven, if you used a 10 cup bundt pan or 12 cup, or if you used less apple chunks. Keep your eye on the cake after 55 minutes. Feel free to cover the cake loosely with aluminum foil about halfway through to prevent heavy browning on top. Allow the cake to cool in the pan set on a wire rack, then invert onto a serving plate once cooled and ready to serve.
- 4 **Make the glaze:** As the cake cools, prepare the brown sugar glaze. Combine the butter, brown sugar, and heavy cream in a medium saucepan over medium heat. Stir constantly until the butter has melted, and then stop stirring and let the mixture come to a rapid boil. Boil for 1 minute. Turn the heat down to low, give it a quick stir, and let simmer for 1 minute. Remove from heat and whisk in the sifted confectioners' sugar. Allow glaze to cool and slightly thicken for at least 10 minutes. Spoon glaze over the cake right before serving. (Cake can still be warm when glazing.) If your glaze thickened up too much as it cooled, warm in the microwave for 15 seconds and stir until smooth.
- 5 I like this cake warm, at room temperature, and even cold. Cover leftovers and store at room temperature for 3 days or in the refrigerator for up to 5 days. Flavor is outstanding on day 2!

Notes

- 1 **Freezing Instructions:** Cake freezes well up to 3 months. Thaw overnight in the refrigerator and allow to come to room temperature before serving.
- 2 **Special Tools:** Glass Mixing Bowls, Rainbow Whisk, Spatula, Bundt Pan, Cooling Rack, and Saucepan
- 3 **Nuts:** For some texture, add 1 cup of your favorite chopped nuts like pecans or walnuts.
- 4 **Yogurt:** I prefer plain Greek yogurt here, but regular plain yogurt or sour cream works as well.
- 5 **Apples:** Use your favorite variety of apple. I prefer a mix of tart and sweet in my apple dessert recipes. Granny Smith, Honeycrisp, Jonagold, Fuji, etc.
- 6 **Sheet Cake or Cupcakes:** Try my similar recipes for [apple cake](#) or [apple spice cupcakes](#).

Find it online: <https://sallysbakingaddiction.com/glazed-apple-bundt-cake/>



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

Board of Directors 2022-2023

President
Carroll Metzger
910-264-6852

President Elect
Peggy Scott

Past President
Gerty O'Leary

Secretary
Debbie Hogenmiller

Secretary Elect
Ruth Ann Adams

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.

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.

**Treasurer
Laura Elbl**

**Treasurer Elect
Janet Mace**

Board Members

**2021-2023
Pam Cernik
Pat Parsons
Judy Williams**

**2022-2024
Cathy Elliott
Katie Huck
Patty Meyer**

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visit our website.



[Visit our website](#)

Twin City Area Optimist Club | P.O. Box 475, Festus, MO 63028

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