



BY PROVIDING hope and positive vision,
OPTIMISTS bring out the best in youth, our
communities and ourselves!

OPTIMIST CLUB OF WASHINGTON DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

GATHERINGS THIS MONTH

12/04 – 6:00pm evening meeting at Moe’s – Annual Christmas Service Project – Cookie Kits for Loving Hearts Outreach

12/10 – Noon meeting at Moe’s – Amber Raney, Executive Director of Franklin County Foster Closet

12/17 – Noon meeting at Moe’s – December Let Your Optimism Shine recipients

12/24 – No meeting – Merry Christmas Eve!

01/01 – No evening meeting – Happy 2026!

Wednesday Gatherings – Noon at Moe’s Restaurant

1st Thursday of each month Gathering – 6:00pm at Moe’s Restaurant

If you have not already be sure to “like” us on Facebook at **Optimist Club Wash Mo.**

And continue to check out our website.

<http://optimistclubwashmo.wixsite.com/optimistclubwashmo>

[Club Venmo - @WashMO-Optimist](#)

SAVE THE DATE FOR UPCOMING EVENT:

12/06 – Breakfast with Santa & The Grinch

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AND THE GRINCH

Our much fun/anticipated fundrasier of the year is this week. On **Saturday, Dec. 6th** we will welcome Santa, Mrs. Claus and The Grinch to our breakfast. Good food, treats, chance to win a story book, photos with our guests of honor. The sign-up is looking good but we still have some tasks to fill. If your Saturday morning has changed and you can join us and help it would be much appreciated. See you Saturday!

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SERVICE PROJECT

This week at **Thursday evening’s meeting (12/04)** we will do our annual **Christmas Service Project** of making Cookie Kits that are given to families through Loving Hearts Outreach.

Always a fun evening putting these together and it does not take long to do. Hope to see you Thursday evening!

“FESTIVAL OF TREES” IS IN FULL SWING



Thanks to these awesome ladies, **Sheila, Judy and Guin** we have a beautiful tree at this year's Festival of Trees event at St. Peter's UCC. The theme the committee chose was “**Let Your Optimism Shine**” and it features our “stars”...on stars, all the recipients of this honor since we started in 2016. Be sure to stop by any weekend in the month of December prior to Christmas and don't forget to bring those non-perishable items to put under our tree which counts as votes.

But if you cannot get by there we have an option for you – **From the Committee.....**

Optimist members, there are so many people who are not as fortunate as us, who are lacking in food and nutrition daily. Please join the Festival of Trees committee in reaching our goal of donating \$500 in food and cash donations to the local food pantries.

Each week between now and Christmas we will hold a drawing for some spectacular prizes for those people who make cash or food donations.

Thank you so much for supporting this community project!

COLTYN'S PJ PARTY



Through your generosity we presented Coltyn and his mother with **56 pajamas** for him to deliver to St. Louis Children's Hospital. What an inspirational presentation this was on November 6th. Thank you to all donors and **Chris Marquart** for arranging.

LET YOUR OPTIMISM SHINE FOR NOVEMBER –

Meet our November 2025 recipients:



Charlee Quinn from Washington West Elementary. Presenting Charlee her certificate is Peggy Winzenburger

And



Grant Korman from St. Ignatius School. Presenting Grant his certificate is Rita Griesheimer.

EXCEPTIONAL EQUESTRIANS FIELD TRIP

On November 12th the club took a field trip to Exceptional Equestrians and learned all about the program. I myself had to miss it but I heard it was an inspiring presentation. Thanks goes to **Peggy Winzenburger** for arranging this for the club.



HIGH FIVE FRIDAY



It was a rainy but awesome Friday morning and the group above gathered at Washington West and gave High 5s to all the students as they entered the building. You can tell the kids look forward to Fridays and it was such a fun time meeting them all. Thanks for getting up maybe a little earlier than usual that morning. We all walked away feeling uplifted and ready to do it again!

ALUMINUM CAN TABS REMINDER –

To date we have collected \$242.36! Thanks for the support!

Just a friendly reminder about the collection of tabs from drink cans and other pop top cans. As **Chris Marquart** mentioned in an email in July we now have an account set up at **Franklin County Recycling at 6365 Bluff Rd under Optimist Club of Washington**. You can take items from the list and donate the funds to the club's account which will benefit **Ronald McDonald House and the club**. You can also bring the tabs to a weekly meeting and give them to Chris.

CONDOLENCES TO:

Condolences to **Erin Marquart** on the recent passing of her mother. Please keep Erin, Kyle and Erin's extended family in your thought and prayers.

HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAY TO:

Rita Griesheimer	12/11
Sara Hamer	12/28
Paul Redhage	12/25
Dan Yoest	12/04

HAPPY DECEMBER CLUB ANNIVERSARY TO:

Shannon Chrisco	3 yrs
Carol Maune	8 yrs
Judy Smith	3 yrs

2025-2026 Officers & Board Members

<i>Megan Maurer</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Robin Kluesner</i>	<i>Vice President</i>
<i>Judy Smith</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Julie Frankenberg</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Cory Davis</i>	<i>Past President</i>
<i>Chris Marquart(2026)</i>	<i>Board Member</i>
<i>Peggy Winzenburger(2026)</i>	<i>Board Member</i>
<i>Sheila Marquart(2027)</i>	<i>Board Member</i>
<i>Shannon Chrisco(2027)</i>	<i>Board Member</i>
<i>Carol Maune(2028)</i>	<i>Board Member</i>
<i>Judy Straatmann(2028)</i>	<i>Board Member</i>

OPTIMISTIC THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

