



ASHLAND OPTIMIST CLUB

Meeting Saturday Mornings @ 7:30 A.M.
Optimist Drive, Ashland, MO 65010

April 6, 2019

"You cannot do all the good the world needs, but the world needs all the good you can do."

Optimist Board

Janet Popejoy	President
Missy Bonderer	1 st VP
Lena Long	2 nd VP
Bill Lloyd	Past Pres.
Barrett Glascock	Secretary
Eric Barmann	Treasurer
Bruce Glascock	2019
Bernie Bartel	2019
Letitia DenHartog	2019
Robert Blake	2020
Shawn Steelman	2020
Greg Hawkins	2020

COMING UP

**Board Meeting- Apr. 11, 2019
at 7:15 p.m.**

Website: Ashlandoptimist.org

TAKE A MINUTE TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO MADE US STRONG:

Carroll Sapp – 1987
“Buddy” Glascock – 1988
William Burnett – 1992
Remus James – 1994
Ron Marley – 1997
Cecil Vaughn – 2001
Billy Jo Sapp – 2004
Marvin Sappington – 2004
Arcie Sapp – 2005
Kenneth Nichols – 2006
Lahmon Wren – 2007
Joe Smith - 2009
Jimmy Jo Calvin- 2009
Bob Sappington – 2010
Clifford Caldwell-2013
Mel Rupard-2013
Ernest Woods—2013
John Johnson—2013
Michael Dalton--2013
Jim Moore--2016
Carl Long--2016
Don Jones-2017
Clay Austin-2017
Sharon Donley-2017
Ben Nieman- 2017
Nick Kimbler- 2018
Barbara Perry- 2018

Bingo: Apr. 12- Team Two This is an \$1,199 night, so we appreciate any extra help

Breakfast: Apr. 13- Carole Iles, Missy Bonderer, Kristy Savage-Clarke

Program- Services for Independent Living

There will be an Optimist Board Meeting on Thursday, April 11 at 7:15.

Jan Palmer will be having a birthday party on Apr. 13th at 5:00 p.m. It will be held at the Sunrise Optimist building (2410 Parker St) in Columbia. Instead of gifts, donations can be made to the Columbia College Student Veterans Organization in memory of Jan's nephew, Andrew Helmreich or to the Columbia Senior Center.

The Eastern District will be holding their Third Quarter Conference May 4-5 in St. Louis. This will be held in conjunction with the Regional Oratorical Competition. Please let Barrett or Janet know if you are interested in attending.

Safety on Wheels will be held May 18 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the east parking lot for the pool. We always need to help to provide this program for the kids of our area.

Don't forget that the Fishing Derby will be held Saturday, June 15 at the city pond. We will need volunteers for this program also.

Bingo numbers were back up with the beginning of the month and 156 players. They were a hungry crowd and spent over \$750 trying to clear out the kitchen!

This was a special week at our breakfast meeting, with our NOW (New Optimists Welcome) program. Lena produced an incredible breakfast with help from Rick Gowdy, Bryan Chapman, and Jim Green. Many members brought guests and we had three speakers.

We started with Mayor pro tem, Rick Lewis. He taught in the Southern Boone Schools from 1982-2007 and said his greatest Optimist memory is that the Ashland Optimists sponsored the local Special Olympics program for years until the school district felt that they could provide it. Rick also talked about our service as a local storm shelter in case of weather-related emergencies.

He was followed by Chris Felmlee, Southern Boone Superintendent of Schools. Chris started by introducing his breakfast guests, both of whom have been important mentors in his career. He then spoke about the fact that Optimists have been a feeder program for many of the athletic programs, as well as speech with the Essay and Oratorical Scholarship programs.

Barrett Glascock finished out our breakfast presenters, speaking about the history of Optimists and our Ashland Optimists in specific. Optimists was started in Buffalo, New York by a group of businessmen who were trying to help delinquent boys in their area. The program continued to grow and changed their focus to Friend of Youth, which it is currently. In 1919, the first Optimist International Conference was held in Louisville, Kentucky which is where the Centennial celebration will be held June 30-July 3 this year.

Women were admitted beginning in 1987 and Optimist International now includes almost 3,000 Clubs in more than twenty countries. There are so many clubs in Missouri that the state had to be split into two separate districts. We are in the Eastern Missouri District.

Our club started in 1964, but after a fire in our meeting place, we restarted meeting regularly in 1967. The Ashland Optimists started hosting Bingo as a fundraiser in 1986 and it allowed us to build our current building in 1992. We had the building paid off seven years later. The Ashland Optimists sponsor the Community Swimming Pool with some assistance from the city. We provide jobs for local youth as lifeguards, as well as helping with our many sports programs.

Some of the other programs we provide through-out the year include the Halloween Spooktakular which allows for safe indoor trick-or-treating, a Veteran's breakfast in November, Safety on Wheels, a local fishing derby, dictionaries to all third graders, and co-sponsoring the annual rodeo. We also provide numerous scholarships and sponsor Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and attendees to Boys and Girl State.

Membership is \$80 per year, most of which goes to the Optimist International to help their programs fighting cancer and helping to provide funds to other clubs.

When Barrett was finished speaking, some of our guests drew for the Attendance drawing. Jamie Metcalf, John Travelos, and Jim Bowden could have walked away with riches, but the pot will continue to grow!

Letitia DenHartog