



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

**August 14, 2021**

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

**Optimist Board**

Jan Palmer	President
Lisa Barnum	VP
Dana Plunkett	VP
Missy Bonderer	Past Pres.
Barrett Glascock	Secretary
Heather Martin	Treasurer
Bruce Glascock	2021
Bernie Bartel	2021
Ken Bishop	2021
Shawn Steelman	2022
Robert Blake	2022
John Dougan	2022

**COMING UP**

**Board Meeting:**

**September 9, 2021 7:00 p.m.**

**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
- Jacob Zagorac- 2019
- Joy Woods- 2021

**Next week: Breakfast: Aug. 21- Carole Iles, Missy Bonderer, and Kristi Savage-Clarke  
 Speaker- Eric Jennings on steps to pass a Government bill**

Brenda Austin and Bonita Lenger stepped into a trade with their brother while he was out of town for the charitable gaming convention and provided a delicious breakfast of french toast, scrambled eggs, and pastries. Barrett will share the Board report at the next meeting.

Aaron Atkins, with Harvest Solar was our speaker this morning. Aaron shared a lot of information about how solar energy is useful for farms, businesses, and personal homes. It starts with sunlight streaming down onto the solar panels that have been installed as photons, which are converted into DC electricity using photovoltaic modules. The DC electricity is then sent to an inverter which converts it to AC electricity which our businesses, farms, and homes can use to power lights, appliances, and other electronics.

Though there have been some concerns, Aaron made sure we understood that solar energy is highly regulated and cannot exceed 5% of the power provided, but Aaron also let us know that we aren't close to the 5% allowed. One of the upsides of solar energy is that it flattens the peaks and valleys of normal usage which can cause higher costs. In addition, solar systems are exceptionally low maintenance and last a long time. Most come with a 25-year warranty and can be tracked using a program on your computer. Also, there is a 26% tax credit for using solar and farmers have access to additional tax credits through USDA, along with being able to depreciate materials which helps pay back the initial cost. The biggest problem with solar energy is that it requires real estate for the solar panels themselves. If you want more information, you can go to [harvestsolar.com](http://harvestsolar.com).

After Aaron was finished speaking and answering questions, he drew for the Attendance drawing. Cheryl Field could have left with riches, but Shawn Steelman was thrilled to say, "It pays to attend!"

*Letitia DenHartoo*