



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

March 12, 2022

"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 Cafourek	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: 1/13/22 7 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
- Steve Walsh-2021
- Kristi Savage Clarke 2022

**Breakfast: Mar. 19- Glen Sapp, Chris Felmlee, Leigh Kottwitz
 Program- Brenda Austin talking about the Ashland Senior Center**

There will be an Ashland Optimist Board meeting this Thursday, Mar. 17th at the Optimist building. Please let Barrett Glascock know whether you plan to attend.

The Fulton Breakfast Optimist Club will be holding their fish fry on April 15th at the Fulton High School from 11-1 and 4-6. The price for adults is \$12, for kids 6-12 the price is \$6, with all kids younger than that eating for free. It's all you care to eat and supports a local Optimist club.

Brenda Austin, Bonita Lenger, and John Dougan provided a delicious breakfast on a chilly morning.

Our speaker this morning was Dana Cafourek, talking about prison reform. (Any errors are mine exclusively. Dana did a wonderful job of talking about prison reform.) She got involved with the prison system when she was living in Bonne Terre and was invited to hold a Chamber of Commerce meeting at the prison there. She originally declined, but when she was eventually talked into holding the meeting there, she discovered information that was different from the stereotypes she had originally held. She learned about the Puppies for Parole program where inmates work with dogs to socialize them, giving them a better chance at adoption. She also learned that the prison gardens provided fresh food to the local food pantry and that the prisoners hold fundraisers to raise money for local charities.

She moved to the Jefferson City Correctional Center, which includes a maximum-security area, then switched to the Moberly Correctional Center, where she is currently working with the Prison Research and Innovation Network (PRIN). This is a national effort which includes five states: Missouri, Iowa, Colorado, Vermont, and Delaware through a grant from the Urban Institute. The effort is trying to build evidence and spur innovation for a more humane, safe, and rehabilitative environment with a lower recidivism rates and better retention of staff through their five-year effort to promote the well-being of people confined and working behind the bars of our prison system. They are looking at the Nordic system of prisons, which are more lenient, as a best-case model.

The Missouri Department of Correction has twenty-one facilities statewide, which range from maximum, to medium, and minimum security, including two community release centers. The prison system has over 11,000 employees working with more than 30,000 offenders. No weapons are allowed inside the prisons. All inmates that have not received a high school diploma are required and assisted to earn an equivalency. Offenders are also given options to work in the sign shop, professional laundry for hospitals, building trades programs, wood shop, and the textile and clothing area through the Missouri Vocational Enterprises Correctional Enterprises, which has a store in Jefferson City for state workers and retirees.

When Dana was finished answering the many questions that she was asked, she drew for the attendance pot and Bonita Lenger, who helped make breakfast this morning, was thrilled to say, "It pays to attend!"

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