



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

December 21, 2024

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

Optimist Board

Ken Bishop President
Leigh Kottwitz Past President
Tara Blue Vice President
Barrett Glascock Secretary
Heather Martin Treasurer
Bruce Glascock
Shawn Steelman
Robert Blake
Bernie Bartel
Dennis Sapp

COMING UP

Now thru Dec 31 [Bell Ringing](#)
Dec 28 Breakfast meeting -Bern Bonderer re: Our baseball programs

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

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Breakfast: Dec. 28- Bern Bonderer, John Travlos, Robert Blake
Program- Bern Bonderer- Optimist baseball program

The Ashland Optimist Club is offering Adult & Pediatric CPR/AED + First Aid certification classes at the Ashland Optimist Club on January 5th & 12th. (This is a 4-hour course held on one day; two dates of opportunity.) Registration is due Jan. 1 and 5th. These classes are for anyone, aged 15 and above to receive CPR/AED Certification. To find out more and sign up through the Ashland Optimist Club, click on the following

link: <https://form.jotform.com/243375228203048> or go to our website at ashlandoptimist.org.

Bern Bonderer is still looking for bell ringers at Moser's for the Salvation Army. Numbers have been down this year, but you still have time to ring, just please contact Bern first at bern.bonderer@twehous.com first since he needs to report all ringers. You can ring as long or as short as you wish, but please help in this 15th year of Bern coordinating!

There was a low turnout at Bingo on Dec. 20th, with only 109 players, but a number of the games were won by players who are there regularly, including the top prize. We raffled off three hams, and the Martins, a family from Mexico MO who attend almost every Bingo, brought us a Christmas card. The next Bingo will be held on Jan. 3rd.

Carole Iles, Tony Ash, Dorise & Reece Slinker provided our delicious breakfast. We had three visitors, Debbie, Tammy, and Sue, here with our speaker Elmer Schiefer, as well as two family members from North Carolina here with Will Blue, Barbara and Wanda.

Our speaker this morning was our own Rev. Elmer Schiefer, who is 98 years old, from the Family of Christ Lutheran Church here in Ashland. Sunday, Dec. 29th will be his final week preaching and everyone is invited to attend the service, starting at 9:00 a.m., followed by an open house reception.

Elmer shared that when he was born in Michigan, there wasn't electricity in their area, and his family did everything by lamp light until he was 6 years old. The family only spoke German, and he was sent to school to learn English. Pearl Harbor occurred during his freshman year of high school and to keep his 4D status because he planned to be a minister, he had to remain in school or risk being drafted. In 1945, he started attending classes at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, MO. When he graduated in 1950, he was asked where he would prefer to preach and he said in the midlands, but instead was sent to Plumas, Manitoba Canada because he could speak German and the churches there were made up of German speaking immigrants. He served there for a year before deciding that it wasn't what he wanted to do and moving with his wife Berneice and his daughter Sandy to Maplewood, MO where his wife was from. While there, he worked for Western Auto for four years and sold typewriters.


A fellow seminary student convinced him in 1958 to get back into the ministry, where he served at Zion Lutheran Church in Lone Elm, MO until he decided to move back to Michigan to serve at a large church in Hemlock, MI. He retired in 1991. He and Bea lived in a house in Saginaw, MI until her mother passed away in 1993, at which point they decided to move to Columbia, where most of their children lived. In 1998, he was invited to help at the church in Lone Elm again and was there for five years until he retired in 2002. He worked for a beauty supply business until he was asked to come out of retirement in 2007 to lead Family of Christ Lutheran Church here in Ashland. After sharing all of his history, Elmer recited the Christmas story from memory and sang Stille Nachte, the German version of Silent Night before having us join him.

When Elmer had finished, he drew the Attendance drawing. Lisa Finn, Sandy Robinson-Harris, and Chris Palmer had their chance at riches, but with their absence the pot will continue to grow.

There will not be third-sixth grade basketball games at the Middle School this coming Saturday, but will need coverage for Jan. 4th. Starting Jan. 11th- Feb. 15th, there will be games at the middle school and primary buildings, with help needed on Jan. 11th since Madeline will not be available. Here is the link to volunteer: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1w4JWpm71-cqSESc2UmmJ3jaoaHZjbNZpXmc4hEqBJ4w/edit>.

Lunch for the referees and timekeepers will restart January 4-Feb. 15. Lunch should be dropped off at the score table in the middle school gym between 11:00-11:30, if possible. If you are interested, you can sign up at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1-q3SqJ_Sav3PeLgpINzz4h8MAibIT2tttFb4hHZXqY/edit.

Attached to the bottom of the bulletin is an invitation to the KFO Bus Trip to Overland Park, KS with KidsFirst Optimist Club from Columbia.

_Jersey Boys flier (1).pdf

Letitia DenHartog

ashlandoptimist.org