



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

March 15, 2025

**"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**

Mar 21 Bingo  
 Mar 22 Breakfast meeting, Jeff Branch  
 Mar 29 Breakfast meeting- TBA  
 Apr 1 renamed to Mar 32  
 Apr 4 Bingo  
 Apr 5 Breakfast meeting-Jenni Elliott  
 Apr 5 early voting Ashland Library  
 Apr 8 Election Day  
 Apr 10 Board meeting

**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  
 Florence Hahn 2011  
 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

**Ashland Optimist Bulletin The Ides of March  
 2025**

Breakfast: Mar. 22nd- Dana Cafourek, Letitia, and Tabi DenHartog

**Speaker- TBD-NOTE CHANGE: Jeff Branch re: Crystal Branch track meeting**

The Optimists had a busy weekend, between the Board meeting on Thursday night and being an emergency shelter for the folks in Hartsburg who were evacuated due to the fire in their area.

As Barrett reported, this was an expensive Board meeting, with several important but costly decisions made. These included having the entrance to Optimist Drive chipped and sealed for \$3,400, which is a significant improvement and will keep us from adding gravel to that intersection. The Board also approved Cameron Burns to clean out the foliage west of Sappington Field, as he had previously done on the north side, for \$4,000. The Board also approved spreading new gravel at the Pool parking lot for \$1,000. They approved four new members: Chase Thomas, Lane Williams, Justin & Tera Palozola and appointed Ernie Wren as manager of the Optimist Foundation, with the understanding that he will work on grants to help our club.

Our building has been approved as an emergency evacuation shelter for years, but this is the first time it has been called into use when residents near Hartsburg were asked to evacuate their homes because of a nearby fire. Thanks to Barrett and Ernie, who opened the building, as well as the Community Emergency Response Team and Red Cross who assisted the fifty people who needed help and the firefighters who put the fire out without damage to any homes. We even had a person on his way home to Columbia who heard what was going on and donated three cases of water. What wasn't used will be donated to the Southern Boone Fire department.

Ernie, Ken & Jeana Bishop also visited with the Moberly Optimist club, which has fourteen members, to provide them with ideas about new members and member retention.

Our speaker this morning was Brian Canaday, who has been part of the Missouri Department of Conservation for 33 years and has been the station lead for the mandatory testing for chronic wasting disease (CWD) in deer at our building for the past two years. CWD is a 100% fatal, neurological illness that occurs in deer and other cervids. The first case was found in Colorado in 1967, but it has spread to twenty-three states now, including Missouri. It is spread by direct contact with affected animals, but is not known to affect livestock or humans, but there is currently no treatment or vaccines for CWD.

The Dept. of Conservation is trying to control the spread in Missouri by checking deer that are brought in by hunters to mandatory testing stations across the state. They have to test all deer because it can take 18-24 months after a deer is infected before it dies, so even if the deer you get looks healthy, it could already be affected. You can also have your deer processed or turned into a taxidermist and they will test it. Any infected meat has to be disposed of. Otherwise, if you wear gloves, bone out your deer without cutting the spinal cord, bag all of your waste, and don't plan to eat the brain, you should be safe. The Dept. of Conservation does ask that no deer are brought across state lines to limit the spread of CWD. He mentioned that currently Wisconsin has 50% of their deer test positive and Wyoming has 19% test positive, while in Missouri we are less than 1%. We began testing in 1999, with the first wild deer found in 2012. Brian mentioned that the main reason the Dept. of Conservation is focusing on this, besides wanting to keep our deer healthy, is that deer hunting has a \$1.6 billion effect on our economy, between licenses and hunter's spending. Currently, there have been no positive tests in Boone County, but there was one in Callaway County, so their testing will probably continue in our area.

Another part of the Dept. of Conservation's plan is to do Targeted Removal, in conjunction with local landowners, to increase the number of deer harvested and checked. As a landowner, you can even harvest the deer between Jan. 16-March 15 and the Dept. of Conservation will pay to have your deer processed, with the meat going back to you or to Share the Harvest, which is a program that provide venison to low income people in the area, if it tests negative.

When Brian finished his informative and fact-filled presentation, he drew for the Attendance drawing. Megan Morris, Biff Barner, and Lisa Finn had their chance at riches, but with their absence, the pot will have a chance to grow.

*Letitia DenHartog*

[ashlandoptimist.org](http://ashlandoptimist.org)