



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

April 18 2026
"You cannot do all the good the

Optimist Board

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

COMING UP

Apr 23 SBEDC Leaders breakfast
Apr 25 Breakfast meeting TJ Higgins
Apr 25 Masonic Lodge fish fry
Apr 30 Pool Season Pass early bird discounts expire

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
Wes Donley 2025
Louise Martin 2025

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Breakfast: Apr. 25- Carole Iles, Dorise Slinker, Tony Ash
Program- TJ Higgins- Director of Bands for Southern Boone High & Middle Schools

The Southern Boone Economic Development Council 2026 Leaders Breakfast will be held at our building on April 23rd, and we are providing the breakfast! We will be setting up breakfast casseroles on Wednesday at 3:00. We will also need people to help Thursday morning between 6:00-10:00. Contact Danna Wren at danna@missouri.edu if you are interested in helping.

The Masonic Lodge will be hosting a fish fry this Saturday, April 25th, from 11-2. All donations and funds raised will be doubled through the Masonic Home to help pay down our school lunch debt.

The Ashland Optimist Board met on April 16th for a quick meeting. Treasurer, Heather Martin, gave her report which included information that pool pass sales and soccer registrations have been strong this year. (There will be additional information about the pool further down in the bulletin) Board Elections will be held at the breakfast meeting on May 16th, but Ernie Wren is still looking for people interested in helping on the Board. Please contact him if you are interested.

Rich Ward is working on the Bike Rodeo, with a possible date of May 23rd and will have a meeting after next week's breakfast meeting. Tara & Will Blue will be leading the Fishing Derby on June 20th, with support from Mayor Dorise Slinker. Please contact them if you are interested in helping with that.

The Board voted to purchase new sound equipment in advance of the Southern Boone Economic Council Leader breakfast, where Gov. Kehoe will be the speaker. It will include two microphones, allowing greater access to audience members, and will also be an improvement for Bingo. The Board made the decision to switch to Socket fiber, with a lower cost and much faster internet speeds. The Board's final activity was to approve three new members: Jason Hollandsworth, Lyra Noce, and Phil Seyer.

On Friday, we hosted Bingo, with 115 players and some excitement when the tornado sirens went off. There was a lot of rain and wind, but no tornadoes sighted in the vicinity, so the games continued with \$1,770 in event tickets sold. That allowed us to make a positive deposit, even with the low attendance. The new sound system was used and provided better sound. The kitchen was able to deposit an additional \$854. Barrett also shared that the Missouri Grand Assembly of the Rainbow Girls was held in our building recently and they sent a thank you note and \$50 donation.

Joan Seidel was our speaker this morning, sharing about the local Walking School Bus program. This program started in 2013 and walks with students and adult leaders to the Primary and Elementary schools from the Southern Boone Public Library during May, June (for summer school), and September when school restarts with a ratio of at least one adult for every five children. This program allows the children to get exercise while getting positive interaction with other students. Parents can drop their students [off.at](#) the library at 7:20-7:30 a.m or can join us along the route to the schools. There is no cost and parent contact registration is handled on the first day that children join. Parents or grandparents are always welcome to walk as well. If you know of a child that is interested or if you are interested in walking, please contact Joan at jseidelpetralia@gmail.com.

The Optimists' Southern Boone Community Pool pages are up on our website at <http://ashlandoptimist.org/southernboonepool.html> including info and registrations for:

- Swimming Lessons from beginner to advanced (some sessions are already half full!)
- Water Babies for tots under 4 years old
- Pool Parties
- Pool Season Passes (Early Bird prices end on April 30)

Pool Open House is May 22 6:30-8pm - Free and open to the public

Pool Opening Day is Saturday, May 23. Hours are noon to 6pm.

I wanted to give an update those who attended our meeting on April 4th about the Southern Boone Quiz (Scholar) Bowl team. They just became District Champs and will be competing against Hallsville in the semi-finals on April 28th!

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ashlandoptimist.org