

Optimist Board

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COMING UP

Aug 21 Bingo  
Aug 22 Breakfast meeting - Chase Thomas & Lane Williams- Rodeo updates  
Aug 23 6p Doggie Swim Day at the Pool  
Aug 28-29 [Cattlemen Days Rodeo!](#)  
Sep 4 Bingo  
Sep 12 Ashland Fall Fest

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  
Rev. Elmer Schiefer 2026  
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Ashland Optimist Bulletin August 15 2026

**Breakfast Team (Aug. 22): Bernie Bartel, Donna Wobbe, & Rich Ward**  
**Speaker: Chase Thomas & Lane Williams- Rodeo updates**

**The sign up for Rodeo concessions (Aug. 28-29) is posted on the kitchen door in the building or you can email Amanda Crocker at [crockera2000@yahoo.com](mailto:crockera2000@yahoo.com) and sign up to help make popcorn in the morning or with concessions in the evening.**

The Board met on Thursday, Aug. 13th. The school sent a contract regarding use of the building, but there will be additional discussion with the school before a final decision can be made. The Board agreed to purchase up to \$250 worth of supplies for the Ashland Fall Fest on Sep. 12, which will be coordinated by Tara Blue. Brenda Austin is planning an Evening Social on Sunday, Oct. 4th. This will be a catered event, and I will share more information as we get closer. Ernie Wren will coordinate planning for this year's Spooktacular on Saturday, October 31st. We will be coordinating with the Southern Boone Chamber of Commerce and the Ashland Betterment Coalition to hold a holiday carnival in our building on Dec. 12th before the City Parade and tree lighting in the park.

Bern Bonderer and John Travlos provided a fantastic breakfast of ham & cheese or sausage & veggie boats in french bread along with lots of fresh fruit and many of our regular favorites. Jan Palmer was back after an extended time away. Thank you to Bernie Bartel for being her driver. We also had a guest, Kelley Ammons, who just moved here recently from Maine and filled out his membership application this morning.

Our speaker this morning was Gail Dwyer with Emellar Stables, sharing about the sport of show jumping, which she has participated in most of her life. Show jumping originated in Europe from fox hunting. It has continued with three divisions: hunters, jumpers, and equitation. All three involve the rider, the horse, and the course, which is designed by a professional course designer who sets the height and width of jumps as part of the course board. Riders are required to walk the course and memorize it before they actually start riding.

Most of the horses currently used are European warmbloods, which are larger and have stronger bones than the American thoroughbreds that are used in racing. They are also generally calmer, more confident, more athletic, and have a better mindset, which helps when they are loaded into trailers and moved to different arenas. Hunters must have a smooth, even, rhythmic pace and look like they are fun to ride. Meanwhile, the top qualities of jumpers is that they can clear all of the jumps in the time they are allotted. Speed is a definite requirement for jumpers. Equitation is more a judgment of the rider themselves. They may be required to complete up to twenty tests of their skill, plus may be required to switch to a different horse to prove their skills. Riding requires leg strength, balance, and the ability to constantly rethink their plan during the ride.

Gail shared videos of hunter and jumper classes and shared much more information as she answered questions before she drew for the Attendance drawing. Chase Thomas, Felicia Dihel, and Sue Rodgers had their chance at riches, but with their absence, the pot will continue to grow.

*Letitia DenHartog*  
[ashlandoptimist.org](http://ashlandoptimist.org)