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

November 21, 2026
"You cannot do all the good the world needs, but the world needs all the good you can do."

Optimist Board

Ernie Wren President
Ken Bishop Past President
Vice President Dorise Slinker
Vice President Madeline Bloss
Barrett Glascock Secretary
Heather Martin Treasurer
Tony Ash
Tara Blue
Leigh Kottwitz
Dennis Sapp
Shawn Steelman
Chase Thomas

COMING UP

Nov 26 Happy Thanksgiving!
Nov 28 Breakfast meeting speaker TBD
Dec 5 No Breakfast meeting
Dec 5 Santa's Little Helper Boy Scouts sale
Dec 10 Board meeting
Dec. 12- Breakfast meeting Brandon Glascock : MO Realtor of the Year

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
Bern Bonderer 2026

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As we go into this coming Thanksgiving week, Ernie reminds us he will focus on the five Fs of the season: faith, family, friends, fitness, and fun. I hope you all have a holiday filled with things you enjoy and safe travels!

Breakfast (Nov. 28): Carole Iles, Dorise Slinker, and Tony Ash
Speaker: TBD

We will not have breakfast on Dec. 5th because of the Annual Santa's Little Helper Craft Show, in conjunction with Scout Troop 134 that day from 9:00-3:00, so come out to support them and do some Christmas shopping.

We hosted Bingo on Friday, Nov. 20th, with 116 players, several of them new. Thanks to the floor crew, we were able to make a decent deposit, including $842 from the kitchen. Our next Bingo will be on Dec. 4th. it will include a $1,199 game and a $1,000 horse race. Barrett learned that Boonville has closed their Bingo because of lack of volunteers. Rather than us experiencing this, we really need people to volunteer on the floor or in the kitchen. Contact Barrett or me for more information.

Brenda Austin, Bonita Lenger, Carrie & Dustin Bennett provided a wonderful breakfast this morning. Ernie Wren invited us to join Kid's First Optimist club for their meeting on Wed. Dec. 9th at Dickey's BBQ, starting at noon. Ernie also reminded us of the football quarter-final game this evening against MICDS. Southern Boone has won four district championships this year: softball, volleyball, soccer, and football.

Chase Thomas was our speaker this morning, giving a wrap-up of this year's rodeo and a look at next year. The Saddle Club and our Optimist Club will be splitting $103,000 this year ($5,150 each). The rodeo had contestants from 29 states and spectators from 28 states and Germany. The Saddle Club voted to increase their added money for the coming year by 25% to keep them competitive in their effort to draw in contestants. PRCA has announced that added money minimums will be changing by 2030, so the Saddle Club is looking to get ahead of that. Chase shared that the video boards were a massive success. It was a newly incurred expense, but was a worthy return on investment, so they plan to continue with the video boards next year.

The goal for their next rodeo on Aug. 27 & 28, 2027 is to sell out on both nights. They plan to continue the advance ticket sales and assigned seating, since that seems to be working, and have already renewed their contract with Etix. Chase also shared that the Rodeo committee plans to update the bull because some of the vinyl is starting to crack after years. These updates should be completed by Spring. They are also looking for additional volunteers, with priorities on parking (which requires a horse), gate management, committee members, and social media. Please contact Chase if you are interested in any of these areas or have ideas you would like to share. When Chase finished answering all of the questions that were presented, he drew for the Attendance drawing and Charlie Selbach was thrilled (and a little shocked) to finally have his number drawn.

Letitia DenHartog
ashlandoptimist.org