



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

February 24, 2024

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

**Optimist Board**

Leigh Kottwitz President  
 Ken Bishop Vice President  
 Jan Palmer Lt. Gov, Zone 1  
 Dana Cafourek Past President  
 Barrett Glascock Secretary  
 Heather Martin Treasurer  
 Bruce Glascock  
 Shawn Steelman  
 Robert Blake  
 Marsha Lessley  
 Tara Blue  
 Bernie Bartel

**COMING UP**

Feb 29 Lifeguard application deadline  
 Mar 1 Bingo  
 Mar 2 Breakfast Meeting - Heart of the Home Bakery  
 Mar 8 Family of Christ church Fish Fry!  
 Mar 15 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  
 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  
 Johnny Pauley 2023

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**Breakfast: March 2- Dana Cafourek and Letitia DenHartog  
 Program- Heart of the Home Bakery**

**We plan to have Bingo on Friday, March 1st. Since it's the beginning of the month, we need as many people as can help.**

Family of Christ Lutheran Church will hold their drive through fish fry this year on Friday, Mar. 8th, from 4-7. Adult portions are \$15.

Don't forget about the Optimist international Essay and Oratorical Competitions. The theme for the Oratorical contest is "How to Change the World with Optimism" and entries need to be ready in April. If you plan to participate, please contact John Travlos at 573-657-2959. Local scholarships begin at \$200, with the top prize for oratorical at \$22,000. These are open to all middle school and high school students under the age of nineteen.

We enjoyed a delicious breakfast, provided by the Ashland FFA students and advisors. There was an excellent crowd of supporters.

Leigh is still taking orders for the yellow Optimist t-shirts. For short sleeved shirts, Small-X large are \$10, 2XL and larger are \$12. If you prefer a long-sleeved shirt, S-X large are \$15, 2XL and larger are \$18. Please let Leigh know what you would like so she can finalize the order.

Jan Palmer brought us an award and patches for giving \$61.92 per member to the Optimist International Foundation during the 2022-23 year. Barrett will get the patches added to our banner.

Amelia Hawkins, current Ashland FFA President and Area IV Treasurer and Lauren Hammet, Current Ashland FFA vice-President and Area IV Secretary came in and shared information after we finished eating. Both are Seniors, with plans to attend Mizzou next year. Amelia plans to major in Agriculture Science and Lauren plans to major in Biochemistry.

There are currently 183 students in Ashland FFA, from Middle School to High School. They have seventy new members this year and eight contest teams across a variety of areas. Twelve members participated in the Public Speaking Institute, including four Freshmen. Twenty members attended the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis and thirteen members attended Washington Leadership Conference in Washington D.C. this past year.

Amelia's current SAE involves her working at Claysville Store, plus raising and showing broiler chickens (in her garage). Lauren has raised and showed a variety of animals for her SAEs but is currently focusing on goats.

Both girls shared stories of their favorite memories from their years in FFA. Lauren spoke about a trip to Colorado, which was a novelty for many of her fellow students. Amelia shared about going to her first haunted House during one National Convention and the challenge of applying for (and receiving) the Secretary position last year. They also spoke about the past week, which was FFA Week and was filled with activities, including farmers reading to students at the Primary building. The meeting ended with a round of applause for the excellent presentation that we received from these young ladies.

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