



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

December 13 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

Dec 19 Bingo
Dec 20 Breakfast Meeting Gary Moreau
Mobility Worldwide
Dec 27 Breakfast 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
Wes Donley 2025

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**Breakfast: Dec. 20- Barrett Glascock, Shawn Steelman
Program- Gary Moreau- Mobility Worldwide**

We have coverage for our youth basketball program this week and our next games will be part of the upcoming Ashland Jam Tournament on Jan. 3rd. We will need lots of help with this since it will be held in the middle school and high school gyms. Please consider signing up to help by going to the spreadsheet ([linked here](#)) under the Ashland Jam tag.

We will host Bingo on Friday, Dec. 19th. If you usually help on the third week, but will not be available, please let Barrett Glascock or me know so that we can find coverage.

The Optimist Board met on Thursday, Dec. 11th. After a delayed start, the meeting itself went quickly. Heather Martin, treasurer, reported that our club is ahead financially since the rodeo check was deposited in November, but she is sure things will settle by the end of the year. Ernie Wren and Tillie Dowd have been attempting to find someone to help with our 1st-4th grade soccer teams but have not had any luck yet. Kyle Baker suggested that we partner with the local YMCA to get support for the spring program and a motion was made to approve Kyle's idea.

Barrett reported that he and Ernie had distributed dictionaries to all of the Southern Boone 4th grade classes on Dec. 1st, which was deeply appreciated. Barrett also reported that the club would provide sixty-eight hams (up from fifty-four last year) for the Community Teachers Association Christmas baskets. In addition, Barrett shared that in connection with purchasing the television and cart that the Board approved in September, he placed the order for the cart which we need first through Walmart after Heather set us up with a tax-exempt account. After Barrett dealt with several issues, the cart should arrive this week.

Dana Cafourek, Mike Fulca, Tabi DenHartog, and I provided breakfast this morning, with Mike's holiday stollen, pancakes, and fresh fruit. Our speakers this morning were Fran Pope and her daughter, Erica Farnsworth, providing information about Armani's Angels, an 501(c)(3) organization that was started ten years ago to help provide support for emergency vet bills. Jessica Robertson started the group after her dog Armani was clubbed during a home invasion burglary. While Armani was going through treatment for the subsequent brain injury at MU Vet, Jessica came in contact with numerous people who were dealing with the trauma of pets that needed more care than the owners could afford, so she started Armani's Angels to help. It is a 100% volunteer run organization dedicated to raising funds to assist in the emergency treatment of ill or injured pets in Boone and surrounding counties. Armani's Angels has helped 720 pets, at a cost of over \$432,000.

Each person who applies for help through the website is assigned a case manager within 24 hours to help them. The Board speaks with the pet owner and their vet before voting on how much aid they can provide. The owner must be able to provide at least \$50 and apply for Care Credit as a possible option. All payments through Armani's Angels are paid directly to the vet clinic.

Armani's Angels is raising funds through CoMoGives and has a fundraiser called Pour For a Paw coming up on Sat. Feb. 7th at the Wyndham Executive Center, starting at 5:00 p.m. Visit the Donate page on their website (Armanisangels.org) for more information. There are early bird prices for tables through Jan. 6th.

After they finished speaking and sharing stories of pets that were helped, Fran and Erica drew for the Attendance drawing. Missy Bonderer, Amy Robinette, and Ben Travlos had their chance at riches, but with their absence, the pot will continue to grow.

Letitia DenHartog

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