

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

May 16 Bingo
May 17 Breakfast meeting Scholarship recipients
May 23 Pool Open House
May 24 Pool Opens Noon-6 regular hours

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

Ashland Optimist Bulletin May 10 2025
Happy Mother's Day!

Breakfast: May 17- Barrett Glascock, Shawn Steelman
Program- Ashland Optimist scholarship recipients

We will host Bingo on May 16th. If you usually help on Team Three and will not be available, please let Barrett Glascock or me know. If you are interested in helping, please contact the same people. Team Three is still short-handed.

The Optimist Board met on Thursday, May 8th. Financial reports were presented for February, March, and April now that our treasurer, Heather Martin, has survived another tax season. She is recommending that a portion of our funds be moved to CD for better returns. The discussion will continue at the next meeting. We had another year of good returns on our scholarship fund, but rather than rolling all of the interest earned back in, the Board approved keeping \$30,000 for use on capital improvements, such as fixing the parking lot.

The Board also approved a bid from Natsch & Company, Inc. to repair the roof and side panels on the building to help with the leaks that occur whenever it rains at a cost of \$5,685. After ten years of mowing for us, Bullard Mowing has asked for an increase, which was approved. Finally, Gunny Kline, the Commander for the Hartburg American Legion was accepted as a new member. Barrett also shared that the Board voted to not have Bingo on the first Friday in July, since that is the 4th of July and that some of our members helped grill hamburgers and hot dogs for the Teacher Appreciation BBQ lunch that the school hosted last week.

John Travlos and Robert Blake served an incredible breakfast this morning of German pancakes with a variety of fruit toppings, in addition to our regular fare, with Rich Ward leading our speaker, Elisabeth Sobczak, through the line.

Elisabeth is currently the Chair of the Ashland Park Board, which meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in City Hall at 6:00 p.m. She has been a member of the Park Board since 2017. Elisabeth shared that the board is made up of newer members, with lots of fresh ideas. She talked about the fact that currently the biggest issues that they are dealing with involve the pond and repeated vandalism. The pond has become an issue because of the repeated need for new pumps. After installing metal toilets and urinals, vandals are now destroying the sinks. The Park Board has talked about installing cameras, but the city doesn't have the infrastructure for that at this time.

Drury University came to town twice to look at concepts for park updates and with help from Planning Design Studio, a professional park improvement group, three concepts were provided for public consideration in February. Local residents had been allowed to give input for several months last year, including a community Survey in October and input during last year's Fall Fest. Of the three options, the third one was eventually selected. There was an excellent article in the Boone County Journal (bocojo.com, search City Park) on April 11th with more details. Part of the changes will be the removal of the city pond which would allow more space for new playground and pavilion space, plus a splash pad. The tennis courts would be moved closer to the other ball fields. If you have any questions or comments, please attend the Park Board meetings, which are open to the public.

The Park Board has purchased the lake across the highway, out past O'Reilly, for future development but they want to update the main park first. Their money comes from a .5% tax for the park and stormwater, approved in 2019. They are currently looking at grants and possible donations from businesses or individuals. The Park Board plans to have movies in the park, starting in June, and the next Fall Fest is scheduled for September 13th.

When Elisabeth finished her presentation and answered the multitude of questions that Optimists had for her, she drew for the Attendance drawing, with Charlie Selbach's number drawn first. Charlie finally had the opportunity to whoop, "It pays to attend!"

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