



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

October 25 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

Oct 31 Halloween Spooktacular
Oct 31 Fulton Optimist fish fry
Nov 1. No breakfast meeting
Nov 8 Breakfast meeting
Nov 11 Veterans Day Breakfast for vets & families. All are welcome. Free for vets.

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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There will not be a breakfast meeting on Nov. 1st since the building is rented. The next meeting will be Nov. 8th.

Our club will be hosting the Spooktacular Trunk-or-Treat at our building again this year on Oct. 31st from 5:00-7:00. Contact Ernie Wren (erniewren@gmail.com) or by text at 573-239-1105 if you are interested in helping or if you know of anyone who wants to set up a trunk-or-treat for the kids. As usual, there will be a photographer from the Journal to take pictures. There will be prizes for the scariest, funniest, and most topical trunks. Anyone who comes in costume will be entered for a Jaylon Watson signed Kansas City Chiefs mini-helmet and a free month's membership at the YMCA.

Leigh Kottwitz (leighkottwitz@gmail.com) is taking orders for Optimist t-shirts. The shirts will be gold with dark navy print, similar to what has been ordered in the past. The cost is \$15 for short sleeved shirts and \$20 for long sleeved shirts. Please pay the club through Leigh and the club will pay the vendor, Agape Printing, which is a local business.

We will be hosting our annual Veteran's Breakfast on Tues. Nov. 11th from 7:00-9:00 a.m. We will need people to help cook but will have FFA students serving the veterans again this year. Please contact Leigh Kottwitz to help. Cooks need to arrive at 5:45, with servers arriving by 6:45. Leigh is also looking for help with set up and decorating on Nov. 10th at 5:30 p.m.

We enjoyed a delicious breakfast this morning from Bonita Lenger, Bev Steelman, Judy Dooley, and Bruce Glascock, including pumpkin bread and pumpkin muffins with cream cheese spread.

Madeline Bloss was gracious enough to provide our invocation, as well as sharing information about our youth basketball program, which she is coordinating for her fourth year. Our club provides games for students in 1st-6th grades and hosted 139 games last year over eleven weeks, for 243 players on 29 teams.

Our 5th and 6th grade teams have already started practicing, with games starting Nov. 15th and continuing through Dec. 20th. We have 75 players this year, split into eight teams (5th grade boys and girls/ 6th grade boys and girls). Games on this level are coordinated through MMYBA, which is spearheaded through Harrisburg and allows our students to compete against other schools.

This year we are hosting our own tournament on Jan. 3rd, 2026, titled the Ashland Jam for 5th & 6th grade players with MSHSAA officials in the middle school and high school gyms. Since the tournament will run from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. to allow for eight games, we will need lots of volunteers! Please email Madeline at AshlandOptimistBasketball@gmail.com if you can help. Justine Rogers' travel club will be providing concessions for all regular season games, as well as for the tournament, but Madeline is still hoping to have members sign up to provide lunch for referees and officials (four-six people each week).

Registration for 1st-4th grade teams continues through Nov. 15th. Games for their teams will run from Jan. 10th- Feb. 21st (with Feb. 28th available as a makeup date). The younger teams will play 3v3 1/2 court games at the Primary gym, with the 3rd & 4th grade teams participating in standard 5v5 intra-league play at the middle school gym. For more information, go to our website at ashlandoptimist.org.

When Madeline finished her presentation and answered all the questions that members had, she drew for the Attendance drawing. Lester Gilpin, Carrie Fischer-Bennet, and Mike Howard had their chance at riches, but with their absence, the pot will continue to grow.

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ashlandoptimist.org