



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

April 13 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

Apr 19 Bingo  
Apr 20 Keshia Suncan BBB  
Apr 21 T-ball Coach pitch sign-up  
deadline  
May 6 Pink Out Soccer Game

### 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

### Ashland Optimist Bulletin April 13, 2024

**Breakfast: Apr. 20- Mike Fulca, Dana Cafourek, Letitia DenHartog  
Program- Khesha Duncan- Better Business Bureau**

**We will have Bingo on Friday, Apr. 19th. It will be a \$1,199 night and Brenda Austin will be out of town, so if we could have some additional desserts, it would be helpful.**

There was an Optimist Board meeting on Thursday, Apr. 11th, but they did not have a quorum. There was still quite a bit of conversation, since Kyle Baker showed up to check on our plans for his retirement from our soccer program. He has spoken with the YMCA, but if anyone knows of someone who might be interested in taking soccer on, Kyle is willing to work with them. We just need a decision before the fall season starts June 1st.

They also talked about plans for the Southern Boone Community Leader Breakfast on April 18th at 7:15. Our club will be providing food for this event. Anyone who is interested in helping can come Wed. April 17th at 5:30 to set up casseroles, which Bernie Bartel will stick in the oven on Thursday morning. Many hands make light work!

Barrett also shared the checks that we received from the Moser's golf tournament and the interest from our investment to Optimist International which were covered in last week's bulletin. The Board then worked on the plans for our 60th Anniversary celebration, which at this point is planned for a sit-down dinner on Sunday, Sept. 22nd. Watch for more details as we get closer to time.

Our speaker this morning was Steve Pankey with Ranken Technical College. Ranken was started in 1907 in St. Louis as the first technical college in the state (third in the United States) by David Ranken to provide more training in the trades. Ranken currently has five locations providing thirty-seven programs. Our campus currently provides Industrial Maintenance Technology, Fabrication & Welding, Carpentry & Building Construction Technology, and Information Technology and started classes in January of 2024.

All of the programs accept A+ accreditation and many have day and evening programs. Internships allow most programs to have 75-80% hands-on learning and allow 98% placement at the end of their coursework. The Carpentry & Building Construction Technology program learns how to build from Blueprints to finishing and actually builds a tiny house. The first tiny house will stay on campus as a showpiece, but future ones will be donated or sold. The Industrial Maintenance Technology program moves students into a paid internship after four weeks and allows students to finish with an associate degree or certificate of technology.

The Fabrication & Welding coursework earns students their American Welding Society Credentials in as little as a year (in day classes) working with trained industry professionals. When students finish an I.T. degree, instead of earning certification, they walk away with a portfolio of their skills, which allows them to find a job quickly. If you have more questions, contact Steve at [swpankey@ranken.edu](mailto:swpankey@ranken.edu) or go to Ranken's website at [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu).

When Steve finished answering the many questions that he was asked, he drew for the Attendance Drawing. Jody Frank and Tara Blue had their chance at riches, but Bryan Chapman was thrilled to shout, "It pays to attend!" when his number was drawn.

Our club also sponsored the Zone level Oratorical Contest this afternoon at our building, with three area competitors, two of whom will advance to the District Competition on May 4th in Washington, Missouri.

*Letitia DenHartog*

[ashlandoptimist.org](http://ashlandoptimist.org)