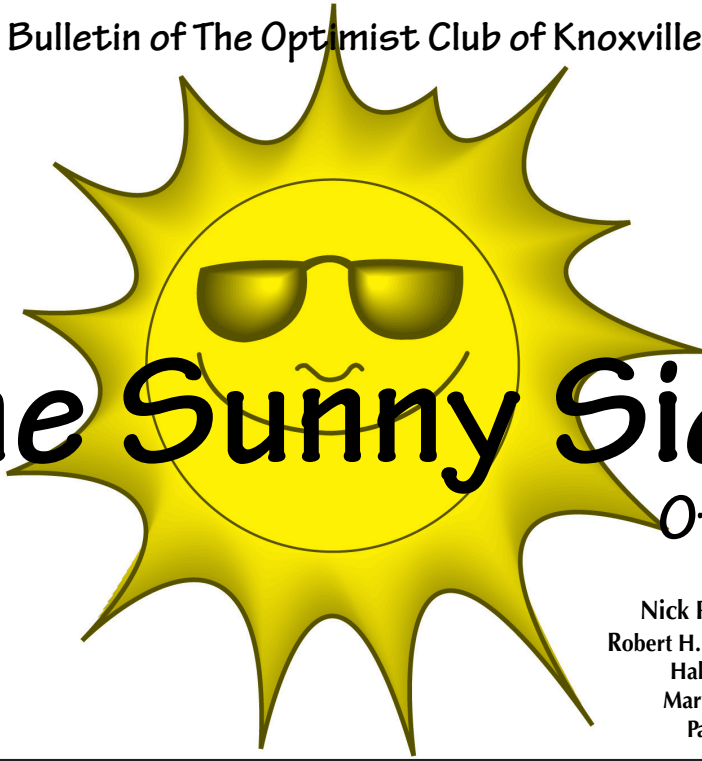


A Look At

"The Sunny Side" Of Everything



Nick Prillaman, Jr. - OI President
Robert H. Leonard - OI Past President 1967
Hal Sewell - OI Vice President
Mary Still - GATEway Governor
Paul Nichols - Lt. Governor

Club Chartered 21 December 1920

Volume 98, Number 15

"Kids grow up with or without Optimism . . . The Choice is Yours."[®]

February 20, 2018



NANCY WELCH
CAC OFFICE ON
AGING

LAST WEEK

FRIDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2018

We welcomed UT Gardens Education Director DERRICK STOWELL last Friday. The UT Gardens, Knoxville began offering therapeutic horticulture programming in 2012. Since that time, they have served over 2,700 individuals who have disabilities or health issues living in the East Tennessee area.

Their therapeutic horticulture programming relies on grants, donations and class fees to continue the life-changing programs they offer the community. Programs are directed by DERRICK, a registered horticultural therapist (HTR). They have the ability to create custom programs to meet the goals and objectives of the client population. They also offer a variety of services from 1-hour therapeutic programs to consulting and therapeutic garden design. Programs are offered at the UT Gardens or at your facility.



Here is your opportunity to enjoy the companionship of fellow Optimists and their guests in a social setting. Be one of the first to check out this newest eatery offering from owner MIKE CHASE.

FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2018

CAC's Volunteer Assisted Transportation program is a nonprofit, Volunteer-driven program dedicated to providing accessible and affordable transportation services to Knox County seniors and people with disabilities who require aid and assistance to travel safely. Volunteers utilize agency-owned hybrid sedans and wheelchair accessible mini-vans while accompanying seniors to appointments, shopping, and other errands. We welcome NANCY WELCH from CAC's Office On Aging for an update on this program. BETH O'BRIEN serves as Chairman of the Day. JOHN TEMPLE offers the Invocation and leads the pledge to the flag.

SATURDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2018

11:30am – 1:30pm Consider joining us as we volunteer at FISH Hospitality Food Pantry located at 122 West Scott Avenue (Pantry/Food Warehouse) starting at 11:30 am. Please wear your Optimist attire and a cheerful countenance. Let's live The Optimist Creed! DAN McGEHEE is coordinating this effort. He says there will be free parking for volunteers at the Kenny Pipe Company directly across the street from the FISH location. Please come to the back door of the facility that has a large garage door where food is delivered.

NEXT WEEK

FRIDAY 2 MARCH 2018

MANDIE BEELER, Program Director, Random Acts of Flowers (RAF) is a native of Seymour, Tennessee, where she developed a love for serving others and being engaged in her community. After graduating from Middle Tennessee State University with a Bachelor's degree in Organizational Communication, she earned her Masters of Education from the University of South Carolina.

SATURDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2018

The GATEway District of Optimist International convened the second quarter conference at the Marriott Chattanooga Downtown this past weekend. Our club was recognized as a Honor Club in Optimist International for our service to community youth under the leadership of President KATHRYN McCULLOUGH, Secretary DAVID LaFRATTA and Treasurer DAVID HARTER during the recently completed 2016-2017 Optimist Year. President BETH O'BRIEN led a delegation of our club including the honorees (above) and DONNA BUSWELL, NANCY HARTER, ESSIE JOHNSON, BRENDA & SAVANNAH STATON and TOM ZURAF.

THIS WEEK

THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2018

JOHN TEMPLE says the new Chesapeake's, 9630 Parkside Drive in West Knoxville is the site of our next social Thursday 22 February 2018 beginning at 5:30pm.



Officers 2017-2018

President Beth O'Brien
President-Elect Chris Cox
Vice President John Kerrigan
Vice President Brenda Staton
Secretary Tom Zuraf
Treasurer David Harter
Sergeant-At-Arms Jim Black
Past President Kathryn McCullough
Director Jim Adcock 2018
Director Melanie Hogg 2018
Director Joe Peterson 2018
Director Vee Panagakos 2019
Director Ben Goodson 2019
Director Darrin Rhines 2019

Henry Naff Trustees

Annie LaLonde 2018 • John Temple 2018
Michael Cermak 2019 • Al Stigall 2020 • John
Mays 2020

COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2017-2018

American Hero of the Year Michele Cox &
Steve Fowler
Angel Tree Sharon Pound
Bulletin Editors Buzz & Donna Buswell
Camp Eagle's Nest Allen Collier
Chaplain Wayne Mulkey
Cheese Sales Gwin Harshaw & Glen Weber
Christmas Dinner and Haslam Center Party
for Boys & Girls Club Lisa Huber
Dessert Auction Jim Adcock & Brenda Staton
Dorothy Weber "YES" Award Jim Adcock &
Annie LaLonde
Election Chris Cox & Beth O'Brien
Essay Contest (OI) Mac Prevost & Beth O'Brien
Finance Committee Michael Cermak
Football Time in TN Michael Cermak &
Matt Armstrong
Fountain City Christmas Parade Bill Gentry
Fundraising David LaFratta & Don Lindsey
Induction Dan McGehee
Interclub Visitation David Harter
Johnny Mauer Day Bruce Duncan & Britt Bowden
Membership Dave Harter & Wayne Mulkey
OI Foundation Essie Johnson
Oratorical Contest (OI) Erin Favier &
Vee Panagakos
Professional Development Program Annie LaLonde
Photographer Bob Freeman, Glen Weber,
Beth O'Brien
Programs Helen Hewitt,
Don Lindsay, Sharon Pound
Public Relations - Marketing Tom Zuraf &
Don Lindsey
Respect For Law Day Bob Gibson
Shoney's Kidcare ID Annie LaLonde
Social John Temple
TLC Erin Favier
Tri-Star Sports(OI) Frank Leuthold & John Kerrigan
Website Administrator Kathryn McCullough



2017-18

DIME A DAY
JIM ADCOCK
CHRIS ALBRECHT
RALPH ALEXANDER
JIM BLACK
JASEN BRADLEY
BUZZ BUSWELL
DONNA BUSWELL
ALLEN COLLIER
ERIN FAVIER
BOB FREEMAN
GWIN HARSHAW
DAVID HARTER
NANCY HARTER
ESSIE JOHNSON
JOHN KERRIGAN
MARIE LEONARD
PATRICK LEONARD
FRANK LEUTHOLD
DENNIS MCBRIDE
CAROLYN MONDAY
BETH O'BRIEN
SHARON POUND
WILLIAM PRUITT
H.W. RIMMER, JR
JONIDA ROBINSON
BRENDA STATON
SAVANNAH STATON
AL STIGALL
GLEN WEBER
JACQUELINE ZURAF
THOMAS ZURAF

\$100.00 CLUB
RALPH ALEXANDER
ALLEN COLLIER
BOB FREEMAN
GWIN HARSHAW
ESSIE JOHNSON
DENNIS MCBRIDE
BETH O'BRIEN
JONIDA ROBINSON
GLEN WEBER

\$250 PRESIDENT'S CLUB
ALLEN COLLIER
GWIN HARSHAW
ESSIE JOHNSON
DENNIS MCBRIDE
BETH O'BRIEN
JONIDA ROBINSON

**CHRISTIAN D. LARSON
PARTNERS**
110. BUZZ BUSWELL
142. PAUL H. HARBIN
167. DONNA J. BUSWELL
170. BOB LEONARD
197. ESSIE JOHNSON
291. DAVID C. HARTER
376. MIKE RAGSDALE
383. HARRY D. BRYAN
462. MELINDA BASLER
490. WILLIAM "EARL" WHITE
506. ALLEN COLLIER
528. JONIDA ROBINSON
558. MARIE LEONARD
605. JOHN W. MONTGOMERY
628. ESTEL HAMILTON

Contact ESSIE JOHNSON
to make your donation for
the 2017-18 year

LET'S
FILL THIS
COLUMN!

SPONSOR A NEW OPTIMIST 2017-18

SHELBY VIGNES sponsored by KATHRYN MCCULLOUGH
KELLY PRATT sponsored by SHARON POUND
TIFFANY SHERRILL sponsored by HELEN HEWITT
CHRIS ALBRECHT sponsored by BUZZ BUSWELL
DELORES MABINS sponsored by CHRIS COX
SHERI LEONARD sponsored by PATRICK LEONARD

MANDIE first learned of Random Acts of Flowers when her grandfather was a recipient in 2013. She joined the RAF Knoxville team as the Program Director in April 2017 after a 10 year career in higher education, most recently serving for several years as Associate Dean of Students and Director of Servant Leadership at Tennessee Wesleyan, where she directed a variety of aspects of Student Life including community engagement and civic responsibility. In that role, she established ongoing community partnerships for service-learning designated coursework and developed and implemented opportunities for students to serve in their communities. She was also responsible for selecting and training AmeriCorps VISTA members for a variety of programs, such as the Love Thy Neighbor Project food bank, CASA Corridor of East TN, the YMCA's after school and summer feeding program, and the United Way of McMinn and Meigs Counties Ready to Read program.

MANDIE is currently completing her doctorate in Learning and Leadership at the University of Tennessee – Chattanooga. Her dissertation research examines the role of required volunteerism programs, like the Tennessee Promise, on students' perceptions of civic responsibility.

She lives in Farragut with her husband, PATRICK, and their daughter, EASTON KATE. She has a passion for engaging others in service and believes that we all have a responsibility to improve the quality of life for everyone in our community. JOHN TEMPLE offers the Invocation and leads the pledge to the flag.

PLAN AHEAD

WEDNESDAY 11 APRIL 2018

FLIGHT #26 HonorAir Knoxville. Veterans on this flight return to McGEE TYSON airport to be greeted by members of our community. Plan to join the festivities by 7:00pm. Parking for reception volunteers is free.

ESSAY CONTEST

Essay Chairman MAC PREVOST reports that this year's contestants prepared their entries on the 2018 topic issued by Optimist International: "Can Society Function Without Respect?" Our club winner will be submitted to the GATEway District Chairman where it will be judged with entries from other clubs in the District. MAC will report results as soon as he has them.

ORATORICAL CONTEST 2018

"Where Are My Roots of Optimism?" is the topic assigned by Optimist International.

President BETH O'BRIEN and our Club Oratorical Contest Chairman ERIN FAVIER share the following Opportunities for Involvement (OI).

There are three preliminary contests – so called school events: Monday, March 5th 4:00pm at Sacred Heart Academy; Tuesday, March 6th 4:00pm at The Webb School and Thursday, March 8th 4:00pm Home School students at First Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Our Club Contest will take place at our regular Friday meeting March 23rd at 12 noon.

Winners from our club will join winners from other clubs in East Tennessee for the GATEway District, Optimist International Region D Oratorical Contest to be conducted at Sherrill Hills Resort Retirement Community, 271 Moss Grove Blvd, Knoxville, TN 37922 on Saturday 31 March 2018 beginning at 10:00 am.

Region winners will gather at GATEway District, Optimist International Oratorical Contest on Saturday 28 April 2018 at the Courtyard by Marriott Rome, 300 West 3rd Street, Rome Georgia. You are invited to attend any or all of these oratorical contest events.

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PICS

Last Friday DAN McGEHEE installed new member SHERI LEONARD as her sponsor and husband PATRICK and her mother-in-law MARIE looked on. This is truly an Optimist family. PAT is one of our third generation members – his grandfather ROBERT H. LEONARD, SR. and father, International Past President BOB LEONARD, were both Presidents of our club as was PAT. Please extend the right hand of fellowship and welcome SHERI.



Awards for the recently completed 2016-2017 Optimist Year were presented in Chattanooga this past weekend. Treasurer DAVID HARTER, President KATHRYN McCULLOUGH and Secretary DAVID LaFRATTA were congratulated by Immediate Past Governor of the GATEway District RUDY CORN for leading our club to Honor Club status. Congratulations to this leadership team. We appreciate their dedication to our mission statement and our club.



President BETH interacted with many of her fellow Optimists during the GATEway District meeting over the weekend. Ask her to tell you the interesting story embodied in this photo!

President BETH presented a copy of The Optimist Creed (and an application for membership) to DERRICK STOWELL, our speaker last Friday introduced by VEE PANAGAKOS the Chairman of the Day.



Zone 13 Lt. Governor PAUL NICHOLS notified President BETH that our Essay Contest Club winner was selected as the winning essay in the Zone 13 contest. That essay has been forwarded to the District. Club Chairman MAC PREVOST was pleased to hear the news.

CHRIS COX did not get the memo and failed to follow the lead of the rest of the gentlemen at his table last Friday. Yes, they all wore blue checked shirts – except CHRIS. **This coming Friday the memo says “wear orange”.** Wonder if CHRIS will get this memo? Better yet, who won't?

BRENDA STSTON we are “Off To The Races” at Keeneland in Lexington, Kentucky on Sunday 22 April 2018. For \$99 you receive admission to Keeneland, travel via luxurious Gentry coach, snacks, wine, beer and great fellowship. Bus leaves Land Oak offices in West Knoxville at 8:30am and returns to the same location 9:00-10:00pm the same day. Contact DAN GREEN (865) 567-2420 or dan@dangreenrealtor.com



DAN McGEHEE is coordinating as we volunteer Saturday 24 February at FISH Hospitality Food Pantry located at 122 West Scott Avenue (Pantry/Food Warehouse) from 11:30am – 1:30pm. DAN says there will be free parking for volunteers at the Kenny Pipe Company directly across the street from the FISH location.

DAN also announced our New Member Orientation set for Tuesday evening 6 March 2018 at 7:30pm at the home of President BETH and Secretary TOM ZURAF, 1120 Long Branch Drive, Knoxville, TN 37922.



The Optimist Creed

PROMISE YOURSELF . . .
TO be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

TO talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

TO make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

TO look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.

TO think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.

TO be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

TO forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

TO wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

TO give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

TO be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

Christian D. Larson



Optimist Mission Statement

By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities and ourselves.