

A Look At

# "The Sunny Side" Of Everything

Rebecca Butler Mona- OI President  
Robert H. Leonard - OI Past President 1967  
Gwen Gable - GATEway Governor  
Beth O'Brien- Lt. Governor

Club Chartered 21 December 1920

Volume 99, Number 24

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

June 4, 2019



DISTRICT  
GOVERNOR  
GWEN GABLE

## LAST MEETING

FRIDAY 31 MAY 2019

Last week, ALYSON GALLAHER, Executive Director of Volunteer East Tennessee joined us for lunch at The Foundry. Their mission, she told us is to inspire service by equipping organizations and mobilizing volunteers to connect with one another and strengthen communities.

In 2014, Volunteer Knoxville was gifted to the community by Leadership Knoxville on their 30 anniversary. In 2016, Volunteer Knoxville became Volunteer East Tennessee to serve a regional footprint. Today they are the region's volunteer center connecting nonprofits and volunteers.

## THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 7 JUNE 2019

GATEway District Governor GWEN GABLE joins us this Friday. Please come to lunch and meet GWEN. She has done a great job leading the diverse Optimist Club making up the District. GWEN will bring us up to date on activities in the District and show us ways we can make our service even more impactful. During her visit she will also invite you to join the SUPER ZONE MEETING (see details below).

SATURDAY 8 JUNE 2019

GATEway District Optimists - SUPER ZONE MEETING  
The GATEway District Comes to You!

Here's your opportunity to network with other nearby Optimist Clubs Participate in round-table discussions and activities.Improvement (PGI) Program.

AREA D Zones 11, 12, 13, & 14

Saturday, June 8, 2019

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Allen Memorial United Methodist Church

800 Decatur Pike

Athens, TN 37303

\$20 Registration includes lunch and snacks.



## NEXT WEEK

TUESDAY 11 JUNE 2019

Friends and their families are invited to a Duck Race themed retirement reception hosted by PAM and STEVEN BROOKS Tuesday 11 June 2019 from 4:00PM – 7:00PM (drop in anytime) at Shannon Valley Farms Clubhouse, 4900 Horstall Drive, Knoxville, TN 37918. Duck apparel encouraged but not required. Drop in and congratulate fellow Optimist ERNIE and his 41 1/2 years of serving our community – young and old alike.

FRIDAY 14 JUNE 2019

CHARLOTTE TOLLEY, Executive Director of Nourish Knoxville joins us for lunch and provides us a look at her organization. Nourish Knoxville was incorporated in 2013 in order to expand upon the local food work started through the Market Square Farmers' Market, its vendors, staff, and other projects. The Market Square Farmers' Market was started on Market Square in 2004 and grew to be one of the top producer-only farmers' markets in the country. As the market grew, it became apparent that there was no non-profit working on food issues in the Knoxville area. Market director CHARLOTTE TOLLEY convened a group of local-food loving people to become the first board of directors, and they created Nourish Knoxville to take on projects in the Knoxville food shed beyond the farmers' markets.

## PLAN AHEAD

FRIDAY 21 JUNE 2019

Freshwaters Illustrated by President CHRIS COX

On Friday, June 21, 2019 you are invited to attend one or more of the following special programs featuring the recently released, Freshwater Illustrated, "Hidden Rivers" of Southern Appalachia film.

Please join us for lunch, as my guest, at the Optimist Club of Knoxville, 11:30 a.m. at the Knoxville, World's Fair Park Foundry, for a very special presentation about the making of the film, the significance of the biodiversity

**Officers 2018-2019**

President ..... Chris Cox  
 President-Elect..... Ben Goodson  
 Vice President ..... John Kerrigan  
 Vice President ..... Darrin Rhines  
 Secretary ..... Vee Panagakos  
 Treasurer ..... David Harter  
 Sergeant-At-Arms..... Buzz Buswell, Chris Albrecht  
 Past President ..... Beth O'Brien  
 Director ..... Bradley Pruitt '20 2 Yr Term  
 Director ..... Kelly Pratt '20 2 Yr Term  
 Director..... Melanie Hogg '20 2 Yr Term  
 Director.....Chris Albrecht '19 1 Yr Term  
 Director..... Jim Adcock '19 1 Yr Term  
 Director.....Tom Zuraf '19 1 Yr Term

**Henry Naff Trustees**

Michael Cermak 2019 • Al Stigall 2020 •  
 John Mays 2020  
 Annie LaLonde 2021 • John Temple 2021

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2018-2019**

Adopt-a-Mile.....  
 American Hero of the Year..... Michele Cox &  
 Steve Fowler  
 Angel Tree ..... Sharon Pound  
 Bulletin Editors ..... Buzz & Donna Buswell  
 Camp Eagle's Nest..... Allen Collier & Dan Green  
 Chaplain..... Jim Adcock  
 Cheese Sales..... Gwin Harshaw & Glen Weber  
 Childhood Cancer ..... Chris Albrecht, Kelly Pratt  
 Christmas Dinner and Haslam Center Party  
 for Boys & Girls Club..... Lisa Huber  
 Community Yard Sale..... Darrin Rhines &  
 Vee Panagakos  
 Dessert Auction ..... Jim Adcock & Brenda Staton  
 Dorothy Weber "YES" Award..... Jim Adcock &  
 Annie LaLonde  
 Election ..... Ben Goodson  
 Essay Contest (OI)..... Mac Prevost & Beth O'Brien  
 Finance Committee ..... Michael Cermak  
 FISH ..... Bradley Pruitt  
 Football Time in TN .....  
 Fountain City Christmas Parade..... Bill Gentry  
 Freaky Friday .....  
 Fundraising..... David LaFratta & Don Lindsey  
 Induction..... Dan McGehee  
 Interclub Visitation..... David Harter  
 Johnny Mauer Day... Bruce Duncan & Britt Bowden  
 Lawn Mower Safety Clinic.....  
 Membership ..... Dave Harter & Wayne Mulkey  
 OI Foundation ..... Essie Johnson  
 Oratorical Contest (OI) ..... Erin Favier  
 Professional Development Program .. Annie LaLonde  
 Photographer..... Bob Freeman  
 Programs ..... Helen Hewitt,  
 Don Lindsey, Sharon Pound  
 Public Relations ..... 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  
 Youth Appreciation Week (OI) ..... John Meade

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**2018-19**

**DIME A DAY**

CAROLYN BLIND  
 DON BLIND  
 BUZZ BUSWELL  
 DONNA BUSWELL  
 ALLEN COLLIER  
 CHRIS COX  
 DAN GREEN  
 BOB FREEMAN  
 BEN GOODSON  
 CINDY HAGAN  
 DAVID HARTER  
 NANCY HARTER  
 ESSIE JOHNSON  
 FRANK LEUTHOLD  
 DENNIS MCBRIDE  
 PAUL NICHOLS  
 BETH O'BRIEN  
 JONIDA ROBINSON  
 BRENDA STATON  
 JOHN TEMPLE  
 GLEN WEBER  
 JACQUELINE ZURAF  
 TOM ZURAF

**\$100.00 CLUB**

ALLEN COLLIER  
 CHRIS COX  
 BOB FREEMAN  
 BEN GOODSON  
 CINDY HAGAN  
 ESSIE JOHNSON  
 DENNIS MCBRIDE  
 BETH O'BRIEN  
 JONIDA ROBINSON  
 GLEN WEBER

**\$250 PRESIDENT'S CLUB**

ALLEN COLLIER  
 CHRIS COX  
 BEN GOODSON  
 CINDY HAGAN  
 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  
 704. BETH O'BRIEN  
 710. CHRIS COX  
 714. CINDY HAGAN

Contact ESSIE JOHNSON to make your donation for the 2018-19 year

**SPONSOR A NEW OPTIMIST 2018-19**

DAVID SCATES sponsored by MICHELE COX  
 CHIP FLEEMAN sponsored by DAN MCGEHEE  
 JOYCE TAYLOR sponsored by BUZZ BUSWELL

of Southern Appalachia, how you can enjoy this remarkable experience firsthand and how we can all help educate future generations about this national treasure. During lunch, our presenter, CASPER COX will share his twenty years of snorkeling experience; enjoying, learning and educating thousands of children while snorkeling the clear streams of East Tennessee and beyond.

We will adjourn promptly at 1:00 p.m. and reconvene in a different room at 1:15 p.m. to present "Hidden Rivers" of Southern Appalachia. After the presentation, we will have time to share more information and take questions about "Hidden Rivers" and how you can be involved. While there is no admission fee, we will ask for your support to help Freshwater Illustrated, continue their work in helping educate our region. Freshwater Illustrated is a non-profit 501(C)3. The movie is only an hour long.

Later that evening, join us at our home, CHRIS and VEE'S, 615 Sunrise Trl, Seymour, TN 37865 for a casual cookout starting at 6:00 p.m.

PLEASE RSVP your plans to attend: lunch, movie and/or the cookout, letting me know which one or more events you plan to attend, by emailing me at ccox65@utk.edu. Please include the name of any guest you plan to bring with you.

**Hidden Rivers Description**

Hidden Rivers is a 1-hour film that explores the rivers and streams of the Southern Appalachian region, North America's most biologically rich waters. The film follows the work of conservation biologists and explorers throughout the region, and reveals both the beauty and vulnerability of this aquatic life, and how many people are finding ways to protect it.

Film Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/66103145>  
 Website: [www.hiddenrivers.org](http://www.hiddenrivers.org)

**CELEBRATE GOOD TIMES**

**BIRTHDAY**

ERNIE BROOKS 06/03

**ANNIVERSARY**

**OPTIMIST MAY ANNIVERSARY**

DAVID WITHERSPOON	1968	BETH O'BRIEN	2004
MAC PREVOST	1984	LAUREN STEWART	2008
JOHN BAILES	1990	EDDIE HOWARD	2012
JIM ADCOCK	1993	GWIN HARSHAW	2015

**LAURA JEAN KRESS**

This is essentially what I said during LAURA'S Memorial service. I had several requests for this. Buzz

I met LAURA KRESS in December of 1982. She was standing next to a table on which a small artificial tree stood. In two minutes she had summarized The Angel Tree. These were children in poverty, clients of The Boys Club, unlikely to receive gifts when Christmas arrived. Construction paper stars represented wishes of the boy whose first name and age was hand printed thereon. Take a star, buy the item, bring it back to her take the star home and put it on my tree to remind me of what I had done. I took several and did all she asked and begged off helping as I was headed to New Hampshire for the holiday. I gave my Dad a skateboard wish and told him a boy in Knoxville would save him from breaking his neck.

LAURA called me before Thanksgiving the following year to meet her at Westtown Mall. My first assignment was "load this tree" with wishes (which I did). When she reviewed my work I learned plenty. Clothes wishes were to be interspersed with toy wishes and ages had to vary. There had to a cross

section of items price wise and there had to be wishes that would make the potential donor say "He only asked for blank" and that blank had to tug at their heart strings. Finally I learned that a "loaded tree" meant about four times the wishes I had placed my first time around.

She gave me another chance on tree number two – "start from the bottom" she instructed. "This tree is our salesman. We are depending upon the public to be moved enough to adopt a wish – or two. The need has to be apparent."

Her sense of humor was referenced by Monsignor AL HUMBRECHT during the service. I illustrated it this way.

I was to meet MIKE RAGSDALE early in the morning at the backdoor of the space we were using as headquarters. I let myself in and found LAURA, face down on the table, asleep. She had been there for some time as there was no lit cigarette burning in the ashtray. Minutes later MIKE arrived and as we unloaded bags she awoke. I apologized for the disturbance and she quickly pointed out that she was not sleeping. As she explained this I noted the deep square indentions in her forehead which were the results of her planting her face on the keyboard. I only told that story a couple of time because I felt guilty that she worked through the night while I had gone home and slept in a comfortable bed with a real pillow and blankets.

Over the years a "loaded tree" has become symbolic for me. Laura tapped people to help and she added opportunities to opportunities, adding to each of us in the process. If you volunteered to work a shift you could well end up learning to be a shift supervisor. If you spoke well on behalf of The 'Tree you could find yourself on TV. Whatever the role there was more she would add just as she had taught me to load a tree.

I love what she did.

I love how so many of you became fully loaded trees because of Laura.

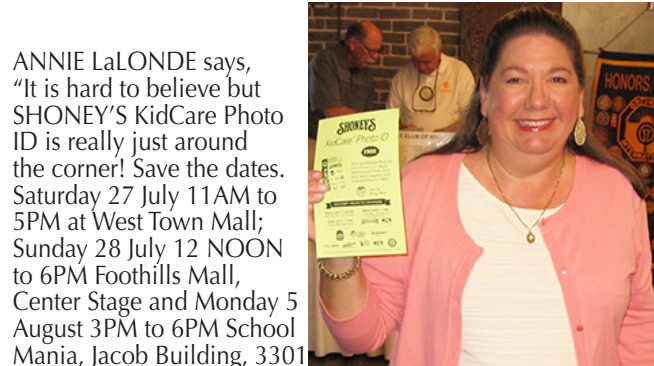
I loved her.

## PICS

DON LINDSEY served as our Chairman of the Day last Friday.

He introduced ALYSON GALLAHER, Executive Director of Volunteer East Tennessee.

In addition to Club Photographer BOB FREEMAN (not pictured) we had a cheerful turnout for the May Social at K-Town. Pictured are (l-r) DON LINDSEY, DAN McGEHEE, MARY and CHRIS ALBRECHT, PAT LEONARD, Social Chairman JOHN TEMPLE and DENO COLE.



ANNIE LaLONDE says, "It is hard to believe but SHONEY'S KidCare Photo ID is really just around the corner! Save the dates. Saturday 27 July 11AM to 5PM at West Town Mall; Sunday 28 July 12 NOON to 6PM Foothills Mall, Center Stage and Monday 5 August 3PM to 6PM School Mania, Jacob Building, 3301 Magnolia Avenue.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The most current issue of The Sunny Side is located on your club's 'award winning' website. Not only that, you can check out past issues as well! All of this is thanks to KATHRYN McCULLOUGH, our webmaster. Go to [www.knoxoptimist.org](http://www.knoxoptimist.org) and click on "NEWSLETTERS" on the upper right margin



### 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.

OUR WEBSITE: [www.knoxoptimist.org](http://www.knoxoptimist.org)

Check out the website link for more pictures

FACEBOOK: [www.facebook.com/OptimistClubofKnoxville](http://www.facebook.com/OptimistClubofKnoxville)