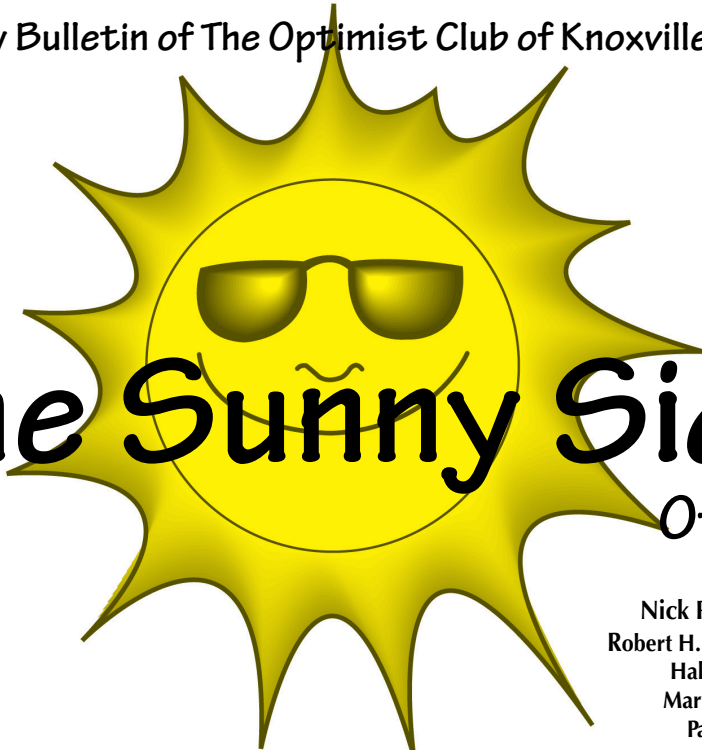


A Look At

"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 36

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

September 4, 2018

LAST WEEK

FRIDAY 31 AUGUST 2018

Social BLAKE McMEANS' story is one of promise, tragedy, debilitation, redemption and second chances. McMEANS received several scholarship offers from around the country, but decided to stay close to home and play tennis at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. But McMEANS would never play a match for the Volunteers.

His long time abuse of alcohol led to a fateful decision to get behind the wheel. It was not his first time – but it was his last. The crash and resulting damage to his spinal cord left BLAKE with myriad challenges. We watched as he urged his body to leave his wheel chair and stand at our microphone. "A picture is worth a thousand words," he told us. His admonition regarding operating a motor vehicle impaired by substances or distractions like texting had everyone sitting quietly in their seats. "You text," he said looking about the room as some in the audience squirmed uncomfortably. It only takes a second and you could end up like me – or worse. We appreciate BLAKE for deciding to make a difference in our lives as a consequence of his decision years ago. As we were leaving the meeting one of our members observed, "Every high school student should see that presentation."

Last Friday, 31 August, TOM WANTLAND won two season tickets to all of the University of Tennessee Volunteers home football games in NEYLAND STADIUM! TOM is really a friend of Optimists. He's been to our auctions and participated in our Childhood Cancer Campaign raffle. Congratulations to TOM and to CHRIS ALBRECHT his ticket salesman. Chairman BRADLEY PRUITT expressed his thanks to all who bought or sold tickets.



JERRY ASKEW



THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2018

We welcome JERRY ASKEW, President of Alliance for Better Nonprofits. The Alliance for Better Nonprofits (ABN) is a membership-based organization that serves nonprofits in 25 East Tennessee counties by helping them achieve their missions; therefore making a bigger impact in their communities. Their goal is to walk with the region's nonprofits as they journey toward efficiency and effectiveness through training, consulting, and resources, including the nationally recognized Standards for Excellence[®]. DARRIN RHINES starts our meeting with an Invocation and pledge to the flag and ends it by leading us in reciting The Optimist Creed. In between, he is also serving as our Chairman of the Day. Busy man!

SATURDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2018

Your Optimist Club joins forces with the Veteran Heritage Site Foundation, Oakwood – Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association and Keep Knoxville Beautiful in a Neighborhood Clean-up. We will meet on Sharp's Ridge at 0830 for a memorial session recognizing the sacrifices of first responders on 9/11 before the cleanup begins on the Ridge. Similar to our clean-up effort in South Knoxville, all you need to bring is you. Sensible (closed toe) footwear is advised. Sign up on our website.



NEXT WEEK

FRIDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2018

It all started 1 October 2017 when BETH became our president. Eleven months and change later we are about to wrap up another great year in the history of our club. Join BETH as she files her last report on the state of the club as your president.

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
Childhood Cancer Chris Albrecht, Kelly Pratt
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 Bradley Pruitt
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 Lindsay
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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Reporter: Brenda Staton
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Monday of each week or electronically on Tuesday.



2017-18

DIME A DAY
JIM ADCOCK
CHRIS ALBRECHT
RALPH ALEXANDER
JIM BLACK
CAROLYN BLIND
DON BLIND
JASEN BRADLEY
BUZZ BUSWELL
DONNA BUSWELL
DENO COLE
ALLEN COLLIER
CYNTHIA CORMAN
ERIN FAVIER
BOB FREEMAN
GWIN HARSHAW
DAVID HARTER
NANCY HARTER
MELANIE HOGG
ESSIE JOHNSON
JOHN KERRIGAN
CHRIS KNIGHT
PHILLIP KNIGHT
WILLIAM KNIGHT
MARIE LEONARD
PATRICK LEONARD
FRANK LEUTHOLD
DENNIS MCBRIDE
BUD MCKELVEY
CAROLYN MONDAY
PAUL NICHOLS
BETH O'BRIEN
SHARON POUND
WILLIAM PRUITT
H.W.RIMMER, JR
JONIDA ROBINSON
IKE SEWELL
BRENDA STATON
SAVANNAH STATON
AL STIGALL
GLEN WEBER
J. CARY WIEDMAN
JACQUELINE ZURAF
THOMAS ZURAF

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

\$250 PRESIDENT'S CLUB
ALLEN COLLIER
GWIN HARSHAW
ESSIE JOHNSON
CHRIS KNIGHT
PHILLIP KNIGHT
WILLIAM KNIGHT
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

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
DELORIS MABINS sponsored by CHRIS COX
SHERI LEONARD sponsored by PATRICK LEONARD
DENTON KERRIGAN sponsored by JOHN KERRIGAN
LONNY PRUITT sponsored by BRADLEY PRUITT
DENEEN PRUITT sponsored by BRADLEY PRUITT
KELSEY MAUER sponsored by BETH O'BRIEN
ANDREW DEATON sponsored by DAN McGEHEE
GRACE FAVIER sponsored by ERIN FAVIER
JERRY SUNDAY sponsored by RENEE SUNDAY

Social Chairman JOHN TEMPLE begins the meeting with an Invocation and pledge to the flag.

PLAN AHEAD

FRIDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2018

It all started 1 October 2017 when BETH became our president. Eleven months and change later we are about to wrap up another great year in the history of our club. Join BETH as she recognizes the members of your club who helped to make this year another great year in the history of your club. Optimist International Foundation (OIF) Representative ESSIE JOHNSON offers the Invocation and leads the pledge to the flag.

THURSDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2018

The Annual Installation and Awards Banquet of The Optimist Club of Knoxville, Inc. will be held at K-Town Tavern, 320 North Peters Road, Knoxville, TN 37922.

President-elect CHRIS COX announced that the meeting will take place on Thursday 27 September 2018 with a social hour followed by meal and program. This is a meeting all members and their guests are encouraged to attend.

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION (OIF)

Here is a very meaningful way to recognize a fellow optimist: donate a Dime-A Day in their honor or memory. See our OIF representative ESSIE JOHNSON and she will make it happen.

Dime A Day Donations in HONOR OF to date:
RANDALL SUMNER honored by President BETH O'BRIEN
CONNIE HEWITT honored by JACQUELINE ZURAF
JOYCE OUMET honored by IKE SEWELL

Dime A Day Donations in MEMORY OF to date:
CHRIS ALBRECHT in memory of DANA CARL SMITH (he named The Sunny Side)
ESSIE JOHNSON in memory of ESTEL HAMILTON (long time Cheese Chairman)
Secretary TOM ZURAF in memory of HERB HOWARD (O.I. Oratorical Contest stalwart)
BUZZ & DONNA BUSWELL in memory of PAUL HARBIN (Past President of OIF)

PICS

President-elect CHRIS COX introduced his brother CASPER COX at our last meeting. CASPER is responsible for the new signage at the FISH Hospitality warehouse. Check it out the next time you volunteer there!



KELSEY MAUER brought three friends to hear the powerful message of BLAKE McMEANS.

JOHN MAYS and DAN McGEHEE both commented on the passing of JOHN WALTER MONTGOMERY and the very beautiful celebration of his life last Sunday at the West Hills Baptist Church.

BLAKE McMEANS' story is one of promise, tragedy, debilitation, redemption and second chances. President BETH O'BRIEN thanked BLAKE for his powerful message. She recognized in his story that he is a fighter.

ANNIE LaLONDE is our Personal growth and Involvement (PGI) chairman. Please let her know of your activities towards PGI recognition. Not sure about what those might be? See ANNIE!

BUZZ BUSWELL says our club will join forces with the Veteran Heritage Site Foundation, Oakwood – Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association and Keep Knoxville Beautiful in a Neighborhood Clean-up. We will meet on Sharp's Ridge at 0830 for a memorial recognizing the sacrifices of first responders on 9/11 before the cleanup begins on the Ridge. Similar to our clean-up effort in South Knoxville, all you need to bring is you. Sensible (closed toe) footwear is advised. Sign up on our website.

INSTALLATION

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Club Treasurer DAVE HARTER announced that the meeting will take place on Thursday 27 September 2018 with a social hour followed by meal and program. This is a meeting all members and their guests are encouraged to attend. Watch for more details

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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

LOOK FOR THE SPARE CHANGE JAR TO BENEFIT CHILDHOOD CANCER.

THERE IS ONE ON THE CHECK-IN DESK AND ONE ON EACH TABLE!



Optimist Mission Statement

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