

PROMISE YOURSELF

RP SUNRISE OPTIMIST, AUG 5, 2025

VOL 9 - ISSUE 34



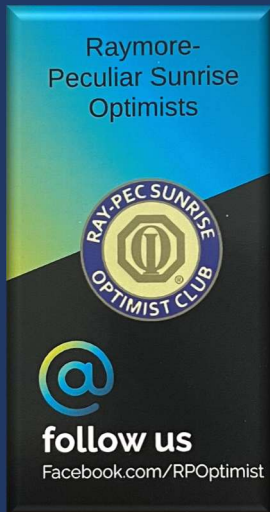
Real World Learning!

Samuel Johnson, Director of Community Partnerships, spoke to the Optimists on Tuesday morning about collaborations between the community and students concerning real-world learning. Previously, Mr. Johnson searched throughout the KC Metro area for businesses interested in partnering with schools to guide student teams through year-long projects.

With school districts across the metro now incorporating real-world learning into their programs, previous business partners are providing opportunities within their own districts. Clubs such as the Optimists are also offering new avenues for open-ended problems, generating opportunities for both high school and middle school students. For example, Ray-Pec Middle School students approached businesses along Highway 58 to request opportunities to shadow them. Students used cell phones to document their experiences and submitted presentations for assessment.

Real-world learning differs from traditional education. Some students participate in compensated educational experiences with enterprises at the LEAD center. Many anticipated a first paycheck of \$1,500 but received \$700, highlighting practical lessons about taxes, insurance, and investments. This experience contrasts with the educational backgrounds of many club members, who may not have learned about resume building, tax preparation, or applying academic learning to future work environments before graduation from High School.

Mr. Johnson invites any club member with an open-ended problem and an interest in collaborating with a student team to submit their idea to Denise Woolf, who will relay it to him. He is available to meet with prospective partners and assess their businesses to identify potential projects for students during this school year.



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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.

Next Week: Stuff the Bus!

Members are invited to participate in the Stuff the Bus school supplies and donations initiative. At the August 12th sunrise meeting, the Stuff the Bus team will collect supplies and donations from members to contribute to the Ray-Pec community drive. A list of suggested supplies is provided below. Cash donations are particularly used for purchasing headphones (over-ear, plain, no Bluetooth), dry erase markers, and water bottles. Attendance at the August 12th meeting is encouraged, where a club photo with the collected donations will be taken.

Cass County Library

As the new school year approaches, Cass County Library is preparing to support students and residents alike. Serving as a valuable resource center, the library offers a variety of learning materials and programs designed to enrich the entire community. Its offerings are tailored to meet the diverse needs of all patrons.

Upcoming Meetings and Events



Tues 8/12 – 6:30am Stuff the Bus, Bring School Supplies and help Stuff the Bus

Tues 8/12 – 6:30 am Cass County Library

Fri 8/15 – Rugged Raymore "Mud Run" 5pm

Tues 8/15-16th – WEMO District Convention, Springfield MO

Tues 8/19 – 6:30am Superhero Tuesday! Cass County Sheriff SGT Bill Talley

Tues 8/26 – 6:00pm TBD



Decisions, Decisions, Decisions!

- Incoming officers reviewed the budget and will have recommendations for the 2025-2026 budget.
- Donation planning for the Ray-Pec Gift Basket for WEMO Convention was delegated.
- Hide the saltshaker! Alan Klein gave members the down low on Signs of Stroke.
- A volunteer sheet was sent around for the Mud Run 8/15... AND all was accomplished in an hour! Whew!

All was accomplished by these exceptional members!

Janet Aliano, Rob Arner, Connie Circo, Tom Circo, Bruce Keith, Jerri-Lynn Keith, Pete Kerckhoff, Renee Kerckhoff, Alan Klein, Jim Kopetsky, Kathy Lust, Mike Sanders, Richard Sanders, Denise Woolf