

## RP SUNRISE OPTIMIST, APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup> -27<sup>TH</sup> 2025

### VOL 9 - ISSUE 21

#### 18 MEMBERS' PRESENT

Rob Arner, Janet Aliano, Connie Circo, 19617 Tom Circo, Janet Jones, Pete Kerckhoff, Renee Kerckhoff, Alan Klein, Jim Kopetsky, Ed Lust, Kathy Lust, Joe O'Neal, Ed Russell, Mike Sanders, Richard Sanders, Kris Turnbow, Denise Woolf

#### Easter Egg Hunt

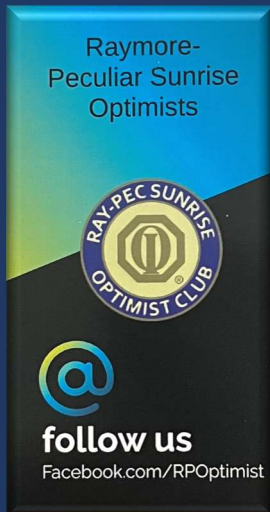
The Easter Bunny appeared with the Optimists, who handed out W.H.A.L.E. packets. W.H.A.L.E. stands for We Have A Little Emergency. The program provides free stickers with emergency contact information for car seats. In case of an accident, First Responders can use this information to contact next of kin.



#### Raymore Chamber of Commerce Speed Networking



The Raymore Chamber of Commerce held a networking event on April 22nd at Creekmoor Golf Club, like speed dating where participants introduce themselves in short sessions. Members of the Optimist Club, including Mike Sanders, Jim Kopetsky, Renee and Pete Kerckoff, Jodi and Bob Huston, Tom O'Connor, and Tom Circo, attended the event.



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Denise Woolf

## 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, to noble for anger, to strong for fear and **too happy** to permit the presence of trouble.

### Upcoming Meetings & Events

**You will see your Optimist friends at these events!**

**Wednesdays in May – 3:00pm CAN Bagging RP Academy**

5/6 – Kids Speak Out! Elementary Pre-Oratorical – Denise Woolf

5/13 – Vote on Club Officers

5/14 – Senior Awards Night RPHS

5/17 – WEMO 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr Conference Osage Beach, Oratorical and Essay District Contests

### Platte Optimist Club Fun Day

*Encourage the belief that the giving of one's self in service to others will advance the wellbeing of humankind, and the world.*

Train rides, grilled hot dogs, and drawings were among the activities at Line Creek in North Kansas City.

Mike Sanders and Denise Woolf prepared hot dogs and hamburgers to support the Platte Optimist Club. The Platte Optimists consist of 6 members who aimed to benefit 1st and 2nd graders in their school district. Optimists

Brenda Beaty, Don Beaty, Dacia Rzczowsky



value encouraging youth. The event included various activities for participants. Additionally, the Platte County Optimists have since welcomed 4 new members.





## Excellence in Education

As the school year draws to a close, the Optimists successfully recognized the top scholars in the Sophomore, Junior, and Senior classes. Melissa Jackson, a 2003 graduate of Ray-Pec, was the keynote speaker at the event. In her address, she shared four principles that guided her career choices. Her professional journey has taken her to Washington DC, working at the Federal Reserve in Kansas City, and she has also served as a Foreign Service Diplomat stationed in Brazil.



Joe O'Neal with Keynote Melissa Jackson  
Background: Brenda Beaty, Mike Sanders



Western Missouri Governor  
Don Beaty



Joe O'Neal

Entertainment for the evening was provided by the Ray-Pec Jazz Ensemble and System Meltdown Robotics Team. Twenty Seniors, fifteen Juniors, and ten Sophomores were honored for their academic excellence. Additionally, five \$1000 scholarships from the club were awarded to Kendyll Gethers, Eyan Karr, Erin Langston, McKenna Raymond, and Ezra Robertson. Congratulations to all the Ray-Pec scholars who were recognized last night. Special thanks go to Joe O'Neal, who chaired and coordinated all aspects of the evening's event.



L to R: Al Voelker, Superintendant; Scott Bacon, Principal; Melissa Jackson, Keynote; Don Beaty, WEMO Governor and wife Brenda Beaty; Mike Sanders, RP Sunrise Optimist President; Tom Circo, WEMO Lt. Governor



Senior Class Scholars



Sophomore Class Scholars



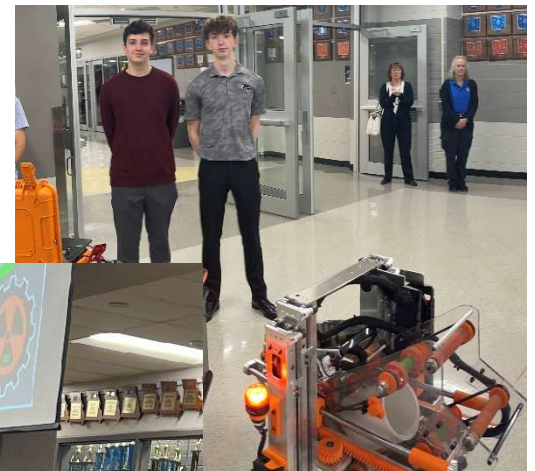
Junior Scholars



Alan Klein and Becky Klein, with Joe and Callum Jackson



RPHS Jazz Ensemble



Ezra Robertson presents System Meltdown Robotics program

Thank you, Optimists who helped set up/take down and added support to the event!

Janet Aliano, Rob Arner, Scott Bacon, Connie Circo, Tom Circo, Pete Kerckhoff, Alan Klein, Eleanor Kopetsky, Jim Kopetsky, Brian Mills, Connie Mills, Joy Mistele, Joe O'Neal, Ed Russell, Mike Sanders, Richard Sanders, Shari Sanders, Kris Turnbow, Denise Woolf



Ray-Pec Sunrise Foundation Donors: Over \$100-Janet Aliano, Gerard Eftink, Carl Kent, Anonymous