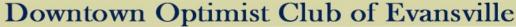
Circle of Leaders for this year!







Meetings: Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday 11:45 am

Old National Bank - Bob Jones Family Community Room Riverside Drive at Main Street

Downtown Evansville



"Dare to Care"

This Week's Program

Mar 26th — Verdelski Miller Boom Squad

Next Week's Program

April 9th—TBD



Downtown Optimist Club Newsletter

Bringing Optimism (and a few laughs) to Lunch!

President Josh Rings in the Fun!

President Josh Paulson rang the bell and called the meeting to order at 12:14 PM sharp (give or take a minute... we're optimistic, not punctual). First up, our ever-faithful Ron Eberhart graced us with a **Springtime Prayer** that had us all feeling hopeful for warmer weather and fewer potholes. Next, we proudly **Pledged Allegiance to Our Flag** and recited the **Optimist Creed**, because that's just how we roll.



Blazing Ahead!

Ron reminded everyone about the upcoming "Blaze" event at the Tri-State Food Bank this **Saturday**, the **15th**, where we'll be packing backpacks for kids. Six members and their future-Optimist children are signed up and ready to stuff those backpacks with more enthusiasm than a kid on Christmas morning.



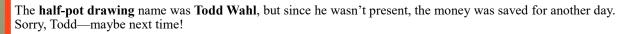
MIA Sarges & Tiny T-Shirts

With both of our usual Sarges missing in action (rumors abound, but no ransom notes yet), **President Josh stepped up as the honorary Sarge**—because, as they say, if you want something done, delegate it to someone else. Josh efficiently collected **conscience money**, which, as always, flowed freely from our guilty members. **Sally Olson paid up for the chance to showcase her tiny t-shirt** from Sharon Elementary, featuring none other than our very own **Jamie Dill!** Sally wanted to share the nostalgia before repurposing it into a small pillow—because even Optimists believe in recycling.



Reminders & Almost-Winners

Ron dropped another reminder for the **Board Meeting on March 18th at ONB Hub at noon**—be there or be square (or at least bring a good excuse).





Basketball Trivia Time!

Ron, now also serving as Sub-Sarge, tested our basketball knowledge with a trio of NBA trivia questions:

- Who was the first player to score 100 points in a game? Wilt "The Stilt" Chamberlain.
- What year was the three-point line added to the NBA? 1979-1980 (back when shorts were still too short).
- Who is the all-time leading scorer in NBA history? LeBron James, as of 2023 (and probably still dunking on everyone).



Ed Harrison Memorial

Golf Scramble
Financial Support for:

>>>>>>> Continued on Next Page





Mail Club at: P.O. Box 15905, Evansville, Indiana 47716 - 0905 www.evansvilledowntownoptimist.org Evansville Downtown Charitable Foundation, Inc.















Ed Harrison Memorial Golf Scramble

Financial Support for:





Optimist Newsletter Continued

Our Guest Speaker - Gina Gist

Our featured speaker was **Gina Gist**, **Executive Director of Albion Fellows Bacon**, who shared insights about their impactful work supporting survivors of domestic and sexual abuse. Albion has been serving **11 counties in Southwestern Indiana for 45 years** and offers **shelter for up to 60 days**, providing **emotional support**, **advocacy**, **and essential supplies**—all free of charge.

A few highlights from Gina's talk:

In February alone, they provided 721 nights of shelter to those in need.

☐ They've launched middle school programs to educate young people about healthy, non-violent relationships.

¶ ? "Take Back the Night" is coming up on April 26th, 6-9 PM in Downtown Evansville—a powerful event to

raise awareness and support survivors.

A huge thank you to Gina for her heartfelt presentation and for all the work Albion does in our community!

Next Up: Boom Squad!

Mark your calendars! Our next meeting on March 26th will feature Verdelski Miller with Boom Squad—get ready for some inspiration and energy!

See you all then, and remember: Optimism is contagious—spread it around!

Ron Eberhart - Scribe

Mail Club at: P.O. Box 15905, Evansville, Indiana 47716 - 0905 www.evansvilledowntownoptimist.org
Evansville Downtown Charitable Foundation, Inc.