

MANHATTAN (BREAKFAST) OPTIMIST CLUB

OPTIMIST PARK HISTORY

Dates	Events	Comments
Mid 1960's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15.22 Acres of Land at 317 Plymate Lane donated by Manhattan Mutual Life Insurance Company 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Don E. Combs of MMLIC very instrumental in MBOC acquiring the land
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction of Brummett Field, Shed/Restrooms, & Parking Lot - Manhattan Optimist Fastpitch Association started 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No Place for Competitive Girl's Softball to play/practice in Manhattan
Jan 1979	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manhattan Optimist Foundation (MOF) becomes a 501 (c) (3) Organization 48-0891581 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MOF "owns" Optimist Park
???	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - T-Ball moved to the open field at Optimist Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Now Optimist Field
Before 1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Optimist Field Built 	
Before 1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - T-Ball Field Built 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - T-Ball Field is now Bidwell Field
1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Batting Cage #1 Built 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Built North of Shed
1999-2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pitching Areas #1 & #2 Built 	

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2005-2006	- 2-Story Garage Built	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Many donations of Labor, Supplies, & \$ - Built by Students at MATC - Certificate of Occupancy Issued by MFD on 02/15/2006 by Brad Claussen of Code Services
2005-2013	- T-Ball played on Bidwell Field starting in 2005	
Before 2006	- Optimist Creed Sign & Planter Built	
2008	- Tree Lot moved from Longs Park to Optimist Park	
2008	- 3.49 Acres of Land for Jessica Field donated by Amherst Industrial Park LP	- Facilitated by Charlie Busch, McCullough Development Inc
2009-2010	- Jessica Field and South Field Built	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Donations from Doug Madsen family, Sale of Big Brothers/Big Sisters Building, and other private donations - Designed by now deceased MBOC member Tom Bennett - South Field now named Franke Field

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2010	- Jessica Field Shed and 2 Batting Cages (#2 & #3) Built	- Shed Built by Students at Flint Hills Job Corps Center and Batting Cages Built by Kansas Fence
2011	- Jessica Field Planter Built	- Built by Blueville Nursery
After 2011	- Franke Field Shed Built	- Paid for with a Private Donation
2013	- Bldg #3 Built (included Restrooms)	- Designed by now deceased MBOC member Tom Bennett
2014-Current	- T-Ball played on South Field starting in 2014	- South Field is now Franke Field
2010; 2020;	- Optimist Field Dismantled	- Too many Wildcat Creek Floods - Backstop and 1st/3rd Base Fences Removed in 2010 - Remaining Fencing Removed in 2020
2017	- Improvements to Garage Downstairs (Heat, Finished Inside Walls & Ceiling, Installed Garage Door Windows, Built Shelves, 9' Wall)	- Work done by Vanguard Home Design
2017	- Built 10' x 10' Storage Shed for Bidwell Field Inside Bldg #3	- Work done by Vanguard Home Design

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2017	- Built "L" Shaped Walls Outside Bldg #3 Restrooms for Privacy	- Work done by Vanguard Home Design

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2018	- Bidwell Field Planter Built	- By Bruce Bidwell & Jim/Marlene Franke
2018	- Plymate Cul-de-sac Fencing Replaced	- By Steve Boeckman
2020	-Flag Pole, Optimist Memorial, & Planter Built	- By Behnke, Scott, & other Optimist Members
2021-2022	- Brummett Field 1st/3rd Base & Outfield Fences Replaced	- By Optimist Members
2021	- Franke Field Planter Built	- By Optimist Members & Jim/Marlene Franke
2021	- 1st Year for Santas Workshop at the Tree Lot	- Inspired by Pat Bidwell & Marlene Franke
2022	- Brummett Field Drainage Pipe to Wildcat Creek Installed	- By Boeckman, Bidwell, & Franke
2024-Current	- Optimist Field Rebuilt	- Backstop in a different location
		- In Progress ... Fencing remains to be done
2026	- Brummett Field Backstop, Batting Cage #1, and Chain Link on Optimist Field Backstop being Replaced	- Demolition & Construction by Henderson Fence Company
		- In Progress