

## **Sauk Trails Optimist Club, Ltd.**

### **"Where Every Kid Counts"**

My fellow Optimists I'm looking forward to the months ahead. In March, we have Tri-Star Basketball and Special Olympics Basketball.

In April, the plans are coming together to have a fun gathering as well as raise money for our Scholarship Fund. Rick Thomas and Jared Holthe are leading the charge to create an event that we all will enjoy. Stay tuned as we put the finishing touch on the date and schedule for this event.

In May, Special Olympics Track Meet is set for May 8<sup>th</sup>. Steve Bailey has offered to chair a Respect for Law Luncheon that I hope we all can attend. I hope you will take the time to check your schedules and join us in the fun.

My goals for our club are to increase the membership, find more ways to raise money for the kids in our community and last but not least, have fun. I hope you can join us in the fun as we make 2004 a year to remember for Sauk Trails Optimist.

See you soon!

Rick Tiedemann

**One of our Optimists, Lori Handel had surgery, please keep her in your thoughts and prayers!**

### **Congratulations to the Ehlke's!**

Lynnda and Duane Ehlke welcomed their new addition, Halle Faith Ehlke on January 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm. Halle weighed 6 pounds 15 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long at birth.

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**March 2004**

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# **Sauk Trails Optimist Board Minutes**

## **R.W. Baird and Company Office**

### **February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2004**



#### Members in Attendance:

President: Rick Tiedmann

Vice President: Greg Hermus

Board Members: Pete Graven, Ray Schmitz, Tim Belter, and Alison Sheer

Meeting started at 5pm

NEW LOCATION! Wilson Law Office

Approved Sec/Treas. Report

Discussed Scholarship status - Greg Hermus talked about the letters that will be going out and modifications that he and his committee want to make.

Future planning for the year was discussed: Working on different fund raising ideas for the next board meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:45

Next meeting in March 8th location is at the Wilson Law Office.

Nominating Committee:

If you are interested in a board position for the 2004 - 2005 year starting in October 2004, please contact President Rick Tiedemann or either Tim Belter or Bonnie Spindler, who are on the Nominating Committee. The board meets monthly on a pre-scheduled time based on the members schedules. For more information, contact any of these Optimists or current board members.

## **Bonnie Spindler Recognized for Her Dedication**

Henry Stiner was a great Optimist from Monroe and for many years was THE driving force behind the 100 member plus Monroe Optimist Club. He almost single-handedly took the club from a nearly revoked status to a century (100 member) club and in all the years I knew him, never missed a district conference or convention. He is lovingly referred to as Mr. Optimist in the SWIS District, and you could never miss him, as he stood one inch shy of 7 feet tall. He and his wife were killed in a head on collision before we split from the WINUM District 10 years ago, and it was decided at our first convention to honor Henry by keeping his name alive with the Henry Stiner Award. This award is open to Optimist members in the district who demonstrate the dedication and commitment to Optimism that Henry demonstrated. It is considered the highest honor our district can bestow on one of our Optimist members. This year that honor went to our own Bonnie Spindler. Bonnie was recognized for her tremendous dedication to the district as District newsletter chair. She has spent many hours developing the newsletter and editing, assembling, and e-mailing it to the district members. We of course know her as our Honor Club President! Congratulations Bonnie for this high honor from the SWIS District.

Steve Bailey

## Sauk Trails Optimist Club Sauk Trails Speaker/Event Agenda 2002

Optimist Weekly Meeting held at Babe's from 11:45-12:45pm.

*Please contact Andy Lochner for further details*

*Please enter through the backdoor, it is unlocked for the meetings*

Date	Place	Speaker/Event	Topic/Focus	Menu for Weekly Meeting
March 3	Babes	Ronghua Jiang	Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture	Chicken Sandwich or Grilled Chicken Salad
March 10	Babes	Katie Schell	Hope House – Transitional housing for mother with young children	Teriyaki Chicken Sandwich or Oriental Chicken Salad
March 17	Babes	Student of the month	Student of the month	Corn Beef & Cabbage or Caesar Salad
March 24	Babes	George Austin	Overture Center Foundation (tentative)	Cajun Chicken Sandwich or Beef Taco Salad
March 31	Babes	To be announced – watch for email updates	To be announced – watch for email updates	BBQ Chicken Sandwich or Veggie Salad
April 7	Babes	To be announced – watch for email updates	To be announced – watch for email updates	To be announced – watch for email updates
April 14	Babes	To be announced – watch for email updates	To be announced – watch for email updates	To be announced – watch for email updates

Mark Your Calendar

March 13<sup>th</sup> ~ Tri-Star Basketball Tournament

April 29<sup>th</sup> ~ Benefit for the Scholarship Fund (at the Westside Club - more information coming)

## BIRTHDAYS FOR FEBRUARY & MARCH

Sandy Southard - February 1<sup>st</sup>

Bonnie Spindler February 11<sup>th</sup>

Lisa Schluesche February 12<sup>th</sup>

Tim Belter March 3<sup>rd</sup>

Kevine Campos March 5<sup>th</sup>

Jill Thomas March 5<sup>th</sup>

Jason Kadow March 25<sup>th</sup>

Wayne Wilson March 27<sup>th</sup>

Rick Tiedemann March 30<sup>th</sup>

Gene Spindler March 31<sup>st</sup>

# SWIS District News

## 2004

As the SWIS District News & Conference Editor and Distributor, I was scheduled to provide training to Optimists attending the Oconomowoc conference. Optimists interested in learning more about how to acquire OI Mail, SWIS Mail, the SWIS Website, and SWIS Roster Online Updates attended a morning session. There will be another session held at the Wisconsin Dells conference on May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Articles for the SWIS News will be requested by March 20<sup>th</sup>, with the SWIS News made available by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004. [Watch for the e-mail of the 'links' to acquire the information of what is happening in the Southern Wisconsin > SWIS District.](#)

If you're in a leadership position with the club, try to attend one of the quarterly conferences to meet the people and learn more about the various Optimist programs. The conferences in 2004 are:

<b>May 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Wisconsin Dells</b>
<b>August 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Racine</b>

If you have any questions about the SWIS District training and/or quarterly SWIS News/Conference editing/distribution, please contact me.

Bonnie Spindler  
SWIS Bulletin Editor (2002-2004)

The JOOI club at James Madison Memorial High School, called Spartan Youth Service, has been very busy this year. Spartan Youth Service has 90 members and is made of 6 committees. Since September, the club has participated in over 25 service projects, many of which were planned by the committees. These projects affect the school, the community, and even other countries.

Most recently, members threw a Valentine's Day party for residents at Oakwood village. Almost 35 students gave up their afternoon to help at the party. The students decorated and helped the residents with trivia bingo. The residents were excited to see many young people and to win prizes.

In another project held in September, the club organized a coin drive at JMM High School. Called "Koins for Kids" the coin drive was a homecoming competition between the classes. The Spartan Youth were able to present a \$500 check to the Salvation Army due to this service project.

Currently, the Spartan Youth Service is planning to adopt a particular elementary school in Africa. Most of the kids at this school are orphans because their parents have died of AIDS. The school is very poor and has few educational resources.

The club members are very appreciative of the support and guidance of their advisors and the adult Optimists.

-Heidi Huang, JOOI Club Officer

## Sauk Trails earns Honor Club, 2002 - 2003 Year

Jim Judd served his third term as President of the Sauk Trails Optimist Club in 2002 - 2003. After being the Charter Vice-President over 12 years ago, he served as President of the club in its second year, was recognized as Distinguished President, followed by a consecutive term as President in the club's third year.

Under Jim's leadership, our club made Honor Club in 2002-3. Honor Club is achieved during the year by accomplishing the following:

- completing three or more service projects;
- completing and submitting timely reports to Optimist International;
- increasing membership;
- attending SWIS district meetings;
- meeting financial obligations;
- completing a Community Projects Awards book;
- having an Outstanding member recognition;
- providing timely communication to club members & SWIS officers.

There were more than 3 service projects completed during the year thanks to the Sauk Trails Optimist support. One of Jim's goals was to acquire 12 members during the year, one for each month, which was accomplished. Newsletters were created monthly for Optimists & SWIS officers. *(The Sauk Trails Newsletters have been submitted to Optimist International for potential future awards).* There were 3 Community Project Awards Books submitted during the year. These were as follows:

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| • Community Improvement Category:                       | Scholarship Program CPA     |
| • Community Projects, Joint Project/JOOI Club Category: | Fun at the Zoo CPA          |
| • Sports and Recreation Category:                       | Tri-Star Basketball Contest |

(The Scholarship Program and Fun at the Zoo CPA's have been submitted to Optimist International for potential future awards.)

*To build a strong club, Jim used a tool to insure that everything would be accomplished timely during his presidency. The SWIS 'Achievement & Awards' (A&A) tracking tool helps officers keep track of what needs to be done and when. By using this tool, Jim received the 'District A&A Award' for Zone 6 and also the 'SWIS A&A Award' for clubs over 50 members.*

*The club also received recognition for contributing \$30 / member to Optimist International for the year. The club officers each received a framed Certificate of Achievement for the 2002 - 3 year. These included: Jim Judd (President); Jessica Oehrlein (Secretary); and Gene Spindler (Treasurer).*

*Jim had a very successful year as our club President. Under his leadership the club was strengthened in membership to help provide more support for youth, which is our main club goal. The club members thank Jim for all his coordination, communication, and leadership during his 2002 - 2003 year as our president.*

*Submitted by:*

*Bonnie Spindler*

Sauk Trails Optimist Past President, 2001- 2002

The kids had a very active first semester making this one of the most effective Spartan Youth Service Teams yet. Their impact has been felt not only in the school, but the community as well.

Thanks to all the Optimists who helped with the **Salvation Army Bell Ringing**. I hope you enjoyed having the opportunity to interact with the students. There has been a real need to raise money to help those members of the community who are less fortunate than ourselves. Together with the Service Team, we staffed the red kettles for approximately 50 hours!

**The AIDS in Africa Concert** to be held at Memorial High School on Friday, December 12, 2003, was cancelled due to increased gang activity at the high school. The police officer on duty at the school recommended to the school administrators and club officers that the concert be cancelled for security and safety reasons. The kids will work with the school to see if the event can be rescheduled or if funds can be raised another way.

The **Valentine's Day party with the Oakwood residents** was a big hit. The kids assisted the residents in playing Presidential BINGO. Everyone received a prize and some goodies.

Also coming second semester will be more Oakwood visits, a talent show at Oakwood, collecting school supplies for Iraqi children, a book drive for inner city children in Chicago, Safety on Wheels and planning for the JOOI convention. The possibilities are endless!!

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#### Student of the Month

During the first semester, we honored five Memorial High School Students as the STOC Student of the Month for excellence in community service. The Student of the Month program is typically on the third Wednesday of the month through May.

**September**     **Lili Prah** and **Prethy Rao**: These seniors are current co-presidents of the Spartan Youth Service Team and spend many hours each week making sure the club runs like a top!

**October**        **Melissa Miller**: A senior who has been a member of the Spartan Youth Service Team for the past 3 years. She is the current vice-president and has also been on the board of directors. Melissa is also heavily involved in community service through 4-H.

**November**     **Ben Beatty**: A club board member of SYS for all four years of his high school career, Ben has been instrumental in getting more boys to join the club. Ben's first community service experience was working in a soup kitchen when he was in middle school. He said it inspired him to help others less fortunate than himself.

**December**     **Christina Karges**: A senior who has been in SYS since her sophomore year, Christina is a board member and helps head up the fundraising committee. She also does DNA research work at University Hospital. Christina wants to be a pediatric oncologist.

Mary Norrbom

## Tri-Star Basketball Tournament

The 2004 Tri-Star Basketball Tournament will be held at the Bishop O'Connor Catholic Pastoral Center gymnasium on Saturday, March 13 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. We will need 12 volunteers to run the event. Volunteers should arrive at 1:00 and plan on being out of the gymnasium just minutes after 3:00. Those who helped in prior years enjoyed their time at the event. You do not need to know anything about basketball in order to help. Printed instructions are provided for each of the three stations where kids run through shooting, dribbling and passing drills. We could use help in acquiring basketballs of the appropriate size for 8-year-olds through 13-year-olds. We need three balls of each size. We will also need 3 large practice cones. If you are able to help by volunteering or supplying needed materials, please contact Greg Hermus at 845-3820 or sign up at one of the upcoming noon lunches.

Greg Hermus



# Sauk Trails Optimist Club, Ltd. - Membership Roster March 2004

Name	Company	Work No.	Home No.	Fax No.	E-Mail Address
BJ Bailey					<a href="mailto:Mrfuel4@yahoo.com">Mrfuel4@yahoo.com</a>
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C/O Rick Tiedemann  
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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 you 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 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.