



Pathways

Sauk Trails Optimist Club
Madison, Wisconsin



Weekly Lunch Meetings
Wednesday's 11:45 - 12:45
The Radisson on Grand Canyon Drive



April 2019

PRESIDENTS NOTE

Dear STOC Friends

Promise Yourself –

“To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.”

We live in a competitive society. We want to win. We're trained to do it. Our lives are often measured by how often we do it. But we're admonished to be enthusiastic and supportive of others, especially when they win.

OK

As Optimists who think only of the best for themselves we can take the success of others as a challenge for our own. We cheer the winner, because the winner is the one to beat next time.

My father used to say, “If you don't play with guys better than yourself, you never get any better.”

So be enthusiastic about the success of others, because their success becomes the starting block of your own.

-John Fons



STOC Bulletin Board

**Sauk Trails
Club Officers
2018-19**

President: John Fons

Vice President: Liv Sandberg

Secretary: Rick Thomas

Treasurer: Bob Wortinger

Past President: Dan Chart

Board of Directors

- Steve Bailey
- Rick Conne
- Mary Schwartz
- Nancy Hach
- Kathy Johnson
- Todd Geltemeyer

April Birthdays

Doug Poole	11
Jeff Kuchenbecker	12
Dan Bergs	20
Liv Sandberg	25
Pete Graven	25





SWIS 3rd Quarter Conference
May 10-11, 2019
Kalahari, Wisconsin Dells

Youth Essay & Oratorical Contests
 CCDHH – Communication Deaf
 Hard Hearing
 Winners/Scholarships.
 Saturday May 11th

Registration information:
 Coming in April 2019
www.swisdistrict.org

Newsletter Editor:
 Liv Sandberg
 jlivsandberg@gmail.com

Date	Speaker	Topic
04/03	Bruce Schweiger	Lawn Maintenance by the Calendar
04/09	5:00 p.m. STOC Board Meeting	Park Bank, 2275 Deming Way, Middleton All members are welcome to attend
04/10	Vicki Sasso	Quilts of Valor
04/17	Optimistic Fun	Trivia Fun & Bucky Book Coupon Exchange
04/24	Students	Student of the Month
05/01	OPEN	
05/04	VOLUNTEER	Special Olympics Track Meet
05/08	Madison Police Dept.	Respect For Law
05/10-11	SWIS District 3 rd Quarter Conference	Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells Park Bank, 2275 Deming Way, Middleton All members are welcome to attend
05/14	5:00 p.m. STOC Board Meeting	
05/15	OPEN	
05/22	OPEN	
05/24	VOLUNTEER	Brat Fest
05/24-26	VOLUNTEER	Madison Marathon
05/29	OPEN	

Please let us know if you have someone who would like to speak at a lunch meeting.
 Speaker Committee: Mary Schwartz & Steve Bailey

Special Olympics

SATURDAY May 4, 2019

We are looking for volunteers to help at the Regional Special Olympics competitions at Oregon High School.

It is always a very rewarding experience and a day filled with excitement!
Keep an eye out for a sign up sheet or contact John.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact:

John Sherer (john@trinfin.com) or Bob Wortinger (rwortinger55@gmail.com)

Brat Fest and Madison Marathon

Love Brats? Love People? Love people who like to run?

Love helping at STOC fundraisers?

Want to be a wrapper? Want to be a griller? All kinds of opportunities await!

We are looking for volunteers to help at various shifts at both of these events.

For more info: contact Nancy Hach (nancyhach@tds.net) for Madison Marathon

OR

Diane Hoebel (hoebels2618@yahoo.com) for Brat Fest (info needed includes an email address, T shirt size, cell number, etc)

Mustard Days

STOC has been volunteering for this event several years as a fundraiser for the Foundation, so mark your calendars for August 3rd and spice up your summer at the annual Mustard Days event in Middleton. More details will keep coming. Questions can be directed to Bob Wortinger. Rwortinger55@gmail.com

SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, March 12, 2019
MINUTES

PRESENT: John, Dan, Rick C., Nancy, Bob, Mary, Rick T., Steve, Liv
Others Present via teleconference: Todd (for part of the meeting)

Absent: Kathy

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m.

1. Addition to Agenda:

Quilts of Valor and American Players Theater

2. Approval of Board Minutes from 2/12/2019. Dan moved to approve the minutes, Rick C. seconded, Passed unanimously.

3. Acceptance of February Financial Reports:

Mary moved to accept the financial reports as presented by Bob, Steve seconded. Passed unanimously.

4. Progressive Dinner

Rick C. moved to reimburse Bob and Mary \$65 each for expenses for the progressive dinner, Liv seconded, Passed unanimously.

5. Essay Contest

4 students participated. 2 read their essays at a meeting. They were well written and presented.

6. Radisson Contract

We have received a new contract from the Radisson. There was discussion about possibly moving to the Vintage. There will be more discussion at the April board meeting.

7. Firefighter/EMT Recognition

Fire Fighter / EMT recognition March 27 was discussed. There will be several honored guests in attendance. A donation from the Foundation will be given if approved.

8. Oratorical Contest

We have 3-4 students signed up to compete. Mary moved that we spend up to \$200 for the Oratorical contest. Nancy seconded. Passed unanimously.

9. Fundraising Options

Madison Marathon has lots of openings for volunteers. Nancy is working on recruiting volunteers. Diane is working on volunteers for Brat Fest. Rick C. is going to explore Culver's fundraising.

10. Quilts of Valor

Mary is bringing in a speaker April 10th to talk about the Quilts of Valor program. She suggested we honor our club's veterans.

11. American Player's Theater

Kathy is working on a date to have the club attend a performance.

12. Club Building

John is looking into forming a club within a club on the UW campus. Further research is needed to see if it is possible to do.

13. Nominating Committee

We need 3 people to volunteer to be on the nominating committee.

14. Dates

a. May 4th – Special Olympics

b. August 3rd – Mustard Days

15. Adjourn to April 9th at 5:00pm, at Park Bank in Middleton Bob moved to adjourn, Nancy seconded, passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Thomas, Secretary

SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB
Youth & Community Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, March 12, 2019
MINUTES

Present: Rick T., Steve, Rick C., Nancy, Dan, Bob, John, Liv, Mary
Absent: Todd, Kathy

The meeting was called to order at 5:45pm.

1. Financial Report Discussion: Dan reviewed the financials provided by Bob. So far projected foundation revenues appear to be down about \$1000 from last year.
2. Donations: Rick C. moved that we donate \$1000 to the burn camp, Mary seconded, Passed unanimously.
3. Donations: Rick C. moved that we donate \$3000 towards scholarships including an \$800 restricted donation given by Carole Klopp. Mary seconded, Passed unanimously.

Steve moved that we adjourn until June 11th, 2019 Rick C. seconded, Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Thomas, secretary

SAUK TRAILS – Madison Club WEBSITE

www.sauktrailsmadisonoptimist.org

Current and previous STOC Newsletters are available as PDF's on the www.sauktrailsmadisonoptimist.org website.
To acquire the newsletter, CLICK on the 'PDF Download' of CHOICE.

Call for website sponsors.

If you are interested in also being a sponsor of the STOC Website for the 2018-2019 year, and have your business/name in the rotation on our website, please contact Bonnie Spindler. Thanks to the Park Bank of Madison for their continued sponsorship.

The Sauk Trails – Madison Website is constantly being updated with many pictures in addition to those in the newsletter. To become more familiar with the website and the pictures currently available, see below:

Sauk Trails – Madison Website Pictures

In the EVENTS area, click on this link: [CLUB Program Pictures](#) (View 'Photo Galleries')
In the EVENTS area, click on this link: [CLUB Accomplish Pictures](#) ('Read More', scroll description)
In the ABOUT area, click on this link: [CLUB Photo Gallery](#)

If you have any problems acquiring the Newsletter or are NOT receiving the monthly message, please contact me so we can correct that situation. Optimistically, **Bonnie Spindler** blspindler@charter.net 850-9561 (H)
Sauk Trails Website Coordinator

STOC Lunch meeting activities in pictures

1. Essay contest contestants shared their wonderful essays and lunch with STOC members on March 6th. Pictured from left to right. Mike Grasmic who served as the organizer for the competition, Maggie DeSantza (who received second place), Shruti Satish (who received first place), and president John Fons.

2. Oratorical Contest participants. Front row left to right: Julia Zhou (2nd place winner), Beatrice Naujalyte and Kyle Ma.

Back row: Paul Eickhoff, winner Samik Partha and STOC President John Fons. Samik and Julia are going to Zone to compete on April 7th.

3. Nicole Miller from Box of Balloons, spoke about the program that focuses on sponsoring birthday parties for children in need.

Many Thanks to Steve Bailey, Carol Klopp, and John Fons for contributing photos.



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STOC Lunch meeting activities in pictures

Following an abusive scalding with hot water at the hands of his foster Mother and with saddened emergency nurses watching, pre-school Eli knew that after what had been done to him, he wanted to peel the toilet paper off his burned arms with his own burned hands.

"Because at that moment," Eli told the Sauk Trails Optimist Club of Madison, Wisconsin, "I knew I was a survivor."

Now Eli wants to be a fire fighter. He stood to tell his story March 27 in the presence of professional fire fighters and to receive a grant for one thousand dollars from the Sauk Trails Optimist Club Foundation to benefit the Summer Burn Camp held each year near East Troy, Wisconsin and sponsored by the Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin, their friends and colleagues.

This is the 100th Anniversary Year of Optimist International and each Optimist club is encouraged to conduct a special event to commemorate the century landmark. Sauk Trails Optimists fill their calendar with activities all year that echo the Optimist motto Friend of Youth. The club felt honoring Fire Fighters and Emergency Medical Technicians this year would be a fitting way to salute both the service of Firefighters and a century of effort by Optimists. In particular, to make a difference in the lives of children who had no choice at being handed life-altering challenges while at the same time saying thanks in a tangible way to men and women whose professional daring and teamwork give real meaning to the term Community Service.

Given the MFD does not typically recognize individuals on their Department because they always work as a team, a recommendation to donate to the Summer Camp for Burn Injured Youth, by Eric Salzwedel, Program Coordinator with the Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin Charitable Foundation, became a fitting way to salute both the service of Firefighters and Optimists.

Eli Iselin attended the special recognition luncheon at the Radisson Hotel on March 27 before the Sauk Trails Optimist Club and with him Madison Fire Chief Steven Davis; Lieutenant Jimmy Ahn of the MFD; Eric Salzwedel of the Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin, other guests and most of the Sauk Trails membership. The hushed audience heard Eli's story and gave emotional applause as he received a presentation letter and grant envelope from Sauk Trails president John Fons. The audience then heard from each of the Fire Fighters as they explained their role and mission and accepted invitations to return as guest speakers as the Optimists of Sauk Trails look forward to future programs.

Honored to be among those who serve others, members of the Sauk Trails Optimist Club are also proud to work together as a team, a team dedicated as Friend of Youth.

John Fons, President, Sauk Trails Optimist Club

1. Sauk Trails Optimist Club of Madison, Wisconsin presented a donation for one thousand dollars to burn survivor Eli Iselin to benefit the Summer Burn Camp of the Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin Charitable Foundation on March 27 which also commemorated the 100th Anniversary of Optimist International. Guests of the club included, left to right, Lt. Jimmy Ahn of the Madison Fire Department; Madison Fire Chief Steven Davis and, far right, Eric Salzwedel, Program Coordinator of the Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin Charitable Foundation.

Many Thanks to John Fons and Liv Sandberg for contributing photos.



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STOC Progressive Dinner photos. Beads were tossed, great food and cocktails were being consumed, and STOC friends were sharing a progressive dinner event. Special thanks to Carole & Reed Kloppe and Bob and Karen Wortinger for hosting all of us.



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 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.

