



Pathways

Sauk Trails Optimist Club
Madison, Wisconsin



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

June 2015

Greetings Optimists!

It has been a very busy month of May. We have had a lot of club activities and there seems to be a lot of vacations and travel plans for many folks for the summer. I hope you all had Happy Memorial Day and, once again, thank you to all of our members who have served in the military for all of the sacrifices you make to protect our country.

We had the Special Olympics track meet on May 2 and had a wonderful time. We had breakfast at Headquarters, a new sports bar in Oregon. The track meet had beautiful weather. It was sunny and 75 and the athletes were very inspirational as usual. Thank you to all the members who were able to help out and attend.

We had our Bratfest volunteer event last weekend. Thank you to Diane Hoebel for organizing this and thank you to the volunteers who gave up their time to help out. Nancy Hach also did a great job of working with Madison Festivals to coordinate our volunteer event for the Madison Half Marathon last weekend. Both the Bratfest and Madison Half Marathon event raised money for our club based on the amount of volunteer hours worked. Thanks for all those who were able to participate.

We also had many people's favorite event of the year with our Respect for Law on May 6. These officers are great role models and very valuable members of our community. We value the daily commitments and sacrifices they make to keep us safe. Our Essay contest winners came and spoke to the club. They did a great job and a thank you goes out to Mike Grasmick for coordinating the essay contest. The JOOI Club banquet was Wednesday, May 27, where they installed their new board of directors. We are continually inspired by all of the awesome things that these kids are doing in our communities.

We also have a new board of directors for next year. Thank you to all of the current board members for serving and we look forward to an exciting new board next year. We had a busy month of May and things are slowing down a little bit for the summer. Hope that everyone has a great summer and come visit us at our Wednesday lunches. We will have some great speakers lined up for the summer.

Optimistically,
Dan Bergs
STOC President
dan.bergs@wegnercpas.com



STOC Bulletin Board

Sauk Trails Club Officers 2014-2015

President: Dan Bergs

Vice President: Kathy Johnson


Secretary: Rick Thomas

Treasurer: Bob Wortinger

Past President: Bonnie Spindler

Board of Directors
 Rick Conne
 Todd Geltemeyer
 Mike Grasmick
 Pete Graven
 Nancy Hach
 Diane Hoebel
 Rebecca Turner

June Birthdays



Mary Schwartz	2
Rick Conne	5
Ray Schmitz	27
Roberta Sprain	28



Volunteerism

Thanks to all who have given their time and talents to help our Sauk Trails Optimist Club make an impact in the community. It is your efforts that make the difference! All members should watch for more opportunities to get involved.



Respect For Law

Captain Vic Wahl gave an update on the Madison Police Department. MPD has responded to 1.9 million calls for service over the last decade. Over the past year, MPD has added a centralized violent crimes unit and burglary unit to facilitate in solving those types of crimes. They also now have full time mental health officers. The neighborhood resource officers that we learned about last year continue to target emerging problem areas in the city. Captain Wahl also sighted the importance of a new precinct station on the near west side that is currently in the planning stages.



Pictured left to right: Pres. Dan, Ryan Gibson, Linda Baehmann, & Capt. Vic Wahl

Ryan Gibson has been with the force since 2001 and works the night shift out of the West Precinct. He has worked as a Field Training Officer for the past 10 years.

Linda Baehmann is a former SWAT Team member and now works as a Training Officer. She has helped to train over 250 Madison Police Officers. Linda joined the force in 1994.



2015 STOC Scholarship Winners

Nathan Wang
 Renee Kar-Johnson
 Caila Webber

SWIS District Conferences

SWIS 4th Quarter Convention: August 15, 2015, at The Sheraton in Brookfield followed by Optimist Day at Miller Park at 4:30 p.m. Information to attend the game can be found at www.swisdistrict.org.

9⁷th Optimist International Convention:
 July 9-11, 2015, New Orleans, LA

Newsletter Editor:
 Mary Schwartz
schwrtzmry@aol.com

Sauk Trails Optimists Club Meetings and Other Scheduled Events

- June 3 Jacci & Ted See – Sweden Friendship Exchange
- June 10 Student of the Month
- June 16 STOC Board Meeting 5:00 p.m. WegnerCPA's. All are welcome.
- June 17 Ed Janus, on his book 'Creating Dairyland'
- June 24 Diane Feest, CareNet
- June 25 Volunteer at the Reach-A-Child Warehouse, 2235 Eagle Drive, Middleton. Anytime between 3:00 and 9:00 p.m. Sign up at a meeting or at www.reachachild.org/event
- Club lunch meetings are in blue.

Sauk Trails Optimist Club is one of the "Featured Clubs" on the SWIS District website! Check it out at: http://swisdistrict.org/clubs/featured_club.asp

Sauk Trails Optimist Club Board of Directors Meeting

May 19, 2015

1. Present: Todd, Kathy, Dan, Bob, Mike, Bonnie, Diane, Rick C., Rick T., Nancy
Absent: Rebecca, Pete
2. Bob motions to **approve minutes** from the April 21st, 2015 meeting. Diane seconds. Motion passes.
3. Bob presented the **financial reports** for April. We are in good financial condition and it will be better due to billing being sent out late. Rick C. motions to approve the financials Mike seconds, motion passes.
4. Bob presented the **membership report**. We will be down 1 for the year as Claudia is dropping her membership. Bob motions to drop Claudia from the roster and forgive the billing debt, Rick C. seconds, motion passes. Bonnie motions to approve Nick as a new member, Todd seconds, He is under 30 so it is reduced OI dues, motion passes
5. **Old Business**
 - a. 2 students with winning essays spoke at the last meeting
 - b. The social at Twist had a smaller attendance but it was well received. Reasonable prices. Next social may be at the See's but it is not confirmed
 - c. Special Olympics went well. It was better run than in the past
 - d. Club Policies & Bylaws will be voted on on May 20th
 - e. Bonnie talked about the SWIS conference. New format that was well received.
6. **New Business**
 - a. Meals on Wheels training is Wednesday at 4:00 at Memorial
 - b. Summer social. We will ask Jacci if she can host again.
 - c. JOOI Banquet is on May 27th.
 - d. Bratfest and Madison Festivals, not a lot of volunteers but we have good jobs
 - e. We have some new speakers for June
 - f. Rick C. gave updates for the Christmas party. Sam's donated \$250. Walmart's grant program is being revised so no decision yet from them.
 - g. MASCC luncheon will be Oct. 21
7. **Adjourn**, next meeting, June 16 at 5:00 pm at Wegner CPA's

Football Craze

At the Optimist Conference in May we received the Football Craze tickets for 2015. Last year as a Club we sold 87 tickets for which we received \$11 for each ticket sold. I have 95 tickets for the 2015 year. The tickets sell for \$20 and are valid for seventeen weeks of the pro football season beginning September 10, 2015 and ending January 3, 2016. I will need to turn in sold and unsold tickets to Fred Dorn by August 21st so it is best to start with our sales as soon as we can. I will have tickets available at lunch meetings each Wednesday beginning June 10th or you can reach me at 833-7244 and we can schedule a time and place to get tickets to you for selling. Checks for purchase should be made payable to 'FOOTBALL CRAZE.'

Gene Spindler. Football Craze Ticket Coordinator.

Congratulations to our newly elected officers and board members!

President (1 year term) – **Carole Klopp**

Vice-President (1 year term) – **Mike Grasmick**

Board Members (2 year term) – **Steve Bailey, Dan Chart, Diane Hoebel, Nancy Hach**

Immediate Past President – **Dan Bergs**

Appointed Positions (by the President):

Secretary (1 year term) – **Rick Thomas**

Treasurer (1 year term) – **Bob Wortinger**

Board members with one year remaining: **Rick Conne, Todd Geltmeyer, & Kathy Johnson.**

Thank you for volunteering your leadership!



Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team

It's been a very hectic end of the year for our Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team. Here are the highlights:

1. We traveled to Chicago for "**WE Day.**" It was an exciting day for all of us (advisers and 18 Board Members)! Selena Gomez was the hostess, but she wasn't alone! We saw the Band Perry, Magic Johnson, one of the stars of Modern Family and New Girl, and a host of folk who have been making a difference in their communities in this past year! It was an inspirational day for SYS students and advisers. NOTE: on August 21st on ABC, a presentation of this WE Day will be shown. Will SYS students and advisers be on film??? We'll see.
2. May 20th was **SPIRIT Day** for over 200 students who traveled to area elementary and middle schools to work with kids, plant plants, weed, tutor, and lend a helping hand where it was needed. Not many high schools are able to field students into the community and we're fortunate to have such a supportive principal (the school underwrote the cost of our 3 buses)!
3. May 27th was the **End Of The Year Banquet** where current officers and board members are recognized, several students recognized as "Volunteer of the Year," advisers thanked, new board was inducted this year by STOC Past President Jacci See, 3 scholarship winners were announced and the Optimist Volunteer of the Year revealed – our very own Rick Conne!! The Team would like to deeply thank the Advisers – Mrs. Klopp, Mr. Conne, Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Olson – our new school adviser – for their hard work this year helping to make our club the best in the school! Over 2000 hours of service were performed this year – outdoing last year's total!!

Along the way, multiple smaller projects were conducted and, at the last meeting, 7 projects were still waiting to be fulfilled. Our youth are industrious and always willing to lend a helping hand! They don't just make a difference, they ARE the difference! **Spartan Youth Service ROCKS!!**



Incoming JOOI
Co-Presidents
Alekh Kale and
Mary Shampo



Jacci See inducts the new JOOI officers.

**May in Photos
By Steve Bailey**



**More pictures from the
SYSJT Banquet**



Mr. Conne receives the SYSJT 2015 'Optimist Volunteer of the Year' Award from outgoing co-presidents Vishal Narayanaswamy and Renee Kar-Johnson.



Nathan Wang and Tejvir Mann shared their essays with STOC members on May 13th. The topic of the Optimist International essay contest was "Optimism Should Be A Priority." The winners at the club level were Nathan, first place, Anurag Sandireddy, second, and Tejvir, third. Thanks to Mike Grasmick for organizing the competition. Nathan's essay will advance to the district level.



**We need speakers
for July.
Contact President
Dan to sign up.**



Getting the rootbeer floats and ice cream sundaes ready for the crowd.



Diane, Steve, & Nancy working hard at Brat Fest.

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.