



Pathways

Sauk Trails Optimist Club
Madison, Wisconsin



September / October / November 2021

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

I am writing today as the new President of the Sauk Trails Optimist Club. The last time I was President in 2006-2007 the world was a much different place. Everything seems to move faster now, or maybe I move slower, and our country seems a lot more divided. I do know that Optimism is needed more now than ever before. Our creed says it all in so many ways, but this month I am concentrating on forgetting the mistakes of the past and pressing on to the greater achievements of the future. I spend too much time thinking about things I could have done differently, and I am working on changing that. My mistakes have made me who I am, and they have given me the experiences I need to achieve great things in the future. My hope is that as the calendar year comes to a close, we can all put 2021 behind us and look forward to an amazing 2022. We as a club, and us as individuals have many great achievements ahead of us.

Rick Thomas; rthomas5914@gmail.com



Kathie Newman
Distinguished President 20-21



STOC Club Presidents
Passing Gavel



Rick Thomas
Club President 21-22

Adventures In Optimism

The Sauk Trails Optimists

Occasionally these pages contain the identity and character of one person as an Optimist, whether or not they belong to the Sauk Trails Optimist Club. In fact, whether they belong to the Optimist organization at all. In fact, whether they even belong to our time in history. However, this time the tables are turned and it is this club, the Sauk Trails Optimists and its members who are the focus of the Adventure.

In approaching this subject, I must admit I'm making up for lost time. Well, if you count becoming SWIS District Optimist Governor lost (some people think I am lost) or traveling as I did over 800 miles in six weeks in Southern Wisconsin to various SWIS District clubs (I confess I did get occasionally) lost. Yet in reviewing the news and events of the last few months as it relates to Sauk Trails I realized I had the perfect Adventure to relate: the amazing energy and Optimism Sauk Trails pours into our programs and community involvement, demonstrated by our guest speakers and volunteer efforts in the last mere six months:

911 Dispatch Operator Hannah Thomas; Student of the Year Antonio Wu; Christopher Martingillo, 7th Degree Black Belt martial artist; Addie Endreson, Meals on Wheels; Zoom links to residents of Oakwood Village; Karen Dickrell, Professor of Family Development, UW Outagamie County; Tiffany Schultz, SW Wisconsin Regional Director Better Business Bureau; Mustard Day (in the rain) August 7 volunteer effort; Football CRZR ticket sales;

Judy Ciasto, MD, Healthy Diets and Supplements; Barry Levenson (new member with wife Patti), Middleton Mustard Day and Food Law; Bernadette Galvez, City of Madison Fire Department; Molly Deal, Agrace; Lauren Cnare, Three Gaits Therapeutic Horsemanship Center;

Respect for Law Observance attended by Officers of the Madison Police Department; Kevin Barnett, chemical engineer and founder of Pyran Corporation, plant based paints and coatings; Gail Nordheim, climate change; Scott Strong, RISE Wisconsin; Labor Day Social at home of Ted and Jaci See;

Annual Banquet at Imperial Gardens; Terri Lynn gift orders courtesy Rick Thomas; Happy Dollars at every meeting; Don't forget Bucky Books; Traci Goll, Horizon High School; Joe Herr, Logan Heart and Smiles; Bill Schultz, Miracle League of Dane County; Kyle LaFond, American Provenance; Diane Shinall, Lussier Community Education Center and our own Lussier Center Christmas Party.

Plus grants to various organizations via our Sauk Trails Optimist Foundation.

So if you ever tell anyone you're a member of the Sauk Trails Optimist Club (and you always should tell everyone) and they ask you, "What do you do?" just take a deep breath and smile and say, "Just about everything."

-John Fons
Governor, SWIS District

STOC Bulletin Board

Kathie Newman, Sauk Trails Distinguished President 2020-21 has accepted a new post within the Optimist District of Southern Wisconsin (SWIS). Kathie was installed Saturday, August 14, as Lieutenant Governor of Zone 6 which includes: Sauk Trails, Cross Plains, Middleton, Verona, Mazomanie-Wisconsin Heights and Fitchburg.



John Fons, former Sauk Trails Optimist President and Lieutenant Governor has been installed as Governor Designate 2021-22 of the fifty-four clubs, approximate 1,450 member Southern Wisconsin (SWIS) Optimist District. Installation ceremonies took place August 14 at the quarterly SWIS District conference in Fort Atkinson.



Jacci See accepted the position of Southern Wisconsin (SWIS) Leadership Development Chair to coordinate with John Fons in his Governor 21-22 year.



Diana and Paul Johnson have accepted the position of Southern Wisconsin (SWIS) District Essay Co-Chairs. Besides coordinating the SWIS Essayists they are also coordinating entries for the STOC Club. (All essays are due by February 28, 2022).



Jane Meyer accepted the position of Southern Wisconsin (SWIS) Conference Chair to help John Fons in his year as Governor 21-22.



Bonnie Spindler continued in her position as Southern Wisconsin (SWIS) Webmaster. She has coordinated the inputs and yearly transition of officers for over 5 years. She is a previous twice STOC Club Distinguished president and SWIS Distinguished Governor 2011-2012.



**SWIS INDUCTION TEAM MEMBERS
NOVEMBER 6, 2021**



STOC Bulletin Board

Sauk Trails Club Officers 2019-2020

President: Rick Thomas

Vice President: Kathy Johnson

Secretary: Carole Klopp

Treasurer: Bob Wortinger

Past President: Kathie Newman

Board of Directors

Steve Bailey
Rick Conne
Jane Meyer
Ted See
Mark Kraemer

September Birthdays

Carole Klopp	4
Mark Kraemer	9
Mary Bruenig	20
Dan Chart	22
Nancy Hach	27
Jacci See	27

October Birthdays

Rick Thomas	21
Ted See	28

November Birthdays

Karen Wortinger	25
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December Birthdays

Mike Gustafson	5
Bennis Norton	7
Barb Sheehan-Hill	20

Newsletter Editor:

John Fons

jefons@aol.com

"Prove It."

With input from
Kathie Newman,
& Bonnie Spindler

SWIS 2nd Quarter Conference

2021-2022

Saturday, February 19

Jefferson, WI

Exec Mtg: Fri, 2/18, 7PM;

Conf: Sat, 2/19 9:00am-3pm

Sauk Trails annual banquet was planned for the evening of Wednesday, September 29 at Imperial Gardens, 2039 Allen Blvd., Middleton, with silent auction at 5:30pm, dinner at 6:30pm and installation of club officers that were present. Below is the Installation of the 21-22 STOC Club Officers by Past Governor, Maureen Crombie.



Sauk Trails Optimists meet every Wednesday at 11:45am at Vintage Brewing located at Whitney Way and Odana Road. Reservations should be emailed to club president Rick Thomas each Monday beforehand to allow lunch preparations. Watch for email announcements of special guest speakers. Meetings are recorded for later viewing.

Sign-up for obtaining future speakers or speaking yourself is being implemented in 2022.



SAUK TRAILS-MADISON OPTIMIST CLUB

Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, May 11, 2021; 5:00PM
Agenda via Zoom

1. Welcome/ Agenda Additions

Attending: Kathie N. Bob W., Rick T., Steve Bailey, Diane H., Nancy H., Mary S., Rick C.
Absent: Kathie Johnson

2. Board Meeting Minutes – approve

Steve moved to approve, Diane H. seconded, approved unanimously

3. Financial Reports – Bob will present. Board to approve.

40 current members, started year at 41 members, Rick C. moved to transfer \$3000 from the money market fund to the Wellington fund, Steve seconded, discussion ensued, approved unanimously. Mary moved to accept the financial reports, Rick C. seconded, approved unanimously.

4. Status: Memorial Patch for Ken-Adi Ring. We approved \$100 OI Contribution and Request Form to the OI Foundation. The \$100 contribution will count towards our annual OI Foundation donation.

This was done at the last meeting. The patch has not arrived yet.

5. Diane Hoebel will fill out Ken's term which will ends September 2022.

Officers slated for 2021-2022.

Bob moved that Diane should fill out Ken's term, Rick C. seconded, approved unanimously

President – Rick Thomas
Vice-President – Kathie Newman
Treasurer – Bob Wortinger
Secretary – Carole Klopp

Board member – Ted See Board member – Jane Meyer Board member – Rick Conne Board member – Steve Bailey Board member – Mark Kraemer
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6. In-person luncheon meetings. A Poll from the last zoom meeting will be attached to the email notice.

One person is not ready to meet in person yet.

Capability of maintaining a zoom connection at an in-person meeting?

Kathie will share the pricing and meal options provided by The Vintage.

Ted See moved that we start meeting full time at the Vintage starting June 30th, Diane seconded, approved unanimously.

7. Election of OI President-Elect Candidates and two Board of Directors and the Regional VP.

Candidates in The Sunny Side. Any opinions on who to support? Voting takes places April 29th to May 29th.

8. Committees and Activities

a. Brat Stand- review –held at Verona Festival Food store on April 17, 2021 from 10:30 to 5:30.

The Verona Club has asked if we would partner with them again at Verona Hometown Days Sept 3-5sept 3-a. Are we interested? Who will take the lead to coordinate?

Rick T. will follow up with Andy regarding this event.

b. Special Olympics Track Meet – Bob will provide an update. The track meet was May 9 at Edgerton HS.

Special Olympics also has the Sun Run & Solar Plunge on June 19 at Schluter Beach in Monona.

3 members volunteered at this event. Went smoothly and was enjoyable. Lots of new people running the event.

c. Bucky Book – Bob sent letter of intent on April 30, 2021.

d. Czar Tickets – Fred Dorn gave me 50 tickets while at the District Conference on May 8.

Tickets are \$20 each. Unsold tickets to be returned by August 20 to Fred at 501 N Madison St, Waunakee 53597. Kathie has 50 tickets for the club to sell.

e. Horizon HS will move on May 24, 2021 with the donated assistance of Moving Forward.

f. Logan's Heart and Smiles Golf at The Oaks August 22. This is their fundraiser.

Any members who golf may want to participate.

9. Adjourn, Diane moved to adjourn, Mary seconded, approved unanimously.

Sauk Trails Optimist Club
Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Present: Kathie Newman, John Fons, Rick Conne, Robert Wortinger Steve Bailey, Ted See, Diane Hoebel, Mary Schwartz

Absent: Rick Thomas; Kathy Johnson, Nancy Hach

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm

1. Consideration of May, 2021 minutes deferred in absence of Secretary with corrections pending. No June Board Meeting held.
2. Financial Reports: Balance sheet \$5,846.37 checking-operating; Cash position \$5,949.37 considered 'strong' compare \$4,248.02 previous year; expenses predicted to increase with return to normal activities following pandemic; Accounts receivable 'OK' with Foundation assets @ \$21,552.81 less \$5,000 scholarship owed; \$6,300 available for grants; \$800 'cushion' prior to funds anticipated via Football Crazz and Mustard Days volunteer proceeds: "We're in great shape from that perspective," B Wortinger. Income and Balance Sheet statements presented by Wortinger.

Motion to accept Financial Reports by Bailey; 2nd Hoebel. Passed unanimous.
3. Positive feedback reported on in person meetings at Vintage Brewing. Jacci See will bring 25 new member application forms to regular club meeting 07/14.
4. Wortinger recommends making a new member fee \$25 with purchase of shirt optional; increase from current new member fee \$50 with shirt included. Discussion ensued. Motion Wortinger from \$50 to \$25 new member fee w/o shirt. Second Conne. Motion unanimously approved.
5. Discussion to place new member application on web site and social media. President Newman will discuss with Spindler. Thomas has Facebook credentials and will be consulted.
6. Continuation of plaques presented to guest speakers. Wortinger will place order.
7. Annual banquet – Suggestions requested for location. Vintage Brewing in Sauk City; Imperial Gardens discussed. Newman will consult with incoming president Thomas.
8. New board member terms: Ted See, Jane Meyer, Mark Kraemer; Diane Hoebel approved to fill in Ken Ring's term effective until October 1, 2022; President – RThomas; Treasurer – BWortinger; Secretary – CKlopp.
9. Motion to spend up to \$25 for microphone to facilitate Zoom meetings. Move made for up to \$25 for mic to work with computer to facilitate Zoom meetings. Motion by Schwartz, second Wortinger. Motion unanimous approval.
10. Special Olympics - Mike Grasmick attended.
11. Bucky Books letter of intent sent April 30 by Wortinger. Will discuss with Dan Berg.
12. CRAZR – Twenty more requested from Fred Dorn. Fifty (50) originally issued to STOC.
13. Mustard Days – 22 STOC members signed up for volunteers. Outstanding representation; anticipate \$480 income @ \$8 per hour per person; comparable to Brat Fest.
14. Discussion re Verona Hometown Days – Verona club in need of volunteers will provide schedule and details.
15. Anticipation of Ken Adi-Ring memorial July 17at Unity Church of Madison.
16. Motion to adjourn by Bailey; second by Hoebel. Unanimous approval 5:40pm.

Minutes submitted by JFons.

Sauk Trails Optimist Club "Pathways" September - November 2021



SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING via Zoom

Tuesday, August 10, 2021, 5:00 p.m. Minutes

PRESENT: Kathie N, Kathy J, Nancy, Bob W., Ted, Nancy, Rick T, Mary, John, Diane

ABSENT: Steve & Rick C.

1. **Welcome/Agenda Additions.** President Newman called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.
2. **July Board Meeting Minutes (there was no June Board meeting):**
 - a. Due to edits in May 13 minutes, Diane motioned to accepted, seconded by Ted, and passed unanimously.
 - b. Diane motioned and John seconded to accept minutes of July 13 minutes; passed unanimously.
3. **Financial Report:** Bob reported: Operating cash position remains strong. Recent policy has been to maintain an operating cash position of around \$4,000 at year-end. Based on this, we should be able to transfer \$1,500 to \$2,000 to the Foundation at year-end. \$500 received in August from Wal-Mart for Lussier Christmas Party – Rick C. expects to receive more. Foundation earnings from our Vanguard Wellington account so far this year total \$1,475. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report by Diane, seconded by Nancy and approved.
4. **Foundation Summary:** With scholarship payouts up from the \$2,000 - \$2,500 level in past years to \$4,000 in 2021, we still should have at least \$9,000 available for year-end local grant payouts which normally total \$5,500. In September, the Foundation Board will discuss paying out more than \$5,500 this year or building up the Foundation balances for future years. Rick T. will send out requests for grant applications to be received prior to the September Board meeting.
5. **Approve New Member Applications:** Kathy J motioned, John seconded to accept Barry Levenson, Patti Levenson, Doris (Dori) Van Houten, and Amber Bormann's for membership. Unanimously approved.
6. **Annual Banquet:** The Vintage and Imperial Garden venues were discussed with dates of September 29 and October 6. Imperial Garden on September 29 is the most likely. Kathie will confirm soon. Kathy J and her committee of Dennis Norton, Steve Bailey and Jacci See will seek donations for Silent Auction held that night.
7. **Board and Officer Positions:**

NEW Board Member Terms: Ted See, Jane Meyer and Mark Kraemer
Board Members in 2nd Year of Term: Rick Conne, Steve Bailey, and Diane Hoebel
President: Rick Thomas
Treasurer: Bob Wortinger
Secretary: Carole Klopp
Past-President: Kathie Newman
A Vice President is still needed (Kathy J. agreed to serve in that role following the meeting)
The Board consists of the 4 club officers, the immediate past president, and 6 elected members.
8. **Reimburse Kathie for Zoom subscription:** motioned by Rick T & seconded Bob to reimburse Kathie \$102.25.
9. **Microphone Donation:** Rick T has donated one for meetings.
10. **Respect for Law:** a \$253 expenditure was approved for \$100 gifts plus meals for the 2 officers plus meals for four officers and guests who attended. Motioned by John; seconded by Diane, and unanimously approved.
11. **The Experience at Vintage and Meeting Frequency:** Food has been a bit up and down. Kathie discussed with Mark Kraemer and our Vintage contact. The Board consensus was to continue in-person for weekly meetings.
12. **Committees and Fundraising**
 - a. Fundraising: Mustard Days went well with members and JOI kids. Bob expects approximately \$550. BratFest: received \$137.42 in 2021
 - b. Bucky Book: Bob sent letter of intent on 4/30/21; Dan Bergs will handle the sale of the Books again.
 - c. Fund CRAZR Tickets: Kathie reported she still has tickets available.
 - d. Culvers: Rick reported that volunteer nights are beginning and hopes to have a schedule for us soon.
 - e.
13. **Adjourn** to September 14, 2021, motioned by Kathy J; seconded by Rick T. Passed unanimously at 6:00 p.m.
Respectfully submitted, Kathy Johnson, Secretary



SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING via Zoom

Tuesday, September 14, 2021, 5:00 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Kathie N, Kathy J, Diane, Bob W., Ted, Nancy, Rick C, Rick T, Mary, Steve

ABSENT: John

1. **Welcome/Agenda Additions.** President Newman called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. **August Meeting Minutes:** Ted moved; Bob seconded. to accept minutes of August 10 meeting; passed unanimously.
3. **Financial Report:** Bob reported Bob reported: Operating cash position remains strong. Currently the adjusted cash position is about \$6200 - normally we transfer funds to the Foundation at year-end (September 30) to end the year around \$4,000. More expenses will be coming through in September with the annual banquet and year-end club awards. Rick C. motioned to accept; Steve seconded. Passed unanimously.
4. **Annual Banquet:** Will be held 9/29 at Imperial Garden starting at 5:30. Club budgeted \$330 for the banquet to subsidize members' meals. Bob recommended the Club subsidize the meal by \$10; Rick T motioned, and Kathy J seconded \$10.
Inductions: Rick Thomas, President; Kathy Johnson, V.P., Carole Klopp, Secretary; Bob Wortinger, Treasurer
Induction of New Board Members: Ted See, Jane Meyer, Mark Kraemer
Induction of New Members: Amber Bormann, Barry Levenson, Patti Levenson.
5. **Board Positions & Recognitions:** Mary, Nancy, and John were recognized for their years of service and contributions to the STOC Board.
Board Members serving second year: Rick Conne, Steve Bailey, Diane Hoebel. Board consists of the Club's 4 officers, the immediate past president, and 6 elected board members.
6. **Committees and Fundraising**
 - a. Fundraising: Mustard Days brought in a contribution of \$550.
 - b. Koeze/Terri Lynn Nuts: sales have continued online and will continue with a holiday push
 - c. Bucky Books distributed by Dan Bergs at 9/8 meeting. The Club has 40 to sell and can get more.
 - d. CRAZR Tickets: 53 of 70 tickets sold; tickets and monies returned to Fred Dorn on 8/25/21. \$530 recorded as estimated for STOC profits this year.
 - e. Culvers volunteering: Rick reported the restaurant has a new manager and he'll make contact.
7. **Adjourn** to October, (date tbd) 2021, motioned by Rick C; Rick T. seconded. Passed unanimously. Adjourn 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Johnson, Secretary

Lt. Governor Zone 6, Kathie Newman Sharing of Ideas

At the District Conference Executive Meeting on November 5, 2021, the Lt Governors shared information about their club's fundraising activities. I would like to share some of their ideas, so that we may consider the activities as something STOC would like to do.

- Bowling 9-pin tap fundraiser
- Chili at bars – sell raffle tickets
- Chili Supper
- Chili made and sold in containers – Zone 2
- Car show where they sold beer and cheese curds - Zone 2
- Pig Roast – Zone 5 and 6
- Turkey Meat Raffle - Zone 2
- BratFry/Brat Stand - Zone 1 & 6
- Bell Ringing
- Selling Christmas Trees and Wreaths from HS - Zone 1
- Build and sail a boat –“All Hands Boat Works” - Zone 1
- Bells for Salvation Army – Zone 1
- Packer Raffle – Zone 2
- Sell Cheese Curds – Zone 2
- Fundraiser's event w/band at restaurant – Zone 6/Cross Plains Club
- Partnered with businesses to build a playground that accommodates those with physical challenges – Zone 6/Fitchburg
- Cops and Bobbers fishing day
- Academic tutoring program
- Summer Frolic Community Event – raised \$2600 - Zone 6/Mt Horeb
- Golf Outing – raised \$1900 – Zone 6/Mt Horeb Club
- Neighbors helping neighbors – raise \$1000 – Zone 6/Mt Horeb Club
- Hamburger Stand at Hometown Days – Zone 6/Verona Club
- Pancake Breakfast – Sun Prairie Club



**Scott Strong spoke About
RISE WISCONSIN PROGRAM**

**SEE EVENTS ABOVE for DISCUSSION
as POSSIBLE FUTURE EVENTS for the
YOUTH WE SERVE at SAUK TRAILS –
MADISON CLUB in 2022.**



**Bill Schultz, Executive Director
Miracle League of Dane County**

FUTURE DECEMBER EVENTS

Dec. 1, 2021: Christine Benedict from Girls on the Run will be speaking

Dec. 8, 2021: Open, though Mark Kraemer is signed up to find a speaker

Dec. 15, 2021: Gift wrapping at the lunch meeting. **TB Finalized.**

Dec. 18, 2021: (FRI), TENTATIVE Distribution of Christmas Gifts to Youth, **TB Finalized.**

Dec. 22, 2021: Annual Ornament Gift Exchange.

HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON,
No events planned until 2022.

Thanks to ALL who sold Bucky Books again this year. The sale is being finalized currently.

!Remember, Please!

Use Amazon Smile

When you go online to make a purchase.
It's safe and easy as club members will attest and
A percentage of each transaction goes to our
Sauk Trails Optimist Club

#

And when you're going Nuts,
Remember <https://sauktrailsoptimists.terri Lynn.com>
make your Terri Lynn Purchases any time of year!!

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 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.

In the ABOUT area, click on this link: [CLUB Photo Gallery to view pictures.](#)

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

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.