



Pathways

Sauk Trails Optimist Club
Madison, Wisconsin



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

December 2015

Holiday Greetings!

Well, Thanksgiving came and went AND now it's time for that most famous time of year – Christmas! For STOC, that means putting up trees at Rosewood Villas on December 5th, the Lussier Christmas Party for the kids on December 11th, and, of course, our annual club Holiday Party / Ornament Exchange on December 16th!

Please consider this your Special Invitation to the Holiday Party – where good food, friends, and laughter abound as we exchange ornaments – sometimes silly, sometimes gaudy, and always decorative. I definitely think that some are recycled each year – just for the fun! Sure hope to see all members attending at this wonderful time of the year – and don't forget to bring your wrapped ornament!!

AND, many, many, many THANKS to Liv Sandberg for agreeing to be our new newsletter editor! (BTW and for the record - NO broken bones were involved in this decision-making process! LOL) Liv will take over news distribution duties in January. Please say a hardy "Thank You" to Liv when you see her!

Finally, this is our last newsletter for 2015 and I want to thank all for making STOC such a wonderful club to belong to!! We do a lot of wonderful things for the kids in our community and we can all be proud of all that we do! Sending wishes for Joy and Happiness this Holiday Season to all and to all a very Happy New Year!!

Optimistically Yours,
Carole Klopp, President

PS: Remember our goals for this club year: 5 new members net AND raising \$8000 for our foundation! We CAN do it!!

**Don't forget your Koeze Nut order –
due December 2nd!**



STOC Bulletin Board

Sauk Trails Club Officers 2015-2016

President: Carole Klopp

Vice President: Mike Grasmick

Secretary: Rick Thomas

Treasurer: Bob Wortinger

Past President: Dan Bergs

Board of Directors


Steve Bailey
 Dan Chart
 Rick Conne
 Todd Geltemeyer
 Nancy Hach
 Diane Hoebel
 Kathy Johnson

Annual Ornament Exchange
December 16th Lunch Meeting

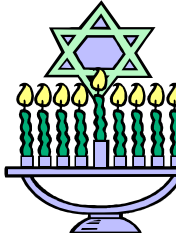
Bring a wrapped ornament valued at \$5.00 or less and prepare for some fun.



December Birthdays

	Mike Gustafson 5
	Barb Sheeran-Hill 20

Newsletter Editor:
 Mary Schwartz
schwartzmry@aol.com



KOEZE NUTS

The holidays are around the corner and your opportunity to get your shopping done early is here!

Choose from a wide variety of delicious nuts and chocolates. Most are packaged to make beautiful gifts.

The order deadline is: December 2nd for the products.

This is one of our main fundraisers for the STOC Youth and Community Foundation. If you are too shy to ask others to buy, go ahead and purchase some for yourself!

For more information or to order, contact Rick Thomas at 212-7582 or rithomas5914@gmail.com

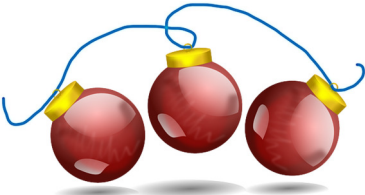
Volunteer Opportunity

Decorate Rosewood Villas for Christmas
Saturday, December 5th 9:00 to Noon

We will be assembling and decorating Christmas trees throughout the facility.

Rosewood Villas is a senior living facility located at 902 N. High Point Road.

Contact Dan if you would like to help with this community service project.



Sauk Trails Optimists Club Meetings and Other Scheduled Events

December 2	Student Recognition
December 5	Decorating at Rosewood Villas – 9:00 to noon
December 9	Lussier Party Gift Wrapping Social – 5:00 p.m. at Twist in the Radisson
December 11	Christmas Party at the Lussier Community Education Center – 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.
December 15	STOC Board Meeting at Park Bank at 5:00 p.m. All are welcome.
December 16	Annual Ornament Exchange & Holiday Merriment at the Lunch Meeting
December 23	No Lunch Meeting – Merry Christmas
December 30	No Lunch Meeting – Happy New Year
January 5	New Optimists Wanted/Happy Hour at Twist 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
January 6	No Lunch Meeting

Lussier Community Education Center Annual Christmas Party

On Friday, December 11th, STOC will host the Annual Christmas Party for 140 Westside children and their families. Participants will enjoy a meal, be entertained, and receive a gift from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Your help is needed to wrap gifts!!

Volunteers will be needed to wrap gifts on Wednesday, December 9th, after work. Come join us at Twist in the Radisson to eat, drink, socialize, & WRAP GIFTS. Many hands will make light work of wrapping the 140 gifts that will be distributed to the children at the party. Please note that the regular lunch meeting on the 12th is cancelled. The cost will be \$12 (same as lunch).



At this time, Rick says we have enough volunteers for the party. Set-up begins at 3:30 p.m. and the party is from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. The Lussier Community Education Center is at 55 S. Gammon Road, Madison (next to Jefferson Middle School).

Mark Your Calendar



**New Optimists Wanted Social – January 5, 2016
Annual Progressive Dinner – Sunday, February 21, 2016**

Watch for more details.

SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, November 10, 2015

MINUTES

PRESENT: Dan C., Rick T., Nancy, Bonnie, Bob, Carole, Diane, Steve, Dan B., Mike, Todd, Rick C.

Absent: Kathy

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

1. **Approval of Board Minutes from 10/13/2015.** Steve moves to approve, Nancy seconded, Passed unanimously
2. **Acceptance of October Financial Reports:** Bob presented the financial reports. We are planning on taking two people off of the membership role. Good financial position.
 - a. Dan moves to approve \$125 for the Lussier X-mas party entertainer. Bob seconded, Passed unanimously. Bob moves that we pay the \$560 JOOI dues, Steve seconded, Passed unanimously. The income statement reflects the approved budget for the year showing a net profit of zero. Rick C. moves to accept the financial report, Dan C. seconds, Passed unanimously.
 - b. Carole read the audit committee letter to the board which states that financial reports have been well done. Diane motions that we accept the report, Todd seconds, Passed unanimously.
3. **Membership Report Update:** Dashni was added as a new member and Bob moves that we drop Rebecca and Denise, Dan B. seconds, passed unanimously. We now have 48 members and 0 FOOs
4. **Board Organization:**
 - a. Carole thought we should change the rule about the President being at every lunch. While it hasn't been a problem in the past, we should let it be known so we can recruit future Presidents.
 - b. Bob will need people to cover the Treasurer position at weekly meetings. Several people were willing to do it.
5. **Committee Reports**
 - a. Service
 - i. Rosewood December 5th starting at 9 a.m.
 - ii. Lussier Party on December 11th and gift wrapping on December 9th
 - iii. Steve moves to charge \$12 for Dec. 12th evening social and Diane seconds, Passed unanimously. Diane has the extra wrapping paper and Frank buys additional as needed.
 - iv. Madison Marathon, Diane and Nancy worked it but we need to figure out how to get other people to sign up.
 - v. Meals on Wheels is continuing to go well.
 - b. Social
 - i. NOW meeting at TWIST on Tuesday, Jan. 5th
 - c. Fundraising
 - i. Bucky Books – money is due on Nov. 11th
 - ii. Koeze Nuts – Dec. 2nd is the order deadline
6. We need a new newsletter editor, ASAP!
7. **New Business.**
 - a. Bob discussed the possibility of charging elderly members a lower amount. Diane moves that we charge \$25 quarterly dues for special consideration membership. Dan B. seconds, Passed unanimously.
 - b. Luncheon costs will be rising possibly to \$13.
 - c. We are looking for more speakers
 - d. Mike discussed the Essay contest. He will come to several JOOI meetings to pitch the contest.
 - e. Steve discussed the possibility of an Oratorical contest this year.
8. **Adjourn**, next meeting will be December 15th at 5:00 pm. at Park Bank. Nancy moves to adjourn, Diane seconded. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Thomas. Secretary

HEY! Take a couple of minutes and check out our new club website at
www.sauktrailsmadisonoptimist.org

I DID IT! I took about 5 minutes and checked it out. Kudos to Bonnie for her hard work! The homepage has links to information about club meetings, board meetings, and volunteer activities. You can link directly to our Facebook page! There are photos and history and accomplishments. There is also a direct link to the SWIS District website.

Please provide Bonnie (blspindler@charter.net or 833-7244) with any upcoming events, pictures, & accomplishments, to help share information with other Optimists in our club. Be sure and let her know of any updates needed to keep the information current on the website.

November in Pictures

Photos by
Steve Bailey

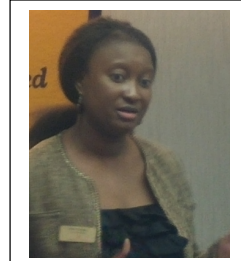


Mary and Mary Ann provided STOC members with an enthusiastic update of what the Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team is working on. The girls shared a video entitled 'Spartan Youth Service – Be The Difference' that you can watch, too. Click on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2JAYcn54ZXg>



Bruce Moffat told us about the Dane County Time Bank. People who belong to the Time Bank exchange services with each other. This helps people get to know others in the community.

Fatou Ceesay gave a nice talk about caring for people with dementia.



Each meeting we have an interesting speaker, providing information on topics such as community service, health & wellness, youth, or travel.

Come and check out our Wednesday Lunch Meetings! We would love to see you if you haven't join us in a while!

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 at 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.