



Pathways

Sauk Trails Optimist Club
Madison, Wisconsin



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



November 2019

PRESIDENTS NOTE

Two Very Good Reasons

I want to give each one of you two very good reasons for being who you are as Sauk Trails Optimists. Each one of you already has reasons of your own to be helpful, to be public minded and spirited in your efforts as volunteer Friends of Youth.

Here are two more.

I recently purchased a two volume biography of the man who is arguably the most famous personage in Wisconsin political history. He is Robert Marion LaFollette, "Fighting Bob" as he came to be known, born June 14, 1855 on a Dane County farm near Primrose, Wisconsin and died June 18, 1925. He is buried in Madison's Forest Hill Cemetery. A champion of common causes and common citizens, his wife and daughter who wrote his biography are buried beside him and his grave has been desecrated.

That's right.

Go to Forest Hill Cemetery to view the final resting place of Wisconsin's beloved native son, the honest country lawyer who served as State Governor and US Senator and Presidential candidate of the Progressive Movement and you will find letters of his name broken off from his grave marker by what appears to be the use of a cold chisel and hammer.

That's reason Number One.

Reason Number Two comes from last weeks 1st Quarter SWIS District conference in Fitchburg where eighty or so Optimists gathered to speak and listen about the future of Optimism and encourage one another in doing good for their clubs and their communities.

In the very next room of the hotel where we Optimists met another meeting was being conducted behind closed doors, but those doors were made of glass so if you happened to walk by in the hallway you could see what the other meeting was about.

It was attended by thirty or forty adults who paid very close attention to a speaker as he stood before a large projection screen. So while we as Optimists applauded and laughed together in one room, those people were nearby silently taking notes in deadly earnest.

They were learning about the use and function of spring loaded magazines for hand guns and the application of lethal force in use of firearms.

The Optimist Creed begins, "Promise Yourself to be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind."

So be it.

Just be sure your Optimism is working, because the world is giving us two more very good reasons why it **must**.
John Fons

STOC Bulletin Board

Sauk Trails Club Officers 2018-19

President: John Fons

Vice President: Rick Thomas

Secretary: Kathy Johnson

Treasurer: Bob Wortinger


Past President: John Fons

Board of Directors

- Steve Bailey
- Rick Conne
- Nancy Hach
- Kathie Newman
- Ted See
- Liv Sandberg

November Birthdays

Karen Wortinger 25



SWIS Conference
February 22, 2020.
Broadhead, WI

Conference details & information:
www.swisdistrict.org



Newsletter Editor:
 Liv Sandberg
 jlivsandberg@gmail.com

Date	Speaker	Topic
11/5	VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY	Culver's
11/6	Traci Goll	Horizon High School (Grant Recipient)
11/12	<i>STOC Board Meeting 5:00 pm</i>	<i>Park Bank 2275 Deming Way, Middleton All members are welcome to attend</i>
11/13	Curt Fuszard	REACH-A-Child (Grant Recipient)
11/20	Tom & Donna Miller	The Friendship Force
11/27	NO MEETING	<i>HAPPY THANKSGIVING</i>
12/4	VOLUNTEER (no lunch meeting)	Gift Wrapping for Lussier Christmas Party
12/6	VOLUNTEER	<i>Lussier Christmas Party Lussier Community Education Center Park Bank 2275 Deming Way, Middleton All members are welcome to attend</i>
12/10	<i>STOC Board Meeting 5:00 pm</i>	<i>Park Bank 2275 Deming Way, Middleton All members are welcome to attend</i>
12/11	SYSJT Students	Student of the Month
12/18	Annual Christmas	Ornament Exchange
12/25	NO MEETING	<i>MERRY CHRISTMAS</i>

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

STOC MEMBERS RECEIVE HONORS AND RECOGNITION AT SWIS DISTRICT MEETINGS!



Congratulations Gene!

Governor Christine Dieckhoff, 19-20 after she presented an ‘Unsung Hero’ award to Gene Spindler for ‘his tireless service, loyalty and support for his club, the SWIS District and Optimist International’.

Photo Bonnie Spindler

STOC president John Fons walking across the stage, as the incoming Lt. Governor for Zone 7, which includes our STOC Club. (He’s going by banners that have past SWIS honors). John also received a pin and letter from OI for putting on new club Members.

Photo Bonnie Spindler



IT'T TIME TO ORDER THOSE YUMMIES FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Terri Lynn Fundraiser

We will be kicking off the Terri Lynn Fundraiser towards the middle of October. These are high quality nuts and candies that are great for gift giving or just for a treat for yourself. This is a major fundraiser for the club so please consider placing an order. Watch your email for an order sheet with details on how to order and the ordering deadline, or go online and order anytime at:

<https://sauktrailsoptimists.terrilynncares.com>

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

**SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

No Board meeting took place in October, so there are no updates to be reported.

Sauk Trails Optimists took to the road for their regular luncheon meeting October 9 with a visit to Holy Wisdom Monastery on County Highway M in Middleton. Thirteen Optimists attended the noon meeting which included lunch served at the monastery and tour of the grounds conducted by Greg Armstrong of the monastery staff.

Speakers of interest and organizations attend Sauk Trails meetings virtually every week to bring information and news of community activities to the club at our regular venue in the Radisson Hotel. In this case, Optimists traveled away from our accustomed setting to experience firsthand another aspect of our community and enjoy the hospitality of the Benedictine sisters. One of those in attendance, Optimist guest Jane Meyer, renewed an acquaintance with Sister Mary David of the monastery after their first meeting at the monastery twenty years ago.

The sisters of Holy Wisdom established their independence as an ecumenical place of worship and devotion in 2006 and extend their dedication to preservation and restoration of the grounds and natural beauty which surround the monastery.

Perfect autumn weather contributed to the enjoyment of the day for Sauk Trails Optimists.

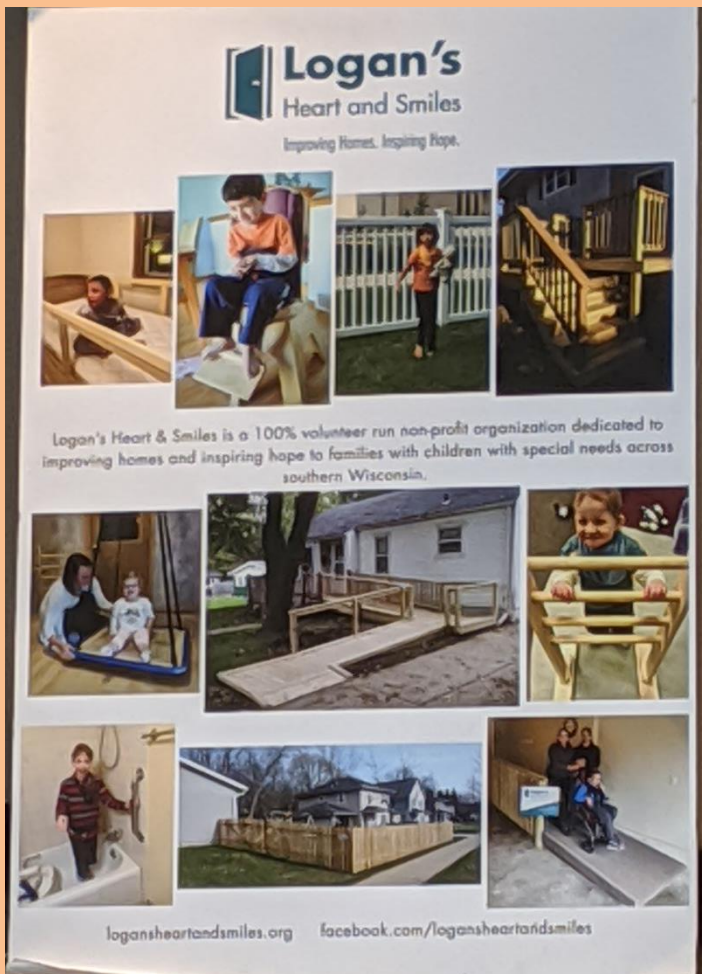
Photo: Pictured second from right is Greg Armstrong of Holy Wisdom, their naturalist, arborist and grounds keeper with STOC members.

Photos: Steve Bailey and John Fons





Many thanks to Maria Hampton of 'Madison Friends of International Students' for presenting a very interesting talk to STOC Members. Photo by Steve Bailey



Joe of Logan's Heart and Smiles. Last month our Sauk Trails Foundation awarded the Heart and Smiles organization a grant to help build access ramps for the homes of disabled youth. Joe attended STOC luncheon to accept that grant and explain first hand the work he accomplishes with his volunteers! Photos by Steve Bailey

Many thanks to author and speaker **Travis Currier** for providing an insightful presentation on diversity and inclusion in the workplace and beyond. Travis spoke about how you can grow to be more accepting of people from other cultures, having a better work environment experience and increasing your productivity in the workplace."



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.

