



# Pathways

Sauk Trails Optimist Club  
Madison, Wisconsin



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



**November 2014**

Greetings Optimists!

It has been a great first month for the new Optimist Club year. We have had \$47 Happy Dollars during our lunch meetings, a new record! The Happy Dollars are dollars donated by club members attending lunches to share something happy that is happening in their lives. These dollars go to our foundation that helps to fund scholarships, donations, and other great things in our community.

Speaking of happy events, I am very excited to now be married to my beautiful wife Katie! We had our wedding on October 18, a perfect fall afternoon. I will be sharing pictures as we receive more of them. Then we went to Riviera Maya in Mexico for a honeymoon right away. It was tough leaving weather that was over 80 degrees and sunny every day. Nonetheless, we are happy to be back and starting to get back to normal. Katie and I would like to thank you for the wonderful gift you gave us. We are very appreciative and will definitely be using the cheese platter you gave us for hosting parties.

One upcoming event to put on your calendar is the monthly social Wednesday, November 19. We will not have a meeting on Wednesday, November 26 since the next day is Thanksgiving.

Optimistically,  
*Dan Bergs*  
Club President  
[dan.bergs@wegnercpas.com](mailto:dan.bergs@wegnercpas.com)

Photos by  
maisonmeredith photography

To see more pictures, go to:  
<http://www.maisonmeredith.com/blog/2014/10/28/dan-katie-married-a-st-maria-goretti-st-francis-xavier-wedding-celebration>



## Sauk Trails Optimists Club Meetings and Other Scheduled Events

Date	Optimist Assigned	Speaker and Topic (Lunch, 11:45 AM at Radisson unless indicated)	
November 5	Mark Kraemer	Dane County Immunization Coalition Program / Diane McHugh	
November 12	Mike Grasmick	The Future of Beef / Mike Grasmick	
November 18		Board Meeting – all are welcome	5:00 p.m. at Wegner CPA's
November 19	All STOC Members	Tentative Club Social	
November 26	NO MEETING	HAPPY THANKSGIVING!	
December 3	Kathy Johnson	Boosting your immune system naturally / Jamie Lenz, D.C.	
December 10	TBD		
December 16		Board Meeting- all are welcome	5:00 p.m. at Wegner CPA's
December 17	All Optimists	Annual Ornament Exchange	
December 19		Lussier Christmas Party	5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
December 24		Merry Christmas – No Meeting	
December 31		Happy New Year – No Meeting	

Shaded = Wednesday Lunch Meeting

### Congratulations Dan and Katie!

Members chipped in for a wedding gift presented to Dan at the October 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.



Thanks to Jacci See for being the designated shopper.

### Volunteer at the 2014 Madison Marathon November 7-9

Nancy has signed us up for the opportunity to volunteer for the 2014 Madison Marathon. The club earns money for each hour volunteered. To sign up go to <http://madisonfestivals.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/> Make sure you select Sauk Trails Optimist Club as the charity. Watch for more events like this in the future!

### 2014-2015 SWIS District Meetings:

SWIS 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Conference:

January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in Madison

SWIS 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Conference:

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 in Wis. Dells Area

SWIS 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Conference:

August 2015 (TBD)

97<sup>th</sup> Optimist International Convention

July 9-11, 2015, New Orleans, LA

## 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

### Watch for Details for the Next Sauk Trails Optimist Club Happy Hour Social

Not only can you enjoy the company of your fellow Optimists, you can introduce your friends to Optimism. We don't have a definite date yet due to ongoing construction at the Radisson. Watch Dan's weekly e-mail for more details!

### November Birthdays

Denise Siemers 23



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 nuts and chocolates. Most are packaged to make beautiful gifts.

Order deadlines are: **November 12<sup>th</sup>** and **December 10<sup>th</sup>** for the products. (If you order on Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> and don't mind having your order combined with a Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> order, please indicate on your form. We're trying to avoid shipping costs with minimum amounts for 'free shipping' on each order.)

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 [jathoma2@facstaff.wisc.edu](mailto:jathoma2@facstaff.wisc.edu)



### Bucky Book Fundraiser



A reminder to get your Bucky Books from Dan. Support your club by selling OR buying a Bucky Book. The club keeps \$15 from each book sold. Money is due by November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Join in the fun at the **Lussier Christmas Party**  
December 19<sup>th</sup> – 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Brightening the lives of children on Madison's west side.

More details in next month's newsletter.

**SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Tuesday, October 28, 2014**  
**MINUTES**

PRESENT: Dan, Diane, Kathy, Rick C., Rick T., Bob, Nancy, Mike ABSENT: Rebecca, Pete, Bonnie, Todd  
 The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m.

1. **Approval of Board Minutes from 9/22/2014:** Rick C. moves to approve, Kathy seconds, passes unanimously
2. **Acceptance of September Financial Reports:**
  - a. Bob presented the September Financial Report. The club is in a good cash position. Radisson has been slow in billing. Rick C. motioned that we are going to double up on banquet expenses in 2013-2014 budget. Bob seconded. Passed unanimously.
  - b. Rick C. discussed financing the bus for Meadowood Neighborhood Center and other matters relating to the Lussier Christmas party. Rick C. motioned \$1250 budget for Lussier party, Mike seconded. Passes unanimously.
  - c. Diane motioned to pay JOOI 2014-2015 dues of \$560 out of foundation, Bob seconded. Passed unanimously.
  - d. Rick C. moves to accept the financial report, Nancy seconds, Passed unanimously.
3. **Membership Report Update:**
  - a. 48 members and 0 FOO's as of 10/1/14 and 10/28/14. Bob moves to approve Christian Gridley's request to be removed from STOC membership. Rick C. seconded. Passed unanimously.
  - b. Rick C. moved to waive new member fees for Kathy and Karen Wortinger. Kathy seconded. Passed unanimously.
  - c. Diane moves to accept Karen Wortinger and Joe Marty as new STOC members. Nancy seconded. Passed unanimously.
4. **Old Business:**
  - a. Speaker review: Independent Living coming soon
  - b. MASCC Luncheon: Parking issues but good speaker
  - c. Christmas party: Issues with Santa
  - d. Bucky Books: 55 sold so far, 8 free coming
5. **New Business.**
  - a. Madison Festivals: November 7<sup>th</sup>, Madison Marathon fundraiser, limited shifts available. Nancy is leading this fundraiser.
  - b. Table bylaws and policy review until November
  - c. Bob motioned that spouse and other family members shall be charged \$25 per member family rate. Mike seconded. Passed unanimously.
  - d. Social may be moved from November 19<sup>th</sup>
  - e. Bell ringing: Rick T. will sign up ringbells.org
  - f. Audit committee: Dan will ask Gene and Todd
  - g. Upcoming speakers: Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> only open date this year
  - h. The communitychange.com fundraiser. Kathy moves to sign up STOC as a charity on the communitychange.com. Rick C. seconds. Passed unanimously.
  - i. Progressive dinner: Tentatively Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - j. New gifts for speakers was discussed
6. Adjourn, **Next meeting, Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 p.m., Wegner CPA's.**

### Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team

The Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team has been very busy this past month with numerous service projects at our local elementary schools (helping with back to school events and babysitting for parents' night), assisting at senior citizens' centers, and completing an on-site project - coloring lunch bags for Meals On Wheels. Additionally, the board was completed with the election of the two freshmen. Watch upcoming newsletters for the announcement the JOOI Team's upcoming "super" project - which is currently in the planning stages. More to come!



Former STOC members **Jim and Dee Judd** recently joined us for a Wednesday lunch meeting. Jim was a charter member of the Sauk Trails Optimist Club. They currently reside in The Villages, Florida.

**October  
in  
Pictures**

**Photos by  
Steve Bailey**



Jeanne Engle from **Dane Buy Local** explains how the organization encourages consumers to support local businesses. You can find their directory at [www.danebuylocal.com](http://www.danebuylocal.com).



STOC members attended the **MASCC Luncheon**.



Also attending: Steve Bailey & John Scherer.



Katie Gaynor shared how the **American Red Cross** serves through their various projects including blood drives, disaster response, & programs for member of the armed forces.

Barry Levenson from the world famous **Mustard Museum** entertained us with stories and songs about what else – **MUSTARD**. He invited all STOC members to an open house on December 5th at the Mustard Museum in downtown Middleton.



**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.