



Pathways

Sauk Trails Optimist Club
Madison, Wisconsin



October/November, 2020

PRESIDENTS NOTE

We are starting a new Optimist year. As we are all aware, 2020 has challenged us to stand tall and maintain our optimism. We are thankful we have the technology to be able to meet virtually every Wednesday at 11:45 and to have speakers share their presentations with us. We certainly miss our in-person fellowship and good food, but we trust that we will be able to do that soon.

We have some new and some returning officers and board members for this new year.

We are excited about having interesting speakers, successful fundraising, enjoyable social events, and invigorating service events. If you would like to join us at a board meeting, you are certainly welcome. It is the second Tuesday of each month. Let me know and I will send you the zoom link to the meeting.

Our committees will be comprised of board members and those not on the board. We welcome everyone's ideas, especially during this time when COVID is still present.

Please contact those listed below to help with the committee(s) of your choice.

Speakers – John Fons; **Social** – Mary, Nancy, Ken; **Fundraising** – Rick Thomas and Dan Bergs - Bucky Books, Koeze Nuts; **Service** – Rick Connie (Lussier Christmas Party 2021) and Carole (JOII Club)

Thank you to John Fons for the great job he has done the last two years as our President.

John will be a good resource for me this year. He has volunteered to do our newsletter and obtain speakers for our meetings. I would like to thank Bob for continuing to serve as Treasurer. He has done a great job for several years. A big thank you goes to Kathy Johnson for continuing as our Secretary. We also appreciate and thank all who have given their time and talents every year in many ways.

Within our club, we have friendships and a network that allows us to succeed in continuing fundraising for scholarships and for grants that benefit our youth and those in need. We can be very proud of that. These efforts and our bond will attract others to join our club when we talk to them about our club.

I'm looking forward to working with all of you to meet the goals of our club. If you have any input, please share it with me. We want this to be a great year for our club! I am honored to be your president for 2020-2021.

Optimistically,

Kathie Newman

kat1new21@gmail.com 608-395-1253

Adventures In Optimism

In the annals of nautical exploration, there is no story more inspirational or gripping than Ernest Shackleton and the Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition of 1914-1917.

On August 3, 1914 the ship Endurance set sail from England under orders of First Lord of the Admiralty Winston Churchill, despite the outbreak of World War One. On January 19, 1915 the Endurance became locked in the ice of the Weddell Sea and there held helpless and crushed by the ice sank on November 21. The crew camped on the ice and drifted for two months until in melting conditions boarded three lifeboats they used as sleds and spent five days on the open freezing water until landfall at Elephant Island 346 miles from where Endurance sank. It was the first time any of the men had set foot on solid ground in 497 days.

The adventure had just begun.

Shackleton converted one of the lifeboats and set sail with five other men after surviving a full year on Elephant Island. In their twenty foot open boat the men sailed by dead reckoning and sextant a full 720 nautical miles across the wildest water in the world to a whaling station on South Georgia Island. It took fifteen days. They encountered a gigantic rogue wave and hurricane force winds which they later learned sank a 500 ton steamer. They landed on the reverse side of South George and hiked 32 miles across glaciers and mountains to reach their destination. At the whaling station one of the whalers looked into the face of a man he once knew, now rendered unrecognizable by the ordeal and simply exclaimed, "My God. It's Shackleton."

The adventure had not yet ended.

Unable to obtain the use of a British vessel during war, Shackleton returned to Elephant Island with a tiny Peruvian tug boat, the Yelcho and retrieved all twenty-two men he promised to rescue four and a half months earlier. He lost not one member of his crew.

One historian wrote: "...when disaster strikes and all hope is gone, get down on your knees and pray for Shackleton."
- JEF

Join an Optimistic Virtual Lunch.

*Remember: Sauk Trails Optimists meet 11:45am Wednesdays.
Watch for email announcements and special guest speakers.
Share your Zoom meeting link with others*

STOC Bulletin Board

Sauk Trails Club Officers 2019-2020

President: Kathie Newman

Vice President: Rick Thomas

Secretary: Kathy Johnson

Treasurer: Bob Wortinger

Past President: John Fons

Board of Directors

Steve Bailey
Rick Conne
Nancy Hach
Ken Adi-Ring
Ted See
Mary Schwartz

October Birthdays

Rick Thomas 21
Ted See 28

November Birthdays

Karen Wortinger 25

December Birthdays

Mike Gustafson 5
Dennis Norton 7
Barb Sheeran Hill 20

SWIS 1st Qtr Conference 2020-2021

All Virtual

Free Registration by 11.05

SWIS Conference Registration

Exec Mtg 08:30 November 7

General Session 9:30-1:30pm

Newsletter Editor:
John Fons
jefons@aol.com

Sauk Trails Keeps On Swinging At Golf Outing

Intrepid Sauk Trails Optimists and their guests played nine holes at the Pleasant View Golf Course on Saturday, September 26.

*You'll find photos, quotes and quips
Throughout this newsletter.*

*Thanks to Bob Wortinger for taking the lead in organization of this fun event and
thanks to all who participated.*

Congratulations to Steve Bailey for his birdie on a Par 4!

BUCKY BOOKS!

Once again, STOC will be selling Bucky Books as a fund-raiser. The hard copy version is available this year. Books have already been picked up and are ready for purchase.

Please contact Dan Bergs or Bob Wortinger and they will coordinate

Dan dan.bergs@wegnercpas.com or Bob rwortinger55@gmail.com

Literary Network In Appreciation

On August 26 the Sauk Trails Optimist Club conducted its annual Respect for Law program on line. Officer Joseph Buccellato of the Madison Police Department designated the Literacy Network as recipient of \$100 contribution in his name from Sauk Trails Opimists. Our club later received a letter of appreciation from Literacy Network Executive Director Jeff Burkhart:

"...You are supporting adult learners as they navigate through these exceptionally trying times to reach their personal goals of improved English language skills.

With hundreds of adult learners now in distance learning, your gift will be used to connect with them and provide resources. Students are continuing their studies in non-traditional ways. They are studying at home home, outside of classrooms and with tutors. Your generous contribution is critical, as we work hard to help hem in many innovative and unique ways.

Students inspire us as they stay committed to their literacy studies. Despite challenges, adult learners strive to become U.S. citizens, prepare for their GED or work toward certification and degrees. They reach for improved communication, health and finances.

Thank you for impacting the lives of people who need our services – adults who are most affected by the pandemic, working on the front lines of our community. Your gift is vital, especiall now."

To which Executive Director Burkhart also added: "What a wonderful way to honor an important member of your community. Thank you so much!



Call for Sauk Trails – Madison website sponsors.

If you are interested in also being a sponsor of the STOC Website for the 2020-2021 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')

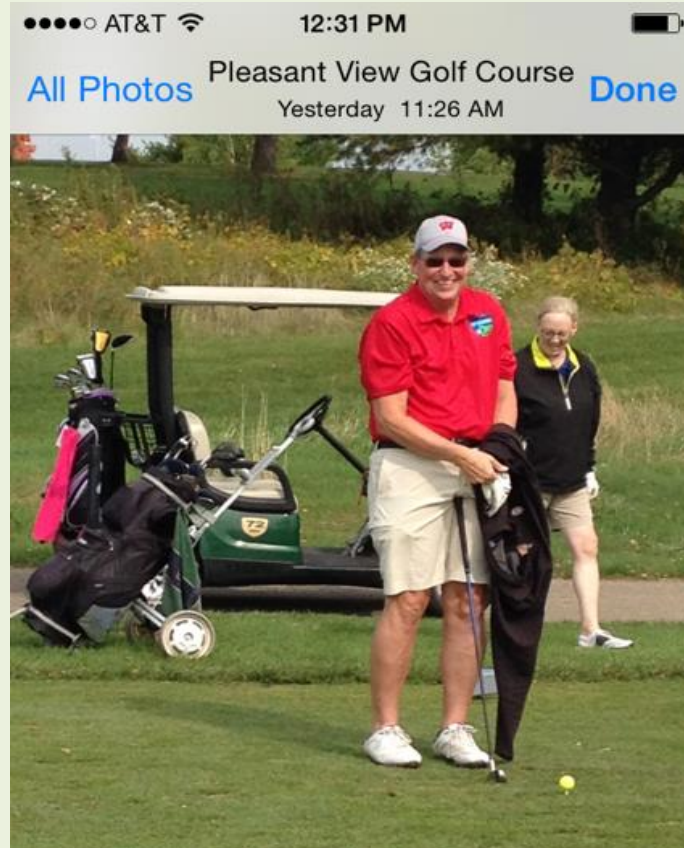
In the **EVENTS** area, click on this link: [CLUB Accomplish Pictures](#) ('Read More', scroll description)

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** bspindler@charter.net 850-9561 (H)

"We had a great time with temperatures in the 70's. There was a large mixture of great and not so great golf shots but we had an excellent time!"

-Bob Wortinger



Terri Lynn Fundraiser

We need to decide if we want to do the Terri Lynn Fundraiser this year. (This may need to be a board decision).

If we do, I recommend we do it completely online through the website: <https://sauktrailsoptimists.terri Lynn.com/>

Rick Thomas

Sauk Trails – Madison Newsletters Historical Collection

Thanks to the accumulation of Sauk Trails Newsletters from a number of club members, they are ALL now in one place. The Newsletters accumulated are from November 1997 to the present. The newsletters have been in various locations: File Drawers; Basements; Cabinets; Computer hard drives; Flash drives; etc. It was quite a process to accumulate the various documents. John Scherer pulled together a lot from his various storage areas. Bob Wortinger and Bonnie Spindler, and also many optimists who responded to requests for newsletters, provided them in various forms. Some were in hard-copy, which needed to be scanned; some were as Word documents, some had various naming conventions, some were on back-up computers, some were partially available, some were located in basements, file folders, etc.

Bob organized the various documents received from John, Bonnie, and other Optimists who found them in their homes. He got the documents in an order by month / year, using naming conventions that were meaningful. He sent them all, in various Zip transmissions, to Bonnie, who made sure they were all available as PDF documents, and loaded them 'individually' on the Sauk Trails – Madison Website. For you to see all of them, you can go to the ABOUT area > Newsletters. The link to them is: <https://sauktrailsmadisonoptimist.org/about/newsletters.asp>.

Take some time to read about some of the history of your Sauk Trails – Madison Optimist Club.

Bob Wortinger

Bonnie Spindler

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

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

MINUTES

PRESENT: John, Rick T, Rick C., Kathie N., Kathy J., Bob W., Liv, Ted See, Kathy J**ABSENT:** Nancy

The meeting was called to order at 5:06

1. **Welcome/Agenda Additions: SIBS** was to be held 9/26 but space at Queen of Peace is not available so event is pushed out indefinitely. **Golf Outing 9/26:** Bob has 10 members and 3 guests signed up. **Bucky Books:** Dan has 40 books for sale; Club makes \$15 from physical book purchase as we've done in the past) or \$12 from online sales (mentioning STOC)
2. **Approval of Minutes from 8/11/20:** Motion by Kathie Newman, seconded by Rick Conne. Noted that John will become the new newsletter editor. Passed unanimously.
3. **Financial Reports:** Operating cash balance \$6,052; 13 new STOC shirts remain available; Vanguard Wellington at \$6,341-up 26% in just over two years. Income Statement: \$100 from SWIS for John's submission of Super Optimist Sibs Day as a new program. Motioned by Kathy J and seconded by Kathie N. Unanimous approval.
4. **Respect for Law Charitable Contributions:** Moved to Foundation agenda.
5. **Crazr Ticket Wrap Up/Happy Dollars:** Moved to Foundation agenda.
6. **Board Membership Following Elections:** New officers are Kathie Newman President; Rick Thomas VP; Secretary Kathy Johnson; Treasurer Bob Wortinger. Board members elected for 2 years: Rick C, Ken Adi Ring, and Mary Schwartz. One-year Board member term is still open (Steve Bailey approved for this position at Sept. 9 lunch meeting by members).
7. **Sauk Trails Optimist Foundation Grant Requests:** Moved to Foundation agenda.
8. **Installation of Officers/Induction/Awards before 10/1.** John will choose a date and advise.
9. **River Food Pantry Inquiry for STOC to share membership list** per Rhonda Adams: will not be shared.

Adjourn to October 13, 2020 via Zoom. Motion to adjourn by Rick C, seconded by Kathie N; passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Johnson, Secretary

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

Tuesday, September 08, 2020

MINUTES**PRESENT:** John, Rick T, Kathie N., Liv, Kathy J., Steve, Ted S, Bob W, Rick C**Absent:** Nancy H.

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m.

10. Financials: Bob reviewed a 10-year financial history of the Club's Operating account. Due to the lack of lunch meetings and related expenses over the past six months our operating cash is over \$6,000 whereas it is normally around \$4,500. The Treasurer also reviewed a summary of Foundation activity since 2012. Bob suggested that we move \$1500 + John's \$100 from SWIS from the STOC Operating account to the Foundation giving us \$8600 available for grants (STOC policy requires the Foundation to keep a minimum of \$10,000 as a base amount). The Treasurer suggested we keep a cushion for next year. The consensus was to approximate last year's grant payout of \$5,600 leaving \$3,000 for next year in anticipation of lower fundraising and possibly increasing our 2021 scholarship payouts. Motioned by Bob and seconded by Rick C. to transfer \$1,600. Motion passed.

11. Respect for Law Charitable Contributions-Designates: Charities selected by the honored police officers: Officer Joseph Buccellato – Literacy Network and Officer David Sherrick – St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The Treasurer will prepare a letter to accompany the \$100 checks and Steve will deliver these to the West District police station along with the updated Respect for Law Plaque and two Optimist Creed plaques.

12. Crazr Ticket Wrap Up/Happy Dollars: 51 tickets were sold, but Nancy H.'s mail was stolen, and Liv's tickets may be late, so John's total may be high by 3 tickets. STOC Crazr profits estimated at $51 * \$11 = \560 . Pandemic Happy Dollars through September 2 total nearly \$1,750.

13. Grant Request Awards: Rick T reported grant requests from 4 organizations: Burn Camp \$1500; Lussier \$1500; Logan's Hearts \$500, Horizon School \$1500. We did not receive a request from Reach-A-Child and in the past we have donated to Optimist International Foundation. After discussion, Kathy J motioned to approve the grants as requested above plus \$500 to the OI Foundation and seconded by Liv. Motion passed 8 to 1. Total approved for grant payouts was \$5,500.

Adjourn motion made by Steve and seconded by Kathie N at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Johnson, Secretary

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

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

MINUTES

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m.

1. **Welcome/Agenda Additions: Membership application:** discussion about the "Interests" section to be added back to the application. No action taken. **Bucky Books:** we have sold 41 of 45 books.
 2. **Approval of Minutes from 9/8/20:** Motion by Steve, seconded by John. Passed unanimously.
 3. **Financial Reports:** Operating budget review tabled. Reimbursement form approved. Bob's report was motioned by Mary and seconded by Rick T. Motion by Rick Conne and seconded by Nancy. Passed unanimously. Time for Audit Committee to audit our books. Kathie will reach out to members to find committee members. Isodex website: contract: motioned by John and seconded by Steve. Unanimously approved.
 4. **Discussion on Changing the Amount of the Dues:** Bob suggested that, in comparison to other clubs, our dues are high at \$160/year. He recommended reducing dues to \$35 per quarter, or \$140 per year. Discussion ensued with the Board agreeing to keep dues the same.
 5. **Crazz Ticket Wrap Up – Any Winners? /Happy Dollars to Date:** No information on winners; \$2279 since COVID; \$2500 total to date.
 6. **Review Board Member Terms:** Steve will stay on 2 years; Mary will stay one year. Rick will stay 2 years.
 7. **Sauk Trails Optimist Foundation Grant Requests:** payments have been sent.
 8. **Discussion of Committees Needed, their Structure and their Leadership** (individual Committee discussion below.)
 9. **Set up a Committee for Fundraising. Thoughts and ideas. Committee would report back to the board.** John volunteered for Speaker Committee and will invite Paul Johnson to help. Kathie will send an email to the membership for volunteers. Rick reminded us about the online ordering through Terry Lynn.
 10. **Set up a Social Committee** - The golf event was great but only included 10 members. What else can we do even more successfully? Ken, Mary, and Rick T volunteered for Social Committee
 11. **A Sub-Committee to review STOC By-Laws and Policies needs to be assigned.** Rick T volunteered. Kathie will seek 2 other volunteers.
 12. **The River Food Pantry Inquiry per Rhonda Adams - update?** John advised Rhonda that we will not release membership names.
 13. **Adjourn** motioned by Rick T and seconded by Rick C. Adjourned at 6:00 p.m.
- Adjourn to November 11, 2020 via Zoom.**

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Johnson, Secretary

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.

