



Pathways

Sauk Trails Optimist Club
Madison, Wisconsin



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



December 2014

Sauk Trails Optimists:

Season's Greetings, Optimists! I hope everyone is finding a way to stay warm after the cold November we have had thus far. Hope everyone had a safe and great Thanksgiving. I hope the hunters out there had the best of luck as well. I have many things to be thankful for this year. One of them is having the honor of being the president of such a great optimist club. Now that November has flown by and passed we will have a very busy December.

Some of the events that occurred in November include the new fundraiser that Nancy Hach worked hard to organize the Madison Half Marathon volunteer event. We will now be one of the non-profits that gets to have volunteers earn them money. Every hour volunteered gets \$8 donated to the club. Our club finished the Bucky Book fundraiser and received 12 free Bucky Books which we will be selling at a cost of \$35 per book to raise additional funds for our foundation. Rick Thomas has been busy once again organizing the Koeze Nut fundraiser. We also had a great social organized by our wonderful social committee of Jacci See and Liv Sandberg. We received a very nice thank you letter from REACH-A-Child for our donation to them and had a volunteer event to continue to help them in their mission.

December is going to be a busy month for the Optimist Club as usual. We will start off with our Christmas tree setup as Rosewood Villas on the morning of December 6. Please contact me if you would like to volunteer. We also will have our annual ornament exchange, so please mark your calendars for December 17 as that will be the lunch meeting that we do the ornament exchange. We will also be wrapping Christmas presents for the Christmas party at the Lussier Center. Rick Conne and Frank Rath have done a great job in getting this organized and Rick has done an especially wonderful job fundraising and developing community support for this terrific event. The event will be on the evening of Friday, December 19 from 3:30 until approximately 8pm. It is fine if you can only do part of a shift but this is a really special event and I would encourage all of those able to volunteer to attend. Wishing everyone a very happy holiday season!

Optimistically,
Dan Bergs
Club President
dan.bergs@wegnercpas.com



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

Annual Ornament Exchange December 19th Lunch Meeting

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



December Birthdays



Mike Gustafson 5
Berb Sheeran-Hill 20

Newsletter Editor:
Mary Schwartz
schwrtzmry@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.

Next order deadlines is:
December 10th 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 jathoma2@facstaff.wisc.edu

Volunteer Opportunity

**Decorate
Rosewood Villas
for Christmas
Saturday, December 6th
9:30 to 11:00 a.m.**

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 3 LUNCH – Boosting Your Immune System Naturally – Jamie Lenz, D.C.
December 6 VOLUNTEER – Christmas Decorating at Rosewood Villas
 December 10 LUNCH – The Community Change – new fundraising opportunity, Heather Rice
 December 16 Board Meeting, 5:00 p.m. at Wegner CPA's. All are welcome.
 December 17 LUNCH – Annual Ornament Exchange Party
December 19 VOLUNTEER – Lussier Christmas Party 3:30 to 8:00 p.m.
 December 24 No Lunch Meeting – Merry Christmas!
 December 31 No Lunch Meeting – Happy New Year!

Lussier Community Education Center Annual Christmas Party

On Friday, December 19th, STOC will host the Annual Christmas Party for 105 Westside children and their families. Participants will enjoy a meal, be entertained by The Amazing Loon, and receive a gift from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Volunteers are needed. 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). Volunteers will be needed to wrap gifts after the lunch meeting on December 17th.



Mark Your Calendar



**Annual Progressive Dinner
Sunday, February 22, 2015**

Watch for more details.

2014-2015 SWIS District Meetings:

- SWIS 1st/2nd Quarter Conference:
January 17th, 2015 in Madison
- SWIS 3rd Quarter Conference:
April 25th, 2015 in Wis. Dells Area
- SWIS 4th Quarter Conference:
August 2015 (TBD)
- 97th Optimist International Convention
July 9-11, 2015, New Orleans, LA

SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, November 18, 2014
MINUTES

PRESENT: Dan, Diane, Kathy, Rick C., Rick T., Bob, Nancy, Mike, Bonnie, Todd, Rebecca, ~~Mike, Rick C.~~
 Absent: Pete

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m.
2. Approval of Board Minutes from 10/28/2014: Bob moves to approve, Nancy seconded, passes unanimously
3. Acceptance of September Financial Reports:
 - a. Bob presented the September Financial Report. Radisson still behind in billing. Bucky Books is paid up. Good financial shape. Rebecca moves to accept the financial report, Bonnie seconds, Passed unanimously.
 - b. Bob presented the 2014-15 budget. Discussed the Operating budget. Foundation budget will be discussed at the December Foundation meeting. Rick C. moves to approve the budget. Kathy seconded. Passed unanimously.
4. Membership Report Update: 47 members and 0 FOO's as of 11/18/14
5. Old Business:
 - a. Nancy gave report on Madison Marathon. Need to reapply to volunteer for the next event. Nancy and Diane earned \$88 for the club.
 - b. Thecommunitychange.com will speak on Dec. 10. Club will become a partner
 - c. 73 Bucky Books sold with 12 free books available
 - d. Audit committee will meet Dec. 2nd
 - e. Discussion about new ideas for speaker gifts
 - f. Facebook: Rick T. will be the new administrator
6. New Business.
 - a. Social will be at Holiday Inn on Nov. 19
 - b. Review of Club bylaws & policies
 - i. Article VII, Section 1: no more than 8 elected Directors,
 - ii. Article X, Section 2: bring in #5 from "dues"
 - iii. Article X, Section 5: change to annual audit
 1. Bonnie moves to accept changes, Rick C. Seconded, passed unanimously
 - iv. Policies #5 changed to spouse/family
 - v. Policies #4 do not need to return pins
 - vi. Policies #11 changed to annually
 1. -Rick C. moves to accept changes, Rebecca seconded, Passed unanimously
 - c. Lussier Christmas party is ready to go on Dec. 19th
 - d. Rosewood Villa on Dec. 6th. Take down in early January
 - e. Progressive Dinner Feb. 22
 - f. Salvation Army bell ringing sign ups
 - g. Essay contest planning underway
 - h. Bonnie working on SWIS website
7. Adjourn, Rick C. motions, Diane seconded. **Next meeting: Tues. December 18th 5:00 p.m., Wegner CPA's.**

Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team

The students meet after school on Wednesdays at 3:45, in the Fox Neighborhood Center at Memorial High School. Stop by and check it out!

SYSJT continues perform service within the school and the community. This month, the kids will help decorate Oakwood for Christmas and help with the Lussier Christmas Party.

Holiday Gift Idea!!

Bucky Books make great gifts! We sold 73 Bucky Books, earning us 12 bonus books. These books are currently available for sale. 100% of proceeds will go to the Youth and Community Foundation. Contact Dan to get your shopping done.



**November
in
Pictures**

**Photos by
Steve Bailey**



STOC member Mike Grasmick shared information about his Nebraska Beef Farm. It made everyone hungry for a thick, juicy steak.



Diane McHugh, coordinator of the Dane County Immunization Coalition, spoke about the public education programs they use to promote and recommend vaccines and immunizations. If you have questions, you can contact her at dmchugh@publichealthmdc.com.

Over 20 STOC members and guests had an enjoyable evening at the **Happy Hour Social on November 19th**, at the Holiday Inn West. Thanks to Jacci and Liv for organizing.



**Speakers needed for January.
Sign up at a meeting or contact Dan.**

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.**