



Pathways

Sauk Trails Optimist Club
Madison, Wisconsin



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



April 2020

PRESIDENTS NOTE

Go To Your Room

Allow me to revert to our last regular meeting when we heard Dee Hall from the Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism deliver a program on the difference between news fact and fiction. At that meeting way back on March 11 I had occasion to remark how the US Secret Service trains its agents to recognize counterfeit money.

They handle the real thing.

They don't waste too much time identifying the countless ways in which currency can be faked. They learn the look, the feel, even the smell of real bills so when the bad stuff crosses their path, they know. Truth becomes an instinct.

We're learning something of the same lesson now. Each one of us is being handed the real thing. Our lives at least temporarily are getting smaller, less expansive, more compact. It reminds me of when, as a child, my parents issued a command when things got a little out of hand.

Or a lot out of hand.

"Go to your room."

I had three sisters.

We were all experts at disturbing the peace, at creating domestic chaos.

"Go to your room. I'll tell you when to come out. And while you're in there you might as well pick up some of that stuff you left lying around."

So we did and so now we can while we can't do anything else. We can't travel. We can't meet. We can't shop without a certain sense of risk so we might as well make the best of it and come out better than we went in.

Optimistically that's the whole idea.

We take whatever we've been given and make the best out of it. We can do that anywhere and the more we do it, the better we get at doing it. And when things lighten up we are more than likely to recognize the insubstantial and the optional, the frivolous and the just plain goofy because we've been confined to the essential aspects of life for a while and we can't wait to get out there again and get back to being together as a family.

John Fons

STOC Bulletin Board

Sauk Trails Club Officers 2019-2020

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

April Birthdays

Doug Poole	11
Jeff Kuchenbecker	12
Dan Bergs	20
Pete Graven	25
Liv Sandberg	25



SWIS Conference
May 8-9, 2020
Kalahari, WI Dells WI

CANCELLED

www.swisdistrict.org

Newsletter Editor:
 Liv Sandberg
 jlivsandberg@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

TBD

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

STOC Save the Date: future events PENDING

Date	Event
	Culvers fund raiser
	Special Olympics regional track meet
August 1	Mustard Days

Congratulations to STOC President John Fons

2020-2021 Governor-Elect Announcement

Jim Kondrasuk, Past Governor

On behalf of the SWIS District Candidate Qualifications Committee, I am very happy to announce that we have a candidate for Governor-Elect for the 2020-2021 Optimist Year! John Fons is a current Lt. Governor and has served as President of the Sauk Trails Optimist Club in Madison. For the 2018-2019 Optimist year, he led the Sauk Trails Club to Distinguished Club status. He attended the Optimist International Convention in Louisville, KY. He has met all the criteria to run for the office of Governor-Elect and subsequent Governor of the SWIS District.

HAPPY DOLLARS ARE ADDING UP!

Thanks to a brainstorm idea, a \$100 donation challenge from Jeff Kuchenbecker, true OPTIMISM and the generosity of our club members, over \$300 in HAPPY DOLLARS has been donated for the foundation during the 'stay safe at home' time.

Thank you to all who have donated to this wonderful cause.

Two Great Ideas for the Children

Hi Optimists!

I was just made award of two great ideas that can be used during this current crisis and every year! They are the Drawing and Painting Art contest and the Photography Contest in which the child creates or photographs something that depicts one of the tenets of the OI Creed. OI provides rules and forms that can be sent to your newspapers with a short article, and your club provides a judge or 2 and prizes, which could be determined by your club's executive board. More information at the following links:

[Draw Paint Art Contest](#)

[Photography Contest](#)

Use your iMagination to e-mail or conference call your board, and get the word out there! It will also keep Optimists in the public eye as we move forward to make a difference in Kids lives!

In Complete Optimism, **Governor Christine Dieckhoff**
"iMagine: Serving Children in a Changing World"

Thank you,
Your Optimist District

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
Tuesday, March 10, 2020
Minutes

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

Others Present: Jane Meyer

Absent: None

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

1. Addition to Agenda: NOW Meeting Update

2. Approval of Board Minutes from 2/11/2020: Kathie N moved to approve the minutes, Ted seconded, Passed unanimously.

3. Acceptance of Financial Reports:

Bob reported that there are now no past due amounts from the 2019 remaining in our receivables. \$860 remains outstanding from the 1/1/20 billing. Liv moved that we accept the financials as presented, Kathie N. seconded, Passed unanimously.

4. February 13 NOW meeting: John reported that it was a successful event. Radisson's bill for the evening averaged out to \$27/person vs. luncheon cost of \$15. Rick T motioned and Liv seconded that the Club pay the \$12 difference per person. Passed unanimously.

5. Fundraising Recommendations: Kathy J presented options including candles from Yankee

Candle, Kendra Scott jewelry, and gift cards from Kwik Trip. Ted motioned and Rick T seconded to pursue the gift card fundraiser. Passed unanimously. The announcement of it and opportunity to purchase gift cards will be through email and on a sign-up sheet at meetings, handled by Bob.

Rick T reminded us that the next Culvers volunteer night will be April 28. Six workers are needed for each of the two shifts.

6. Scheduling of Events: (please note that these have all been subsequently cancelled or postponed due to COVID-19)

Club Oratory Contest: March 18

Zone Oratory Contest: April 11

Club Essay winners recognized: March 25

Respect for Law: May 13

Firefighter/EMT Recognition: tabled

Super Optimistic Sibs: April 18

Special Olympics Track Meet May 2

7. Polo Shirts-Past, Present, and Future: Bob showed the new shirt which will be available at meetings at a cost of \$25.

Members are not required to purchase these, but there are plenty available, and all members are encouraged to get one of our new breathable shirts.

8. Joe Herr membership: Joe has requested that his membership be terminated.

9. Adjourn to April 14, 2020 at 5:00pm, at Park Bank in Middleton. Liv moved to adjourn, Bob seconded, passed unanimously at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Johnson, Secretary

SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB
BOARD OF DIRECTORS **FOUNDATION** MEETING
Tuesday, March 10, 2020
MINUTES

PRESENT: John, Rick T, Kathie N., Liv, Kathy J., Steve, Ted S, Bob W, Nancy, Rick C
Others Present: Jane Meyer
Absent: None

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m.

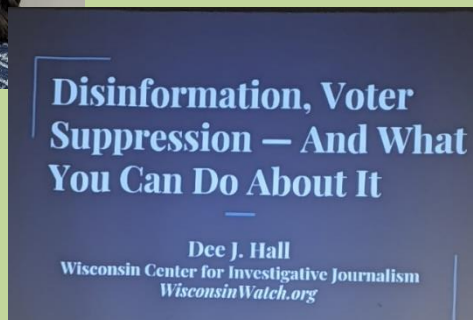
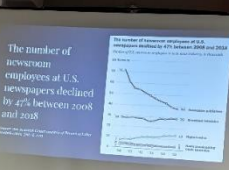
1. Addition to Agenda: None
2. Scholarships: Bob motioned, and Liv seconded to provide up to \$2200 for scholarships to Memorial High School JOOI students.
3. Super Optimistic Sibs 2020: member Jane Meyer presented this event on April 18 for siblings of children with disabilities who may be overlooked in the family. Jane anticipates 35 children to be participating. STOC Board voted to donate \$500 at the Dec. 2019 Foundation meeting. She is asking for \$500 from Optimist International, Madison Newspapers Kid's Fund, and the SWIS District.
4. Adjourn motion made by Ted, seconded by Kathie N., 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Johnson, Secretary



STOC lunch presenters from March!

- 1) Gayle Laszewski and Noreen Kralapp from Health & Wellness for Caregivers
- 2) Dee Hall from the Center for Investigative Journalism



OH THE MEMORIES ARE SO WONDERFUL!

The 2020 STOC Progressive Dinner once again proved to be a wonderful event. As you can see, many relived the 60's in body, spirit, and apparel and everyone enjoyed 'socializing'.

Thanks much to the John & Jane and Bob & Karen for sharing their homes for the dinner bunch. And special thanks our party planner Karen for creating fun activities for us.

Bring on the 70's for 2021!







The Optimist Creed

Optimist Creed *(Revised – to think about as we struggle with the coronavirus)*

Promise ~~Yourself~~... **MYSELF**

To be so strong that nothing can disturb ~~your~~ **MY** peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person ~~you~~ **I** meet.

To make all ~~your~~ **MY** friends feel that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make ~~your~~ **MY** optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as ~~you are about your~~ **I AM ABOUT MY** 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~~ **I** meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of ~~yourself~~ **MYSELF** that ~~you~~ **I** 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.