



# Pathways

Sauk Trails Optimist Club  
Madison, Wisconsin



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



## Sauk Trails Optimists:

March 2014

The Winter Olympics in Sochi were fantastic, so much enthusiasm by and for the many athletes from around the world. In May, when it's a little warmer here, we'll be helping with the Special Olympics Track Meet where we can support and cheer athletes in Wisconsin. We also look forward to 'Spirit Day', with the Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team in providing community service. We're Optimistic that soon it will be warmer for both of these events and many other spring activities.

**The 6<sup>th</sup> tenet of the creed is: Promise yourself: To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.** A quote from the author in the 'Power of Creed' book is: *'Each of us benefits when one experiences success. It is important to be a fan of others, and you will find that you will be the beneficiary.'*

On February 8<sup>th</sup> at the SWIS – Southern Wisconsin Conference, Mary Schwartz received her Honor Club Award for the 2012-13 year. The club also received the 'Governor Award' for being the most outstanding club in SWIS for the 2012-13 year. Other recognitions were given to Jacci See for adding 3 members during the year, and Bob Wortinger and Bonnie Spindler for their contributions.

We had a great time at the annual 'Progressive Dinner' on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to the Social Team for coordinating and the Wortinger's, See's and Conne's for hosting. We're looking forward to the next Social Event, Wednesday evening, June 4<sup>th</sup>. *(Date moved from March 26<sup>th</sup>).*

March 12<sup>th</sup> will be our quarterly recognition of 2 Students from Memorial High School. Thanks to Rick Conne for coordinating. We will also be inviting the top 3 of the 8 students who entered the Essay Contest to the same lunch, to read their essays. Thanks to Mike Grasmick for coordinating and acquiring judges, who will also be recognized at lunch. *(The other 5 students who participated will be receiving recognition by US mail).* The 1<sup>st</sup> place winning essay has been entered into the SWIS District competition to compete against about 20 essays, for the \$2,500 scholarship.

As the SWIS co-Membership Chair, **'Thank-You'** for being 'an Optimist'. **That's what we're all about, serving the kids and enhancing our personal lives as we do it.** Think about that friend, relative, neighbor, business associate who you could invite to any lunch or our social event on June 4<sup>th</sup> to share in our fun times.

In the loss of the UW Football Booth, the board is looking at alternatives for increasing the dollars available in the Sauk Trails Foundation for youth activities. More information will be coming soon. We're always looking for input from Optimists on ways to be able to enhance the club activities and in turn the kids that are served. As the year progresses, if there is an idea or event you have for the club to participate in, please be sure and share that with me and/or any member of the board or, better yet, attend a board meeting to share your idea.

Optimistically,  
Bonnie Spindler

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# STOC Bulletin Board

## Sauk Trails Club Officers 2013-2014

**President:** Bonnie Spindler

**Vice President:** Dan Bergs

**Secretary:** Carole Klopp

**Treasurer:** Bob Wortinger

**Past President:** Mary Schwartz

### Board of Directors

Rick Conne  
Mike Grasmick  
Pete Graven  
Nancy Hach  
Diane Hoebel  
Liv Sandberg

## March Birthdays



Jason Kadow	2
Todd Geltemeyer	9
Diane Hoebel	10
Brinda Mecham	10
Gene Spindler	31



**Congratulation to <sup>S</sup>Carole Klopp**  
for being named the February recipient of the  
Jefferson Award by Channel 27.

The Jefferson Awards recognizes dedication and service of volunteers who transform lives and strengthen communities across the U.S. To see Carole's story, go to <http://www.wkow.com/story/24846794/2014/02/27/february-jefferson-award-carole-klopp>

A hearty welcome to our newest member  
Jeff Kuchenbecker!

From the Progressive Dinner...

## Bun Bars

- 12 oz. bag chocolate chips
- 11 oz. bag butterscotch chips
- 1-3/4 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1 cup margarine
- 2/3 cup milk (best to use whole milk)
- 1 3 oz. pkg. vanilla pudding (not instant)
- 2 lbs. powdered sugar
- 1 lb. dry roasted peanuts

Melt the chips and peanut butter.  
Spread one half of this mixture over the bottom of a 10" X 15" jelly roll pan. Chill.

Combine margarine, milk, and pudding.  
Boil for 1 minute.  
Add powdered sugar.  
Spread over chilled base.

Add peanuts to other half of chocolate mixture.  
Spread over pudding layer.  
Chill.

Cut into tiny squares. Store in the refrigerator.  
Yield = 48 squares

## Special Olympics Track Meet

Saturday, May 10

More Details Next Month

### Mark your calendar

*STOC Happy Hour Social*  
*Wednesday, June 4, 2014*

*Invite your friends to learn more about Optimism!*

### **2014 SWIS Conference Dates**

April 25 - 26 The Abbey, Lake Geneva  
August 9 - 10 The Sheraton, Brookfield

### **2014 Optimist International Dates**

May 17 OI Summit, Madison  
July 9 - 12 OI International Convention, Las Vegas, NV

Newsletter Editor:  
Mary Schwartz  
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**Sauk Trails Optimists Club Meetings and Other Scheduled Events**

Date	Optimist Volunteer	Speaker and Topic <i>(Lunch, 11:45 AM at Radisson unless indicated)</i>	Lunch Choices
3-5-14	Steve Bailey	<b>Building a Model Ship</b>	Beef Stew with biscuit OR Chicken Mandarin Salad
3-12-14	Rick Conne & Mike Grasmick	<b>Students of the Month and Essay Contest Winners</b>	Lasagna Salad Buffet with Caesar Salad & garlic bread
3-19-14	Claudia Cabrera	<b>Claudia Sharing about Peru</b>	Glazed ham with red potatoes / green beans OR chef salad
3-26-14	TBA	<b>Speaker / Topic Needed (Social moved to June 4<sup>th</sup>)</b>	Beef Taco Salad OR Chicken Mandarin Salad
4-2-14	TBA		Club Sandwich with Chips OR Chicken Mandarin Salad
4-9-14	Jeannie Betterworth	<b>Speaker of Library Seed Exchange Program</b>	Bruchetta Chicken Wrap with chips OR Chef Salad
4-16-14	Bonnie Spindler	<b>Maureen Crombie, Optimist on OI Foundation Club Updates</b>	Baked Chicken/Mashed Potatoes with Gravy/Green Beans OR Chicken Caesar
4-23-14	TBA		Deli Meats Buffet with Salad – TBA ???
4-30-14	TBA		Taco Salad Buffet ???
6-4-14	OPTIMISTS	<b>SAUK TRAILS HAPPY HOUR SOCIAL at BASIE'S</b>	

Shaded Green = Wednesday Lunch Meeting

**SAUK TRAILS YOUTH & COMMUNITY FOUNDATION BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, February 11, 2014  
MINUTES**

Present: President Bonnie Spindler, Treasurer Bob Wortinger, Secretary Carole Klopp,  
Board Members: Rick Conne, Mike Grasmick, Nancy Hach, Diane Hoebel, and Liv Sandberg,  
Absent: Dan Bergs, Pete Graven, Mary Schwartz

The meeting was called to order at 8:34am.

**A. Financial Report:** Bob passed out a sheet giving the financial history of the Foundation for the past 3 years. Revenues are down from last year (\$6515 versus this year at approximately \$4000). Bob is concerned that we are making a lot less money while, at the same time, we have discussed staying at a base of \$7000 to \$10,000 with a possible increase in need. We need to make another \$1500 to \$2000 if we want to continue our same level of grants. The Alliant Center might not be a good possibility given their upcoming building projects. It was a consensus that we open this up to the club. A temporary solution might be to add a \$10 Foundation Donation to the club's quarterly dues bills for the rest of this year. We agreed to start the discussion tomorrow at the meeting with a decision to be reached by the end of February as to how we will generate additional Foundation income.

**B. Scholarships for 2014:** Rick moves to give one, \$1000 scholarship this year, Liv seconds, passes unanimously.

**C. Other Business:** We received a thank-you note from REACH-a-Child for the grant which President Bonnie read.

Liv moves to adjourn to the next quarter, Diane seconds, passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carole Klopp, Secretary

**PLEASE NOTE: The Foundation Board will meet on Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 a.m., at Wegner CPA's to discuss the reduced funding levels and the club's options for additional fundraising. All members are welcome to attend. You may also contact any officer or board member with thoughts or ideas.**

## Sauk Trails Optimist Board of Directors Meeting February 11, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President Bonnie Spindler. The minutes from the last board meeting and the treasurer's report were approved. Jeff Kuchenbecker was approved as a new member.

**Old Business:** Mike Grasmick reported that eight essays were judged and we will honor the top 3 at the March 12<sup>th</sup> lunch meeting. The top 3 will be given medals and the remaining participants will receive certificates.

It was decided to indefinitely postpone work on building a UW Student Optimist Club.

A reminder to those who attended the UW Women's Basketball game that they will be billed \$4/ticket.

**New Business:** The Special Olympics Track Meet will be on Saturday, May 10. Bob may need an assistant because he may not be able to be there the whole day.

The SWIS Conference was attended by Bonnie, Steve, Mary, & Carole. Carole suggested that there be less emphasis on membership and more on clubs of similar size for sharing.

The Happy Hour Social for March 26<sup>th</sup> is still in the planning stages.

There was discussion if we should do the UW Band Concert as a social outing. It's been a few years since we have gone. This year's concert is April 25-27.

It was decided to do the Bucky Book Fundraiser again this fall. All Bucky Books have been sold.

Congratulations to Carole Klopp for being the February recipient of the Jefferson Award.

**Lussier Christmas Party:** Lussier feels that we've done the magician 6 years in a row and that could be a reason for the youth no-show. They have suggested a Juggling group that might be more entertaining. It's being looked into. Could also look at what's possible at the UW Chem Dept. Mike will find out the cost for that. Lussier has a bus to run around and pick up folk. Also suggested that we do it on Friday evening – yet to be decided. Rick did the Sam grant electronically – but it was sent to Walmart. So Rick went to GM at Sam's and he told Rick to submit a grant to him. Question – do we want to make this bigger? Should we invite the Meadowood Youth Group to participate? Rick will speak with Rick Thomas about this. Carole moves that we operate the Christmas Party in concert with the Lussier Center again December 12 or 13 of this year, Mike seconds, passes unanimously.

### **Committee Reports:**

Finance/Fundraising - Rick Thomas is still trying to get information about working concessions at the Aliant Energy Center.

The meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be Tuesday, March 18, 7:30 a.m. at Wegner CPA. **PLEASE NOTE: The March STOC board meeting has been moved to Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 a.m., at Wegner CPA's.**

*(If you would like the official minutes of the board meeting, please contact Carole Klopp, Club Secretary, at klopp@chorus.net.*

## **March 2014 Reflection: Promise Yourself: To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.**

Each of us has experiences in our lives & can 'reflect' on how this line of the creed has helped us in our interaction with others. If there is a situation you would like to briefly share as part of the 'Happy Dollar' program during March, your input will enhance this promise to yourself & others. As others share their successes, promise yourself to be just as enthusiastic about theirs as you are about your own. Continue with that enthusiasm for 'life' and all of its rewards and make this line of the creed a reflection in your life.



**The Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team is working on a project in memory of Bruce Dahmen. They are considering a walk to raise money for the scholarship fund that has been established in his name.**

**SYSJT meets in the Fox Neighborhood Center in Memorial High School on Wednesday's after school. Drop in for a visit!**

**February in Photos  
By Steve Bailey**



STOC was recognized for numerous achievements at the **SWIS District Conference** on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Mary accepts the SWIS 'Governor's Award' from Past Governor Larry Barbera.

Carole was recognized for her work with the JOOI Clubs of the SWIS District.



Mary brought back SWIS recognition for Jacci (member recruitment) and for Bob (for his work with the SWIS Finance Committee).



The SWIS Conference, held in New Glarus, had a Swiss flavor to it. We enjoyed music & humor during lunch.



STOC members enjoy the Progressive Dinner on Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Fabulous February Speakers!**



Ray Yingling from Madison Laser Therapy gave an informative talk about laser therapy & how it can help nerve damage.



Jacci See gave an update on the state of the local real estate market.



Tim O'Brien from Apple Wellness shared information with us about health & nutrition.



John Filtz accepts his Creed plaque after telling us the history of Bucky Books. Try the Bucky Book Mobile App!

**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.**