



Pathways

Sauk Trails Optimist Club
Madison, Wisconsin



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

May 2015

Greetings Optimists!

It has been a great month of April. There were several administrative discussions that took place during the month of April, planning for upcoming events. It will be a little while before my next "Go Bucky" post, but we were spoiled with such a great run in the NCAA tournament by our beloved Badgers. I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter and got to visit with some family. The sun has been shining quite a bit and spring is upon us. I am looking forward to a great month of May with several activities.

We had a Social at Twist, the new bar at the Radisson, on the 22nd of April. They have great happy hour specials for drinks and appetizers and we had a wonderful time. Our next big event is this weekend with the Special Olympics!!! We will be getting breakfast at Headquarters in Oregon at 8:30 a.m. and then volunteering at Oregon High School for the Special Olympics Track and Field Meet. This is one of my Optimist highlights every year and it is a great opportunity to show support for these awesome athletes. Also, please wear your red optimist shirts for the event.

Diane Hoebel is continuing to coordinate Bratfest volunteers for Memorial Day weekend. Nancy Hach has done a great job of coordinating volunteering for the Madison Half-Marathon. These volunteer events help raise additional funds for the club. We have volunteer slots for May 23 from 2:30-5:30 p.m. for helping with the packet pick-up shift. Please contact Diane with any questions on Bratfest volunteering and Nancy with any questions on the Madison Half-Marathon volunteering event. We are excited for a lot of great volunteer opportunities.

Other fun events this month are Respect for Law on May 6, our Essay Contest winners and students of the month on May 13, and the JOOI banquet on May 27. Lots of great opportunities to support our club and community this month.

I am definitely ready for summer right now! Tax season is done and I get to see the light of day more often. I am excited for "grilling season" now in full effect and hope that everyone can take some time for a vacation in the upcoming months.

Have a great month of May!!!

Optimistically,
Dan Bergs
STOC 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

May Birthdays

Mary Poole May 17



BE A LEADER!!

It's **election time** once again and your club could use your talents! Contact President Dan (dan.bergs@wegnercpas.com) if you are interested in **serving as an officer or board member**. The terms begin October 1. You must be Optimistic and be able to attend the monthly board meetings. Come on and take your turn – it's a wonderful way to make a difference.




Mark the Date!

May 6th

This is a meeting you simply must attend!

It is our annual **Respect for Law Day** when we honor 2 officers from Madison's West Precinct. It is your opportunity to show your appreciation as the officers share information about their duties.



In addition, we will also hold our **club elections for 2014-15 Officers and Board**. If you are interested in serving in a leadership position, please contact Mary at schwrtzmry@aol.com.

The **ESSAY CONTEST** winners will share their essays at the May 13th lunch meeting.

*Optimism is YOU!
 Invite a friend to join!*

SWIS District Conferences

SWIS 3rd Quarter Conference:
 May 2, 2015 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Madison

SWIS 4th Quarter Conference: August 2015

97th Optimist International Convention:
 July 9-11, 2015, New Orleans, LA

Newsletter Editor:
 Mary Schwartz
schwrtzmry@aol.com

Sauk Trails Optimists Club Meetings and Other Scheduled Events

- May 2 *Special Olympics track meet & SWIS Optimist convention*
- May 6 *Respect for Law lunch*
- May 13 *Essay Contest Winners*
- May 20 *Need speaker*
- May 20 *SPIRIT Day, sponsored by the Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team – Volunteer!*
- May 21 *REACH A Child Volunteer Event at the warehouse*
- May 22-25 *Bratfest Volunteer Event*
- May 23 *Madison Marathon Volunteering*
- May 27 *Need Speaker*
- May 27 *Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team Recognition & Induction Banquet*

(Blue denotes a Wednesday Lunch Meeting)

Southern Wisconsin (SWIS) District Website

The new updated SWIS District Website was implemented on April 7th, 2015 and is available at: www.swisdistrict.org . One of the main purposes of the website is to have a place where clubs can share their upcoming events and accomplishments with other clubs besides providing a lot of both club and district information to help in the supporting of youth.

In the development of the website, I've put in our Sauk Trails Optimist – Madison Club a 'Featured Club' along with the 'Stoughton Club' for the month of May. To see more about what has been put in, you can go to: Optimist Club; Featured Club; View Profile and Club Accomplishments.

All Club Leaders, can go into the Leaderboard area, obtain a password, and be able to update the Club Profile, add upcoming events, and put in club accomplishments to share with other clubs. There is a 'revolving Club/District Events and Accomplishments', on the Home Page to share with other clubs.

Below is a screen shot of our Profile Page which can be updated by club officers.



Please look around at the website. There are Facebook feeds, U-tube entries, information about many Youth Programs both for District and Clubs, SWIS leader information/pictures, supporting resources for clubs, revolving banners, revolving events/accomplishments, SWIS District Optimist Clubs in Wisconsin by a map, etc. These are just some of the many features of the new website.

It has been about a six month project in the development and implementation of the new website. Thanks to everyone who provided support and input along the way.

Bonnie Spindler, Sauk Trails – Madison Optimist and SWIS Co-Webmaster 14-15

SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Tuesday, April 21, 2015
MINUTES

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m.
2. Approval of Board Minutes from 3/24/2015: Bob. moves to approve, Bonnie seconded, Change "both judges" to "the judges" Passed unanimously
3. Acceptance of March Financial Reports:
 - a. Bob presented the Financial Report. Good cash position.
 - b. Bob explained postpaid meals. Showing some profit from the weekly meals.
 - c. Rick C. moves to accept the financial report, Diane seconds, Passed unanimously.
4. Membership Report Update: 47 members and 0 FOO's as of 04/21/2015. We will follow up with past guests.
5. Old Business:
 - a. Essay contest was discussed. Winners will come on May 13th. Students and their parents are invited to lunch.
 - b. We still need to review and approve policies and bylaws as a club.
6. New Business.
 - a. There will be a social at Twist on April 22nd
 - b. Students of the Month will be May 13th along with essay winners
 - c. Summer social dates. We should check with Jacci and Ted to see if they are interested in hosting
 - d. JOOI banquet will be on May 27th at 5:00 p.m. Dan cannot be there so we need someone else to present.
 - e. Special Olympics is on May 2nd this year. John Scherer will be handling the sign up. We need more volunteers. Volunteers need to sign a waiver before arriving.
 - f. 4 people signed up for the Bratfest. Several volunteers for the Marathon but we could use more.
 - g. Reach a Child event on Thursday, April 23rd
 - h. Scholarships will be awarded in May
 - i. Talked about setting a fundraising goal and ways to maximize our income. We are on track to match last year's donations and have 2 scholarships
 - j. Rick C. discussed the X-mas party. It will be on Dec. 11th. They will try to get Figure Heads to perform. 120 kids will be the goal.
 - k. Nomination committee, We will ask Mary Schwartz to help find people.
7. Adjourn, next meeting will be May 19th at 5:00 pm. at Wegner CPA's. Diane motions to adjourn, Nancy seconded. , Passed unanimously.



The school year is coming to a close, but our **Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team** is still very busy helping out in our community. Of note, we have served at ALL the elementary schools in the Memorial attendance area! We have also been active at Oakwood and Middleton Village as well as helping out at WPT. REACH-A-Child has been a favorite volunteer venue this year with up to 20 students helping sort the books, etc. each month.

IMPORTANT DATE: May 20th is **SPRIT Day** - if you are willing to chaperone, please let Carole or Rick or Rick know as soon as possible. You can email Carole at klopp@chorus.net. You will be able to park at school, then ride the bus with your team to your assigned school. You'll need to be at Memorial by 8:25 a.m. so we can board the buses promptly!

AN INVITATION: *All STOC Members are cordially invited to attend the 22nd Annual Recognition and Induction Banquet for the Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team.*

DATE: *Wednesday, May 27th, 2015*

TIME: *5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.*

COST: *\$10 for dinner supplied by Jason's Deli this year.*

PLACE: *James Madison Memorial High School, Gammon Road, Madison*
We hope to see as many members at the banquet as possible to support our outstanding youth!!

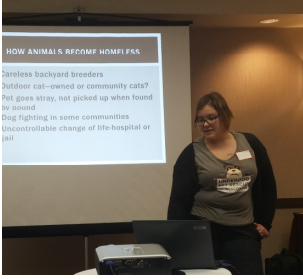
PS: *Please let Carole know if you are willing to help serve the food! Many thanks!*

Well, that's it for JOOI this time! Hoping everyone is having a JOOI-Filled Day!!

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

**April in Photos
By Steve Bailey**

Lauren Wojtasiak, Executive Director of Underdog Pet Rescue of Wisconsin, Inc., has 250 intakes/year. For more information on how you can adopt a pet, go to www.petfinder.com or www.facebook.com/underdogrescue.



Gary Knowles shared his knowledge of Wisconsin towns and cities. Lots of travel ideas just in time for the summer months.



Don Samuelson explains how to keep your trees healthy. Very informative!



Happy hour at Twist.



Dennis Aldridge & his crew updated STOC members on Special Olympics.

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.