



Pathways

Sauk Trails Optimist Club
Madison, Wisconsin



December 2020/January 2021

Unsung Hero Serenade

You know Steve Bailey, sure you do.

If you're a member of Sauk Trails Optimist Club, you know him before you see him. When the club met for lunch at the Radisson Hotel before pandemic entered our vocabulary, the mellifluous baritone voice of Steve Bailey could always be heard emanating from the meeting room. Now that we meet via Zoom, "Mister Bailey" is somewhat reduced in the size to that of a postage stamp on our computer screens, but there is nothing reduced about his Optimism.

"People can recognize Optimism in you," says Mister Bailey, a veteran of radio and television broadcasting and an Optimist over thirty years. He has served as President of the Downtown Optimist Club, Lt. Gov. of then Zone 9, District Governor and at the International level on JOI Club committee.

"I can tell you're an Optimist just by listening to you," a pastor once told Steve and so say all of us. The Optimist reputation of Steve Bailey extends throughout the SWIS District whereas Governor Maxine Lane has invoked the Unsung Hero Award to recognize the man behind The Voice:

"He has the ability to share words of wisdom and Christian beliefs with meaning and commitment. He has inspired me and many other Optimists over the years by placing meaning into our lives and our meetings by honoring the Almighty with his powerful invocation full of commitment and purpose."

Sauk Trails President Kathy Newman recently presented Steve with the SWIS District Unsung Hero Award on behalf of current Governor Maxine Lane.



Adventures in Optimism

God Save the Queen.

You realize, of course, the historic figure who shares our daily news, our tempestuous times and respect for tradition, the person who has exemplified both adaptability and dependability through decades unparalleled in the history of the world.

None other than Queen Elizabeth II, a woman who has achieved honor and distinction in her own right, after inheriting a crown in 1952 and pledging herself as Queen of England and monarch of the British Empire in 1953. That's sixty-eight years.

Wife and mother of four, the Queen has reigned through dramatic changes to the United Kingdom, including independence for nations formerly members of the British Commonwealth, involvement of the UK in the European Community and subsequent Brexit. She has visited or been visited by five popes and celebrated so many Jubilees they resemble crown jewels: Silver 1977; Golden 2002; Diamond 2012; Sapphire 2017.

Elizabeth II is the longest lived and longest reigning monarch in British history extending over one thousand years. She is the longest serving female head of state in world history. At age 94 she is the oldest living monarch, longest reigning current monarch and oldest and longest serving head of state in the world.

Indomitable through crisis, Elizabeth II served as a driver and mechanic in World War II, witnessed the bombing of London during the Blitz and burning of Buckingham Palace in 1992, the death of Princess Diana Princess of Wales in 1997 and numerous family tragedies, comedies and sonnets. Every year the Queen delivers her Christmas message and in retrospect, those messages re-echo her first solo radio broadcast in 1940 when at the age of 14, Elizabeth spoke to her own generation on the BBC Children's Hour:

"We are trying to do all we can to help our gallant sailors, soldiers, and airmen, and we are trying, too, to bear our own share of the danger and sadness of war. We know, everyone of us, that in the end all will be well."

God has Saved the Queen.

May He continue to do so.

May God Bless and Save Each and Every One of U.S.

F

Christmas Message from Sauk Trails President Kathie Newman

With this last newsletter of 2020, we should remember all the good things that have happened to us this past year and look forward to a wonderful 2021.

I hope to see us once again being together to participate in fundraising, activities, and social time.

May your Christmas be full of love, laughter, and joy. Have a happy New Year too!

Your President

Kathie

STOC Bulletin Board

Sauk Trails Club Officers 2020-2021

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

December Birthdays

Mike Gustafson	5
Dennis Norton	7
Barb Sheeran Hill	20

January Birthdays

Kathy Johnson	2
Frank Rath	2



Join a virtual lunch meeting and share time with fellow Optimists.

Watch for announcements via email regarding luncheon speakers and Zoom connection details.

Every Wednesday, 11:45am

Newsletter Editor:
John Fons
jefons@aol.com

SWIS 2nd Quarter Conference planned for February 13th (either Virtual or in Fitchburg)



SYS PRESENTS:

HOWL-idays Concert

DEC 19, 7:00 PM | FACEBOOK LIVE | JMM SPARTAN YOUTH SERVICE
ALL DONATIONS WILL GO TO FETCH WI

What: the SYS HOWL-idays Concert

When: December 19, 7:00 PM

Where: <https://fb.me/e/jrnh6ebsL>

Why: raising money for Fetch, WI

How: a donation button will be live before, during, and after the concert

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 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** blspindler@charter.net 850-9561 (H)
Sauk Trails Website Coordinator

Memo From Bonnie Spindler

The SWIS Lt' Governor's are planning a 'combo ZONE' virtual ZOOM for one hour. With 54 clubs in the SWIS District, each 'club representative' attending could share about current/future events of: Fundraising; Speakers; or Youth Events. For planning, each area will be facilitated by a different Lt. Governor. Pre-contact needs to be made to determine which 1-2 minute presentations will be made that day versus documenting. (Everything will be recorded, and documented for future sharing in SWIS Newsletters, on the SWIS Website, and in future SWIS Conferences).

SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING via Zoom

Tuesday, November 10, 2020

MINUTES

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

Welcome The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

1. **Approval of 10/13/20 Minutes:** Motion by seconded by Rick T, seconded by Bob W. Passed unanimously.
2. **October Financial Report:** Bob presented the October 2020 financial statements and two proposed operating budgets for 2020-2021 with different sets of assumptions based on the pandemic. John motioned to approve itemized expenses for Foundation including annual report fee, annual raffle license, and \$260 for annual JOI dues which are gifted annually by the Foundation; seconded by Rick C. Passed unanimously. Mary motioned to approve the 2020-2021 operating fund budget based on the assumption of the pandemic lasting for six months resulting in a budgeted net income of \$140, seconded by Rick T. Passed unanimously. Motioned by Kathy J. and seconded by Nancy to accept Bob's financial report for October. Passed unanimously. The Audit Committee reviewing 2019-2020 will consist of Mary B, Dan C, and Carole.
John motioned to approve itemized expenses for Foundation; seconded by Rick C. Passed unanimously. Mary motioned to approve the 6-month 2021 budget and seconded by Rick T. Motioned by Kathy J. and seconded by Nancy to accept Bob's financial report.
3. **Discussion on Changing the Amount of the Dues:** Bonnie Spindler questioned whether the \$160/year current STOC dues are high that would discourage membership or member retention. She suggested lowering STOC dues to \$30/quarter, especially during COVID. Discussion followed and it was decided to continue to table and review the dues issue.
4. **Fundraising—Bucky Books and Koeze Nuts/Terri Lynn Fundraiser/Silent Auction/Mustard Days/Culver's/and Madison Festivals.** Bob noted that we have one Bucky Book left to sell with all but one of the six free books we earned already sold. Additional books may be purchased on-line with STOC receiving a \$12 profit on each book sold on-line. Rick T. reminded us of Terri Lynn candies available all year; shipping is \$5 per address. Brainstormed on new ideas for fundraisers – need to continue to come up with new fundraisers especially during pandemic. For now, the other fundraisers shown above are not available.
5. **What do we value and enjoy? How do we want to move forward to ensure that we retain and gain new members?** Kathie led a brief discussion on this. It will continue to be on the STOC Board agenda.
6. **Committees and Activities**
 - a. Speaker – John Fons
 - b. Fundraising – Rick T (Terri Lynn), Dan Bergs (Bucky Books), Kathy Johnson (Silent Auction), Nancy (Madison Festivals), Diane (Bratfest) , Bob W (Mustard Days) & Rick C (Culver's)
 - c. Social – Mary S, Nancy, Ken-Progressive Dinner moved to summer for now/discussed alternatives to annual ornament exchange
 - d. Service Events – JOOI Club-Scholarships, JOI Advisors, Student of the Month - Rick C, Carole Rick T
 - e. Service Events – Other No Lussier Christmas Party this year
 - f. Madison Area Service Clubs Liaison- Suggested by SWIS President. Still operating?
 - g. Newsletter – John Fons
 - h. Oratorical Contest – Club to Regional Contests - 4 to May 15th Conference – Steve B.
 - i. Essay – Jessica Hodgkins at SWIS District – Mike Grasmick? Kathie will check.
7. **A Sub-Committee to Review STOC By-Laws & Policies. Members Rick T, Kathie N, Ted, and Dan Chart.** Will review electronically and bring to membership, if appropriate.
8. **Adjourn** motioned by John; seconded by Rick T. Adjourned at 6:01 p.m. Adjourn to December 9, 2020.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Johnson, Secretary

SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING via Zoom

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

MINUTES

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

1. **Welcome/Agenda Additions.** The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.
2. **Approval of 11/10/20 Minutes:** Motion by Steve, seconded by Rick C. Passed unanimously.
3. **November Financial Report:** JOOI dues to be paid to OI by Foundation, \$260, already approved. Tabled Vanguard Wellington additional investment discussion. One member still owes for one Bucky Book. Motioned by John Fons and seconded by Ken to reimburse Kathie \$158 for Zoom license and Bob \$20 for Annual Report filing fees. Approved unanimously. Bob proposed we amend the budget for 2021 and enter Zoom License expense for \$160 and reduce annual banquet budget to \$330. Kathy J motioned and Mary seconded. Unanimously approved. Audit Committee report: 1) 13 STOC polo shirts in inventory including 7 that people ordered; Bob should bill those people and coordinate delivery. 2) the Committee recommended he put a copy of a check with invoices paid and 3) to avoid sales tax on Amazon, apply for tax-exempt status 4) discussed audit committee recommendations for a credit card. Bob recommends we not open get a STOC credit card now. Motion to accept the Audit Report by Rick C. and seconded by Steve. Approved unanimously.
4. **Presented Unsung Hero Award to Steve Bailey on behalf of Maxine Lane on Monday, Nov. 30.**
5. **Discuss Policy changes recommended. Board approval needed.**

Policy Changes:

Sec. 3 under Policies, change Club policies be reviewed by October 31 (change from) "every year" to "even years"

Sec. 7 Dues: (change from) \$16.50 to \$16.75

Homebound seniors shall be charged (change from) \$40 to \$25 per quarter

Sec. 8: Delete pre-billing quarterly billed status

Mary motioned to accept Policy changes as recommended and Steve seconded. Passed unanimously.

6. **Discuss By-Law change needed for one item to keep it in agreement with the proposed policy change if the Board approves the one item. Members would need to approve a change in the By- Laws.**
Discussed By-Laws will have no changes.
7. **Fundraising:** Kathy J again made a big sale to Aegis. Last year this sale alone generated over \$800 for STOC. Other nut sales are moving forward. Bucky Books expecting to make \$900; online ordering available til January, and new ideas for fundraising? We are listed as a non-profit on Amazon.Smile.com, so if members choose our Club, we get ½ of 1% toward our Foundation.
8. **Committees and Activities**
 - a. Ornament Exchange-ideas how to best accomplish this while including everyone. Mary proposed that we each choose an ornament to speak about on Wed., Dec 16.
 - b. Oratorical Contest-Steve Bailey talked about opening our contest to Clubs in the area. We will do this.
 - c. Essay Contest-Mike Grasmick-Kathie will contact him for an update.
9. JOOI is holding a Howl-idays Online Concert. They need sponsors and Rick T. motioned and seconded by Rick C. to make a \$100 donation. Passed unanimously.
10. **Adjourn** motioned by John; seconded by Bob W. Adjourned at 6:04 p.m. Adjourn to January 12, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Johnson, Secretary

Don't Forget, or better yet, if you do forget to order your Terri Lynn nuts before Christmas (and let's face it, delivery cannot be guaranteed now before the Big Day), any day throughout the year you place an order for succulent Terri Lynn nuts and snacks benefits not only you and your intended recipients but the Sauk Trails Optimist Club.

So place your order! Don't delay! Or go ahead and delay. We're offering you the chance to be Optimistic at your own convenience!

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.