



Pathways

Sauk Trails Optimist Club
Madison, Wisconsin



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



December 2019

PRESIDENTS NOTE

The Best Things In Life

You know the song.

“The moon belongs to everyone.
The best things in life are free.
The stars belong to everyone.
They gleam there for you and me.”

We give thanks at this time of year and we give gifts and there's a cost. Turkey is a bargain, but the trimmings can be expensive and all those gifts, well, we can also be thankful for credit cards.

“The flowers in spring, the robins that sing,
The moonbeams that shine
They're yours, they're mine.”

On my desk there's a bag of books provided by Reach-A-Child after a program November 13 to Sauk Trails Optimist Club by Curt Fuszard. He's given our club twenty such bags to be distributed by us in cooperation with Reach-A-Child to first responders who encounter children in the midst of trauma and tragedy or emergency any time of the night or day any time of year.

“And love can come to everyone.
The best things in life are free.”

We have these books given freely to distribute in the same spirit. So as you think of what you can give whenever you travel outside the City of Madison into other parts of the state or nation, consider taking a few of these book bags with you and handing them to a surprised and grateful man or woman in uniform who will know what to do with them when faced with a distraught or frightened child.

The best things in life are free. Sauk Trails Optimists have a lot of freedom and a lot of the best things to give away.

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




SWIS Conference
February 22, 2020.
Broadhead, WI

Conference details & information:
www.swisdistrict.org

December Birthdays

Mike Gustafson	5
Dennis Norton	7
Barb Sheeran Hill	20



Newsletter Editor:
 Liv Sandberg
 jlivsandberg@gmail.com

Date	Speaker	Topic
12/4	VOLUNTEER (no lunch meeting)	Gift Wrapping for Lussier Christmas Party
12/6	VOLUNTEER	Lussier Christmas Party Lussier Community Education Center
12/10	<i>STOC Board Meeting 5:00 pm</i>	<i>Park Bank 2275 Deming Way, Middleton All members are welcome to attend</i>
12/11	SYSJT Students	Student of the Month
12/18	Annual Christmas	Ornament Exchange
12/25	<i>NO MEETING</i>	<i>MERRY CHRISTMAS</i>
1/1	<i>NO MEETING</i>	<i>HAPPY NEW YEAR</i>
1/8	Noreen Kralapp & Gayle Laszewski	Health & Wellness for Caregivers
1/14	<i>STOC Board Meeting 5:00 pm</i>	<i>Park Bank 2275 Deming Way, Middleton All members are welcome to attend</i>
1/15	AB Orlick (Grant Recipient)	Lussier Community Education Center
1/22	OPEN	
1/29	OPEN	

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

RECRUITING ALL OPTOMISTIC ELVES!

It's time to share and give of your time to help at STOC Christmas Party for the kids at the Lussier Center.

December 4th- our Wednesday meeting will be held at 5:30 for the gift wrapping party at the Radisson. Please bring a roll of wrapping paper.

December 6th- our Lussier Christmas party is that FRIDAY. We start setting up at 4:00. Those have signed up should be there at that time.



IT'T TIME TO ORDER THOSE YUMMIES FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Terri Lynn Fundraiser

It's not too late to place an order for the Terri Lynn Fundraiser! These are high quality nuts and candies that are great for gift giving or just for a treat for yourself. This is a major fundraiser for the club so please consider placing an order. You can place an order with Rick Thomas on or before Wednesday, December 4th at the weekly meeting or via email at rlthomas5914@gmail.com, or go online and order anytime at:

<https://sauktrailsoptimists.terrilynncares.com>

New Badger Optimist Club

The new Badger Optimist Club conducted its Charter Banquet November 23 at the UW Memorial Union with installation of officers and a review of accomplishments since the club's charter meeting March 28. Sauk Trails Optimist Club has been instrumental in formation of the Badger Optimists with a one hundred dollar donation and co-sponsorship of its organization.

Badger co-president Kylie Campion outlined an impressive list of the new club's activities in the past eight months including: participation in a Suicide Prevention Walk via an information table at the event; donation of funds to provide a birthday box through Box of Balloons after a program by Nicole Mall who has also spoken before Sauk Trails Optimists; church dinner volunteer work; gift bags for hospitalized children in cooperation with Ronald McDonald House charity; various tutoring and mentoring assignments and food donations to the St. Vincent de Paul pantry.

Kylie serves this year as co-president of the Badger club with Cleo Le.

A sophomore, Kylie's major is Neuro-Biology. Sophomore Cleo's double major is Environmental Studies and Social Welfare. Club members also present at the Charter Banquet were sophomore Sean Damro, majoring in Nursing and senior Catherine Pinter, majoring in Spanish and Social Work.

Installation of officers at the banquet was conducted by SWIS District governor Christine Dieckhoff. Optimist officers also present included past SWIS governors Josh Zaidel, Maureen Crombie; Vern Andren and Sauk Trails president John Fons



Pictured, left to right, are senior Catherine Pinter; sophomores Kylie Campion and Cleo Le, Badger Club co-presidents; sophomore Sean Damro and SWIS District past governor Maureen Crombie instrumental in foundation of the Badger Club.

**SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Tuesday, November 13, 2019

MINUTES**PRESENT:** John, Rick T, Steve, Kathy N., Bob, Rick C., Nancy, Ted**Others Present:****Absent:** Kathy J., Liv, Mary

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

1. **Addition to Agenda:**
2. **Approval of Board Minutes from 9/17/2019.** Kathy N. moved to approve the minutes, Nancy seconded, Passed unanimously.
3. **Acceptance of Financial Reports:**
 - There was a discussion of Badger Club funding. John and Steve will try to go to their banquet. Rick C. moved to accept the operating budget as proposed, Nancy seconded, Passed unanimously.
 - Rick C. moved to accept payment of \$260 for JOI club dues, Kathy N. seconded, Passed unanimously.
 - Rick C. moved we give \$250 to OI Foundation, Bob seconded, Passed unanimously.
 - There is an audit committee that will be meeting this month.
 - Rick C. moved that we accept the financials as presented, Steve seconded, Passed unanimously.
5. **Lussier Christmas Party – December 6**
We will be wrapping gifts on December 4th. Everyone should bring a roll of wrapping paper.
6. **Culver's**
The next scheduled event will be April 28th.
7. **Super Optimist Siblings – Information and Discussion**
A program for the siblings of children with Epilepsy. The vote on our participation was tabled until December.
8. **Kwik Trip Fundraising Information:**
www.kwiktrip.com/community/fundraising
9. **Adjourn to December 10th at 5:00pm, at Park Bank in Middleton** Bob moved to adjourn, Steve seconded, passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Thomas, acting secretary

SPARTAN YOUTH SERVICE UPDATE

This year the JOI students have been busy with over 70 projects to date and 1200 hours of service performed. The co-Presidents, Kevin Li and Julia Zhou, have been busy working with all the committee co-chairs as they recruit service projects and lead their committee meetings. December 15th will be the Holiday Potluck and Board meeting and planning for the rest of the year will be top of the agenda.

Here's wishing our Advisers and supporting STOC Members a "JOI-Full" Holiday Season,
Spartan Youth Service JOI Team

Carole Klopp



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

STOC Lunch meeting activities

Horizon HS STOC Grant recipient

Traci Goll, Horizon HS administrator and counselor
Horizon HS students and family members

The mission of Horizon High School is to provide a school that fosters emotional, social and academic growth for students who want to learn in an alcohol-free, drug-free environment. Students will actively assume responsibility to create their own safe and nourishing community.





Curt Fuszard of REACH-A-CHILD
STOC Grant recipient

“The first response is a book to comfort a child-in-crisis” Is REACH-A-Child™’s vision. Whether the children are in an automobile accident, victims of domestic disturbance or temporarily homeless, REACH-A-Child™ wants to help First Responders engage these children in a positive way through the power of a book.

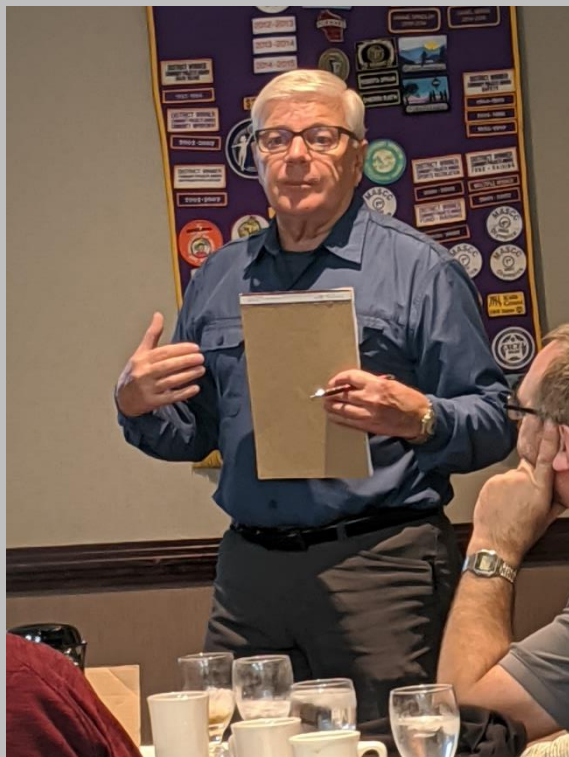
Photo by Steve Bailey



Tom Miller and Donna Miller from Friendship Force

Our Mission is to *promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people*. We do this by connecting to people from other countries and cultures at a personal level. **We Explore, Serve & Understand.**

Photos by Steve Bailey



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.

