



Pathways



Sauk Trails Optimist Club
Jan 24 – Mar 24

<https://sauktrailsmadisonoptimist.org>



Sauk Trails President's Message January/February 2024:

Since the beginning of the new Optimist year, I've had the pleasure of watching our members having fun getting together at meetings, laughing, talking, planning, and enjoying the wonderful speakers that Paul has asked to join our meetings. Everyone has laughed and put up with my "dumb" jokes. It feels good to laugh.

The planning and efforts to make Christmas better for many youth by providing food and gifts to students at the Lussier Center was a wonderful thing. Patti and Frank made it happen and we owe them many thanks. Thank you to the volunteers too!

We will be working at Culver's Share Night on February 13th and May 14th.

We are making plans to prepare a dinner at Ronald McDonald House.

We are looking forward to working as wrappers/grillers/other at the Brat Fest at the Alliant Center the end of May.

Let's continue to sign up for our fundraising and volunteering events.

- ★ Steve is our club Oratorical Chair. The club contest is scheduled for our club meeting on March 20th. Topic: "How to Change the World with Optimism". The District Oratorical Chair would like the paperwork for the zone winners to her by April 20th.
- ★ Rick Thomas is the Chair for the Essay Contest. Topic: "Optimism: How It Connects Us" We will be judging 4 essays! The deadline for Clubs to submit their winning essay to the District Chair is Feb 28th.
- ★ Rick Thomas is working with the Ronald McDonald House to set up a date for a group of 4-6 to prepare a dinner at the House. We will need volunteers to help make the meal.
- ★ Diane H will be asking for volunteers to work at the Brat Fest in May.
- ★ Kathie is the point person to set up times when we can work at Culver's Share Night.
- ★ Let's look for new fun ways to work together.

We are a strong club and we want to serve our community and kids. Without participation, we couldn't do all these things. I am so proud of all of our members! Please know that any of your ideas are welcomed.

Why did the scarecrow win an award?Because he was out standing in his field. LOL

Promise Yourself! 😊 Kathie, President 2023-2024
Lt Governor Zone 6, 2021-2024

STOC Bulletin Board

Sauk Trails Club Officers Jan/Feb/Mar 2024

President: Kathie Newman

Vice President: Steve Bailey

Secretary: Bonnie Spindler

Treasurer: Carole Klopp (Jan24)
Rick Thomas

Past President: John Fons

Board of Directors

Pattu Levenson 23-25
Rick Conne 20-23
Frank Rath 23-25
Trisha Lucas 23-25
Open Position 24-24
Diane Hoebel 24-24

Feb/Mar Birthdays

Diana Johnson 02/06
Bonnie Spindler 02/11
Trisha Lucas 02/23

Jason Kadow 03/02
Paul Johnson 03/07
Diane Hoebel 03/10
Brinda Thompson 03'10



Thanks to Paul Johnson for coordinating speakers. If you have a speaker or would like to speak yourself, contact Paul for future 2024 scheduling.

Newsletter Editor:

[Bonnie Spindler](#)

blspindler@charter.net

SWIS 3RD Quarter Conference

Hilton Inn, Milwaukee

Saturday, May 10th
2024

9 – 3 PM,

Sauk Trails 'Zoom' Board Meeting

Monday, Feb 19, 5 pm

Each Board Member will be receiving a ZOOM Link for the meeting. Any STOC Optimist is welcome.

Terri Lynn Fundraiser for STOC

One of our annual fundraisers is selling nuts/candies from Terri Lynn through our online store. In the past I have usually received orders in about 2 weeks. This is a nice fundraiser because all you have to do is send someone the link or just order product which you can have shipped directly to the recipient. The link to place an order is here: <https://sauktrailsoptimists.terri Lynn.com>

If you have any questions, please contact **Rick Thomas** at rthomas5914@gmail.com or call 608-212-7582.

A graphic with the text "Thank you!" written in a large, elegant, cursive script. The text is centered within a red rectangular border.

THANKS to Jeff Kuchenbecker for volunteering as Club Treasurer the first quarter of the 23-24 year. Jeff is also the SWIS – Southern Wisconsin District Treasurer in 23-24 supporting Governor Diane Maruszak.

THANKS to Rick Thomas, who has been an assistant Treasurer, taking care of the weekly lunch activities.

THANKS to Carole Klopp, who has volunteered as the Sauk Trails Club Treasurer starting in January 2024.

THANKS to Bob Wortinger, a club member for 29 years, Club Sec/Treasurer for 16 YEARS, for his service, and also for helping with the transition of the Treasurer responsibilities to other Optimists.

THANKS to Karen Wortinger, a club member for 9 years, in support of events/activities, for her service.

THANKS to John Fons, a club member for 8 years, Distinguished Club President 18-19, SWIS District Governor 21-22, Club President 21-22 & 22-23 for sharing his 'historical knowledge' support and service.

THANKS to Jane Meyer, a club member for 3 years, in support of events/activities, for her service.

Sauk Trails Noon Meeting Speakers, January/February 2024



Jan. 10: - Eric Salzwedel shared about the non-profit Do Good Wisconsin. It was a very interesting and informative presentation.



Jan. 17: George Hesselberg, author of "Dead Lines" and former columnist for the Wisconsin State Journal, shared about his writings.



Jan. 24: Neil O'Connor, a chief election inspector for the City of Madison shared about his experiences in that position.



Jan. 31: Mary Bergin, author of "Small-Town Wisconsin: Fun, Surprising and Exceptional Road Trips" and other books about food. She talked about support clubs and her clubs

February 7: Our club moved our meeting to Nono's on Whitney Way. It was attended by about 12 Optimists where we had a nice opportunity to share with each other. Nono's will be a nice location for future NOW –New Optimist Welcomed get-together's. It would not work out well for any meetings where there is speaker scheduled, being a very open environment.

Sauk Trails Club Future Planned Events Feb/Mar 2024

February 7, 2024	Wednesday, Lunch Meeting at Nono's of Sharing with Optimists.
February 13, 2024	Tuesday, Culver's Fundraiser: 4-6 PM, and 6-8 PM volunteers. <i>(Also May 14th 4-8 PM. Sign-ups and more information will be coming).</i>
February 14, 2024	Wednesday, Vintage Lunch meeting, SWIS Governor Diane Matuszak will be sharing about her goals for the Optimist organization.
February 19, 2024	Monday, On-Line ZOOM Board Meeting.
February 21, 2024	Wednesday, Vintage Lunch meeting, Scott Spoolman, author of two books about the geology and natural history of Wisconsin state parks and the ancient history of Wisconsin's lakes, rivers and waterfalls
February 28, 2024	Wednesday, Vintage Lunch Meeting, Leslie Huber, strategic engagement director of Way Forward Resources, formerly Middleton Outreach Ministry.
February 28, 2024	Essay Contestants Need to be turned in to Optimist International. Please contact any Youth who could participate for this annual scholarship
March 6, 2024	Wednesday, Vintage Lunch Meeting, Bill Becker, author of "The Creeks Will Rise," and an expert on climate policy, energy and disaster prevention and recovery. He is also a pal of Diane Hoebel..
March 13, 2024	Wednesday, Vintage Lunch Meeting, speaker TBD
March 18, 2024	Monday, On-Line ZOOM Board Meeting.
March 20, 2024	Wednesday, Vintage Lunch, plans for Oratorical Students sharing.
March 27, 2024	Wednesday, Vintage Lunch Meeting, speaker TBD
April 13, 2024	Saturday 9AM, Oratorical Zone 6 Contest at the Verona Senior Center. <i>(Kathie is Zone 6 Chair and Jodi Farritor of Verona Club is Zone 6 co-chair.)</i>
May 11, 2024	Saturday, SWIS 3 rd Quarter Conference, Oratorical / Essay / CCDHH Events and Scholarships presented.
May 22, 2024	Wednesday, Vintage Lunch, plans for Respect for Law.

Tri-Star Basketball 2023 Date is April 27, 2024

Tri-Star Basketball has been held in many SWIS Clubs during the year. To view the winners and some highlights from the previous years, please... [Tristar Info](#)

TRAINING AVAILABLE for ALL OPTIMISTS for FREE:

The Optimist Institute offers a lot of interesting courses for club officers and members.

You will need to use your user id or register to obtain a user id. Your email address could be your user id. <https://optimist.tovuti.io/>

On the left side of the screen, scroll down to subscriptions.
Choose the Optimist member Free. The passcode is CLUB2324.



SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB
Board of Directors Meeting via ZOOM
Tuesday, January 16, 2024; 5pm



1. Welcome!

Kathie Newman, club president called ZOOM meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

Present: Kathie Newman -President; Bonnie Spindler – Secretary; Carole Klopp – Treasurer; Patti Levenson – Board; Trisha Lucas-Board; Frank Rath – Board; Diane Hoebel – new Board member. Absent: Steve-Bailey.

- 2. Approve December Board Minutes:** A motion was made by Carole Klopp and seconded by Patti Levenson to accept the December board and foundation minutes. The motion passed by the quorum present.

- 3. Club Financials:** Carole Klopp was appointed Treasurer to take care of financials that Jeff Kuchenbecker had been doing. We thank Jeff for his time and efforts!

Carole has been working with previous Treasurer, Bob Wortinger to come up with a simplified budget of ONLY the various income & expense budgeted items for both the STOC Club and the STOC Foundation. Carole shared about some decisions that were made, taking into account Bob's past experiences, that were reflected in the 22-23 budget, as October 1, 2023. A motion was made by Carole and seconded by Trisha to approve the year-end budget with NO AUDIT being anticipated. The motion was passed by the quorum present.

Carole then presented the Financial Report, that went through the end of 2023 and the projected budget for 2024. A motion was made by Carole and seconded by DianeH to approve the Projected Budget for 2024. The motion was passed by the quorum present. An Audit will be anticipated before the end of the Optimist year, Sept. 30, 2024.

A motion was made by Carole and seconded by PattiL to approve a donation to Bob Wortinger of \$100 for his services in helping with the Financial Report. The motion was passed by the quorum present.

- 4. Lussier Christmas Party on Dec 15th:** Expenses for 2024 were \$2968. Plans for Dec, 2024 will be for \$3000 budgeted.
- 5. Membership:** -Mary Wykle asked to end her membership. Sympathy card will be passed around at the next meeting for a family death.
- 6. New Board Member** - Diane Hoebel will complete Mary's term through 9/30/2024.

Sauk Trails Optimist Club “Pathways” Jan 2024 - Mar 2024

7. Need a board member to replace Jane Meyer. John Fons was on the board as Past President. Suggestions to replace Jane can be shared.
8. **Oratorical Club Contest:-** Steve Bailey, coordinator, is planning a March 20, 2024 club contest. (Do we want to ask Middleton Club to join in our contest to reduce the number of contestants at the Cross Plains Club Oratorical Contest?)
Oratorical Zone Contest April 13, 2024 at 9AM at Verona Senior Center.
Essay Club Contest: Essay’s are due by February 28th to SWIS. Just received an e-mail from an interested student. Forwarded to Rick Thomas who is also coordinating with JOI students interested.
9. **Attendance at 2nd District Conference - Zoom** on Feb. 3, 2024, 10:00-1:30
Attendance at SWIS 3rd Qtr Conference, May 10-11, 2024 at Hilton Garden Inn NW, Milwaukee, WI. More information available at: www.swisdistrict.org
10. **Rick Thomas** is working with Ronald McDonald House on a date for us to help make a meal for residents.
11. **Fundraising - Culvers Share Night Feb 13.** Also scheduled for May 14, 2024. (They only do share nights on Tuesday’s).
12. **Adjourn:** A motion was made by PattiL and seconded by Carole to adjourn the ZOOM meeting at 5:50 pm.. It was accepted by those present.
Next Meeting: Monday, February 19, 2024, at 5:00 PM, via Zoom

Respectfully submitted by: **Bonnie Spindler**, STOC Club Secretary 23-24

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.