



# Pathways

Sauk Trails Optimist Club  
Madison, Wisconsin



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



June 2014

## Sauk Trails Optimists:

Spring is finally here and summer is just around the corner. After our 'long' winter, finally the flowers are coming out, green grass is growing, the birds are singing. We just celebrated Memorial Day weekend where we could honor those who have given their lives so we can have freedom to make choices for our lives and how we can 'give back' to others.

**The 8<sup>th</sup> tenet of the creed is: Promise yourself: To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.** A quote from the 'Power of Creed' book by Christen Larson, who wrote the Optimist Creed: *"Make yourself over, so to speak, in your own friendship; increase your personal worth; polish your own character, refine your mind; and make real, and more of the ideal; double and triple your love and your kindness and constantly increase your admiration for everything that has real quality and high worth"*.

In very early May we supported '**Spirit Day**', organized by the Spartan Youth Service Team by chaperoning students in various volunteering activities. The **Special Olympics Track Meet** had a 'great day' as Optimists supported and were inspired by the athletes. *(Thanks to John Scherer for coordinating)*. We honored our **Students of the Month** and **West Madison Police Officers** and had a presentation about the support of the **Optimist International Foundation**. *(Thanks to Rick Conne and Steve Bailey for coordinating these events)*. On May 28<sup>th</sup> we joined the **Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team** as they honored their 2013-14 team and had the Installation of the 2014-15 JOOI Team. *(Thanks to Carole Klopp, Rick Thomas, Rick Conne, Jeannie Bettsworth, and others for their continued support of the JOOI group)*. Over Memorial Day Weekend, thanks to the Optimists who volunteered to work for the '**Bratfest**' fundraiser. *(Thanks to Diane Hoebel for coordinating)*. May has been an ACTIVE month for our Optimist group.

On **June 4<sup>th</sup> at Basies**, in the Radisson will be our quarterly early evening **Social Event**. Come to socialize with other optimists and if you can, invite any friends/relatives to join you to find out more about your club and what we do to support the kids. We'll be finalizing the collection of 'hotel toiletries' for Africa and the Women's Abuse Shelter, that evening also. *(Thanks to the Social Team of Jacci See, Liv Sandberg, and Claudia Cabrera for coordinating)*. Other speakers for the month will be from the Boys and Girls Club, Co-Authors of Children's books, and future plans of the Meadowood Neighbor Center. *(NO meeting on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, enjoy the holiday week with your friends/families)*.

I was honored to give a presentation on 'Leadership Opportunities', an Optimist International event in Madison. There are a lot of leadership positions available in the Southern Wisconsin-SWIS District. As Past Governor of SWIS from 2011-12 please contact me or contact SWIS Governor Elect, Jeff Kuchenbecker for information on any area you may be interested in for the future.

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.**

Optimistically,  
**Bonnie Spindler**

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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
6-4-14	OPTIMISTS	<b>SAUK TRAILS EVENING SOCIAL, 5:00 – 7:00 PM</b>	Invite friends to socialize and share your club and what we do for the kids.
6-11-14	Todd Geltemeyer	<b>Michael Johnson</b>	Boys and Girls of Dane County presentation
6-18-14	Bonnie Spindler	<b>Rebecca and Madelyn Spindler</b>	Children's Books co-authoring project.
6-25-14	Rick Conne	<b>Joe Schlesing,</b>	Director of Meadowood Neighborhood Center – future plans.
7-2-14		<b>JULY 4<sup>th</sup> HOLIDAY WEEK, Radisson CANCELLED</b>	
7-9-14	TBA		
7-16-14	Kathy Johnson	<b>Lisa Little</b>	Acupuncture as a Health alternative.
7-23-14	TBA		
7-30-14	TBA		
9-24-14	Bonnie Spindler & Dan Bergs	<b>Sauk Trails Annual Banquet</b>	Sharing about the 13-14 year and plans for the 14-15 year.

Shaded Yellow = Wednesday Lunch Meeting

### Sauk Trails Optimist Board of Directors Meeting – May 20, 2014

President Bonnie called the meeting to order. The previous meeting's minutes and the treasurer's report were accepted. The board discussed what to do about members who RSVP for lunch and then don't show. It was decided that each member is allowed one 'no show' per quarter after which they will be billed for lunches they don't show for.

**Membership:** We remain at 43 members + 2 FOOs. Rebecca Turner was approved as a new member. Bonnie reviewed membership incentives from OI.

**Old Business:** Updates were given for May activities. Brat Fest Fundraising (Diane) – we will have 5 members volunteering for the Kid Zone. Social Committee will look at organizing a summer get together in July or August. Jacci & Live are organizing the NOW Happy Hour on June 4. We will see if there is interest as a club to go to the Brewer Game on August 9<sup>th</sup> (Optimist Day). We will send the previously approved \$250 donation to the UW – Whitewater Student Club for their trip to Burkina Faso, Africa. We will also donate ½ of toiletry item collected by club members. The other ½ will be donated locally to the Women's Abuse Center.

**New Business:** Fundraising was discussed, noting the Football Frenzy tickets are available. We will also investigate working at the Art Fair and a Walmart brat stand. The nominations are set for the election on May 14. The SYSJT Installation Ceremony will be May 28<sup>th</sup>, STOC members encourage to attend. Bonnie reported on her participation in the Optimist Leadership Conference. It was noted that we need speakers for June 25 and July 9.

The meeting was adjourned. **Next meeting to be held on Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 AM, 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.*

**Fundraising News: Football Frenzy is back!**

We now have the Football Frenzy tickets for 2014! Last year, STOC members sold 105 tickets and our Youth & Community Foundation received \$1,307.25 as our reward for our sales effort. Gene Spindler (FF co-ordinator) has 125 tickets for the 2014 year. The tickets sell for \$20 and are valid for seventeen weeks of the pro-football season beginning September 7th and ending December 28th. **Pick up your tickets at a Wednesday lunch meeting or call Gene at 833-7244 to schedule a time and place to get the tickets to you.** Unsold tickets must be returned to Gene before August 13th.

**Congratulations to our newly elected officers and board members!**

President (1 year term) – **Dan Bergs**  
Vice-President (1 year term) – **Kathy Johnson**  
Board Member (2 year term) – **Rick Conne**  
Board Member (2 year term) – **Todd Geltmeyer**  
Board Member (2 year term) – **Mike Grasmick**

Appointed Positions (by the President):  
Secretary (1 year term) – **Rick Thomas**  
Treasurer (1 year term) – **Bob Wortinger**

Board members with one year remaining: **Pete Graven, Nancy Hach, & Diane Hoebel**

**Thank you for volunteering your leadership!**

Mark your calendar for the **STOC Annual Banquet on Wednesday, September 24, 2014.** Support Dan and his team as they are inducted to begin their year. Details to follow.

**June 2014 Reflection: Promise Yourself: To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.**

*It's always great to realize that we all need improvement in how we interact with each other and what we can do ourselves to make the situation better. Everyone has different 'histories' and 'personalities' that shouldn't be criticized but learned from. If you have a specific improvement of yourself that you would like to share briefly as part of the 'Happy Dollar' program during June your 'story' could inspire other optimists.*



A good number of STOC members attended the **New Officer Induction Banquet for the Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team on Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>.**

Watch for a JOOI 'wrap up' of the activities from the 2013-14 school year in the July Pathways newsletter.

**VOLUNTEERING AT BRATFEST – Report By Diane Hoebel**

Rick Thomas, Claudia Cabrera, Nancy Hach, Mary Breunig and myself worked shifts at the brat fest. We all worked the Kid Zone (which was new this year). I think everyone enjoyed it. We should be getting a check for approximately \$152.00. **Thanks to Diane for organizing!!**

**May in Photos  
By Steve Bailey**



Sadhana, our  
May Student  
of the Month

Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team  
Recognition & Induction Banquet



Maureen Crombie from the SWIS District, brought us up-to-date on the international OI Foundation. Fred Dorn volunteers to help the SWIS District raise \$ for the OI Foundation.



**Respect For Law  
May 14<sup>th</sup>**

Honoring  
Caleb Johnson &  
William Needleman  
from Madison's  
West Precinct



Steve Bailey makes the 'Respect For Law' presentation. The plaque will hang in the West Precinct.



Above: Outgoing officers & board members are recognized for their service.

Left: STOC President Bonnie inducts the new officers & board

**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.