



Pathways



Sauk Trails Optimist Club
March/April/May/June, 2025

<https://sauktrailsmadisonoptimist.org>



Co-President's Message March-June 2025;

Our new co-presidents will be leading the meetings and coordinating the speakers and schedules for our twice a month schedule in 2025. *(Starting in May out lunches will be the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month).*

The days are longer and it's warmer. We have many things to look forward to this spring and early summer: Culver's, Respect the Law, Students of the Month, the District Conference and Brat Fest. I want to thank each of you for your support and I hope this is bright beginning to a new season for all of us.

Other decisions and future plannings are in this newsletter and on the STOC Website.

Trisha & Frank, co-Presidents 24-25

Sauk Trails Club Officers 2024 - 25

President's:
TRISHA LUCAS
FRANK RATH

Secretary/Treasurer:
Carole Klopp

OI Fnd Rep: Bonnie Spindler,

Past President: Kathie Newman

Board of Directors
Patti Levenson 23-25
Mary Schwartz 24-26
Liv Sandberg 24-26

Spring/Summer Birthdays

Jason Kadow	03/02
Diane Hoebel	03/10
Doug Poole	04/11
Pete Graven	04/25
Liv Sandberg	04/25
Rick Conne	06/05
Mary Schwartz	06/02
Patti Levenson	06/15
Kathie Newman	06/22

FUND CRAZR TICKETS

The annual Fundcrazr tickets are currently available. They cover the football season from September through the end of 2025. The cost is the same \$20 for each one. The first place winner, based on the football game scores, can win \$500.

Get your tickets from Carole Klopp this year. They need to be sold and back to her by July 31, 2025. (Checks to: **Sauk Trails Optimist Club.**)

SUMMER COOKOUT: Frank Rath's Home, 6951 Heron Way De Forest, WI 53532

WHEN: Saturday, June 21, 2025 2:00 p.m. Until the Party is over

WHO: Spouses, Significant Others, & Guests are Welcome. There will be Fun & Games in the Afternoon. Stay for the Campfire in the Evening.

WHAT: Brats and Grilled Chicken Sandwiches (plus the fixins'). Please help out by bringing an appetizer, a side dish, or a dessert. Frank will provide soft drinks, water, and wine. Feel free to bring your own beverage of choice. Please RSVP by June 18th. You can sign up at a meeting or respond to Social Coordinator Mary Schwartz at: schwrtzmry@aol.com.

Sauk Trails Optimist Club Pathways” March/April/May/June 2025

STOC PROGRESSIVE DINNER, SUNDAY MARCH 9, 2025		
Appetizers: 4:00 - 5:15: Home of Carole & Reid Klopp	Main Course: 5:30 - 6:45 Home of Ted and Jacci See	Dessert: 7:00 - 8:00 Home of Kathie Newman





ALL of these pictures are also on the Sauk Trails Website in
EVENTS/Meetings > PROGRESSIVE DINNER.

At this LINK:

<https://sauktrailsmadisonoptimist.org/pages/progressivedinner.asp>

Sauk Trails Optimist Club Pathways” March/April/May/June 2025

SCHEDULE of EVENTS in PAST/Coming Timeframes	
March 12, 2025	Horizon High School Update – LUNCH Fish Sandwich with Caesar Salad
March 26, 2025	Students of the Quarter/Month - LUNCH House Salad with Chili
March 31, 2025 (Mon)	Way Forward, 3:15-515 for Volunteers
April 9, 2025	Wednesday, Frank Rath, Patient Safety/Treatment Quality in Radiation Therapy LUNCH California Chicken Sandwich/fries.
April 12, 2025	Oratorical ZONE Contest planned. (Info TBD)
April 18-30, 2025	Scholarships read and ranked by: Bonnie, Patti, Carole, and Trisha. Coordination with Memorial Students: Rick Thomas
April 23, 2025	Wednesday, Speaker Mary Schwartz sharing about out-west adventures. LUNCH; Flatbread with meat soup or Pizza /Salad.-
April 24, 2025	Lussier Breakfast at 9:39 – nice opportunity for service.
May 6, 25 (Tues)	Culver’s 4-6 & 6-8 pm for Volunteer Fundraiser
May 7, 2025	Respect for Law: LUNCH: Pulled Pork with Fries
May 21, 2025	Scholarships presented to 2 JOI recipients and 1 Horizon recipient. Officer Elections: LUNCH: Pulled Pork. Fries OR Chicken Salad
May 24, 2025 (Sat)	Bratfest from 9:30 – 1:30 Volunteer Signed Up earlier.
June 4, 2025	Speaker TBD: Lunch: Burger with Fries
June 18, 2025	Speaker TBD: Lunch Fish Sandwich with Ceasar Salad
June 21, 2025 (Sat)	Frank Rath’s Summer Cookout, 2:00 PM , <i>(see page 1 for Info)</i>
June 24, 2025 (Tues)	Ronald McDonald meal prepared by club members
July 3, 2025	Speaker TBD: LUNCH: House Salad with Chili
July 10, 2025 (Thurs)	Miracle League Game attendance, TBA in future
July 16, 2025	Speaker TBD: LUNCH: California Chicken Sandwich Fries
August 2, 2025(Sat)	Mustard Day Volunteer Opportunity
August 16, 2025 (Sat)	Mary Schwartz’s Home Get-together, Wine tasting
August 19, 2025	Culver’s 4-6 & 6-8 pm for Volunteer Fundraiser
August 22-23, 2025	SWIS 4 th Quarter Convention, in Deforest.
September 17, 2025	Installation of 25-26 Year Officers
December 12, 2025	Lussier Christmas Party Planned

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 receive 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. Link to order iriis here: <https://sauktrailsoptimists.terrilynn.com>.

For questions, contact **Rick Thomas** rthomas5914@gmail.com call 608-212-7582 May.

RESPECT for LAW, May 7, 2025:

Two officers were honored at the Noon lunch meeting by the STOC Club. Their names were included on the Plaque which is placed at the West Precinct. Officer Christopher K and Sgt Matthew B. (Thanks to Steve B for coordinating).



SCHOLARSHIPS for 2025 PRESENTED, May 21, 2025

Scholarships of \$1,000 each were presented to Jade and Jana from Memorial High School. A scholarship was also presented to Rachel of Horizon High School. Each student provided an update of their current activities and their future plans at UW College or Technical College. *(Thanks to Rick Thomas for coordinating with the schools and Optimists who judged their applications.)*



BRATFEST, MAY 24, 2025

Thanks to Diane Hoebel for coordinating and Bonnie Spindler, Carole Klopp, Diane Hoebel, Kathie Newman, Mary Schwartz, Nancy Hach, Patti Levenson, Theresa Reinke and Trisha Lucas for volunteering as brat wrappers on Saturday and Rick Thomas for grilling on Saturday and Sunday. Thank you to Mary Schwartz and Carole Klopp for driving us to the Bratfest.

Tim Metcalf stopped by each of the tables to thank us for volunteering. We enjoyed a brat and Chocolate Shop Ice Cream and listened to a little music before we headed back to the cars. We will receive \$12 per hour worked for the foundation.



TRAINING AVAILABLE for ALL OPTIMISTS for FREE:

The Optimist Institute offers a lot of interesting courses for club officers and members.
Your email address could be your user id. <https://optimist.tovuti.io/>

The ‘passcode’ has been updated to: **2425member**

GENERATING NEW OPTIMISTS

The subcommittee to explore new concepts and approaches to generate new participants in serving youth through Optimism - met and have some plans in place to begin the process which in serving youth through Optimism - will begin this summer. More information coming in the future.
Frank Rath, Coordinator.



SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB
Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, April 15, 2025 MINUTES

Present: Trish, Carole, Kathie, Pattie, Bonnie, Mary, and Frank

Absent: Liv

Meeting called to order at 5:05pm.

1. Welcome/Agenda Additions-None.

2. Previous Board Meeting Minutes – Frank moves, Bonnie seconds to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

3. Reports

A. Treasurer’s Report – Carole shared the Financial Report and is still looking at some sort of credit card acceptance function for the club.

B. Fundraising Report – Football Craze tickets need to be ordered by April 20th. Carole will chair this and will email Fred Dorn. Carole agreed to take the remaining Bucky Books to Way Forward.

C. Service Report – The May 6th Culver’s shifts are filled. 9 People have signed up for BratFest on 5/24. Rick as reserved June 24th for us to cook at Ronald McDonald House. The question arose as to the Foundation supporting club members costs. Carole will speak with Rick about it to get a ball park number.

D. Social – Mary shared the following confirmed events: June 21st we will “picnic” at Frank’s house in DeForest. In July we will attend a Miracle Game and August 16th we will party at Mary’s house. We also set Wednesday, September 17th as the EOY Banquet & Induction ceremony

4. Old Business

A. Member Recruitment: Frank, Mary & Diane will meet this coming month to plan.

B. Nominating Committee: The following is the list of Nominees: Co-Presidents: Trish and Frank; Past President: Kathie Newman; Secretary/Treasurer: Carole; Board: Mary, Liv, Patty and Bonnie. Bonnie has agreed to also be the OI Foundation Representative.

Sauk Trails Optimist Club Pathways” March/April/May/June 2025

C. Meeting Date Change: as of May, we will meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. HOWEVER, in October we will meet on October 8th and 22nd as the Vintage had already booked the room. November will then be the 5th and 19th and December the 3rd and 17th. The Lussier Christmas Party will be Dec. 12th.

5. New Business

A. Scholarships: the club decided to give 2 scholarships to JOI students and one to an Horizon HS student. Rick needs application readers. Trish, Pattie, Bonnie and Carole volunteered. Scholarships will be awarded to the winning students at the May 21st meeting of the club.

6. Club Announcements

A. May 21st Officer and Board Elections

B. May 24th - BratFest

D. June 21st - Cookout at Frank's House

C. June 24th - Ronald McDonald House

7. **Adjournment:** Pattie moves to adjourn and Kathie seconds. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:00pm to May 20, 2025 at 5pm via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Klopp, Secretary/Treasurer



SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB

Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

MINUTES

Present: Trish, Carole, Kathie, Pattie, Bonnie, Liv, Mary, and Frank

Meeting called to order at 5:02pm.

1. Welcome/Agenda Additions:

Bonnie asked to add the topic of FOOs to the agenda under New Business.

2. Previous Board Meeting Minutes – Mary move, Liv second to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

3. Reports

A. Treasurer's Report – Carole shared the Financial Report and is still looking at some sort of credit card acceptance function for the club.

B. Fundraising Report – Pattie did not have anything new to report. She asked what we should do with the remaining Bucky Books. Liv moved to donate them to Way Forward, Carole seconded, Motion carried. Carole will call Way Forward.

C. Service Report – Kathie reminded everyone to sign up for BratFest with Diance and that we have a Culver's night May 6th.

D. Social – Mary shared the following: June – Miracle League/July at Frank's/August at Mary's. These are all tentative dates. Will confirm and report back next month.

4. Old Business

A. Member Recruitment: Frank is working on this.

B. Nominating Committee: Mary Breunig and Jacci See are working on it and will report in April.

C. JOI – Club Oratorical Contest will be held April 8th at Memorial. Will need 3 judges.

5. New Business

Sauk Trails Optimist Club Pathways” March/April/May/June 2025

- A. Meeting Date Change: 11 members voted to change the meeting days to the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays starting in May. Vintage has been notified. Mary moved to make the change, Liv seconded, motion carried.
 - B. No Show Lunch Contact Info: if you cannot make the meeting lunch, members are asked to contact Trish via text immediately so she can call Vintage so we're not charged for the lunch!
 - C. Member Outreach: It was decided that we should personally contact members we haven't seen in a while. Carole will contact Rick Conne, Mark Kramer and Doug Poole. Trish will contact Mary Breunig. Mary will contact Pete Graven.
 - D. Agenda Additions: FOOs: the topic was discussed and it was decided to table this due to no application being presented.
6. Club Announcements
- A. March 31 – WayForward Clothing Closet
 - B. Culver's – May 6th
 - C. May 21st Officer and Board Elections
 - D. SWIS Conference – May 16/17 – Student Contests
 - E. BratFest – May 23-25 TBD
 - F. Leader Training
7. Adjourned at 5:59pm to April 15, 2025 at 5pm via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,
Carole Klopp, Secretary/Treasurer



**SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB
YOUTH & COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Board Meeting via ZOOM
Tuesday, March 18, 2025**

MINUTES

***Present: Trish, Carole, Kathie, Pattie, Bonnie, Liv, Mary, and Frank
Meeting called to order at 5:59pm.***

1. Welcome and no agenda additions.

2. Foundation Meeting Minutes from January 21, 2025 – Mary moved approval, Kathie seconded. Motion carried.

3. Financial Report – Carole shared the financials as of February 28, 2025 showing assets and liabilities of \$19,190.50.

4. Holiday Events

a. Lussier Center – Frank shared the final report for Lussier Xmas Party where we spent \$2395.52 and received \$500 in grants for a net expense of \$1895.52. Frank and Pattie will be meeting with Lussier soon to plan this year’s party with a tentative date of December 12th.

b. Horizon High School Xmas Party – Trish will get in touch with Tracey and Jacci to see if this is feasible

5. Respect for Law Day – Kathie will do some research and get back to the board on how donations may be made.

6. Future Grant Dollars

a. Scholarships – The Foundation has been give 3 @ \$1000 each. Carole moved that this year we give 2 scholarships to the JOI students and 1 scholarship to a Horizon HS student. Bonnie seconded and the motion carried.

b. Community Grants will be discussed in August when we have a better understanding of what funds are available.

7. Adjournment: Liv moved and Bonnie seconded to adjourn to May 20th following the board meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Carole Klopp, Secretary/Treasurer*

=====



SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB

Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 2025
MINUTES

PRESENT: Carole Klopp, Patti Levenson, Trish Lucas, Kathie Newman, Liv Sandberg,
Mary Schwartz, and Bonnie Spindler

ABSENT: Frank Rath

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm via Zoom.

1. Previous Board Meeting Minutes – Kathie moves to approve with a second from Pattie.
Motion passes unanimously.

2. Reports

A. Treasurer’s Report – Carole reviewed the Operating accounts noting that we have \$4462 in checking as of January 31, 2024. We now have 23 members. Carole will be looking into credit card acceptance. The Audit Committee will meet sometime late March or early April (Mark, Jacci, Bob and Carole).

B. Fundraising Report – Pattie noted that we have Culvers in May. Future fundraisers are

Sauk Trails Optimist Club Pathways” March/April/May/June 2025

BratFest, Run events, Football Craazr, Bucky Books and Terri Lyn Nuts. Pattie will look into working events at Breeze Stephens field.

C. Service Report – Kathie reported that we will be “working” Culvers May 6th an August 19th as well. We will volunteer at Way Forward on March 31st. Please let Kathie know if you can volunteer. She will ask Rick T. about another Ronald McDonald house meal.

D. Speakers – Back to old times, a list is being circulated at each meeting requesting members to speak or to suggest and confirm a speaker.

E. Social – Mary with working on organizing the Progressive Dinner for March 9th. A sign-up sheet will be sent around at meetings and an email will be sent. Carole is hosting Appetizers at 4pm, Jacci is hosting the main course at 5:30 and Kathie hosts dessert 7pm.

4. Old Business

A. Club Policies were unanimously approved via email vote

B. Lunch committee met with Michelle, Vintage manager, to go over the menu rotation. We agreed on some changes and will share with members weekly. Michelle also asked if we would identify who her contact will be. Traci will do the lunch count and Carole will be the main contact for anything else.

C. Bonnie reviewed the SWIS District conference information.

5. New Business

A. Member Recruitment: Frank and Mary will take the lead. We need to change how we do recruitment and possibly dues, etc. More info to come.

B. Essay and Oratorical Contests – we will not do the Essay contest and Rick is seeking youth to do the Oratorical.

C. Elections: We will vote May 14th. Trish will identify a Nominating Committee with their report due by the end of April. Note that Carole has agreed to be Treasurer for one more year.

D. Banner Stand – Rick T. and Carole will look into and obtain.

6. Adjournment: Carole moves to adjourn the meeting to March 18th at 5pm via Zoom with a second from Bonnie. The meeting adjourned at 5:53pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carole Klopp, Secretary/Treasurer



SAUK TRAILS OPTIMIST CLUB

Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, January 21, 2025
MINUTES

PRESENT: Carole Klopp, Patti Levenson, Trish Lucas, Kathie Newman, Liv Sandberg,
Mary Schwartz, and Bonnie Spindler

ABSENT: Frank Rath

The meeting was called to order at 5:02pm via Zoom.

Sauk Trails Optimist Club Pathways” March/April/May/June 2025

1. Previous Board Meeting Minutes – Liv moves to approve with a second from Mary. Motion passes unanimously.

2. Reports

A. Treasurer’s Report – Carole reviewed the Operating accounts noting that we have \$4620 in checking as of December 31, 2024. We have 25 members.

B. Fundraising Report – No Report

C. Service Report – Kathie reported that we will be “working” Culvers May 6th an August 19th as well. She has contacted Rick T about serving at Ronald MacDonald house and will Contact Way Forward for a date to volunteer. She continues seeking other service ideas.

D. Speakers – Back to old times, a list is being circulated at each meeting requesting members to speak or to suggest and confirm a speaker. Frank has confirmed our final grantee – Miracle Leage of Dane County – to be at the February 12th meeting.

E. Social – Mary with working on organizing the Progressive Dinner – set for March 9th. She will be asking members to host Appetizers at 4pm, Dinner at 5:30pm and Dessert at 7pm.

4. Old Business

A. Club Policies need to be voted on by the club. Carole will circulate via email and ask everyone to vote online.

B. Lunch committee will be meeting first week of February.

C. Website – Bonnie is updating and will present at lunch meeting.

5. New Business

A. Member Resignations: Carole moves to accept the resignations of Paul Johnson and Jeff Kuekenbecker, Bonnie seconds the motion passes unanimously.

B. Essay and Oratorical Contests – we need to find chairs.

C. Bonnie shared there are new club contests/health grants available from OI.

D. Banner Stand – Rick T. and Carole will look into and obtain.

6. Adjournment: Carole moves to adjourn the meeting to **February 18th** at 5pm via Zoom with a second from Bonnie. The meeting adjourned at 5:42pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carole Klopp, Secretary/Treasurer



Sauk Trails Optimist Club Youth & Community Foundation

Board of Directors Meeting

January 21, 2025 MINUTES

PRESENT: Carole Klopp, Patti Levenson, Trish Lucas, Kathie Newman, Liv Sandberg, Mary Schwartz and Bonnie Spindler

Sauk Trails Optimist Club Pathways” March/April/May/June 2025

ABSENT: Frank Rath

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:43pm by President Trish Lucas.
2. **Previous Meeting Minutes** were unanimously approved on motion of Liv with a second from Bonnie.
3. **Financial Report:** Carole reviewed the current financial status of the Foundation noting that we should have approximately \$9000 to grant out this year, assuming our fundraisers are all successful.
4. **Restricted Funds NOTATION:**
Bonnie Spindler requests that her funds be used to offset the increase in website fees for 2025. The Treasurer will so note.
Kathie Newman requests that her funds be used to assist JOI students to go to conferences. The Treasurer will so note.
5. **Police Department:** Kathie is looking into a Police Foundation where we would send the check in honor of the two officers we recognize on Law Day.
6. **Lussier Community Center Xmas Party:** The event went well. Carole is now waiting to receive receipts from Frank regarding expenditures. We received \$500 from One Community Bank to offset the cost of the event.
7. **Adjournment:** Bonnie moves to adjourn with a second from Liv. The meeting adjourned at 5:58pm. The next meeting of the Foundation will be March 18, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,
Carole Klopp, Secretary/Treasurer

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.