



# Pathways

Sauk Trails Optimist Club  
Madison, Wisconsin



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

**January 2016**

Happy New Year to all Sauk Trails Optimists:

Well, we made it through another fantastic year for our club. Sure hope your holidays were full of good cheer and happy times. Even though the snow was late, for those who enjoy sledding and snow shoeing – the time has finally come!

December was a busy month for STOC. We wrapped up the Bucky Books and Koeze Nuts fundraisers VERY successfully - even making a record amount for Koeze Nuts! Many thanks to Dan Bergs and Rick Thomas for leading those fundraisers for our Foundation! We also did Christmas Tree decoration setup at Rosewood Villas for the fourth straight year...and we enjoyed the chili that was served afterwards! AND, we had our Annual Christmas Party for the kids at the Lussier Center. Special thanks to all who helped wrapped ALL those gifts! This year we served over 180 meals and helped over 140 youth. Another round of applause for Rick Conne and Frank Rath for a job superbly done leading this event! It takes an awful lot of perseverance and time to make sure this event goes smoothly! AND, finally, we all enjoyed our holiday party/ornament exchange at our last meeting in December. For those of you who missed it – plan on it for next year as we all laughed a lot at the truly “unique” ornaments that were exchanged!

And now it's 2016 and we're getting closer to our goals of increasing membership by 5 people net and raising \$8000 for our foundation. The NOW meeting is January 5<sup>th</sup> at the Radisson TWIST starting at 5:30pm – please come and bring a friend. (For those of you who cannot attend on Wednesday, please help us reach our goals by recommending our club to folks you know AND – an extra foundation donation is ALWAYS welcome!!) The following week, January 13<sup>th</sup>, please plan to attend as Steve Bailey has asked Channel 3 Sports Commentator, Jay Wilson, to come and share his sports insights with us. Then we'll have fiction writer Bob Fons on January 20<sup>th</sup> and Linda Cherf on January 27<sup>th</sup> speaking on “Brain Matters!” It's gonna be a fab month – hope to see you all on Wednesdays for lunch!

Here's wishing all of You an Optimistically Wonderful 2016,

Carole Klopp, President ☺

**Happy New Year – Welcome 2016!**

## STOC Bulletin Board

### Sauk Trails Club Officers 2015-2016

**President:** Carole Klopp

**Vice President:** Mike Grasmick

**Secretary:** Rick Thomas

**Treasurer:** Bob Wortinger

**Past President:** Dan Bergs

#### Board of Directors

Steve Bailey  
Dan Chart  
Rick Conne  
Todd Geltemeyer  
Nancy Hach  
Diane Hoebel  
Kathy Johnson

Mark Your Calendar!



### Annual Progressive Dinner Sunday Afternoon, March 6, 2016

Watch for more details.

### January Birthdays

Kathy Johnson	2
Frank Rath	2
Rebecca Turner	3
Greg Hermus	6
Claudia Cabrera	16



Newsletter Editor:  
Liv Sandberg  
jlivsandberg@gmail.com

### Volunteer Opportunity

#### Un-decorate Rosewood Villas for Christmas Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup> 9:30 ~ 11:30 a.m.

We have enjoyed working with Rosewood Villas, a senior living facility located at 902 High Point Rd. This is now the 4<sup>th</sup> year that we have worked with them setting up and taking down the Christmas trees. Thank you to all of the volunteers for helping.

Contact Dan Bergs if you would like to help with this community service project.

### ***Koeze Report***

***Thank you to everyone who helped with the Koeze Nut fundraiser this year. We ended up with profits of \$1,245.58 which is the best we have done since 2011. These profits will be added to the STOC Youth and Community Foundation.***

### Sauk Trails Optimists Club Meetings and Other Scheduled Events

January 5	NOW Meeting @ Twist 5:30pm
January 9	Volunteer Activity – Christmas Take Down at Rosewood Villas 9:30 a.m.
January 12	Board meeting 5pm @ Park Bank (all are welcome)
January 13	Jay Wilson – Sports commentator for Channel 3
January 20	Bob Fons – Fictional writer
January 27	Linda Cherf from UW - speaking on 'Brain Matters'
March 6	Social Activity – Progressive Dinner – more info to come

Lussier Community Education Center

## Annual Christmas Party

The seventh annual Lussier Christmas Party took place on December 11, 2015. Participating were 98 children from the Lussier Community Education Center, and 49 children from the Meadowood Neighborhood Center. Santa came and gave 147 gifts to the underprivileged children. We served a complete dinner to 180 guests. Our entertainment was Nikki and Fah, who did a magic show, and blew up artistic balloons and each child received a gift from Santa. We received donations from Copps Foods, Walmart, Sam's Club, Target, and Stella's Bakery. The party was a huge success. It could not take place without all the volunteers from our Optimist Club, the students from Memorial High School's Spartan Youth Service, and all the people working at the Lussier Center.

*Submitted by Rick Conne.*

Dedicated STOC members spent the evening of December 9<sup>th</sup> wrapping gifts for the children

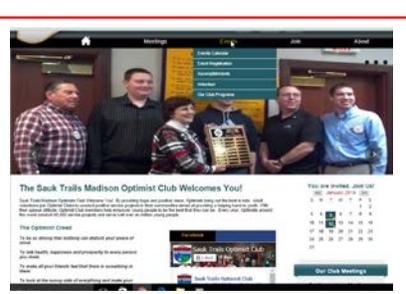
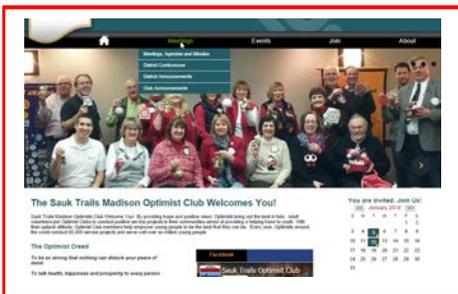


**2015-2016 SWIS District Meetings:**

The first SWIS Conference of the year will be held at the Fitchburg Library on Sat. Feb 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

**. SAUK TRAILS – Madison Club WEBSITE**

CHECK OUT the Sauk Trails – Madison Optimist Club Website at: [www.sauktrailsmadisonoptimist.org](http://www.sauktrailsmadisonoptimist.org)  
 (With a rotating banner of pictures, scroll down the Home page OR click on Drop-downs, see below).



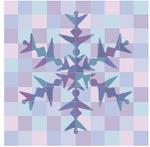
Meetings, Agendas, Minutes;  
 District Conference Information  
 (SWIS Super Zone Meeting : Feb. 6, Fitchburg Public Library, register [www.swisdistrict.org](http://www.swisdistrict.org), in district activities by Feb. 3)  
**CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

Events Calendar  
 Club Accomplishments  
 (SEE Lussier Pictures)  
**Our CLUB PROGRAMS.**

Club Profiles contains:  
**ALL Newsletter 'links'**  
**(See ALL 2015-2016 News)**

Please provide me with any upcoming Events, pictures, accomplishments, to help share information with other optimists in your club. Be sure and let me know of any updates needed to the current information on the website. THANKS.

Optimistically, Bonnie Spindler      [bspindler@charter.net](mailto:bspindler@charter.net)      833-7244 (H)



Lots of fun at the annual Ornament Exchange Luncheon.

## 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.