

Optimists Bring Out the Best in Children
Les Optimistes inspirent le meilleur chez les jeunes • 2007-2008

Sauk Trails Optimist Club

Weekly Wednesday Lunch
Meetings - 11:45 – 12:45, Babe's,
Schroeder Road, Madison

December 2007 Newsletter



Pathways



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Friend of Youth

Sauk Trails Optimists:

The weather outside is definitely getting colder, but the many projects and activities we have for kids in our community is just heating up. November brought the start of a new club we are sponsoring along with the Spartan Youth Service JOOI Team at Jefferson Middle School. Thirty-five students showed up for our first meeting, and they are already planning and performing service projects including a book drive and collecting pop tops for the Ronald McDonald House. December brings one of my favorite projects, which is ringing the bells for the Salvation Army at West Towne Mall. This is a very simple activity that only requires two hours of your time. Please see the sign up sheet in the newsletter and grab a shift before they are all gone. Finally, the New Year will bring an exciting social opportunity with the dinner theatre Kenosha! If you haven't seen a Whoop Dee Doo production before, you are in for a real treat. See the newsletter for more details on this and other upcoming events. Have a happy holiday season!

Rick Thomas,
Club President 2007 - 2008

Bonnie Spindler, Editor
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Verona, WI 53593
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Ornament Exchange

The **December 19th** meeting will once again be our annual holiday party. A tradition in our club is to have an ornament exchange. Please bring one wrapped ornament with an approximate value of \$5 to the meeting on that day. After lunch we will exchange ornaments with the requisite trading and shuffling. You never know which ornament you will go home with until it is all done. Hope to see all of you there on that day.



Members in Attendance:

President: Rick Thomas
Past President: Greg Hermus
VP & Board Members: Barb Mulcahy, Kevin Campos, Ricki Hoefler, Ray Schmitz, Carole Klopp
Not Present: Gene Spindler, Kathy Johnson, Bob Wortinger, Bill Monkemeyer

SWIS – Southern Wisconsin Conferences

February 8th – 9th, 2008 Madison
May 2nd – 3rd, 2008 Wis. Dells
August 2nd – 3rd, 2008 Racine

**Sauk Trails Optimist Club Board Meeting Minutes,
Keller Williams, 11/13/2007**

The meeting was called to order at 4:37 pm. Carole moved and Ray seconded approval of the October 2007 board minutes. Motion passed unanimously. With our Treasurer on vacation, the Treasurer's Report was postponed until the December meeting.

President's Report:

- New members – none for this meeting, but Kevin has a hot prospect on the line.
- Events Review:
 - Special Olympics Bowling had very low attendance once again. Perhaps we need to review this activity and replace it with one that will draw more members.
 - Badger Concession Stand is an excellent fundraiser, but, once again, we have trouble drawing members. We need to brainstorm how to continue this activity, especially since it is the biggest fundraiser for the JOOI club.
 - Ronald McDonald House dinner is November 21st. Rick asked for help – Barb, Greg and Kevin stepped up to help with this activity.
 - Salvation Army Bell Ringing with JOOI – sign ups are going well.
 - Shopping for the MOM family (Sharing Xmas) – Barb will discuss at next meeting to solicit club members to help with the shopping.
 - Koeze Nuts – once again, Kathy wins the prize for selling a LOT!
 - Progressive Dinner will be Sunday, February 17th! More to follow...

Committee Updates:

- All committee chairs are reminded to schedule a committee meeting!
- JOOI Club – Carole announced that the students had accepted a challenge to raise \$10,000 for the Lussier Community Education Center – which, if they do, will be matched by \$190,000 – bringing the total to \$200,000. Carole asked the adult club to step up to assist the kids with this worthwhile cause.
- Fundraising – Harlem Ambassadors – the big question is = Can we get Memorial High School for this event? Carole will talk with the school. We also need to get companies to donate funds to cover the base cost of \$3995 so when we sell tickets, the entire amount goes to the club. The fundraising committee will be meeting to plan the project further.
- Projects - Ricky has been trying to schedule a meeting with Bob and hopes to meet soon.
- Membership – no report.
- Programs – Barb reported that the schedule is full until after Xmas. Meetings after Xmas and New Year's are cancelled. Discussion about continuing at Babe's postponed.
- Social – Progressive Dinner is on; Dinner theater on January 15th at Westside club is being organized (7pm); and UW Band Concert in April is on the calendar.
- General Committee discussion – noticed some members are not on one of the lists – check lists in newsletters – committees should meet either in person or e-mail.

Donation Requests:

- WILS request – waiting to get more information about this group.
- Jefferson Junior Optimist Club – Barb moved and Greg seconded to approve paying their first year dues of \$300. Passed unanimously.
- JOOI Alternative Gifts Fair – Greg will cover setting up the booth for donations to the Youth and Community foundation fund.

Greg moved, Kevin second to adjourn the meeting. Passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carole Klopp, Secretary Pro-Tem

Sauk Trails Club Officers

President
Rick Thomas

Secretary/Treasurer
Gene Spindler

Past President
Greg Hermus

Vice Presidents
Barb Mulcahy
Kevin Campos

Board of Directors
Ricki Hoefler
Bob Wortinger
Bill Monkemeyer
Carole Klopp
Kathy Johnson
Ray Schmitz

FUTURE BOARD Meetings, 4:30 PM

December 11th, 2007
 January 8th, 2008
 February 12th, 2008
 March 11th, 2008
 April 8th, 2008
 May 13th, 2008



December 2007 Schedule:

December 5th Lunch Babe's, 11:45
 December 11th 4:30 PM Board Meeting
 December 12th Lunch Babe's, 11:45 am
 December 19th Lunch Babe's, 11:45 am
 December 26th CANCELLED

The board can reschedule dates and activities.

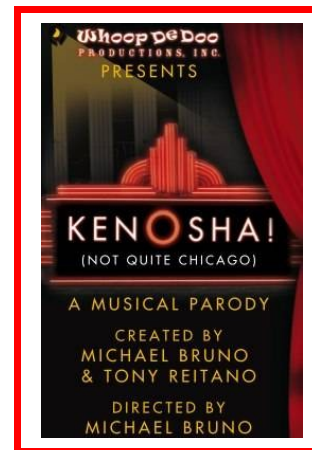
Ronald McDonald House Meal

Kevin Campos, Rick Thomas, and Julie Thomas cooked a meal of chicken Alfredo, pasta salad, green beans, and garlic bread on Wednesday, November 21. The next meal we will prepare will be in January due to the calendar being full for December. If you have interest in helping with this project in the future, please contact Rick Thomas at 212-7582 or jathoma2@wisc.edu.

DATES	Location	Speaker	Topic	Lunch
December 5 th	<u>Babes</u>	Becky Steinhoff	Goodman/Atwood Community Center	Turkey & Swiss or Cajun Fried Chicken Salad
December 12 th	<u>Babes</u>	December Student of the Month	Student of Month Shares	BBQ Chicken Sandwich or 1/2 Chicken Caesar Salad
December 19 th	<u>Babes</u>	Holiday Sharing	Share an Ornament with an Optimist	Chicken Pita Wrap or Chicken Taco Salad
December 26 th	<u>BABES CANCELLED</u>			NA
January 2 nd	<u>BABES CANCELLED</u>			NA
January 9 th	<u>Babes</u>	Steve Puckette	"How Your Wired", Exercise Information	TBA
January 15 th	<u>WestSide Club</u>	Whoop Dee Doo Production	KENOSHA, NOT QUITE CHICAGO	(See below)
January 16 th	<u>Babes</u>	John Olson	High School Sports Foundation	TBA
January 23 rd	<u>Babes</u>	Marcia Whittington	Gilda's Club	TBA
January 30 th	<u>Babes</u>	January Student of the Month	Student of Month Shares	TBA

KENOSHA (NOT QUITE CHICAGO)

The social committee has planned an enjoyable evening of dinner and theatre on **Tuesday, January 15th** at the Westside Club/Queen Anne's at the corner of Mineral Point and Hwy M. The Whoop Dee Doo Production Kenosha, "Not Quite Chicago" is a parody of the play Chicago and is destined to be a huge hit. This will be the opening night production, and should be a lot of fun. The price for dinner and the show will be \$24.00. Sign up at a meeting or contact Kathy Johnson, 663-9032 or Rick Thomas. Reservations must be in by **December 31st**.



**STUDENT of Month
07-08 Dates**

December 12th; January 30th;
 February 20th; March 26th;
 April 16th; May 14th.

BABE's CONTRACT with Sauk Trails Club: There will be a minimum charge for **15 lunches** each Wednesday, which is scheduled, from October through December. In December, the relationship will be evaluated to determine the future of continuing at Babe's OR continuing to look into a different location that would start in 2008.

2007 Koeze Nut Fundraiser

The final deadline for Koeze Nut orders is **December 5th**. Please get your orders in so we can finish this fund raise strong and help children in our community. We hope to top \$2000 in profits in 2007!

What you need to know to sell Koeze Nuts:

- Order deadlines were November 7th for Thanksgiving sales, and December 5th for Christmas sales.
- Bring order forms to Wednesday meetings or contact Rick Thomas at 212-7582 or jathoma2@wisc.edu
- **Collect money up front** with checks made payable to **Sauk Trails Optimist Club**.
- Products normally available include:
 - Colossal Cashews and Classic Mixed Nuts** in decanters, canisters and boxes.
 - Milk or Dark Chocolate Puddles** in decanters and boxes
 - Delan Caramel Crunch and Chocolate Covered Dried Cherries**
 - Executive Gift Packs**-combinations for corporate clients
- Product prices range from \$11.75-\$50.00+
- Come to a weekly meeting or contact Rick Thomas for promotional information, brochures or order forms.

There are two parts to the Koeze Nuts Fundraiser: 1) Accumulating the orders from everyone and ordering the Koeze products. 2) Distributing the Koeze products when they come in. If you have an interest in helping out with either of these tasks, please contact Rick Thomas as soon as possible.

November STUDENT of the Month

Our student of the month on November 7th was Tenzin Paldon. She has been active in the Spartan Youth Service Club, getting the Jefferson JOOI club started and has volunteered with many projects. She says her favorite project was cooking a meal at the Ronald McDonald House. It has been a pleasure getting to know Tenzin. Following is a bio from her.

My name is Tenzin Paldon. Tenzin is a very popular name in the Tibetan Community because of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Since H.H. Dalai Lama has Tenzin as part of his name, many Tibetans consider it to be a "lucky" or an important name to name their children. It means "holder of the teachings."

I was born in Nepal as were all four of my siblings. I moved to the United States with my father and my siblings in 1998. My mom had already settled here 7 years earlier. I am currently a senior at Madison Memorial High.

I am one of the Senior Board members in the Spartan Youth Service and co-chair of the Kids 4 Kids committee. I am also part of the Yearbook Club, and Asian Club. I love being involved in many different activities. I am also very active in the Tibetan Community. I was part of the Wisconsin Tibetan Association for 3 and a half years. There were classes held every Saturday in Tibetan language, history and music. I would also go to the Deer Park Temple at Oregon to volunteer and was part of Tibetan Cultural Dance. We would perform in every Tibetan holiday or special events with traditional Tibetan dance. One very important performance was when H.H. Dalai Lama visited Madison. We had the very special opportunity to perform live for him.

As I enter college, my career choice is to become a pediatric nurse. I was in a Nursing Internship at the UW for PEOPLE program, and it really influenced me to be 100% sure of this profession.

Happy Birthday

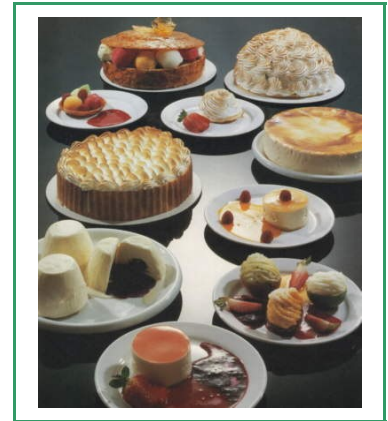
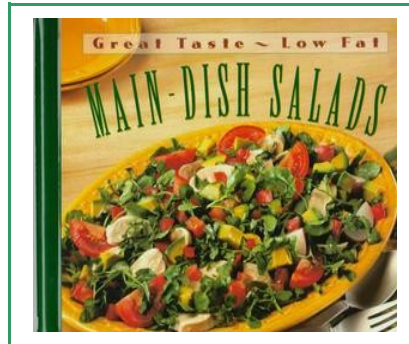
Mike Gustafson	12/5
Gail Koehler	12/11
Mike Milia	12/15

Sauk Trails Progressive Dinner Sunday, February 17th , 2007

Mark your calendar for Sunday, February 17th ! We are holding the annual Sauk Trails Progressive Dinner for the winter season. Join us for an entertaining get-together.

Optimists/spouses/significant others are welcome. Please sign-up to participate and to bring a dish to pass at one of the 3 houses. RSVP with a type of dish (appetizer, entrée, or dessert) to Kathy Johnson at: kjohnson@rmstrategies.net or on a continuing sign-up at lunch.

Appetizers	3:30-5:00	Mark and Kathy Kraemer's Home
Main/Salad	5:00-6:30	Barb and Tim Mulcahy's Home
Dessert	6:30-8:00	Kathy Johnson's Home



All of these homes are in the PD/Maple Grove area of Madison. Directions will be included in the January and February Sauk Trails 2008 Newsletters.

If you can only make some of the houses and time frames, please come to those. This is a great annual Social Outing for the Sauk Trails Optimist Club. **A special thank you goes out to the host families... we appreciate your involvement!** Hope to see everyone there!

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.

Badger Band Concert! April at the Kohl Center!

We will have seats off the stage again and it's always a rousing good time. Barb Mulcahy will be coordinating the details so wait for further announcements. Tickets need to be ordered rather soon to make sure we get our good seats.



MOM Family Shopping for X-Mas

Pat Beiersdorf and Bonnie Spindler will be shopping for 5 members of a selected family for Christmas. Wrapping and gift delivery will occur before the holidays on behalf of the Sauk Trails Optimist Club.

JOOI VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

their biggest projects: The Alternative Gift Fair and the Step for Life Run/Walk and assist with a connection to Vets. The students would need adults who could meet once or twice per month with the students to help plan these important projects. The students need help finding sponsors and in promoting the events. The students can accommodate your schedule and arrange to meet with you after work. If you are unable to help organize one of these events, we still welcome your participation the day of. If you have any interest in helping with these projects, you should contact Carole Klopp, Mary Schwartz, or Rick Thomas.

Be a SANTA to a SENIOR

A representative of the 'Home Instead' Senior Care presented an overview of the program they offer for seniors to keep them safe at home. He also presented a program for the holiday season, designed to provide gifts and bring smiles to our community's lonely and financially challenged seniors. The 'Be a Santa to a Senior' program is available at the various Shopko and Wal-Mart stores where the public can select a 'bulb' off a special tree and purchase a gift between November 1st and December 12th for a senior. Those gifts will be Gift wrapped on Thursday, **December 13th**, from 8:30 – 5:30 PM at South Towne Shopping Center. Contact: 608-663-2646 for more information.

Volunteer for Step for Life Run/Walk

The Step for Life Run/Walk will be held in the spring, but some of the planning needs to start now. If you have knowledge of run/walks, marketing, getting sponsors (or if your business would like to be a sponsor), or event planning in general, we could use your help. **There will probably be some organizational meeting now, with more closer to the event.**

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

The JOOI Club will once again be ringing the bells for the Salvation Army at West Towne Mall by the Sears entrance.

Each year an adult Optimist pairs with 2 or 3 JOOI members to help raise much-needed funds for the Salvation Army. It's a great way to perform a couple of hours community service and get to know the JOOI kids.

See the last page of this newsletter for the sign-up form as a reminder and what dates are still available from Dec. 7th-15th.

Volunteer for Vets

Is there an Optimist who would like to assist the JOOI Community Team to connect with the Madison Veterans Hospital? We know there are many volunteer opportunities that our JOOI students could be involved in and only need an adult to help make the initial contact with the VA Hospital Volunteer Coordinator, meet with the committee chairs to outline possibilities and assist as a liaison with the VA Hospital's Volunteer Coordinator (all day time tasks that the kids cannot do as they are - oops, yes, in school!). Interested? Please contact one of the JOOI leaders

Sauk Trails Optimist Club, Ltd. - Membership Roster December 2007

<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Work No.</u>	<u>Home No.</u>	<u>Fax No.</u>	<u>E-Mail Address</u>
Wade Anunson	Anunson Chiropractic	829-2250	278-2950	829-2251	drs anunson@sbcglobal.net
BJ Bailey					Mrfuel4@yahoo.com
Steve Bailey	Crown Dental Laboratory	271-5537	238-8535	271-1657	Sbailey100@aol.com
Pat Beiersdorf	Madison Financial NEW	833-3838	833-0090	695-0421 C	pat@madisonfinancial.net
Tim Belter			455-1145		tim_belter@hotmail.com
David Braun	Associated Bank	252-5826	217-2182		David.braun@associatedbank.com
Kevin Campos	Campos Financial/Keller Williams	235-1030	798-1099	443-1919	Camposfinancial@yahoo.com
Kristi Campos	Distinctive Dentistry & Facial Aesthetics	836-1422	798-1099		klmilton@hotmail.com
Rick Conne			833-3795		rjconne@charter.net
Lori (Handel) Davis			848-9673		lhandel@tds.net
Michael Shields	SWIS Governor, 2007 - 2008	262-638-6696	262-632-3580		Kingshields1@yahoo.com
Bonnie Spindler	SWIS Lt. Gov, Zone 62007-2008		833-7244		blspindler@charter.net
Carrie (Fluhr) Schraeder	Wisconsin Community Bank	298-1743	219-3551	298-1710	Cfluhr@thewcb.com
Daniel Gibson	SVA Planners	826-2322	836-4714		Gibsond@sva.com
Peder (Pete) Graven	Monona State Bank	223-6245	276-5912	223-3007	pgraven@mononabank.com
Christian Gridley	Madison Financial NEW	833-3838	497-0214	358-7532 C	Christian@madisonfinancial.net
Mike Gustafson	Suby Von Haden	826-2292	442-6628	831-4243	gustafsonm@sva.com
Greg Hermus	Morgan Stanley	829-4341	845-3820		Ghbadger@charter.net
Donald Higgins	Higgins Hemb Insurance Group, LLC	274-4200	824-0914	274-4210	Don@hhig.net
Ricki Hoefer	Edward Jones	831-0988	833-6268		Philricki@aol.com
Laurie Irwin	Ronald McDonald House	232-4671	233-0543	232-4670	l_irwin@sbcglobal.net lirwin@rmhcmadison.org
Kathy Johnson	Risk Management Strategies, LLC	663-9032	513-7527(cell)	206-666-6435	kjohnson@RMStrategies.net
Jason Kadow	Meicher CPA	826-1900	827-6707	826-1901	Jasonk@meichercpa.com
Dale Kalscheur	The Neckerman Agency	238-2686	437-4470	238-7798	D_kalscheur@neckerman.com
Carole Klopp	Volunteer Coordinator	826-3409	833-4561		klopp@chorus.net
Chuck Koehler	Retired	838-7133	838-7133		Koehler01@charter.net
Gail Koehler	Independent Health Care		838-7133		Koehler01@charter.net
Mark Kraemer	Park Bank, VERONA Office	845-0207	848-6899	845-0201	mkraemer@parkbank.com
Joseph Marty	Wells Fargo	643-9524©			joseph.h.marty@wellsfargo.com
Brinda Mecham	Crown Dental Laboratory	271-5537			Brstratton@aol.com
Michael Milia	Advantage Real Estate	441-7761	235-3102(cell)	441-8471	mmilia@tds.net
Bill Monkemeyer	United Way	246-4351	848-4871	246-4369	whamnjam@tds.net bmonkemeye@uwdc.org
Barb Mulcahy	State Bank of Oregon	835-9961	513-6965	835-1876	barbara.mulcahy@crossplainsbank.com
Tony Nagin, Jr.	Badger Tax & Acct Services	833-1700	238-5335	826-0201	tony@badgertax.com
Janine Richgels	US Bank, N.A., Pvt Bank Associate	252-4110	241-5714	252-7652	Janine_richgels@usbank.com
Alison Scherer	WI Dept of Ag, Trade & Cons. Protection.	224-4761	836-0151		schereraj@hotmail.com
John Scherer	Trinity Financial Planning	829-1010	836-0151	268-8588	John@trinfin.com
Lisa Schluesche	Johnson Bank		513-8590		Schluesche1@charter.net
Ray Schmitz	Retired - NEW E-Mail Address		233-3786		straymond@sbcglobal.net
Phil Schrabeck	AMCORE Bank	443-1709	345-9756		phil.schrabeck@amcore.com
Mary Schwartz	Symphonic Financial Advisors	442-1500	437-2233	442-6490	Mnorb@aol.com
Jacci See	First Weber Group	828-5105	827-6326	836-3102	Seej@firstweber.com
Bonnie Spindler	Semi-Retired, Computer Trainer	833-7244	833-7244		Blspindler@charter.net
Gene Spindler	Retired		833-7244		genespindler@charter.net
Jill Thomas	First Business Bank	232-5924	850-4250	232-5920	jthomas@fbmadison.com
Julie Thomas	UW Medical School, NEW	263-5009	274-0528		jathoma2@facstaff.wisc.edu
Rick Thomas	Keller Williams Realty	212-7582	274-0528		jathoma2@facstaff.wisc.edu
Amy Tripp					No E-Mail
Bob Wortinger	Kiesling Associates	664-9110	829-3926	664-9112	Rwortinger@kiesling.com

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

Ring bells for the Salvation Army along with 2-3 students in front of the mall entrance to Sears West Towne.

Friday, December 7	4:00-6:00 PM	Pat Bueisdorf
Friday, December 7	6:00-8:00 PM	Rick Thomas
Saturday, December 8	10:00 AM - NOON	Bob Winters
Saturday, December 8	NOON - 2:00 PM	Rick Hoyer
Saturday, December 8	2:00-4:00 PM	STEVE BAILEY
Saturday, December 8	4:00-6:00 PM	
Saturday, December 8	6:00-8:00 PM	
Monday, December 10	4:00-6:00 PM	Bonnie Spindler
Monday, December 10	6:00-8:00 PM	Gene Spindler
Tuesday, December 11	4:00-6:00 PM	Carrie Schraeder
Tuesday, December 11	6:00-8:00 PM	
Wednesday, December 12	4:00-6:00 PM	Pat Bueisdorf
Wednesday, December 12	6:00-8:00 PM	Rick Conne
Thursday, December 13	4:00-6:00 PM	Jacqui See - Alex Johnson Nick Johnson
Thursday, December 13	6:00-8:00 PM	Pat Bueisdorf
Friday, December 14	4:00-6:00 PM	Darl Koehler
Friday, December 14	6:00-8:00 PM	Chuck Koehler
Saturday, December 15	10:00 AM - NOON	
Saturday, December 15	NOON - 2:00 PM	Paula Klopp
Saturday, December 15	2:00-4:00 PM	
Saturday, December 15	4:00-6:00 PM	