

The Optimizer

For and About the Members of the Optimist Club of Menomonee Falls

www.falloptimistclub.org

February, 2015

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From the President...

I think most of us are starting to get over that Packer loss in the playoffs. Boy, if there ever was a game that tested your Optimist beliefs, that was THE game!

I want to thank all of those involved and who participated in our two January events. Both the Trivia Contest and Chili Dinner were well attended thanks to the behind the scenes work of their Chairs, Co-Chairs and a virtual army of volunteers. Great job everyone, and thanks again!

Since Valentine's Day falls in February, this month's goal should focus on, you guessed it, Love...but with a different twist. During February, try to do something that you used to love to do but haven't done in a while. Maybe something you and your spouse or friends used to love doing but for whatever reasons (usually too busy) you haven't done in a long time. This month, reward yourselves, you know you've earned it!

Please check the weekly agenda for upcoming speakers and activities. We've had great attendance at most meetings even on these cold, dark Wisconsin mornings. We'd LOVE to see you there! Have a great February everyone.

Chili Dinner Wrap-Up...

Another great year for the Chili Dinner! We sold 758 tickets in advance which represents 112 members selling, buying and donating tickets. Thanks to all! We had a record number of ticket sales at the door – 101!! This was due in large part to Jerry Mislant and his effort to promote the event with other local organizations and the opposing team. Thanks Jerry!

Our 50/50 Raffle took in \$776 which was split with our winner Mitch Maersch. Mitch won \$388 and donated \$200 back to the club – way to go Mitch!

Our expenses were held to a minimum thanks to donations from Wal-Mart, Ram Contractors, Pick-n-

Save and Frito-Lay. A big thanks to Tom Wagner for his help getting all the food.

All together we were able to raise over \$5000 for the club. It was a great night and everyone had a good time.

Executive Board Meeting – January...

We met on the 20th of January and covered a variety of topics. We donated \$1,000 to **Menomonee Falls Junior Indians Baseball Program**. We also approved the budgets for the Distinguished Young Woman program, the Essay Contest and the Oratorical Contest. Beth Saunders was a guest and gave us an update on the Club website.

Under New Business, we approved new members Beth and Jeff Saunders. We also approved a request from Don Eisenhauer for \$200 to purchase a **Creed Banner for the MFHS Junior Optimists** and compensating Jim Foster for doing the **2014 Club taxes**. We reviewed a draft of our \$25,000 Capital Improvement Campaign pledge letter. Several recommendations were made and an updated version will be reviewed at our February meeting. The next board meeting is Tuesday, February 17, 7:00 a.m. in the Community Center. Please remember that Board meetings are open to all Club members.

“Around the Corner...”

(Photos by our own Don Gorzek)

The world premiere of the Menomonee Falls’ edition of the program “Around the Corner with John McGivern” was held at the Schwabenhof. A crowd of nearly eight hundred watched one of the two screenings on January 20, 2015. Cathy Sharkey and Don Eisenhauer represented the Optimist Club as one of the featured groups of the program. John McGivern, host, Lois Maurer, Producer/Director, and John Gurda, historian, answered questions from the audience after the screening. The program first aired on January 22, with an encore on January 25, Milwaukee Public Television. Photos by Don Gorzek



Students of the Month...



Photo by Don Gorzek - Menomonee Falls Optimist Club Student of the Month, January 2015, from North Middle School 7th grader Michael Penn, with Jerry Mislang, Optimist Club President.



Photo by Don Gorzek - Menomonee Falls Optimist Club Student of the Month, January 2015, include (L-R) Seniors Erin Salentine and Juliette Schefelker at MFHS, with Jerry Mislang, Optimist Club President.



Photo by Don Gorzek - Menomonee Falls Optimist Club Student of the Month, December 2014, include (L-R) Senior Grant Von Haden and Sophomore Bethany Freeman from Menomonee Falls High School, and 6th grader Deanna Hebbring from North Middle School, with Jerry Mislang, Optimist Club President.

Optimist Apparel...

Jerry, Kathy Walkner and I will be opening the Optimist Clothing Store starting March 10th to April 3rd for online orders. We will have samples at our meetings on the 10th and 17th for viewing and will also be selling what we have in inventory on those two dates also. Ordering deadline will be April 3rd, but will take orders starting on March 10th. Order online here:

<http://www.companycasuals.com/fallsoptimistclub/start.jsp>

I'll take orders at the meetings also if needed.

Larry Hebbring

Distinguished Young Women...

The 51st Annual Distinguished Young Women of Menomonee Falls program will be held on Saturday, March 7 at 7:00 PM at the North Middle School Auditorium. We have 17 outstanding junior girls participating this year. Ashley Doherty, Distinguished Young Woman of Menomonee Falls for 2015, will hand off the title to the 2016 representative. That girl will represent Menomonee Falls at the state program in August and hopefully the National program in June, 2016.



Laurie Lapp, Natalie Suetholz, Elise Hervey, Claire Rhode, Jessie Strosahl, Aprajita Singh, Miranda Cole, Angelika Ytuarte, Emma Burh, Rebecca Wagner, Tina Seiler, Julia Graybill, Heloise Cheruvarath, Hailey Edwards, Ritika Punathil, Ali Block and Kirsten Daly.

Tickets are \$5 at the door. Hope to see many of you there!

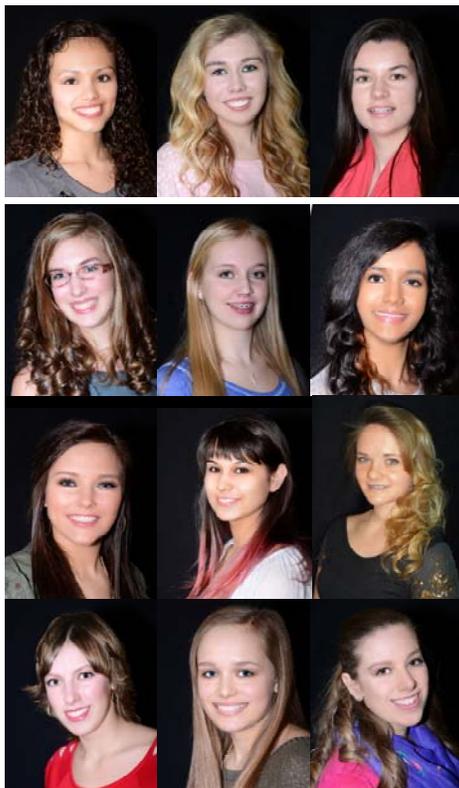
February Speakers...

February 4th—Big Brothers and Big Sisters

February 11th—Secretary Dave Ross - State of WI Department of Safety and Professional Services

February 18th—Students of the Month from St. Anthony's School

February 25th—A Taxidermist will join us



Otto Optimist...

Overheard just the other day:

Most people today think it improper to discipline children, so I have tried other methods to control my kids when they have had one of "those moments."

Since I'm a pilot, one method that I have found very effective is for me to just take the child for a short flight during which I say nothing and give the child the opportunity to reflect on his or her inappropriate behavior.

I don't know whether it's the steady vibration from the engines, or just the time away from any distractions such as TV, video games, the computer, or the iPod, etc.

Either way, my kids usually calm down and stop misbehaving after our flight together. I believe that eye to eye contact during these sessions is an important element in achieving the desired results.

I've included a photo below of one of my sessions with my son, in case you would like to use the technique:

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