



The Optimizer

August 2023

Menomonee Falls Optimist Club

<http://fallsoptimistclub.org/>

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Weekly Meeting Schedule

Submitted by Jerry Mislang

Meetings are held at 7:15 am at the Community Center unless otherwise noted.

- August 2** We've invited **Operation Finally Home** to tell us who they are, what they do and who they help. I'll give you a hint on the last one, the 'help'; it's our Real Heros, our veterans and first responders.
- August 9** Once again, this summer, **Club Member Laura Ciletti spent time working on various charity projects** and will give us some first-hand insight of helping those less fortunate.
- August 16** Former **MFHS Teacher and Security Honcho at Summerfest, Kevin Kerwin** will give us some insight on his new position where he's responsible for 92 'adult refreshment' locations at the Big Gig!
- August 23** It's Footfall Season, and we've invited the **MFHS Football Team and new Head Coach Bobby Regent-Smith** to join us.
- August 30** We don't have a confirmation at press time, but we hope you'll 'bee' surprised when you read Shannon's weekly email meeting reminder.

**** Do you have ideas for future guest speakers? Contact the speakers committee – Jerry Mislang, Jeanine Dederich, Beth Saunders, Larry Barbera. ****



President's Letter

A wise man once said, "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't and look around once in a while, you could miss it."

In a meeting this month, I brought up how astonished I was when it was already July 19 and had anxiety about how quickly the month was moving along. That hasn't changed for the rest of the month and I am working on how not to stress out about something I cannot change... time.

It's such a funny and fickle thing, and I know it is cliché to talk about how quickly time moves when we don't want it to... but drags when we do. And how short life is. And how a stitch in time saves nine. Or how time is precious... or like sands through the hour glass...

But as with all clichés, there is a reason they come to existence. There so many valid examples as to why they come to be.

Well, I'll start to get to the point, after all, we can't turn back the hands of time.



Time, as I keep learning, is our most precious commodity. And as I have been sending out so many emails this week/month/year, asking you not for money or things, but mostly time. So here is just another thank you. Thank you for making the commitment to youth of Menomonee Falls by giving up the one thing you can't get back: your time. Everything you do for the club is amazing, all your donations and gifts and sharing, but truly, thank you for your time.

I would like you to take a look within this month and be proud. Proud that despite all of the other things you could do with that time, you choose to share some of it with us, to help support those so deserving kids. It is easy to create a tax form at the beginning of the year, listing out all of the places you donated cash or clothes. And because we don't see the same physical type of return, it often goes unnoticed. Take the time to think through every place you've committed yourself, with or without the Optimist Club this year. Think about all of the places you have donated the most precious thing on earth. Take note, write it down, and pat yourself on the back. You are so giving that you are willing to share that with us. While I might not be able to get you a refund like the IRS does, I certainly can give reassurance that you will be rewarded for all the good you do.

Thank you again. For giving your time, talents, jokes... whatever it is... to this club and making us the greatest in Menomonee Falls :)

Have a great August! Enjoy the fairs! Stay cool. Sell those Packer Raffle and Crazr Tickets!

President Shannon

Membership

New Members

*Submitted by Cathy Sharkey
Photo by Jon Cline*

Our club continues to grow. Welcome the following new members.

- James Gottemoller** sponsored by Dan Schwind
- Janet Olsen** sponsored by Shannon Dederich
- Gus Straub** sponsored by Greg Mattson
- Chris Fredrich** sponsored by Eileen Weins
- Jay Wille** sponsored by Shannon Dederich



James Gottemoller and John Yusko

Dues

Submitted by Cathy Sharkey

Annual dues invoices for the club will be sent out after the August 15 executive board meeting.

Volunteers Needed

Sat. Sept. 16	Bags tournament and meat raffle. See article below. Contact Shannon Dederich @ shannon.dederich@gmail.com
Wed. Sept. 20	Farmers Market Set-up and breakdown. Help to set-up noon to 1:30, take down 5:45 to 6:45. Contact Larry Hebbring larryh@starpromo.net



Upcoming Events

Calendar

Mon. Aug. 14	Crazz tickets and money due to Larry Hebring.
Now to Sept. 9	Popcorn wagon open every night at Village Park. Also open on beer garden and concert nights in September.
Thur. Sept. 7	Club picnic. See article below.
Mon. Sept. 11	Packer raffle tailgate party. See article below.
Sat. Sept. 16	Bags tournament and meat raffle at Knights of Columbus Hall. See article below.
Thur. Sept. 28	Board Induction Dinner. See article below.
Sat. Oct. 7	Meat Raffle at Henny's Dugout
Sat. Nov. 4	50 th anniversary celebration. See article below.

Farmers Market Set-up and Breakdown

Submitted by Larry Hebring

The month of August volunteers for the Farmers Market on Wednesday 8/16 are:

12:00 set-up

Rick Kohl
Scott Dreier
Kathy Matthiessen
Dustin Koehler

Breakdown 5:45

Jenn Dedrick
Vicki Boelter
Donna Bosch
Meg Latus



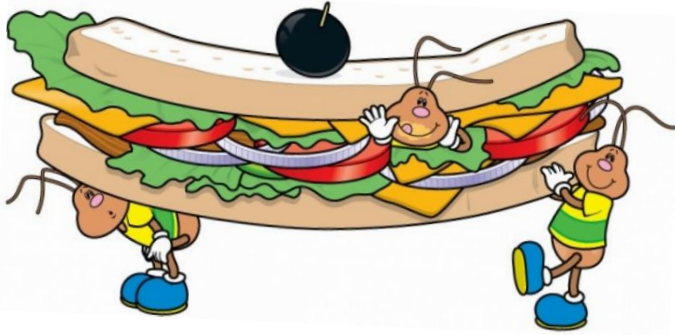
We could still use help on both shifts for September 20.

Club Picnic

Submitted by Marcia Hebbring

Club members: Our Optimist Club picnic is coming up. Thursday September 7th is the date. Shepherd's Landing is the location. Start time is any time after 4:30 with cold beverages and appetizers. Dinner will begin being served at 5:30, buffet style. For the many new members, I'll give a brief explanation of our picnic.

This is our celebration of all that we do for our kids in Menomonee Falls. All members are invited along with their significant other or prospective new member. There is no charge and there is no need to bring any food item as everything is provided by our club. Please just bring your smiling faces and enjoy the comradery of all attending. Danny and Lynette Shepherd are our hosts. We have had our annual picnics at their property for many years. It is beautiful. Rain or shine we will have our picnic. Directions will be sent out in the weekly email for first time attenders. They are about 8 minutes from the Falls. For members who sponsored our new members, please encourage them to come by joining them if possible.



If you have any questions, please feel free to email me. If you wish to attend, please also email me on the number attending. Just want to make sure we have enough food for all. BTW if you wish to have fun fishing a little, bring your pole. Catch and release but we do have a few that love doing that.

Hope to see all of you there.

Marcia Hebbring and the Picnic Committee

Football Craz Raffle

Submitted by Larry Hebbring

The Club has taken 210 Football Craz raffle tickets to sell for the Swiss District and our Club. We still have a few left to sell. Please contact Larry Hebbring. Tickets and money need to be returned to Larry by August 14.

Last year we sold 300 tickets and raised over \$1600.00 for the club and people who bought our tickets were awarded over \$1000.00. It is a fun way to watch the 18-week football season and an easy sell at \$20.00 per ticket. Contact Larry at 414-899-5807 or larryh@starpromo.net



Packer Raffle 2023

Submitted by Tom Ciskoski

This marks the 27th year of our annual Packer Raffle, the club's biggest fund-raiser, where we hope to clear \$20,000 to support the kids of our community. If you are not familiar with the raffle, we sell 360 tickets at a price of \$100 each. We award the following prizes:

Grand Prize – 8 tickets to any Lambeau home game, limo ride to and from anywhere in the state of WI, gift card to fund your refreshments of your choice, and \$1000 cash!

2nd - \$1000

3rd - \$600

4th - \$400

5th-18th - \$250

19th – a free entry to next year's raffle

Each club member has been selected to one of 16 teams and by now you should have heard from your captain. If you have not you can contact me at tcisko64@gmail.com and I will let you know your captain's contact information.

Though it is not necessary for anyone to buy or sell a ticket we encourage you to try as with eight people sharing the grand prize it is only \$12.50 per person or \$25.00 per couple, BUT only ONE name can appear on the ticket stub, per State Auditor's directive.

The event culminates with a **tailgate party at Village Bowl on Monday September 11th at 5:15 pm with free food, beer, and soda** where you will witness the live drawing. Your tickets stub is your admission for one to the tailgate party. Additional folks can get in at a price of \$10.00 paid at the door. There will also be door prizes and in-house raffle chances to try your luck at.

A special thanks goes out to Ed Schlumpf who has run this event for more than the last decade and has grown it to be as successful as it is today!



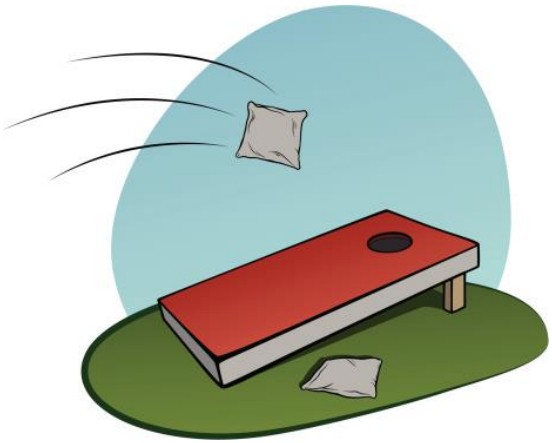
Bags Tournament and Meat Raffles

Submitted by Megan Farrell

New member Megan here! Pleased to “meat” you!

Meat Raffle season is here and we couldn't be more excited! We've locked in our schedule and are kicking things off at the Knights of Columbus with our Annual Bags Tourney on Saturday, September 16th.

As a general rule - we are shooting for 10 raffles per event. 7 will be uniform throughout the series, 2 will be wildcard/captain's choice and we will have 1 golden ticket raffle to close out each event. Lots of variety and lots of excitement at each event!



The remaining schedule will fall on the first Saturday of each month, as follows:

October 7th - Henny's Dugout
November 4th - American Legion Post 382
December 2nd - Players Pub
January 6th - Wisconsin on Tap
February 3rd - Sportz
March 2nd - DJ's Goalpost
April 6th - Players Pub
May 4th - Water Street



The raffle(s) themselves will run from 1pm-4pm. Each event will require roughly 18 volunteers - so please try and attend as many as you can! As an added bonus, we will be adding a Loyalty Punch Card to the mix this year. If you attend 6 out of the 9 raffles, you'll be included in the Optimist Club sponsored party bus that'll cart us around to each bar in celebration of another successful Meat Raffle season! The date for that party is TBD, but we're thinking June 2024!

We look forward to seeing you all there! Any questions, please contact Shannon Dederich @ shannon.dederich@gmail.com.

2023-2024 Board Induction Dinner September 28th

Mark Your Calendars!

Please block out your calendars to join us as we induct the new Board of Directors on **Thursday, September 28th**.

We will be meeting at approximately 5pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Water Street, across from the Costco gas station.

Dinner will be catered by Ally's Bistro and will include:

- Bruschetta
- Chips, salsa, guacamole
- Meatballs
- Pinwheels
- Water chestnuts
- Veggies
- Cookies



We expect the cost to be \$20 per person.

More details will be forthcoming as we get closer to the date. We hope to see you there!

Movie Night – Optimist Sponsorship



Movie schedule

Friday, September 8 – Sing

Kids Fest – Optimist Sponsorship



Falls Kids Festival
AUGUST 12, 2023

SAVE THE DATE!
A day full of fun celebrating all things kids!

FREE Concert with
Children's Recording Artist
LAURIE BERKNER SOLO



Scan for more details!



Past Events

3rd of July Parade Photos

Photos by Jon Cline





Menomonee Falls Food Pantry



Jeanine Hudlet from the Menomonee Falls Food Pantry.

Tri-star Baseball Winners



MFHS Varsity Baseball



Executive Board Minutes

Prepared by: John Yusko

Date: July 17, 2023

Board members in attendance: Dustin Koehler, Todd Paulus, Fred Blanke, Dan Schwind, Shannon Dederich, Barb Schmit, Scott Dreier, Tom Ciskoski, Kim Wenzel, John Yusko

Board members absent: Mike Russell, Stacie Estrada

Purpose: Regular monthly meeting

1. The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 am.
2. The meeting agenda, including the addition of the Installation Dinner budget request, was approved with no opposition; motion by John, second by Barb
3. June's meeting minutes were approved with no opposition; motion by Barb, second by Scott
4. Donation Requests
 - a. There were no active donation requests to be considered
 - b. However, Shannon reported that there are a couple in process that may be considered for next month



5. Budget Requests

- a. 2023/2024 Board Installation Dinner
 - i. Scheduled for Thursday, September 28, 2023 at Knights of Columbus Hall on Water Street
 - ii. Diane Matuszak from SWIS District has committed to attend to install the new Board
 - iii. Anticipate 50 attendees at \$20 per person
 - iv. Pay Knights of Columbus \$260 for rental and bartenders
 - v. Estimate about \$505 for food catered by Ally's Bistro
 - vi. Event will be close to break-even
 - vii. Budget was approved with no opposition; motion by Tom, second by Scott
- b. 2023-2024 Meat Raffles
 - i. The team led by Shannon, Greg Mattson and Marcia Hebring propose a series of 9 meat raffles generally scheduled for the first Saturday of each month starting in October
 - ii. The first raffle will be held, though, on September 16
 - iii. Total projected expense for all raffles is \$6,325; total expected revenue is \$17,250; total expected profit is \$10,925 (\$1,100 per raffle)
 - iv. Captains will be assigned to each event to spread out the workload
 - v. The Board requested a summary of revenue & expense after each event so that we can understand how the new approach is working
 - vi. The budget was approved with no opposition; motion by John, second by Tom

6. Treasurer's Report

- a. Kim reported numbers as of June 30
 - i. June net income was \$4,653, slightly less than June of 2022
 - ii. Our YTD net is -\$35,243, about \$200 less than YTD 2022
 1. We have no large expenses coming up
 2. We have the popcorn wagon generating revenue
 - iii. We have approximately \$78,570 on hand
 1. Scholarship and Village Park commitments total \$57,000
 2. Our unrestricted assets are about \$21,000
- b. The Treasurer's report was approved without opposition; John moved, Barb seconded

7. New member

- a. Jay Willie applied on-line; he is not known to any of the current board members
- b. Shannon reported that Cathy Sharkey is following up with Jay to get more information
- c. We discussed the possibility of implementing background checks for new members; John will provide Shannon with the process used by the Food Pantry for its volunteers for future consideration
- d. Since we have no documented process, and we have a precedent of approving other on-line applications, we approved Jay's membership without opposition; motion by Dan, second by Kim

8. Old Business

- a. None

9. New Business

- a. OI Dues

- i. OI dues payable by our club were raised last year
 - ii. We have not raised our dues in a number of years
 - iii. We discussed that the purpose of our dues is to be sure we are covering our membership costs as well as some of our administrative expenses (website, PO box, etc...)
 - iv. We intend to invite Cathy Sharkey to present the facts about what we pay, what we receive for our payment, and what we collect so that we are fully informed before presenting any proposals to the club membership
 - v. Board members were asked to provide information about dues for other service clubs if we have such information
10. Anything else for the good of the club
- a. No discussion
11. Next meeting is scheduled for August 15, 2023
12. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 am

August Birthdays

8/2	Jacqueline Rammer
8/6	Walt Wyczawski
8/7	Terry Fitzsimmons
8/12	Barb Schmit
8/19	Kathy Mattheissen



How to Publish Optimist News and Events

There are multiple options for publishing Optimist news and events to the community and to the Optimist members. It is important to get the word out so everyone is aware of the events we sponsor to benefit the youth of the community. Committee chairs are responsible for writing the articles and sending them via email to the people listed below:



- NEWSLETTER** Barb Schmit **no later than the 27th of each month** - schmitbarb@gmail.com
- NEWSPAPERS** Shannon Dederich **three or more weeks prior to your event, as quickly as possible after an event** - shannon.dederich@gmail.com
- FACEBOOK** Cathy Sharkey or Dawn Mariscal - csharkey224@yahoo.com, dmariscal@wi.rr.com,
- WEBSITE** Beth Saunders - bethjsaunders@gmail.com