



The Optimizer

July 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.

- July 5** We'll be handing out trophies and recognizing our **Tri-Star Baseball Event Winners**. We had a great turnout this year with over seventy participants.
- July 12** We're working on getting a firm commitment from several potential speakers. Please check President Shannon's weekly Email for up-to-date information.
- July 19** We're happy that **MFHS Baseball Head Coach Time Gotzler** will be back to put a wrap on their very exciting season and their appearance at the state tournament in Fox Cities Stadium, home of the Wisconsin Timberrattlers.
- July 26** We're working on getting a firm commitment from several potential speakers. Please check President Shannon's weekly Email for up-to-date information.

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



President's Letter

Happy July All! All my apologies for a delayed newsletter - life outside the club got in the way this month, and I appreciate everyone's understanding.

We are coming off our biggest exposure event of the year, and I'm overwhelmed, again, with all of the people that were involved to make such an amazing event happen. Thank you to all of the members and non-members that committed any amount of time to please almost 20,000 people (I think).

I had a unique position waving and smiling to all the crowd and I could not get more joy, than I do seeing people happy and smiling.

Had this been a few years ago, that would have come to a halt when I read social media the next day. Or talked to some folks that just weren't pleased with the way the event went. In one of the years where we needed to cancel the parade, for the safety of all, I let a radio personality put me in a dire state of anger. And as we know, anger leads to hate, and hate leads to the Dark Side. Since then, I've found some ways to block out the naysayers. One of the more recent articles I found was from David Lawson, in his series, "Finding the Light."

It has some great notes on steps to not let those few that can find the bad in anything outweigh all the good and great that comes from events like the parade. Take heart in knowing that everyone involved did a wonderful job, despite complaints about bathrooms or candy - this club is responsible for making 19,984 people smile :)



1. Distance Yourself from the Negative

If possible, put space between those individuals and your goals. Continually listening to doubt will eventually manifest into challenging yourself. If you cannot distance yourself from a naysayer, have an honest conversation with them. Explain that you don't have to have their support, but their discouragement is not welcome. Be polite but firm.

2. Bolster Yourself with Support

Once you have pushed away the negative, bring in the support. Surrounding yourself with people that believe in your goals will allow you to be yourself and unapologetically go after what you want. The support you receive from others will act as reassurance on the path you are taking, and they will help pick you up when times are tough.

3. No Justification Necessary

You do not have to justify yourself, your goals, or the path you are taking to anyone. Everyone is different, no two people live identical lives or achieve their goals in the same ways. If someone questions you, simply say, "This is what I choose."

4. Don't Share

If you know someone you will need to be around think you are crazy for going after your goal in a big way, don't give them ammunition. Avoid talking about your plans around them. If they try to bring it up, take the conversation another direction.

5. Turn Doubt into Motivation

If someone doubts you, use their doubt as motivation. Maybe that means making a wager or promising yourself that

you'll prove him or her wrong. Either way, do not let the uncertainty of others weigh you down. Most likely, what they think really doesn't matter.

6. Embrace Solitude and Reflection

Keeping up the hustle to achieve your goals can be a lonely path sometimes. Give yourself downtime to reflect on your goals, how far you have come, and re-evaluate your plan of action. This quiet time will also fill your cup and let new ideas and motivation form.

Naysayers are everywhere in life. They are in your family, at work, and maybe even your friend group. This does not mean that you need to spend your life working within the parameters of their beliefs. You can move beyond their negativity and crush your goals with relentless willpower.

Have a great July, try and catch a meeting, stop by the popcorn wagon, make someone smile.

President Shannon

Volunteers Needed

Tuesday, August 1	New member social at De Marinis Pizzeria. See article below.
Saturday, August 12	T-shirt booth at Falls Kids Fest in Village Park. Kids decorate their own t-shirts. Help hand out shirts and markers! Four volunteers needed: 3:30 – 5:00 (help with clean up) Please text or email Jeanine Dederich (262.388.7731) Jeanine.dederich@gmail.com
3 rd Wednesday of July, August, September	Farmers Market Set-up and breakdown. Our club has volunteered to help the Farmers Market set-up and breakdown on the 3 rd Wednesday of each month. See article below for details.



Membership

Welcome New and Potential New Members!

Submitted by Cathy Sharkey

The Optimist Club of Menomonee Falls is a vibrant, active club making a difference in our community. You joined the club so that you could be a part that impact. There are many opportunities to get involved but where do you start? Join us for the next New Member Social on **Tuesday, August 1st at De Marinis Pizzeria**. We'll start with pizza and beverages at 6:00 PM followed by an information session at 6:30 pm. New members should check their email for their invitation.

Know someone who might be interested in joining? Provide me their contact information and I will send them an invitation.

Contact Cathy Sharkey 262.844.1538 csharkey224@yahoo.com

Optimist Club of Menomonee Falls Foundation, Inc.

Submitted by John Yusko

Many of you know that, in 2021, our club created our own 501(3)(c) foundation to provide a mechanism for tax-deductible donations for the Village Park Phase 2 funding. Leaders from our club successfully raised over \$1.1 million in donations, pledges and "in-kind" services. Our Foundation continues to manage donations as they come in and disburse the funds to the Village when appropriate.

The Optimist Club Foundation is incorporated as a separate entity and has its own Board of Directors. The current board is:

Don Eisenhauer, President
Ann Freudenthal, Treasurer
John Yusko, Secretary
Fred Blanke, Board Member
Jeanine Dederich, Board Member

We provide reports to the Optimist Club Board about our activities and finances during regular board meetings.

What you may not know is that the Foundation will continue to function as a repository for tax-deductible donations for future projects that may be supported by our club and for general donations to our club. We are currently working on capabilities to provide more donation opportunities and to streamline and improve the donation process. Stay tuned for more information over the next couple of months.

If you, or anyone you know, is considering a donation to the Optimist Club, please encourage them to take advantage of any potential tax breaks by making a donation to the Optimist Club of Menomonee Falls Foundation, Inc. Our mailing address is PO Box 672, Menomonee Falls, WI 53052.

Upcoming Events

Calendar

Now to Sept. 9	Popcorn wagon open every night at Village Park. Also open on beer garden and concert nights in September.
Tue. Aug. 1	New Member Social at De Marinis Pizzeria. See article in Membership section.
July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20	Help at Farmers Market. See article below.
Sat. Nov. 4	50 th anniversary celebration. Mark your calendar and watch for details.

Football Craz Raffle

Submitted by Larry Hebbing

The Club has taken 210 Football Craz raffle tickets to sell for the Swiss District and our Club. Anyone interested in purchasing tickets or helping to sell the 210 tickets for the club please contact Larry Hebbing. 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

Movie Night – Optimist Sponsorship



Movie schedule

Friday, July 21 – Elf (Christmas in July)

Friday, September 8 – Sing

Farmers Market Volunteers

Submitted by Larry Hebbing

The Menomonee Falls Farmers Market is in need of volunteers to help with set-up and break down. Our Optimist Club is helping on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. June is completed and well done.

Here's the list of volunteers for the 3rd Wednesday of each month sign-up. We need additional volunteers for September. Contact Larry Hebbing or Terry Fitzsimmons to sign up.

July 19	Set-up Noon to 1:30	Jerry Misleng Chris Fredrich Eileen Weins Paul Matson	Breakdown 5:45 to 6:45	Jim Weitzer Linda Weitzer Vicki Boelter Clara Scheckel Meg Latus
August 16	Set-up Noon to 1:30	Rick Kohl Scott Dreier Kathy Matthiessen Dustin Koehler	Breakdown 5:45 to 6:45	Jenn Dedrick Vicki Boelter Meg Latus Donna Bosch
September 20	Set-up Noon to 1:30	Rick Kohl Eileen Weins Open Open	Breakdown 5:45 to 6:45	Open Open Open Open

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!

CE & Reg
MATHNASIUM The Math Learning Center
50th Anniversary Menomonee Falls
the Y
Menomonee Falls LIBRARY Friends

Past Events

33rd Annual Scholarship Golf Outing Totals

*Submitted by Todd Paulus
Golf Committee Chair*

Now that the dust has settled, we finally have some final figures to share with everyone. Our total income was \$31574.86 while expenses were \$15916.61, which means the profit for the outing was a whopping \$15658.25. This becomes our biggest year ever, surpassing the old mark of \$14300.00 set a couple years ago. Thank you to everyone who donated items to the outing, helped round up items to be used in the outing, and to all those that golfed or rounded up golfers for the event. A special thank you to all the volunteers that helped make the day run smoothly. A huge shoutout to the fabulous committee I get to work with to make this event possible – Greg Mattson, Tom Ciskoski, Scott Dreier, John Yusko, Carol Schulteis, and Joy Fricke. Till next year – set aside the third Wednesday in May: May 15, 2024.



Optimist International Junior Golf Outing

*Submitted by Todd Paulus
Junior Golf Co-Chair*



Unfortunately for this event, the news is not as cheery. Due to low registration totals, we were forced to cancel the event this year. We only had 8 golfers sign up and the potential financial commitment from our club precluded us from hosting the event. At this time, the event for next year is being reviewed to see if it will be held. Numbers have been low the last couple years which makes it difficult to try to plan the event.

Scholarships

Scholarships for Quest Students

The Optimist club awarded three scholarships to Quest students for \$650 each.



Madison Gramm with Linda and Terry Marcou.



Berkley Roper with Fred Blanke and Ann Freudenthal.



Arianna Falls with Jerry and Kathy Misleng.

Scholarships for MFHS Students

Photo by Jon Cline



Ten Optimist scholarships of \$2,000 each were awarded to students at the MFHS Scholarship night. Scholarship winners are: **Grace Booher, Madison Drake, Shannon Doherty, William Gottemoller, Cairlyn Grant, Gracie Haensgen, Rachel Ripke, Megan Schultz, Haley Tarcin and Cameron Weiss.**

Executive Board Minutes

Date: June 20, 2023

Attendees: Shannon D, John Y, Kim W, Mike R, Fred B, Barb S, Dustin K, Scott D and Todd P

Absent: Stacie E, Tom C and Dan S

Call to Order: 7:02am

1. Approval of June meeting agenda, any additions/corrections?

Motion by Scott D seconded by Barb S to approve the Jun meeting agenda. Motion Passed

2. Approval of May meeting minutes, any additions/corrections?

Motion by Scott D seconded by John Y to accept the May Board Meeting minutes. Motion Passed

3. Presentation of donation requests (approvals post presentations)

a. Team Bryce – tabled for July.

- i. Would this be better suited as a speaker instead of a board approval.

b. July 3rd Parade (Don Eisenhower) (Jeanine Dederich)

- i. Money was spent without the approval of the board.
- ii. Don presented expenses for the creation of the Truck Advertisement -Final expenses for the Truck are \$425.07.

- Need to ask for more documentation on paint and markers –receipt or canceled check
- We will pay but not until we have a budget for all 50th items
- Motion by John Y and Seconded by Barb S to pay expenses for 50th Anniversary items when we get the whole budget and receipts. Motion passed.

iii. Open request to hand stuff out at the parade

- Idea is to hand out pencils that are flags with Optimist on it
- Request for \$700 enough for parade and August 12th Kids Fest total of 3,500 pencils
- After discussion of other possible items to hand out during parade as well that offer better return on investment.

No motion was made on this item.

c. Jaxxon Fundraiser Beer Donation

- i. Raffled off beer left over from golf outing – 12 cases
- ii. Raised \$585 off raffle from beer that was donated.
- iii. **Donated the beer to the event at the Legion – we didn't donate any money**

4. Presentation of budget approvals (approvals post presentations)

a. Post Fishing Budget (No approval needed - for review only)

- i. \$1,345.95 was spent and came in under the original budget.
- ii. Total expense of \$10.94 per kid with a total of 123 kids at event

b. Tri-Star Baseball (Don Eisenhower)

- i. Looking for a true post budget and request for reimbursement.

c. Football Raffle Budget (Tom Ciscoski)



- i. Motion to approve made by John Y and Second by Kim W –**Motion Passed**

5. Presentation of Treasurer's Report

After a brief discussion it was brought up that members bill for Clothing sales did not include sales tax. The club is not Sales tax-exempt due to changes in state law. We will work with members who purchased clothing items to collect tax for their orders if we cannot get Star to correct their invoice to the Club.

We should write a newsletter article about the Club not being sales tax exempt.

A Motion was made by Mike R and Seconded by Barb S to approve the Treasurer's report –**Motion Passed**

6. Approvals of donation requests and budgets

- a. Team Bryce Request – Not at this time, as previously discussed at this meeting possibly have group come and speak to the Club about their organization.

7. New Member Applications

- a. James Gottemoller (Dan Schwind)
- b. Janet Olsen (Shannon Dederich)
- c. Gus Straub (Greg Mattson)
- d. Chris Fredrich (Eileen Weins)
- e. A motion was made by John Y and Seconded by Scott D to approve all new members. **The motion passed.**

8. Old Business

- a. 2023-2024 Board/Officer Nomination
 - Stacy might need to be replaced for next year
 - Invite to September meeting
- b. Popcorn team
- c. Parade help needed. Currently short about 15 people.

9. New Business

- a. By laws – Any changes to By Laws will be discussed and approved by the Board at a future meeting regarding changes to position titles and clarification once all proposals have been heard and voted on by the Board.
 - i. Discussion was had about changing the 2nd VP position title to Secretary versus removing altogether this would allow the number of voting positions to stay the same and make the Title better fit the position and possibly make it easier to fill in the future. The board will meet at future time to discuss all proposals and make a final determination prior to presenting the final proposal to the General Membership for a vote.

10. Anything else for the good of the club

- a. Newsletter articles due by June 29
- b. July 5th meeting is Tristar Soccer

11. Next meeting date: July 18, 2023 @ 7am

12. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Barb S and Seconded by Mike R. **The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:20am**

July Birthdays

7/4	Karen Nelson
7/5	Tom Wagner
7/10	Bonnie Veth
7/13	Monte Raymond
7/16	Kirk Woosencraft
7/19	Larry Barbera
7/22	Pat Greco
7/22	Annie Jurczyk
7/24	Jim Weitzer
7/26	Kelly Lorenz
7/28	Jenny O'Keefe
7/31	Ed Schlumpf



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