



# The Optimizer

September 2023

Menomonee Falls Optimist Club

<http://fallsoptimistclub.org/>

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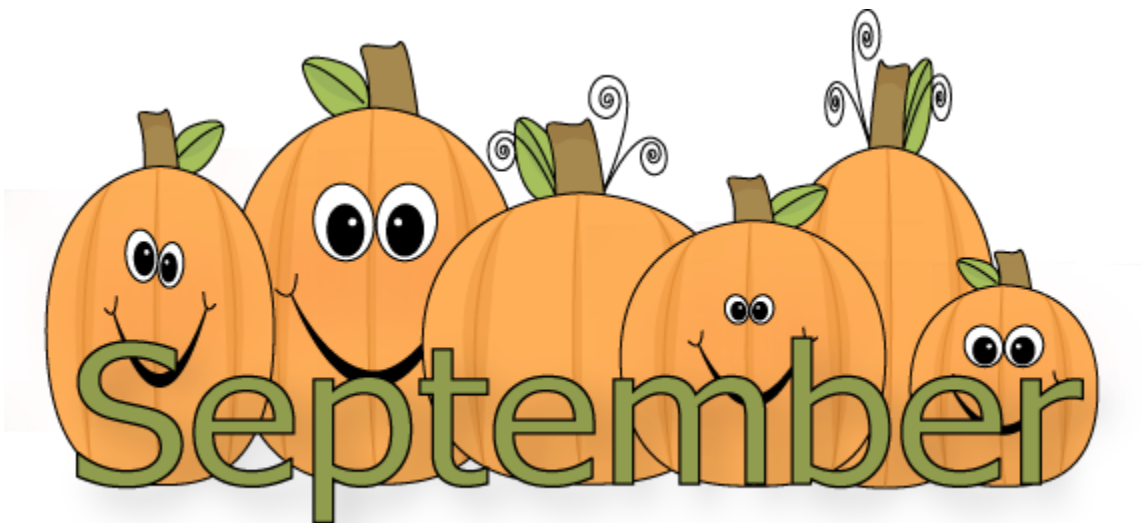
## Weekly Meeting Schedule

*Submitted by Jerry Mislang*

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

- Thur. Sept. 7**     **No Meeting on Wednesday.** Our **Annual Club Picnic at Shepherd's Waters on Thursday, September 7**; please look for more information in this Newsletter.
- Wed. Sept. 13**     We've got a first-time speaker courtesy of John Yusko. **Beekeeper Bob Taubert**, who has harvested over 600 lbs of honey the last six years, will be joining us. It should be a very sweet meeting.
- Wed. Sept. 20**     We're thrilled to have our first **Students of the Month** meeting of the 2023/24 school year. Always a great meeting!
- Thur. Sept. 28**     **No Meeting Wednesday** – We'll be ending the Optimist calendar year with our **Annual Installation Banquet** at the KC Hall on **Thursday, September 28**; please look for more information in this Newsletter.

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



## President's Letter

Happy September!

This will be my last President's letter! Next month, I will be bidding you adieu from a whole different position(s). I'll be leaving the club in beyond capable hands of John Yusko and serving on the board as the Past President, as well as your Lt. Governor for Zone 2 (that's us)! I'm excited for the changes and excited to see where this club goes next!

So, with this the last, I want to put out one more challenge to you. But, first some notes on a topic that we are all familiar with!

Love.

Vince Lombardi said, "I don't have to necessarily like my players and associates, but as their leader, I must love them. Love is loyalty. Love is teamwork, love respects the dignity of the individual. This is the strength of the organization."

Vince hit the nail on the head. Tim Schmidt reminded me in a presentation last week, that love isn't what Webster says is "an intense feeling," it is, action, expressed with kindness to all, not just those we choose, but to really love is to love the unlovable.

And one more, C.S. Lewis says, "To love at all is to be vulnerable..."

And so, my challenge to you this month is to think about some of those that we serve, both kids and adults, that are difficult to love. We're reminded all the time about all of the greatness the kids in our area do, whether it be sports, or studies or activities or volunteer, and sometimes, we are blinded by this, and miss out on the chance to help those that haven't quite shined. Think about some of those kids that might benefit even more from the love we have to give, and make yourself vulnerable to an unfavorable reaction. After all, those that are not showered in love, don't know how to receive it.

While you're thinking about those that are hard to love, know they aren't unlovable, and think of some things that you, a small group, or the club at large can show that love through different activities or programs. You all continue to prove that you have so much love to give.

Happy September to you all, don't forget all the special events we have this month, including the picnic Sept. 7 and the installation dinner the 28th. We can show our love to each other and continue to strengthen this group!

XOXO - with all my love,

*President Shannon*



# Membership Dues

Submitted by Cathy Sharkey

Membership dues for the 2023-24 Optimist year are now due. Rates and payment options are below. If you decide you will not be renewing your membership, please contact Cathy Sharkey asap to let her know. If your financial situation makes paying your dues difficult, we can make arrangements to help you out.

Single Membership \$90

Couples Membership \$160

Life Members will receive a separate invoice.

**PAY YOUR DUES ONLINE WITH A CREDIT CARD!!** Visit the club website and scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the link that takes you to a secure pay site.

Remit checks to: OPTIMIST CLUB OF MENOMONEE FALLS, P.O. Box 671, Menomonee Falls, WI 53052-0671

Payments are due by September 30, 2023.

2023-24 MEMBERSHIP DUES STATEMENT	
OPTIMIST CLUB OF MENOMONEE FALLS, WI CLUB # 09103	
Dues for 12 Months	October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024
Single Membership	\$90
Couples Membership	\$160
Life Membership	Separate Invoice will be sent
<b>PAY YOUR DUES ONLINE WITH A CREDIT CARD!!</b>	
Visit the club website here: <a href="http://fallsoptimistclub.org/">http://fallsoptimistclub.org/</a> . Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the link that takes you to a secure pay site.	
Remit checks to:	
OPTIMIST CLUB OF MENOMONEE FALLS P.O. Box 671 Menomonee Falls, WI 53052-0671	
<b>CLUB MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE.</b>	
<b>DUE SEPTEMBER 30, 2023</b>	

## Volunteers Needed

Tue. Sept. 19	<b>Tristar soccer.</b> Need about a dozen timers, scorekeepers and registration folks from approximately 5:15 to 7:15. Contact Jerry Mislant.
Wed. Sept. 20	<b>Farmers Market Set-up and breakdown.</b> Help to set-up noon to 1:30, take down 5:45 to 6:45. Contact Larry Hebbring <a href="mailto:larryh@starpromo.net">larryh@starpromo.net</a>



## 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.
Thur. Sept. 7	Club picnic at Shepherd's Landing. Start time is any time after 4:30 with cold beverages and appetizers. Dinner will begin being served at 5:30, buffet style. Contact Marcia Hebbring <a href="mailto:mrchebbring@aol.com">mrchebbring@aol.com</a>
Mon. Sept. 11	Packer raffle tailgate party at Village Bowl at 5:15 pm
Sat. Sept. 16	Bags tournament and meat raffle at Knights of Columbus Hall.
Thur. Sept. 28	Board Induction Dinner. See article below.
Tue. Sept. 19	Tristar Soccer. See article below.
Sat. Oct. 7	Meat Raffle at Henny's Dugout
Sat. Nov. 4	50 <sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Watch for information in newsletters and weekly emails.

# 2023-2024 Board Induction Dinner September 28<sup>th</sup>

## Please Sign Up to Attend!

We will be inducting our new Board of Directors on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. We hope you can be there! We will be meeting from 5:30pm - 9pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Water Street, across from the Costco gas station. Social hour and food between 5:30 and 6:30; ceremony will start around 6:30. Dinner will be catered by Ally's Bistro and will include:

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



The cost is \$20 per person.

The sign-up sheet will be passed around during the weekly meetings starting August 30. Please sign-up and enclose your payment. **We must provide a final count by Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.**

If you cannot attend a meeting to sign up, but wish to attend the dinner, please call John Yusko at 414-339-2637 to reserve a spot.

We hope to see you there!

## Bags Tournament and Meat Raffle

Bags tournament and first meat raffle of the season will be at the Knights of Columbus on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Registration for tournament is from 11:13 - 12:30 - tourney starts at 1!

We look forward to seeing you all there!  
Any questions, please contact Shannon Dederich  
@ [shannon.dederich@gmail.com](mailto:shannon.dederich@gmail.com).



## Movie Night – Optimist Sponsorship

Friday, September 8 – Sing



## Tristar Soccer

Submitted by Jerry Mislang

We'll be holding our 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Tristar Soccer on **Tuesday September `19<sup>th</sup>** at the MFHS Grass Practice Field. A new wrinkle this year is that there MFHS Soccer team will be hosting both Germantown Boy's teams at the same time!



We will need about a dozen timers, scorekeepers and registration folks from approximately 5:15 to 7:15. I'll be routing a signup sheet at the September 13<sup>th</sup> weekly meeting. However, if you want to help out, you can also call or text me at 262-352-2571 or email me at [jerry.mislang@prodigy.net](mailto:jerry.mislang@prodigy.net).

This event usually draws over 75 kids, and I would expect even more this year with the high school teams playing. Hope you can help us out this year! Thanks, Jerry

## It's Time to Think About Leaves!



Believe it or not, our annual senior citizen leaf-raking event will be here before we know it! We're scheduled to start the process on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> and end by Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

### How Does It Work?

Senior citizens can sign up to have their yards raked by calling the CE&Rec Office by the end of October.

In early November, various youth groups will be assigned to handle the raking. They will contact the residents to arrange a convenient date and time to rake. While the service is free, donations are encouraged; every donated dollar is matched by the Optimist Club and shared among the participating groups.

### How Can You Help?—No Raking Required!

We need a group of Optimist members available to help with trucks or trailers to haul leaves to our drop-off point at Johnson's Nursery if or when necessary. ***You don't have to rake!***

If you have access to a pick-up truck or trailer and can be available at times during the leaf-raking period, please let us know so we can add you to the list. If a team needs to have leaves hauled, you will be contacted by the leaf-raking team to coordinate available dates. There are no dedicated dates; the teams will work with you and the homeowner to find a date that works for everyone.

Please contact John or Jason if you can help!

### Got Leaves?

And, if you are a senior homeowner and would like your yard raked, sign up by calling the CE & Rec Office at (262) 255-8460 by October 31st. They will get you on the list to be contacted by one of the youth groups.

### Questions?

Contact Jason Husslein (414-852-9634) or John Yusko (414-339-2637).



# Optimist Meetings

## Operation Finally Home



### Kevin Kerwin



Former MFHS Teacher and Security Honcho at Summerfest, Kevin Kerwin gave us some insight on his new position where he's responsible for 92 'adult refreshment' locations at the Big Gig!



# Meeting Minutes

## Optimist Club Foundation Board Meeting Minutes

August 1, 2023

Prepared by: John Yusko

Prepared on: August 1, 2023

Board members in attendance: Fred Blanke, Jeanine Dederich, Don Eisenhauer, Ann Freudenthal & John Yusko

Board members absent: None

Purpose: Regular meeting of the Board

1. The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:00 am
2. Old Business
  - a. No discussion
3. New Business
  - a. Liability insurance (\$750) was paid on June 23
  - b. Charitable Organization renewal was due July 21
    - i. Kevin Pollard had agreed to handle, but we have no invoice or proof that it was done
    - ii. Jeanine will follow up with Kevin
  - c. As of July 31, we have about \$288,000 on deposit
    - i. \$278,800 is in a savings account earning about 1.5%
    - ii. The additional funds (\$9,800) are maintained in our checking account
    - iii. We agreed to keep a balance of \$2,500 in checking to handle ongoing expenses and contingencies
    - iv. Ann will move appropriate amounts to savings around the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month
    - v. Don asked for a small change to our spreadsheet to show total deposits and payments for multiple years (change made after the meeting)
  - d. Village Park Campaign Donations
    - i. We have confirmed pledges of \$1.095 million, including \$11,000 of in-kind (non-monetary) donations
    - ii. \$321,000 is still to be collected; the last scheduled donation is in 2026
    - iii. We will invoice the Optimist Club for its scheduled 2023 donation of \$16,666
    - iv. We will pay the Village around \$300,000 in October; a final amount will be decided at the October Foundation Board meeting and will be dependent on our account balances at the time
    - v. \$200,000 pledged by Milwaukee Tool will be disbursed directly to the Village, not through the Foundation
  - e. Future donation opportunities
    - i. We agreed that we want to have information about donations on the new website under construction with K-Kom; John has mentioned this to Shannon and will remind her and Ron Kohl at K-Kom
    - ii. We want to formalize and document processes for people to make “in memoriam” gifts as well as to leave gifts through estate planning and have the information available on our website page
4. The next meeting is scheduled for October 5<sup>th</sup> at 9 am
5. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:45 am

# Executive Board Minutes

August 15, 2023

Attendees: Shannon Dederich, Michael Russell, John Yusko, Kim Wenzel, Barb Schmit, Dustin Koehler, Tom Ciskoski, Todd Paulus, Fred Blanke, Scott Dreier

Absent: Dan Schwind, Stacie Estrada

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00am

2. Approval of August meeting agenda, any additions/corrections?

Motion: John Yusko Seconded: Mike Russell to accept the July Meeting Agenda. The Motion was approved.

3. Approval of July meeting minutes, any additions/corrections?

Motion was made by Mike Russell and Seconded by Scott Dreier to accept the July Board Minutes. The Motion was approved.

4. Presentation of donation requests (approvals post presentations)

- I. Coach Cassidy Classic (Todd Paulus): It was agreed that this donation request our mission. However, we could bring this up at a regular club meeting and ask if members would like to donate on their own.

5. Presentation of budget approvals. (Approvals post presentation)

- I. Oratorical and Essay Contests (Mike Russell): Presentation of post budget
- II. Leaf Raking (John Yusko): Open to letting Food Pantry Volunteers participate.  
Motion by Kim Wenzel to approve leaf raking budget as presented Seconded by Tom Ciskoski: Motion passed.
- III. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Carol Schulties): To control costs remove \$5 gift cards for attendees, possibly raise price to \$30 per person in order to reach a Break-Even budget. A motion was made by Scott Dreier and seconded by Barb Schmit for break-even budget for this event. Motion Passed.
- IV. Tri-Star Soccer (Jerry Mislant): A motion was made by John Yusko, motion passed.

6. Presentation of the Treasurer's report

- a. Notes on future of Treasurer's Report

Motion: John Yusko Second: Barb Schmit; Motion passed.

7. New Member Applications:

David Munoz: New School Superintendent, Motion was made by Scott D and seconded by Tom C to accept the membership application. Motion Passed.

9. Old Business

- a. OI Dues: Status and Potential raise (Cathy Sharkey and John Yusko):



Current due's structure is \$82 per club member for OI, \$12 per club member for SWIS District. We charge \$90 per person or \$160 per couple. We are currently losing money on dues; do we raise club dues or continue losing money on dues. Starting point raises dues on each group by \$10. Dues have not increased since 2004. Leave dues at current levels for this upcoming year and then raise them next year. Do a presentation to General Club membership in October.

- b. Background Checks: \$11 charge to do a background check. Tabled to September
- c. Park Rules (John Yusko): Can't have alcohol-No coolers; Could be a problem at some point.
- d. 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. Conference: August 25 & 26<sup>th</sup>; Mike Russell, Shannon Dederich, John Yusko and Carol Schulties attending.

10. New Business

- a. The newsletter will be out between September 5-7.

11. Anything else for the good of the club

12. Next meeting date September 19, 2023

13. Adjournment: A Motion to adjourn the Board Meeting was made by Kim Wenzel and Seconded by Scott Dreier. The Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 am

## September Birthdays

9/1	Tony Bawiec
9/3	Bob Wenzel
9/6	Jay Wille
9/14	Scott Dreier
9/15	John Yusko
9/18	Tom Walkner
9/20	Tim Newman
9/21	James Gottemoller
9/22	Lynette Shepherd
9/24	Kristen Stone
9/28	Ryan Duce



## 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](mailto: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](mailto:shannon.dederich@gmail.com)

**FACEBOOK** Cathy Sharkey or Dawn Mariscal - [csharkey224@yahoo.com](mailto:csharkey224@yahoo.com), [dmariscal@wi.rr.com](mailto:dmariscal@wi.rr.com),

**WEBSITE** Beth Saunders - [bethjsaunders@gmail.com](mailto:bethjsaunders@gmail.com)

## Falls Patio Players – Noises Off

September 22,23,24,29,30 October 1

<http://www.fallspatioplayers.com>

Adults \$18 / Seniors & Students \$15

