



# The Optimizer

April 2024

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.

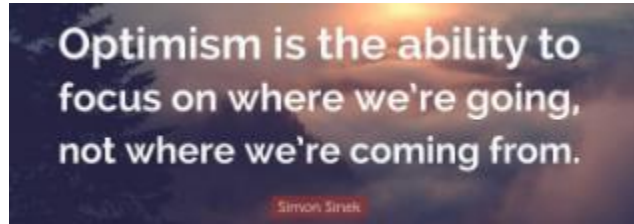
- Wed. April 3** As we do every year, we'll get to meet many of the participants from our **Do The Right Thing** program.
- Wed. April 10** Our **Oratorical Contest students** will be there to wow us with their speeches.
- Wed. April 17** Honoring students, teachers, and administrators in front of their family and friends....nothing is better than a **Students of the Month** meeting!
- Wed. April 24** **Patio Player Cast Members** from their spring musical **42<sup>nd</sup> Street** will be our guests.

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

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## President's Message



Welcome to April! I'm optimistic that Spring will actually start sticking around more than a couple hours every day or so!

In case you missed it, here are a few things we accomplished in March...

- The March meat raffle at DJ's Goalpost raised over \$2,200. So far, the meat raffles have netted over \$16,000 for our club—and we still have a couple more scheduled. Many thanks to the teams that put these events together!
- We held another successful Oratorical contest on March 14<sup>th</sup>. We hope to have the contestants join us at our April 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- The Board approved a donation of \$2,000 to the Good Shepherd Catholic Heart Workshop. Our donations for this fiscal year, not counting scholarships and Village Park, now total over \$22,000. We continue to make a positive impact on our community. (Note that last month's message included a wrong total for donations—\$22,000 is the real number!)

Here's what's coming up in April and May...

- Meat Raffle 1:00pm – 4:00pm
  - April 6            Players Pub
  - May 11            Water Street Pub
- JJ Memorial Happy Hour 4:00pm – 6:00pm
  - April 9<sup>th</sup>            Players Pub on Appleton Avenue
- SWIS District Conference
  - May 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> at Hilton Garden Inn at Park Place
- Fishing Derby 9:00am-1:00pm
  - May 11<sup>th</sup>            Mill Pond
- Scholarship Golf Outing
  - May 15<sup>th</sup>            Ironwood Golf Course
- Popcorn Wagon
  - Stay tuned for information about the official opening!

If you are interested in helping with any of our events, please be sure to reach out to the committee chairperson or me. You'll make more out of your club membership, contribute to our community and probably have some fun!

*President John*

## Volunteers Needed



- Sat. May 11      Fishing derby. Contact Dustin Koehler at 262-370-9529 or Sue Carney at 608-509-3117. See article below.
- Sat. Apr. 6 and May 11, plus planning dates      Meat Raffle helpers and committee members. See article below. Contact shannon.dederich@gmail.com

## Upcoming Events

### 34th Annual Scholarship Golf Outing

*Submitted by Todd Paulus  
Golf Committee Chair*



The 34th Annual Scholarship Golf outing is scheduled to take place **Wednesday May 15, 2024 at Ironwood Golf Course in Sussex, WI**. Planning for the event is in high gear at this time. The committee is reaching out to past hole sponsors as well as local businesses to support our event.

Our committee includes Greg Mattson, Scott Drier, Tom Ciskoski, John Yusko, Carol Schulteis, and Joy Fricke. If you have any questions about the event, feel free to reach out to any of us. John sent out a list 2 weeks ago of the hole sponsors from last year as well as the businesses that helped make our event a success last year.

We have earmarked \$22000.00 in scholarships for this year so everyone's help is needed to make this event a success. We need help with **new hole sponsors, opportunity raffle items, silent and voice auction items**. We will also need **golf ball dozens** to use for hole events as well as **bottles of liquor to use for the booze baskets** for the voice auction.

**The final need for help is with golfers.** As we have reserved all 3 courses at Ironwood, we need a minimum of 170 golfers for that to happen. Please talk to friends, family members or co-workers to see if they are interested in golfing. Remember, you do not need to be a member to participate in the event.

If you have any items to help with the event, please bring them to a Wednesday morning meeting and give them to me. If you are unable to make a meeting, please contact me so I can make arrangements with you to pick up the item. This event cannot be a success with only the committee pitching in. We need everybody's help. If you frequent a business, please give them a donation letter and ask them if they would support our event. Attached to the newsletter is a copy of the letter as well as a flyer for the event to share with people. We appreciate everyone's help in this event.

Let's all pray for good weather that day.

## Kids Fishing Contest

*Submitted by Dustin Koehler*

We have exciting news! Planning has begun for the 2024 Optimist Club of Menomonee Falls Kids Fishing Derby. The derby will take place the morning of **Saturday, May 11th** at the Mill Pond in downtown Menomonee Falls. The contest is free and is open to all boys and girls age three through 16 that reside or attend school in the Menomonee Falls area. All participants will receive a t-shirt and door prize. Trophies will be awarded to boys and girls in five age divisions for the longest fish and most fish caught during the contest.

Registration for the event will be from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM at the Mill Pond Shelter. During registration, each child will receive a t-shirt, fish recording log, and a ticket for a door prize. The fishing contest will be from 10:00 AM to Noon. At Noon, participants will hand-in their fish recording log to one of many volunteers that will be on site. Trophies will be awarded to contest winners shortly after Noon. Door prizes can be claimed at the registration table anytime between 10:00 AM and Noon.



The Menomonee Falls Neighborhood Watch will be selling food at the pavilion at the Mill Pond & Shelter from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

Please bring your own fishing equipment. Only a limited supply of bait will be provided. Children under 11 years old must be accompanied by an adult. Those 16 years old and older must have a fishing license.



Over the years, sponsors and supporters of this event include the Menomonee Falls Police Department, the Menomonee Falls Neighborhood Watch, the Village of Menomonee Falls, RB Enterprises, Fleet Farm, Krueger's Entertainment Center, Cops and Kids Foundation, Sandy Spring Farm, Kwik Trip, Tru Turn, Menomonee Falls CE & Rec, The Falls Neighbors and the Optimist Club of Menomonee Falls.

If there are any questions, or if you would like to volunteer your time the morning of the derby, please contact Dustin Koehler at 262-370-9529 or Sue Carney at 608-509-3117.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you at the derby!

## Meat Raffles

*Submitted by Shannon Dederich*



Attention all Optimists! You may have seen notes about these meat raffles throughout the year and are happy to report that they are doing well above projections and bringing both donations and interest in to the club. The great volunteer crew that has made these happen is small but mighty, but now needs your help! It's hard work raising \$18,000 over the course of just seven raffles! And we have two to go!

Still on the calendar for this year are these dates available:

April 6. Players Pub

May 11. Water Street Pub and Grill

They will be kicking up again in September with a bags tournament at

Knights of Columbus, with a schedule to come.

First and foremost, committee members are welcomed and needed. Fresh ideas keep these events relevant and prevent burnout with existing members. The schedule of meetings is variable, usually meeting the Tuesday before each event, and will meet for an after action session and planning for the 2024-25 season. This team is responsible for creating the schedule, marketing, board communications and providing the coordinators of each event.

Beyond the committee each event requires 10+ volunteers ranging in the following duties and commitments:

**Shopper** (helps procure the items for the raffle baskets - usually the week before the event, using their talents to find good deals, work with others in coordinating picking up, ordering or just going to the store)

**MC** (the day of the event, on the mic making sure the audience is aware of not only the different raffles going on, but what the club is up to, maybe some jokes - anyone with experience, or wanting to get experience! A great way to break some public speaking fears! Each event could use one or more, so volunteering for a little practice or to see if you like it is not a huge commitment!)

**Peddler** (teamed up with another person the day of the event to sell raffle tickets, 50/50 or other items up for sale - we work with two different teams of sellers for each event so you can not only volunteer, but enjoy your time there!)

**Bookkeeper** (2 or three per raffle are needed to track the raffle ticket numbers, collect money from the peddlers and make sure everything checks out, and count money and report to committee at the end of the event for what has been collected, paid out, etc. No accounting experience necessary - just know how to count :))

**Vannas** (Male or female Vanna's needed! People through out the day carry around the meat raffle baskets to show off to the audience what is up for raffle, maybe answer questions about whats in each and direct people on where to buy tickets - super low commitment, and a lot of fun. Just need to be able to carry about 25 lbs for 5 minutes at a time!)

**Coordinator.** (Each event has a team of coordinators - which are responsible for working with the venue for times, logistics and making sure there are enough volunteers, etc. For this, attending the monthly meat raffle meeting is helpful to get to know the additional committee members, what all is entailed, joining an experienced team for a go around etc. This person(s) makes sure that the event holds to our previous raffle standards and runs without a hitch! This is a really great way to try your hand at organizing or chairing an Optimist event - where a team of really experienced members are there to help you step by step)

Please reach out to: [shannon.dederich@gmail.com](mailto:shannon.dederich@gmail.com)



## Past Events

### Announcing the Winners of the Optimist Oratorical Contest!

*Submitted by Annie Jurczyk*

We are thrilled to announce the winners of this year's Optimist Oratorical Contest, where young minds showcased their oratory prowess and optimistic visions for the future. The speeches delivered were inspiring.

Without further ado, let's congratulate our winners:

- 1st Place: **Sruthi Warriar**
- 2nd Place: **Madeline Rowe**
- 3rd Place: **Sanvrit Mohanty**

These talented students have demonstrated remarkable eloquence and optimism in their speeches, earning them well-deserved recognition.

Sruthi Warriar and Madeline Rowe will proceed to the Zone Competition, which will take place on Tuesday, April 9th, at the Menomonee Falls Library. We wish them luck as they continue to represent our community on a broader platform.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed panel of judges for their diligent evaluation and discernment:

- Clara Scheckel
- Jim Weitzer
- Mike Russell
- Jacqueline Rammer
- Jonas Mack
- David Munoz

Your expertise and dedication contributed significantly to the success of this event.

Special thanks also go out to our timekeepers, Jenn Dedrick and John Yusko, for ensuring the contest's smooth running and to our tabulator, Rema Kunnath, for meticulously managing the scores and results.

To all judges, timekeepers, and tabulators, thank you for making this event a resounding success. We truly appreciate your enthusiasm and commitment to fostering young talent.

## JJ Memorial Happy Hour

*Submitted by Joy Fricke*

Sixteen of us met at Wisconsin on tap. It was great to talk to fellow Optimist members. If you don't know who some of the folks in these photos are, come to our next president's happy hour.





# Optimist Meetings

*Photos by Jon Cline*

## New Members



Riley Lutz



Alyson Dix

## National and State Champion Cheer Team



## State Champion Dance Team





## Students of the Month



Emily Hatton and Madalyn Lewis (Menomonee Falls High School)  
Elijah Chavez and Lucas Ward (North Middle School)  
Emma Esser (St. Mary Parish School)

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## Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Prepared by: Carol Schulteis

Date: March 19, 2024

Board members in attendance in person: Kim Wenzel, John Yusko, Mike Russell, Carol Schulteis, Clara Scheckel, Dustin Koehler, Linda Zylka, Laura Ciletti, Jeanine Dederich, Jerry Mislant, Barb Schmit.

Board members absent: Shannon Dederich

Purpose: Regular monthly meeting

1. The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 am.
2. Barb moved to approve the agenda; Mike seconded. Motion carried. Jerry moved to approve the February minutes; Linda seconded. Motion carried.

3. Presentation of Donation Requests
  - a. Good Shepherd Catholic Church Catholic Heart Workcamp – Corinna Ramsey
    - i. The cost of the camp will be about \$32,000, they charge the families \$600. They are trying to raise money for part of the \$8,000 shortfall from last year.
  - b. Menomonee Falls Baseball Group – Banner request.
    - i. Banner inside Trenary Field for \$300 or facing Pilgrim Rd for \$600.
4. Budget Requests
  - a. None
5. Activity Post-Budget Results
  - a. March Meat Raffle at DJ's
    - i. John reported that after expenses, we made \$2,223.32.
6. Treasurer's Report-Kim Wenzel
  - a. Mike moved to approve the report, Linda seconded. Motion carried.
  - b. OI Foundation Account/Impact on our Funds
    - i. There was discussion on the fact that OI stated if we wanted to move money from our account with them for the sake of opening CD's, we would need to close the account to get that money. We decided to close that account and put the money in staggered CD's, in a money market account, and the remainder in our club's general account.
7. Action on Donation Requests
  - a. Good Shepherd Catholic Church Catholic Heart Workcamp
    - i. Jerry made a motion to approve \$2,000, Barb seconded. Motion carried.
  - b. Menomonee Falls Baseball Group – Banner Request
    - i. Barb made a motion to approve \$300 for the inside Trenary Field banner, Jerry seconded. Motion carried.
8. Action on Budget Approvals
  - a. None.
9. New Member Applications
  - a. Amy Lippiatt – Jeanine Dederich
    - i. Mike made a motion to approve Amy's application, Kim seconded. Motion carried.
10. Old Business
  - a. Approval of Tent/canopy Policy
    - i. Barb made a motion to approve the policy, Carol seconded. Motion carried.
  - b. Approval of Expense Reimbursement Policy
    - i. Laura made a motion to approve the policy, Dustin seconded. Motion carried.
      1. It was decided we would store these policies at the back of the bylaws and on the website.
  - c. Update on Club Board Nominations & Election – Jeanine
    - i. We have these members interested in running for these positions: President – Mike Russel, Vice-President - Scott Dreier, Secretary – Carol Schulteis, Treasurer – Kim Wenzel, Open Board Positions – Clara Scheckel, Jon Cline & Gus Straub
      1. John will announce the election at the 4/17 and 4/24 meetings and the election will be on 5/1.



- d. Update on Member Reimbursement for OI/SWIS Events – Shannon
  - i. After John presented what Shannon said a few other clubs did with reimbursements, it was decided we will reimburse after the event for whatever members went to it. Barb is writing a policy on this.

11. New Business

- a. Donations to Club/Foundation via website
  - i. Should all donations be directed to the Foundation’s checking account?
    - 1. There was some discussion on this and John is doing more research on whether it is better to have donations directed to the Foundation or our general account or both.
- b. Meat Raffle Donation to SWIS District at May Conference.
  - i. After some discussion, it was decided to go ahead and donate the meat for one basket.
- c. Appointments to Foundation Board
  - i. Gus Straub, Linda Zylka, Annie Jurczyk, Larry Hebbing and possibly Dustin Koehler and Ken Frakes showed interest in being on the board.

12. Next Meeting: April 16, 2024 at 7am

13. Adjournment: Mike moved to adjourn, Linda seconded. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:10am.

## A Bit of Club History

*Submitted by Ed Schlumpf from the 50-Year History Book*

November - 2000: Addie Vischer becomes the fifth Optimist Club member to be named "Citizen of the Year" by the Menomonee Falls Chamber of Commerce. Previous winners were Bob Steliga (1990), Robyn Turtenwald (1993), Sue Jeskewitz (1995) and Karen Nelson (1997).





## April Birthdays

4/2	Rema Kunnath
4/3	Lou Sanicola
4/4	Robyn Turtenwald
4/9	Scott Stein
4/10	Chad Johnson
4/13	Mary Schlumpf
4/18	Megan Farrell
4/22	Carl Trapp
4/22	Bobby Pintor
4/23	Chris O'Reilly
4/28	Ruth Ann Petroff
4/30	Larry Podolske



## Remembering Ron Pinkepank

*Submitted by Ed Schlumpf*

Ron Pinkepank passed away last week at the age of 84. He was an active Optimist Club member from 1994-2002, probably best remembered as a fixture at the grill for the annual club picnic when they were held at Rotary Park. He was a teacher, principal, coach, and athletic director. Strong in his faith, he was an active member of Grace Lutheran Church.

## 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:*



<b>NEWSLETTER</b>	<i>Barb Schmit <b>no later than the 28th of each month</b> - <a href="mailto:schmitbarb@gmail.com">schmitbarb@gmail.com</a></i>
<b>NEWSPAPERS</b>	<i>Shannon Dederich <b>three or more weeks prior to your event, as quickly as possible after an event</b> - <a href="mailto:shannon.dederich@gmail.com">shannon.dederich@gmail.com</a></i>
<b>FACEBOOK</b>	<i>Cathy Sharkey or Dawn Mariscal - <a href="mailto:csharkey224@yahoo.com">csharkey224@yahoo.com</a>, <a href="mailto:dmariscal@wi.rr.com">dmariscal@wi.rr.com</a>,</i>
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<i>John Yusko - <a href="mailto:jyusko505@twc.com">jyusko505@twc.com</a></i>

# The Optimist Club of MENOMONEE FALLS

*Serving Our Youth Since 1973*



## You're Invited to Participate in the 34th Annual Menomonee Falls "OPTIMIST SCHOLARSHIP GOLF OUTING"

(All Proceeds to Benefit the Youth of Our Community)

**Date:** *Wed. May 15, 2024*

**Location:** **Ironwood Golf Course**

*W270 N6166 Moraine Dr. Sussex, WI 53089 (on ~~Cnty~~ MD, southwest of Sussex)*

**Events:** **Four Person Scramble**

*First place team prizes for Women, Men, Senior Flights & Additional Prizes,*

*Special PUTTING Contest, Individual HOLE PRIZES, HOLE EVENTS, & More!*

**Tee Times:** *Shotgun Start at 11:00 AM, Registration Starts at 9:30 AM*

**Lunch:** *Included in Fees. Begins at 9:30 AM*

**Fees:** **\$160 per person** *Includes 18 holes of golf, Free Range Balls, 4 Free Mulligans, Free Entrance in Putting Contest, Cart, Beverage, Lunch, Heavy Hors d'oeuvres (Hors d'oeuvres only \$40)*

**Social Hour:** *3:30 PM to 4:30 PM*

*Hors d'oeuvres & Awards to follow the conclusion of golf. Raffle prizes to be posted after golf*

- - - - - **Register Below (Please return by May 8, 2024)** - - - - -

Players in foursome: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Total ages of the 4 golfers: \_\_\_\_\_ (If your total is 265 or above, your team will be flight 2)  
Advance registration and payment preferred - Checks payable to: Men. Falls Optimist Club

Return to: Todd Paulus W169N8757 Sheridan Dr. Menomonee Falls, WI 53051  
Cell:414-719-0009 Wk: 414-362-3715 or email

[tpaulus@wi.rr.com](mailto:tpaulus@wi.rr.com)

The Optimist Club of  
**MENOMONEE FALLS**  
*Serving Our Youth Since 1973*



February, 2024

Dear Neighbor,

The Menomonee Falls Optimist Club will be holding its 33rd annual Scholarship Golf Outing on May 15, 2024 at Ironwood Golf Course in Sussex, WI. Proceeds from this event are used to fund scholarships for our local high school seniors.

Because of the continued support of organizations like yours, we raised over \$15,000 in 2023 and awarded scholarships totaling \$22,000 in 2023. We have again committed \$22,000 of scholarships for the 2024 graduating class and our goal is to raise \$17,000 at this year's outing.

There are 3 ways you can help our outing be successful:

1. **Golfing**- You can register to golf in our event as an individual player or with a foursome. This year's price is \$160/person. The price includes 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch, heavy hors d'oeuvres, and prizes. See our Facebook page or website for details.
2. **Sponsorships** – Sponsor a hole for \$100; sponsor a keg of beer for \$300; or sponsor the golf carts for \$500. Your company's name will be visible to all golfers and guests!
3. **Donation** – You can donate an item to our event to be used in our raffles or auctions.

I am writing to you to request your consideration of donating a prize for our event. To make this event successful, we need door prizes, hole prizes, and voice auction items.

Why donate?

- Your organization's name and generosity will be exposed to over 150 golfers, volunteers, and other attendees throughout the event.
- If you choose to donate a gift card/certificate, the winner will be motivated to visit your business and will likely spend more than the value of the gift—and you may gain a repeat customer!
- You can feel good about contributing to the success of a local organization that focuses on the youth in the Menomonee Falls community.

If you would like to assist our event this year with a donation, I can pick it up or it can be sent to:

Todd Paulus  
W169 N8757 Sheridan Dr.  
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

Without continued support of businesses like yours, our event would not be able to flourish like it has in the past. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Todd Paulus  
Scholarship Golf Committee Chair  
414-719-0009  
tpaulus@wi.rr.com

# FALLS PATIO PLAYERS PRESENTS:



Music by  
**HARRY WARREN**

Lyrics by  
**AL DUBIN**

FRIDAY + SATURDAY EVENINGS  
at 7:30pm:

**APR 19, 20, 26, & 27**  
2024

SUNDAY MATINEES  
at 2:00pm:

**APR 21 & 28**  
2024

**North Middle School Auditorium**  
N88W16750 Garfield Dr., Menomonee Falls, WI

**\$22**      **\$18**  
Adults      Seniors/Students



[fallspatioplayers.com](http://fallspatioplayers.com) • Information Line: (262) 255-8372

