



The Optimizer

June 2024

Menomonee Falls Optimist Club

<http://fallsoptimistclub.org/>

In this Issue

Weekly Meeting Schedule	2	Meat Raffle	15
President’s Message	2	Optimist Meetings	16
Upcoming Events	4	Falls Fast Pitch Team.....	16
3 rd of July Parade.....	4	Robotics Club	16
Patio Players Theater Camp Show	4	Students of the Month	17
Past Events	5	A Bit of Club History.....	17
Scholarship Golf Outing Is In The Books	5	Executive Board Meeting Minutes	18
Kids Fishing Contest	9	June Birthdays.....	20
Adopt a Highway.....	14	How to Publish Optimist News and Events	20



Weekly Meeting Schedule

Submitted by Jerry Mislang

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

- Wed. June 5** We'll be joined by Scholarship Foundation Co-Chair and club member Cathy Hazzard who will introduce our **MFHS Scholarship recipients**. If there is time, **coaches and members of the State Qualifying Golf Team** will be introduced as well.

- Wed. June 12** We're honored to have the **MFHS State Tennis qualifiers** join us and talk about their exciting time the previous weekend which resulted in the **first D1 State Champion CJ Kryscio** from MFHS.

- Wed. June 19** A first time Club speaker, **Menomonee Falls Fire Chief Joe Pulvermacher** will be our guest speaker. Looking forward to an informative meeting from the top representative of one of the most important groups in our Village.

- Wed. June 26** We're starting out with a visit from the **Patio Players Summer Camp Kids**, a group that we help financially support. Then we'll turn it over to our **July 3rd Parade Committee** to cross the T's and dot the I's to help ensure everything is covered for arguably our biggest event.

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

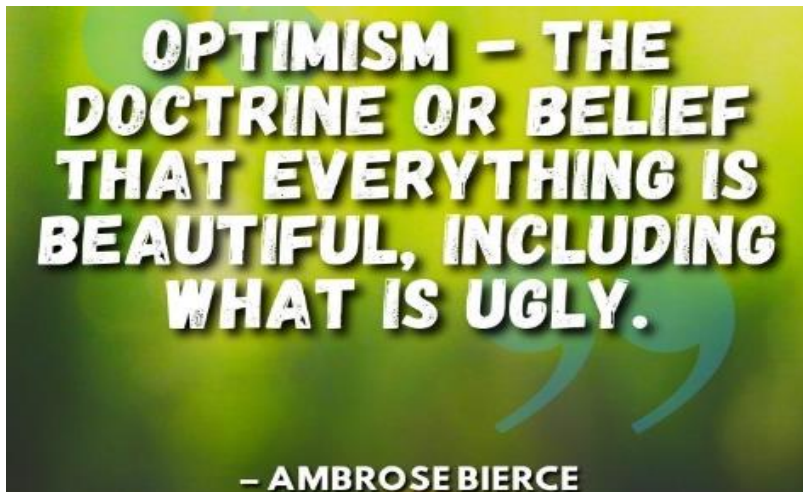
President's Message

Roll out the lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer. Those days of soda and pretzels and, especially in Wisconsin, beer!

And a sure sign of summer is the opening of the Falls Optimist Club Popcorn wagon, now in business until Labor Day week.

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

- On May 1st, we elected our 2024/2025 Board of Directors. Results:
 - President Mike Russell
 - Vice President Scott Dreier
 - Treasurer Kim Wenzel (2024-2026)
 - Secretary Carol Schulteis



- At large members (2024-2026)
 - Jon Cline
 - Clara Scheckel
 - Gus Straub
- Returning members (terms expire in 2025)
 - Laura Ciletti
 - Jerry Mislant
 - Linda Zylka
- The Fishing Derby again was a big success, attracting over 140 kids to the Mill Pond. 43 kids caught 79 fish (and a couple bullfrogs) while enjoying a beautiful May day. Thanks to Dustin Koehler and Sue Carney, who chaired the event...and thanks to the numerous volunteers who helped make it happen.
- The May meat raffle at Water Street Pub raised \$1,500. This was our last 2023/2024 scheduled meat raffle. Many thanks to the teams that put these events together! They raised close to \$20,000 for our club.
- About a dozen members attended the SWIS District conference on May 11th. We gave a brief presentation about our club and then Jerry Mislant led the group in an Optimist version of Family Feud. Current governor, Diane Matuszak, thanked us for emphasizing the attraction and retention of members while continuing to have fun. Thanks to all our members who attended and participated on a very busy day for our club.
- On May 15th, over 150 golfers joined us on another almost perfect day for our annual Scholarship Golf Outing. Numbers are still being finalized but it doesn't seem too early to congratulate chairman Todd Paulus, the committee, and all the volunteers for helping to make the event a success!
- The Board approved a donation of \$3,000 to the Menomonee Falls Parade Committee to help put on the Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Christmas Parades. The club receives funds from the Parade Committee to help pay for the parades.
- And, to avoid questions and confusion, the Board approved a policy that allows members who attend SWIS District conferences to be reimbursed for any fees.

Here's what's coming up in June and July...

- The Popcorn Wagon is now open!
- Football Craaz tickets are now available.
- Tri-Star Baseball noon-4
 - June 1st Little League complex on Mill Road
- Triker Fest 6:30pm -9:00pm
 - June 4th Village Park
- JJ Memorial Happy Hour 4:00pm – 6:00pm
 - June 11 Su Casa on Appleton Avenue

Please consider volunteering to help at one or more of our events. You'll make more out of your club membership, contribute to our community and probably have some fun!

President John

Upcoming Events

3rd of July Parade

Submitted by Larry Hebbring



If any members are going to be in town during the week of the Independence Day Parade the Club could use your help. We need Volunteers before and during the 3rd of July Parade. Steve Fleming has over 65 groups ready to go. All we need to do is make it run smoothly and raise a little money to pay for it. Larry Hebbring will have a sign-up sheet at all meetings or you can contact him at: 414-899-5807 or ljhebbring@gmail.com to volunteer. Help is needed as Marshals, Distribution centers selling/collecting money, line-up and production of popcorn and cotton candy. This is the Club's largest event and most visible. So if you are in town, please help with the Parade, it is a fun event and most duties are done before the parade is finished. Make it a family and friends event to sell popcorn and cotton candy or beat the bucket for a few donations. See the sign-up sheet to get involved.

Patio Players Theater Camp Show

Submitted by Laura Ciletti

Falls Patio Players First Act Theater Camp will have their show that is free to the public on June 28th at 10 am and 7 pm. Feel free to bring the kids and grandkids! This is from the T shirts for the kids, with part of your generous donation.



Past Events

Photos by Jon Cline

Scholarship Golf Outing Is In The Books

*Submitted by Todd Paulus
Golf Committee Chair*



The 34th Annual Scholarship Golf outing was held May 15, 2024 at Ironwood Golf Course. It was held under sunny skies and temps right around 70 degrees. We could not have asked for a better day. We had a record number of golfers this year with 153 golfers participating.



The event does not take place without the golfers, so if you golfed or helped round up some golfers that participated, thank you. The planning for this event is not done by one person either, but instead by our wonderful committee made up of **Greg Mattson, Tom Ciskoski, Scott Drier, Carol Schulteis, John Yusko, and Joy Fricke**. They help round up golfers and prizes that we give away that day, as well as helping to plan the event that day. Another big shout out and thank you to our volunteers that day – **Kathy Matthiesen, Joy Fricke, Shannon Dederich, Stevie Mistle-Wildt, Laura Ciletti, Clara Scheckel, Amanda Klopenstein, Patti Ambroch, and Kim Wenzel**. Many of you work this event year after year, which makes it easy on me as I don't have to explain your duties over and over. The work all the volunteers do help the event run smoothly.



Thanks to **Carol Schulteis** and **Joy Fricke** for making the Jello shots to help keep the tradition alive of the beverage cart, and to Carol for making sure she met every group that day with Jello goodness. Another thanks also goes out to **Mike Vosen**, who is not a member, but opens up the KC Clubhouse for Carol and Joy to make the Jello shots before our event. A huge thank you to **Patti Ambroch** and **Amanda Klopenstein** for taking over the Opportunity Baskets this year, and spicing them up, to make them look nice for all the attendees at the event. This took a lot off of my plate the week before the event. A thank you also has to go out to **Ed Schlumpf**, who came to the event later in the day to help auctioneer the voice

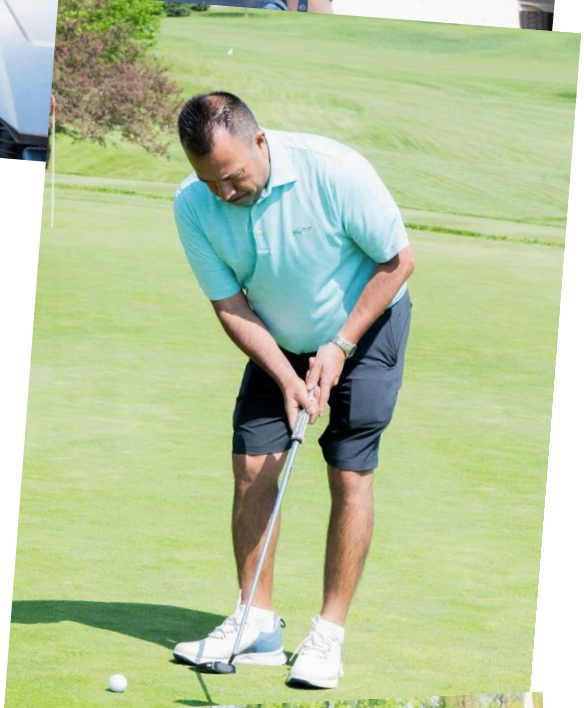
auction. He and his wife **Mary** also donated a \$100 gift card from Chik-fil-a for the event that we used for the putting contest winners. Another thank you has to go out to **Jon Cline**, who was there with his camera capturing the action shots that day as he made his way around courses. A thank you also goes out to all the club members that donated

items we used at the event from golf balls to bottles of wine and booze, to prizes we used for the opportunity baskets and the voice auction.

As we have done in past years, everything we gave away that day was donated, so all money raised from the auction and opportunity baskets went directly to the bottom line for the event. The final two thank you's go out to **Mike Lehman** and **Ironwood golf course** for helping us put this event together. Their staff and what they do behind the scenes helps make this event go very smoothly, and a final thank you to **Bunzel's Meat Market** for supplying the food that day as well as donating a party for 20 that we auctioned off that day. If I missed anyone in this write up, I apologize. Thank you, thank you, thank you to all that helped make this possible. With the record number of golfers, we recorded a record profit this year of **\$18407.99**. This profit is due to the effort of many, many people. Save the date – **Wednesday May 21, 2025** for the 35th Annual event.







Kids Fishing Contest

Submitted by Dustin Koehler



perch 15 largemouth bass.

Well, the 2024 Optimist Club of Menomonee Falls Kids Catch and Release Fishing Derby is in the books, and WOW, what a fantastic event it was! This year's fishing derby took place the morning of Saturday, May 11th at the Mill Pond. It was a beautiful morning weather wise. While the wind was a little heavy, the sun provided some warmth when in it. Plenty of sun and no rain is a winning combination. Hundreds of people enjoyed the derby, including the **145** kids who registered to fish and the family and friends who joined!

While we had 22 more kids register for the derby this year in comparison to 2023, the number of fish caught was down just a little. Between 10:00 AM and noon, 79 fish were caught and logged, as well as two bullfrogs. This was down from 99 fish caught last year. However, in 2023, 41 kids caught at least one fish, and this year, 43 kids caught fish!

The Thursday evening before the derby, approximately 647 fish were stocked in the pond, including about 432 sunfish / bluegill hybrids, 200 yellow

Some of the highlights of the fish caught were an 11.5" Trout, an 11" Trout, a 10.5" Rainbow Trout, and three 10" Trouts (poor guy may have been caught multiple times that morning :). We also had an 8" perch caught.

As for the number of fish caught by one kid, we had a 12-year-old who caught 14 total fish, including multiple Perch and Bluegill.



During registration, each child received a t-shirt and a grab bag with several different give-a-aways, including candy, a bowling coupon, fish hooks, etc. In addition, representatives from the Germantown Fleet Farm store joined us and handed out items for the

kids. Thank you, Fleet Farm! The Neighborhood Watch did a great job keeping any hunger away. They sold coffee, donuts, soda, hotdogs, and other treats from the concession stand. New this year, they added brats to the menu! Also new this year, local representatives from Scouting joined us to set up a tent to share information about Scouting. We were glad to have them!



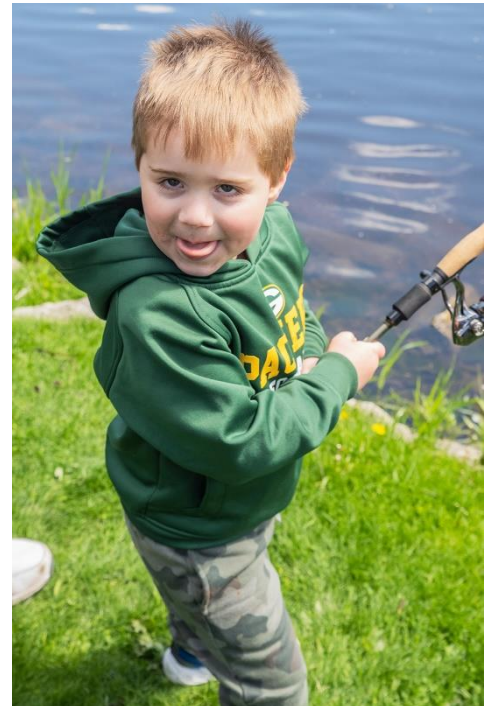


As always, Jerry Mislang did an excellent job emceeing the event using the sound equipment Danny Shepherd set-up and ran throughout the event. In case you missed it, Jerry came prepared with many “fish” jokes throughout the morning, which really kept the crowd entertained. Feel free to ask him to share a joke or two he used that morning! :) Jon Cline took photos throughout the derby! Door prizes were given throughout the morning to all kids who registered, and there was a trophy presentation at the end. Most importantly, the fishing derby allowed for quality time for families in our community to bond with one another and create very special memories. The morning was an absolute success filled with so many smiles!

For the second year, we had a 50 / 50 raffle at the fishing derby. Ticket sales totaled \$170, sending a lucky winner home with \$85 and bringing in \$85 to the club to help cover some of the costs of the derby.

Sue Carny and I would like to thank each and every one who helped make this event possible. A huge thank you goes out to **Jerry Mislang, Danny Shepherd, Larry Hebring, Kathie Jensen, Kathy Matthiessen, Kirsten Sperl, Joanne Wanner, Lance Newman, Greg Mattson, Tom Walkner, Larry Podolske, Bob Wenzel, Jon Cline, Ann Freudenthal, Fred Blanke, Amanda Klopfenstein, James Gottemoller, Audrey Makowski, Stuart Reichl, Tim Newman, and Kim Wenzel.**

We would also like to thank our sponsors and others who contributed to the derby, including **The Optimist Club of Menomonee Falls, The Village of Menomonee Falls, The Menomonee Falls Police Department, the Menomonee Falls Neighborhood Watch, RB Enterprises of Menomonee Falls, Krueger’s Entertainment Center, Fleet Farm in Germantown, Cops and Kids Foundation, Sandy Spring Farm, the DNR, and Tru Turn.**

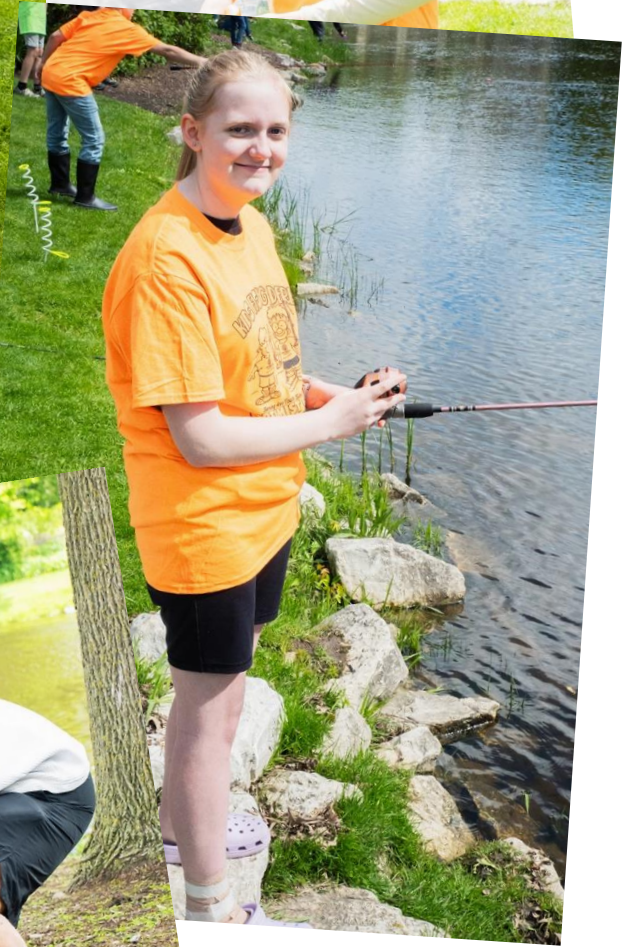
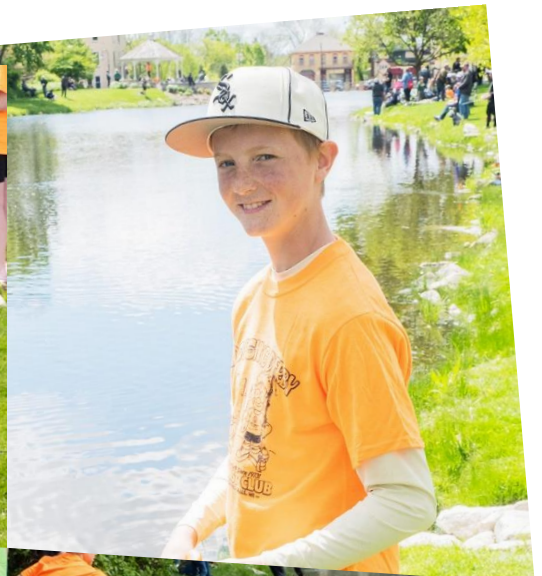


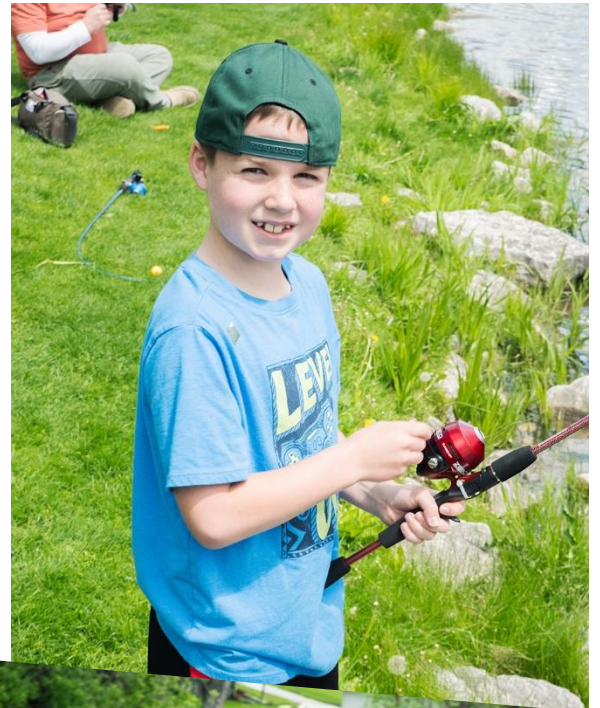
We would also like to thank the **Menomonee Falls CE & Rec, The Express News, The Falls Neighbors Magazine, and the Menomonee Falls School District** who helped get the word out for the derby.

We sure hope we did not miss anyone, as there are so many who made this 2024 Kids

Fishing Derby possible! THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! We look forward to seeing everyone at the 2025 Optimist Club of Menomonee Falls Kids Fishing Derby next May!







Adopt a Highway

Submitted by Laura Ciletti

The first Adopt a Highway clean up with Laura Ciletti taking over for Terry Fitzsimmons, took place on Saturday May 18th. It was a beautiful day and there was surprisingly little garbage. There were 6 adults and 2 kids from the Milwaukee Telangana Association (MiTA) an area organization that volunteers to help out with community or cultural events. They have done this a few times now in the spring for us. We thank them for their service.



Meat Raffle

Submitted by Marcia Hebbring

Our inaugural year of the Optimist Meat Raffles has come to an end. We closed out our last Meat Raffle at Water Street Pub on May 11th, netting \$1505.00. A lot of blood, sweat, and tears went into this adventure but so did a lot of fun and memories. An approximate amount exceeding \$20,000.00 from September 2023 thru May 2024 benefitted our community of kids. Signing off as a proud volunteer and member of the Optimist Club of Menomonee Falls.



Optimist Meetings

Photos by Jon Cline

Falls Fast Pitch Team



Robotics Club



Students of the Month



Tilly Micallef (St. Mary), Delaney Kohel (NMS), Gabriella Wiebel (MFHS), Trent Mason (NMS) , Ja’Niah Sams (MFHS)

A Bit of Club History

Submitted by Ed Schlumpf from the 50-Year History Book

Nov. 10, 1986 - The Secretary-Treasurer has the discretion as to where the club will bank, so long as it a Menomonee Falls financial institution, the Board decides.



Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Prepared by: Carol Schulteis

Date: May 21, 2024

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

Board members absent: Clara Scheckel, Laura Ciletti, Shannon Dederich

Purpose: Regular monthly meeting

1. The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:02 am.
2. Linda moved to approve the agenda and April minutes; Mike seconded. Motion carried.
3. Presentation of Donation Requests
 - a. Menomonee Falls High School Softball – Scott Eldredge
 - i. Requesting \$2,500 for hitting supplies, protection screens, and spike proof mats for their new batting cages. The total for these items is \$4,000 but their group contributed \$1,500. The batting cages of \$60,000 were previously paid for by the Booster Club and the Falls Angels. They will be used by 150 - 200 kids, mostly from the Falls.
4. Budget Requests
 - a. Tri-Star Baseball – Don Eisenhauer
 - i. Requesting \$350.
5. Activity Post-Budget Results
 - a. April Meat Raffle at Players – Shannon Dederich
 - i. The final numbers and the money has not been turned in yet, but Shannon reported last month that approximately \$1,262.00 was made.
 - b. May Meat Raffle at Waterstreet Pub – Marcia Hebbing
 - i. Marcia reported that \$1,500 was made.
 - c. Fishing Derby – Dustin Koehler
 - i. Dustin reported he came out about \$200 under budget.
 - d. SWIS District Conference
 - i. Shannon still has to turn in receipts for the meat bought, but we donated the \$124 made at the meat raffle to the SWIS District.
6. Treasurer's Report - Kim Wenzel
 - a. Kim reported that she opened a money market and 3 CD's at Bank Five Nine.
 - i. Jerry made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Mike seconded. Motion carried.
7. Action on Donation Requests
 - a. Menomonee Falls High School Softball
 - i. Jerry made a motion to approve the \$2,500 requested, Linda seconded. Motion carried.



- 8. Action on Budget Approvals
 - a. Tri-Star Baseball
 - i. Jerry made a motion to approve the budget of \$350, Barb seconded. Motion carried.
- 9. New Member Applications
 - a. Monika Wiese
 - i. Barb made a motion to approve Monika's application, Mike seconded. Motion carried.
 - b. Craig Zinda, Amy Scheper, Andrew Sherbinow
 - i. Jerry made a motion to approve Craig's, Amy's, and Andrew's applications, Mike seconded. Motion carried.
- 10. Old Business
 - a. Old Falls Donation - Jerry
 - i. This is being tabled as Jerry found out the \$250 for candy that we normally give is a separate request. They will have to fill out a donation request form for what they are requesting outside of the candy request.
- 11. New Business
 - a. Popcorn Wagon Update
 - i. There is a popcorn wagon donation that we are pursuing, a group of us will take a look at it next week.
 - b. Foundation Update
 - i. Financials as of April 29 ,2024
 - 1. \$3,000 in checking
 - 2. \$185,355.34 in savings
 - ii. Board Meeting on April 29th
 - 1. Elected new officers to one-year terms.
 - a. John Yusko President
 - b. Ann Freudenthal Treasurer
 - c. Annie Jurczyk Secretary
 - 2. Agreed to obtain help to figure out a strategic plan
 - 3. Next meeting is May 29th at 11:30
- 12. Next Meeting: June 18, 2024 at 7am
- 13. Adjournment: Linda moved to adjourn, Mike seconded. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:55am.



June Birthdays

4-Jun	Trudie	Yunto
5-Jun	Monika	Wiese
7-Jun	Brian	Stark
9-Jun	Mitch	Rea
9-Jun	Tyler	Roeming
11-Jun	Stacie	Estrada
15-Jun	Bill	Hathaway
18-Jun	Terry	Marcou
20-Jun	Meg	Latus
20-Jun	Joe "Tex"	Reiter
22-Jun	Carla	Wendelberger
24-Jun	Cathy	Hazzard
25-Jun	Dustin	Koehler
26-Jun	Craig	Natzke
27-Jun	Nathan	Russell
30-Jun	Larry	Hebbring
30-Jun	Pat	Lynch



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 28th 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	Amanda Klopfenstein amandaklop19@gmail.com .