



Optimist INTERNATIONAL

Optimist Club of West Bend



Club # 09-208

P.O Box 1076, West Bend, WI 53095

SWIS District (#09)

[f Optimist Club of West Bend](#)

<http://www.optimistclubofwestbend.org/>

optimistclubofwestbend@gmail.com

OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING



January 2024



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Subject to change)

Jan 1			
Essay Contest December 1, 2023, to February 1, 2024 Topic: <i>Optimism: How It Connects Us</i>			
January 1 to March 1, 2024 OPTIMIST VISUAL ARTS COMPETITION			
Jan 4	noon	Club Lunch Meeting KM YMCA AT NEW PERSPECTIVE IN SENIOR LIVING CENTER	
Jan 9		National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day	
Jan 18	noon	Club Lunch Meeting Student of the Month Holy Angels AT NEW PERSPECTIVE IN SENIOR LIVING CENTER	
Jan 20		 Heidi Sternig	
Jan 25	4 pm	Board of Directors' Meeting The Threshold 2380 W Washington St	
Feb 1		INTERNATIONAL OPTIMIST DAY	
Feb 1		Club Lunch Meeting Police Cadet Award AT NEW PERSPECTIVE IN SENIOR LIVING CENTER	
Feb 1		Essay Contest Ends	

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

December 2023

STELLA BOSTWICK

Good Shepherds Lutheran School

Here's what Good Shepherds School shared:



We are thrilled to shine the spotlight on an exceptional individual who embodies the qualities of leadership and outstanding academics. Join us in congratulating Stella Bostwick.

Stella stands out as a natural and influential leader. From taking charge of group projects to helping with Wednesday morning chapel, Stella leads with a genuine commitment to inspiring and guiding others. Stella is involved in a variety of sports from volleyball to leading the cheer team. Beyond her athletic abilities, Stella is a gifted vocalist and an active member of our school's chapel choir.

She goes above and beyond in demonstrating kindness and empathy. Her commitment to helping others is evident through her proactive involvement in projects and her willingness to assist struggling peers academically.

In addition to her impressive extracurricular involvement, Stella maintains a steadfast commitment to academic excellence. Her outstanding grades and achievements reflect not only her dedication to her studies but also her genuine passion for learning. Good Shepherd Lutheran School is proud to have Stella Bostwick represent the school as *Student of the Month*.

S O T M

Club President Laura Eggert presents the December *Student of the Month* award to Stella Bostwick from Good Shepherd Lutheran School



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Christmas Family

This year, our Club again provided a stash of Christmas gifts for two young families who have children being served by the Threshold's "Birth to Three Program." We have been doing this for many years now, and it is always something special. This year's Christmas Families were the Bates Family from Hartford (6 children and two parents) and the Froehlich/Hahn Family from Slinger (2 children and 2 parents).



◀ Gift delivery to the Bates' Family.



Watch for more info and pictures in the February Newsletter



SWIS District Conferences

Our Club's Board of Directors has deemed it important that all of our Club members get the necessary information and are encouraged to attend the Quarterly Conferences of the SWIS District. Our Club will help offset some of the costs of attending.

<https://www.swisdistrict.org/conferences/default.asp>

Optimist Club Christmas Gathering



On December 21, our Club held its annual Christmas Party at the Westridge Clubhouse (Thank you Geri for arranging). All attendees felt it was a joyous event filled with good socializing, great snacks & beverages, and fun activities. **OMG** what a fantastic food buffet – dips and shrimp cocktail and crackers and meatballs and cheese and sausage and veggies and cookies and cupcakes and lotsa other tasty stuff!!

As far as Greg's wine tasting is concerned, most enjoyed his homemade selections and based on the reviews, here are the results:

1st – La Crosse; 2nd – Cabernet Sauvignon;
3rd – Door County Cherry

Club members and guests really put on their thinking caps to work through the evening's games: "Punny Definitions" & "Letter Exchange" & "Christmas Trivia" & "Cowboy Actors."

All attendees agree it was a really good time and we should plan to do the same next Christmas Season!

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR



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Mark Your Calendars

December 1 to February 1
Essay Contest

January 1 to March 1
OPTIMIST VISUAL ARTS COMPETITION

January 9
National Law Enforcement
Appreciation Day

Intenational Optimist Day
February 1, 2024

Free Throw Contest
February 10, 2024
Jackson Rec 8:30am – 12noon
Volunteers Needed - Watch for upcoming details

Board of Directors

Position	2023-2024
President <small>10/01/2023 to 09/30/2024</small>	Laura Eggert <small>10/01/2023 to 09/30/2024</small>
Vice-President President Elect <small>10/01/2023 to 09/30/2024</small>	Heidi Sternig <small>10/01/2023 to 09/30/2024</small>
Past-President <small>10/01/2023 to 09/30/2024</small>	Mike Hartwell <small>10/01/2023 to 09/30/2024</small>
Secretary <small>10/01/2023 to 09/30/2024</small>	Greg Harding <small>10/01/2023 to 09/30/2024</small>
Treasurer <small>10/01/2023 to 09/30/2024</small>	Cassie Schmidt <small>10/01/2023 to 09/30/2024</small>
Director <small>10/01/2023 to 09/30/2025</small>	Matt Muehlbauer <small>10/01/2023 to 09/30/2025</small>
Director <small>10/01/2022 to 09/30/2024</small>	Maria Gutierrez Gurrola <small>10/01/2022 to 09/30/2024</small>
Director <small>10/01/2022 to 09/30/2024</small>	Gena Biertzer <small>Resigned 9/30/2023</small>



Club Memorials

Ann Fowler passed away on November 28 in Burnsville, Minnesota.



In the spring of 2019, Ann was living at New Perspectives, joined us for lunch one day, liked what she saw, and decided to join the Club (April 5, 2019). She immediately became active in the Club and was eventually elected to the Club's Board of Directors starting October 1, 2019. For a little over a year, she participated in many of the Club's activities; however, by the fall of 2020, her health had deteriorated to a point where she decided she needed to move to Burnsville, Minnesota, to be closer to her children.

We remember her as always having a smile and always willing to help if she could. Our prayers go out to her family. Per her family's wishes, the Club has donated \$25 from our Sunshine Fund to the Full Shelf Food Pantry in her memory.

2019 Mud Run Water Station Crew



Pete Lieven passed away on November 23. He joined the Optimist Club in October 2019, became an active member in supporting the Club's activities, and was soon elected to the Club's Board of Directors. In memory of Pete, the Club has established the:



“Pete Lieven Memorial School Crossing Guard Award.”



June 15, 2006 “School Crossing Guard Award”

At the time of his passing, Pete was also the President of the *West-Bar Sportsmen's Club*. As a memorial to Pete, the Optimist Club will be sponsoring the planting of trees in the *West-Bar Sportsmen's Club Memorial Tree Grove*. The Optimist

Club will be collecting donations from its Club members at each of the January Club meetings.

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The Optimist Creed

PROMISE YOURSELF:

- *to be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind;*
- *to talk health happiness and prosperity to every person you meet;*
- *to make all of your friends feel that there is something in them;*
- *to look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true;*
- *to think only of the best; to work only for the best; and to expect only the best;*
- *to be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own;*
- *to forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future;*
- *to wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile;*
- *to give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others;*
- *to be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.*

January is

NATIONAL OATMEAL MONTH



Celebrate all month long by incorporating oatmeal in your breakfast and snacks. Oatmeal has earned a reputation

for being heart-healthy. Beyond several other possible health benefits, steel-cut oats add a nutty flavor and texture to many recipes.



The Writers' Corner

Remembering Will Have To Do

By Kathy J. Parenteau

If I could create a picture book of memories from the past, every chapter a masterpiece of unforgettable times rehashed.

What a pleasure it would be to turn a page each day, reliving all the happy times that quickly passed away.

Smiles I miss from loved ones where heaven is their home, babies all grown up now with children of their own.

Summer rains and winter days, autumn leaves that fell, snowcapped pines at Christmas time I remember so very well.

Oh, what a pleasure it would be to flip the pages through, for now, I see them in my mind, so remembering will have to do.

A New Year Foretold

By Debra L. Brown

This New Year has been foretold.
Your future is at hand.
God knows the fate and outcome of each and every man.

God has chosen the narrow road.
His wisdom is leading the way.
His great strength can carry your load.
His compassion you'll feel every day.

With a new dawn over the horizon,
and the Lord to lead the way,
you can spread your wings like an eagle
and soar through every day.

