



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

♥ *Happy Valentines Day* ♥

February 2024

♥ *Happy Valentines Day* ♥

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Subject to change)

Essay Contest Ends
February 1, 2024

January 1 to March 1, 2024
OPTIMIST VISUAL ARTS COMPETITION

Feb 1 **INTERNATIONAL OPTIMIST DAY**

Feb 1 Club Lunch Meeting
Police Cadet Award
noon AT NEW PERSPECTIVE IN SENIOR LIVING CENTER

Feb 10 **Free Throw Contest**
Jackson Rec 8:30 – Noon
Volunteers Needed – Watch for Invite

Feb 14 **Happy Valentine's Day**

Feb 15 Club Lunch Meeting
Student of the Month
Silverbrook
noon AT NEW PERSPECTIVE IN SENIOR LIVING CENTER

Feb 15 **Happy Birthday**
Maria Gutierrez Gurrola

Feb 15 **Essay Contest Winners**
submitted to SWIS District

Feb 29 **Happy Birthday**
Gretchen Vest

Feb 29 **Board of Directors' Meeting**
4 pm The Threshold 2380 W Washington St



At our January 4th lunch meeting, we had a presentation from Rob Johnson, the CEO for the Kettle Moraine YMCA. The Kettle Moraine YMCA is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all. It serves most of Washington and Ozaukee Counties

Rob shared that the YMCA is the number one child-care provider in the state. Among the youth services they provide are several day camps, swim lessons, gymnastics, and organized sports.

He also shared that the Y is beginning some major remodeling to convert three racquetball courts into additional space for a new free-weight center, a flexible multipurpose space accommodating group fitness, cycling, pickleball courts, and licensed child activities.

The Optimist Club of West Bend's donation to the Kettle Moraine YMCA supports their scholarship fund for families with financial needs.



Optimist Club of West Bend President Laura Eggert presents a \$200.00 donation for the Kettle Moraine YMCA to Rob Johnson, CEO KM YMCA

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February 2024

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

January 2024

JULIANA KROENING

Holy Angels School



Here's what Holy Angels School shared:
The Junior High staff of Holy Angels School is proud to choose **Juliana Kroening** as our Optimist Student of the Month for the 2023-2024 school year.

Juliana is one of those students that we know will be kind to everyone. She is the one we count on when a classmate needs a supportive friend. Among her best traits are that she is patient, encouraging and responsible. These traits are evident in her work as the captain of the patrols. She is also the morning patrol for the K4 class, She is so good with the kindergartners that she is sometimes asked to help out by sitting with them during mass on Thursdays. She is highly visible in the school and parish community. Juliana volunteers at the parish pancake breakfast and at the HAS Festival and hands out water at the Cedarburg half-marathon. She participates in volleyball, chorus, forensics, FAD club, serves at school masses, and is the vice president of the Student Council this year.

Juliana embodies the values we expect of our students at Holy Angels. She is helpful, respectful and kind, and chooses to believe the best in others. She pushes herself to do her best in every situation. If others around her are choosing to be negative or unkind, Juliana will step up to model better behavior, The Holy Angels community is a better place because of her joyful personality, and she is worthy of recognition through the Optimist Student of the Month award.

Sincerely,

*The Holy Angels Junior High School Staff & Principal,
Michelle Spaeth*

S O T M

Club President Laura Eggert presents the January Student of the Month award to Juliana Kroening from Holy Angels School



INTERNATIONAL OPTIMIST DAY THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Throughout the world, all members of Optimist International are encouraged to celebrate **Optimist Day** on the first Thursday of every February to promote our efforts in **bringing out the best in youth, our communities, and ourselves.** On Optimist Day, Optimists around the world are asked to wear their Optimist attire (shirts, pins, hats, etc.) to show that they stand for **OPTIMISM!**



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>

Free Throw Contest
FEBRUARY 10
Jackson Rec
9am





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February 2024

February is National Library Lovers Month

National Library Lovers Month takes place annually in February and is an entire month devoted to celebrating libraries. It's a time to show appreciation for your favorite library and librarians.



This special month-long event is a great way to enjoy the inclusive power that libraries hold in bringing people together or drawing them toward great works of art and literature. We should all be teaching kids about the significance of libraries and why we must celebrate them to preserve their existence. Do you know that there are over 9,000 public libraries in the US?



Five historical facts about libraries:

1. Many of the early libraries to be constructed were designed with apartments on the top floor so the librarians could have a living space.
2. The largest library in the world is the US Library of Congress.



US LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

3. The famous philanthropist, Andrew Carnegie, helped fund the creation of over 2,000 libraries across the world by donating millions of dollars between the 1880s and 1920s.
4. The lions outside the New York Public Library's main location are known as Patience and Fortitude.
5. In the 19th century, all librarians had to follow a specific rounded style of handwriting called "library hand."

Board of Directors

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

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.

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Mark Your Calendars

February 1

Essay Contest Ends

January 1 to March 1

OPTIMIST VISUAL ARTS COMPETITION

Intenational Optimist Day

February 1, 2024

Free Throw Contest

February 10, 2024

Jackson Rec 9am – 12noon

March 10 – March 23, 2024

OPTIMIST VISUAL ARTS COMPETITION

Public Voting at West Bend Library

Saturday, April 13, 2024

8am-4pm

All Around the Bend Business Showcase

WB HS Fieldhouse

Volunteers Needed

The Writers' Corner



Will-Rogersisms



- Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.
- Don't let yesterday use up too much of today.
- Worrying is like paying on a debt that may never come due.
- I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts.
- All I know is just what I read in the papers, and that's an alibi for my ignorance.
- You've got to go out on a limb sometimes because that's where the fruit is.
- Live in such a way that you would not be ashamed to sell your parrot to the town gossip.

2023

Christmas

Families

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).

The Optimist Club was able to provide a \$100 Meijer gift card to each of the two young families whose children were in need of having their Christmas brightened. The Optimist Club members also purchased gifts for every child based on the child's Christmas wish-list. The Optimist Club enjoys bettering the Christmas Holiday experience for deserving families with young children.

The Club very much appreciates the additional aid provided this year by the Meijer gift card donation.

Pictures Follow

Optimist Club of West Bend OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

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Bates Family Pictures

Message from Mom: "We are VERY appreciative, and the kids are all loving their new gifts! Thank you to the Optimist Club of West Bend!"



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Zoey, Londyn, Zariyah, Lyric, Dayshawn Jr., Aubrey



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Froehlich/Hahn Family Pictures

Text Message from Mom: "Merry Christmas again and I will NEVER forget the kindness extended to my family this year, as long as I live! We couldn't have had a Christmas without you guys."



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AALIYAH – 4 YEARS OLD



Optimist Club of West Bend
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February 2024

RAVEN – 2 YEARS OLD (BIRTH TO 3 CHILD)

