



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](https://www.facebook.com/OptimistClubofWestBend)

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

optimistclubofwestbend@gmail.com

OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING



November 2023



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Subject to change)

Nov 2
noon
Club Lunch Meeting
Student of the Month
Badger Middle School
HARBOR LIGHTS ROOM
AT NEW PERSPECTIVE SENIOR LIVING CENTER

Nov 16
noon
Club Lunch Meeting
Threshold Update
HARBOR LIGHTS ROOM
AT NEW PERSPECTIVE SENIOR LIVING CENTER

Nov 16 4 pm **Board of Directors' Meeting**
The Threshold 2380 W Washington St

Nov 23
HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Dec 1
Essay Contest Begins
Topic: Optimism: How It Connects Us
Submissions deadline: February 1, 2024

Dec 7
Club Lunch Meeting
Student of the Month
Good Shepherd
HARBOR LIGHTS ROOM
AT NEW PERSPECTIVE SENIOR LIVING CENTER

Dec 19 4 pm **Board of Directors' Meeting**
The Threshold 2380 W Washington St

Dec 21 5:30 pm
Christmas Party
(Significant others are welcome to join us)
Westridge Clubhouse - BYOB
(Watch for sign-up info)

January 1 to March 1, 2024
OPTIMIST VISUAL ARTS
COMPETITION
(March 1 deadline to submit to Library)

INSTALLATION DINNER

October 5 at the Moose Lodge

We held our annual *Installation of Club Officers and Directors Dinner* on the evening of October 5 at the Moose Lodge in West Bend. It was an evening of good comradery among Club members and much appreciation goes to the chef, staff, and bartenders of the Moose Lodge for helping to make the evening enjoyable.



SWIS District Governor Diane Matuzak administers the oath of installation to our Club's 2023-2024 officers and directors. (L-R): SWIS Governor Diane Matuzak, Secretary Greg Harding, Treasurer Cassie Schmidt, Past-President Mike Hartwell, President Laura Eggert, Director Matt Muehlbauer, VP/President-Elect Heidi Sternig, Director Maria Gutierrez Gurrola (not pictured Director Pete Lieven)



SWIS District Governor Diane Matuzak addressed the Club and explained that her Governor's theme for the year would be *Community Optimism*. She emphasized that optimism is critical for the world's future, and that Optimists aspire to bring out the best in kids. She has a background in law enforcement and would like Optimists to emphasize *Respect for Law* as a vital part of *Community Optimism*.

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OPTIMISTICALLY SPEAKING

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<http://shopwithacopwc.org/>

At our October 19 Club Luncheon, we were joined by West Bend Police Captain Matt Rohlinger and Sergeant Dustin Becker to share information about the upcoming 2023 “Shop with a Cop” event. This year’s event will occur on Monday, December 4, 2023, starting at 4:00 p.m. at the West Bend Mutual Insurance Prairie Center.



“Shop With a Cop” has law enforcement officers from all agencies in Washington County donating their time to take needy children Christmas shopping for their families. Each needy child has been identified by a referral from social service agencies within Washington County. Every participating child is provided

with a donated gift card to use for purchasing Christmas gifts for their family. The child is accompanied by an officer who helps them with their shopping. Because of their generous support, the shopping is done at the West Bend Meijer store. After the

shopping is done, dinner for the children and

officers is provided, as well as gift-wrapping by volunteers and games for the kids all at the West Bend Mutual Insurance Prairie Center. It is felt that this event provides each child an opportunity to experience the reward of giving to others, as well as provide law enforcement an opportunity to connect to the youth in our community in what should be an unforgettable experience for all.



Optimist Club President Laura Eggert (center) presents a \$100 check to support the 2023 Shop with a Cop event to West Bend Police Captain Matt Rohlinger (left) and Sergeant Dustin Becker.

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>



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Cassie Schmidt Wedding

The Optimist Club of West Bend wishes to congratulate fellow Club member Cassie (Schmidt) Moran on her marriage to Patrick John (PJ) Moran. The ceremony took place on Saturday, October 28, 2023, at Kettlebrook Church in West Bend. Best wishes and blessings to Cassie & PJ for their future together.



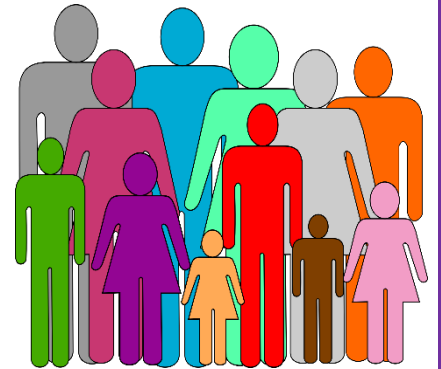
Cassie & PJ Moran



November Is

FAMILY STORIES MONTH

Family traditions and ancestral stories hold a special place in everyone's life. The family has a universal and basic role in all societies. Remaining in touch with your roots is one way families stay connected and fulfil those roles.



November is the perfect month to fondly review the past and reflect on your family history! To celebrate the month to the fullest, dig up some old family photos and try to remember some of the great stories you heard from your parents and grandparents, and then pass these on to your children.

Somethings to Think About

- Which letter is silent in the word "Scent," the S or the C?
- The word "SWIMS" upside-down is still "SWIMS".
- If you replace "W" with "T" in "What, Where, and When", you get the answer to each of them.
- Growing Old is when the mind says, "yes," but the body says "What the hell are you thinking?"

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Mark Your Calendars

Our Nut Sale Has Ended

Orders should be ready for pick-up at our
November 16 Club Luncheon

December 1 to February 1
Essay Contest

Christmas Family

This year, our Club will provide a stash of Christmas gifts for two young families whose children are being served by the Threshold's Birth to Three Program and who are in need of having their Christmas brightened. We have been doing this for many years now, and it is always something special. Watch for further details.



Christmas Party

December 21 6:30 p.m.

(Significant others are welcome to join us)

Westridge Clubhouse

More Details Coming Soon



January 1 to March 1
**OPTIMIST VISUAL ARTS
COMPETITION**

Intenational Optimist Day

February 1, 2024

Free Throw Contest

February 10, 2024

Jackson Rec 8:30am – 12noon
Volunteers Needed - Watch for upcoming details

2023-2024 Board of Directors

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

Thanksgiving is an annual national holiday in the United States and Canada celebrating the harvest and other blessings of the past year. Americans believe that their Thanksgiving is modeled on a 1621 harvest feast shared by the English colonists (Pilgrims) of Plymouth and the native Wampanoags.



The American holiday is particularly rich in legend and symbolism, and the traditional fare of the Thanksgiving meal typically includes turkey, bread stuffing, potatoes, cranberries, and pumpkin pie. The holiday is often the busiest travel time of the year, as family members gather with one another.

Plymouth's 1621 Thanksgiving came after a bountiful fall harvest and then a fall hunt for turkeys, geese, and ducks. Their hunt was so successful that upon their return to the settlement, they decided to celebrate all their good fortune. Next, 90 or so Wampanoag made a surprise appearance at the settlement. They contributed venison and fish to the feast, which now also included the fowl, fruits, stews, vegetables, and beer. At this time, since Plymouth had but a few small buildings, people ate outside while sitting on the ground. This was a rather disorderly affair that lasted several days, but it sealed a peace treaty between them that lasted fifty years.



BEING THANKFUL

James T. Atkins

I could list the gifts I'm thankful for and write for weeks and weeks.

My health, my eyes, my darling wife, daughter's rosy cheeks.

Treasured friends that, if I called, would say, "I'm on my way."

A precious mother that, lucky me, turns eighty-one today.

Children I'm so proud of, sisters that make me smile,

Little ones that call me Pops; my list could reach a mile.

A soldier in some foreign place, assuring liberty for me,

A sunny sky, a frosty morn, a blue-green shimmering sea.

I'm thankful that in this land I love, we're free to disagree,

Where we aspire to so much more than mediocrity.

I keep this mental list of gifts and add to it each day,

Like God's unique and precious love, whose patience does not sway.

A similar list, I know you have, so think on that awhile,

And be thankful, friends, that every day our gifts outweigh our trial.