



OPTIMIST CLUB of Chippewa Falls

July
Newsletter
August 2024

July 2024

Weekly Club Meetings

6:45 a.m.-7:30 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church
130 W Central St.
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

OFFICERS

Cathy Greenseth, President
Tom Cushman, Vice Pres.
Marty Tlachac, Pres.-Elect
Deb Braden, Treasurer
Jack Halbleib, Secretary
Amanda Blonigen, Past Pres.

BOARD MEMBERS

Louise Bentley, 2nd year
Nadine Bresina, 2nd year
Tom Eder, 2nd year
Dina Brennan, 1st year
Scott Marty, 1st year
Lisa Thelen, 1st year

Club Foundation Board

Ralph Cushman
Jack Halbleib
Joe Niese
Dave Schaller
Cathy Greenseth, Ex-Officio

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER

Nadine Bresina - Sept 5
Jack Halbleib - Sept 21
Joe Niese - Sept 30

OCTOBER

Lyle Krumenauer - Oct 2
Tom Eder - Oct 24
Tom Cushman - Oct 28
Norb Kirk - Oct 28
Nancy Post - Oct 31

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

President Cathy's Message

Dear Members and Friends of Optimism,

This year at the Northern Wisconsin State Fair (NWSF) our food stand offered our customers the option of using a credit card. The new technology opens up the convenience of purchasing from our stand to those who don't carry cash, and, thus, additional customers. The software also offers us reports of exactly what we sold each day. Do we need to sell coffee? We learned we only sold seven cups the entire five days. We will take time to look through these reports and plan for future events. Many thanks to our club members who took the time to look into the hardware and software we needed to make this improvement to the stand. Your efforts did not go unnoticed!

You have an opportunity to support the youth in our community at these upcoming events. We do need volunteers. Check your calendar and contact me to fill a shift.

*SU Aug 4 Indianhead Car Show and Swap | 7:00 AM-3:00 PM

Not only will we be frying up our cheese curds but the club will also be flipping pancakes for this event held at the fairgrounds. This event helps keep our dues low each year. Sign up today.

*TU Aug 6 National Night Out | 5:00-8:00 PM

Law enforcement is asking us to hand out over our usual 1,000 free hotdogs with a bag of chips to families attending. Held at the NWSF this one-night, annual event, will need a lot of helping hands.

*SA Aug 10 Pure Water Days' Riverfest | 2:00 pm-8:00 PM

Join us at the riverfront for fun-filled kids carnival games run by our club. A fun event to work hands on with the youth.

The WINUM District 4th Quarter Convention is fast approaching. It is being held in Eau Claire at the Holiday Express South on August 16-17. ([Click here to register](#) or use form on page 5). I encourage all our members to attend and support fellow Club Member Angie Reimer as she is introduced as the WINUM Governor of the 2024-25 Optimist year beginning October 1. Other Chippewa Falls club members will also be introduced on her team. I am so proud of our club's representation at the district level. Your optimism is a shining example to us all and the kids we serve.

Remember . . .

If you want to sing, sing.

If you want to dance, dance.

If you want to laugh, laugh.

If you want to hug, get permission first, then hug.

- Tracey Huxley, Optimist International President

Keep your Optimism alive.

Cathy Greenseth, President

ChippewaFallsOptimistClub1@gmail.com



President Cathy Greenseth



THANK YOU Fair Stand Volunteers & Supporters

It takes many people to run our food stand during the Northern Wisconsin State Fair...from cooking, to cleaning, to serving to stocking. A big thank you to all the club members and other volunteers who made 2024 successful. Thanks, too, to everyone who purchased from our stand, your dollars stay in our community to help the kids.

July 2024

THANK YOU TO OUR SPEAKERS!

JULY PROGRAMS

- July 3-** Meeting & Training at Fair Stand
- July 10-** Fair Stand Details
- July 17-** Club's 55th Anniversary Party
- July 24-** John Jimenez, CF Park & Rec
- July 31-** Vicki Wilson, Grouper & OI

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

AUGUST

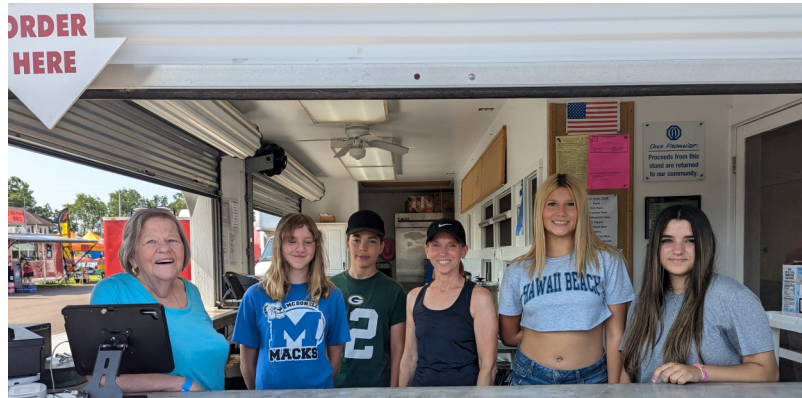
- Aug 7-** Riverfest Activities
- Aug 14-** Open Mic, Roundtable Discussion
- Aug 21-** Getting to Know an Optimist Member
- Aug 28-** From Pen to Publishing, Darren Kirby

SEPTEMBER

- Sept 4-** Open Mic, Roundtable Discussion
- Sept 11-** Oktoberfest Prep
- Sept 18-** Youth of the Month
- Sept 25-** TBA

ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED BY OUR CLUB:

Cardinal Community Learning Center





Vicki Wilson Reports on Grouper & OI

While at the Optimist International Convention in July, the five club members who attended had the opportunity to participate in different sessions. Member Vicki Wilson reported on one of these sessions "Grouper & Optimist International" at our club's July 31 meeting.

Research shows that joining an Optimist Club improves our mental, physical, and social health. It's called Social Fitness. [Grouper](#) is a social fitness movement that encourages healthy living through meaningful social connections and shared experiences. Grouper has partnered with Optimist International by working with health plans to help cover OI membership dues.

This partnership enables Grouper to cover up to \$100 of the annual membership dues for eligible Optimist members. Through collaboration with Medicare Advantage and Medicare Supplement Plans, Grouper ensures eligibility and directly sends a check to the member. This benefit is a new way to engage with and add value for both current and potential members.



Vicki Wilson and President Cathy Greenseth

To check your eligibility for Grouper and to sign up, go to their website hellogrouper.com/optimist. Thanks for telling us about this potential benefit for Optimist members, Vicki!



Jimenez Updates Club on Park Improvements

It is always interesting to hear about what has been happening in Chippewa Falls parks. Director of Parks, Recreation & Forestry John Jimenez was the speaker at our meeting July 24.

John said that the forestry department has been removing invasive species in Irvine Park as well as taking down ash trees on the neighborhood boulevards due to emerald ash borer (EAB). If you are interested in getting on the list to replace a tree that has been removed by the city or want to learn more about EAB treatment, contact their department at 715-723-0051.

The park department has also been busy rebuilding the pillars at the Irvine Park entrance on Hwy. 124. That project is now complete and has greatly improved this entrance. John said that the all-inclusive playground on Flag Hill should be done in 2025. The new stairs going down to the lower park is proving to be more challenging and expensive to do, so is taking longer than expected. The bandshell in the park is celebrating its 100th anniversary with an event planned in September.

New pickleball courts have been added in Marshall Park along with resurfacing and new lighting in the



President Cathy Greenseth presents a mug to speaker John Jimenez of the Parks Dept.

tennis courts. Erickson Park has a new hiking trail called Bluff Rapids that goes along Duncan Creek.

We appreciate John coming in and sharing all of this information with our club. Can't wait to explore more of our beautiful city!

July 2024

OPTIMIST MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

AUGUST

Louise Bentley 1995 29 yrs
Michael Stoll 2022 2 yrs

SEPTEMBER

Rex Bentley 2000 24 yrs
Pete Sokup 2002 22 yrs
Vicki Wilson 2006 18 yrs
Cathy Greenseth 2010 14 yrs
Angie Riemer 2011 13 yrs
Terri Koca 2012 12 yrs
Jerry Verwey 2015 9 yrs
Dina Brennan 2016 8 yrs
Jessica Frederick 2016 8 yrs
Amanda Lofgren 2016 8 yrs
Timothy Proue 2016 8 yrs
Monica Palecek 2017 7 yrs
Nadine Bresina 2019 5 yrs

SECRET HANDSHAKERS

July 3- None chosen
July 10- Nancy Post to Marty Tlachac
July 17- Scott Marty to Nancy Post
July 24- Vicki Wilson to Yvonne Zwiefelhofer
July 31- Jack Halbleib to Laurie Ewings

BOOST WINNERS

July 3- None chosen
July 10- Jody Kranig
July 17- Angie Riemer
July 24- Jaden Stolp
July 31- Louise Bentley



[Follow the Chippewa Falls Optimist Club on Facebook.](#)



Optimist Club Celebrates 55th Anniversary

July 17, 2024
First Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall

July 2024

2024 EVENTS

- *Indianhead Car Show & Swap Meet- Aug. 4
- *National Night Out- Aug. 6
- *Pure Water Days Riverfest- Aug. 10
- *WINUM Fourth Quarter Convention- Aug. 16-17, Eau Claire
- *Oktoberfest- Sept. 13-14
- *Club Banquet- Sept. 23

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

Horan Funeral Home
420 Bay St.
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
715-723-4404
[Website](#)

Micon Cinemas
Mike Olson
475 Chippewa Falls Drive
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
715.720.2291
[Website](#)

On-Site Chiropractic
Dr. Amanda Blonigen
2029 Co. Hwy I Ste 5
Chippewa Falls, WI
715.382.6864
[Website](#)

Ozark National Life Insurance/N.I.S. Financial Services, Inc.
Marty Tlachac
PO Box 361
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
715.720.8726/715.404.0720

Post Glass and Mirror
35 E Park Ave
Chippewa Falls, WI
715.723.867
[Website](#)

Sokup's Market
624 N Bridge St
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729
715.723.4953



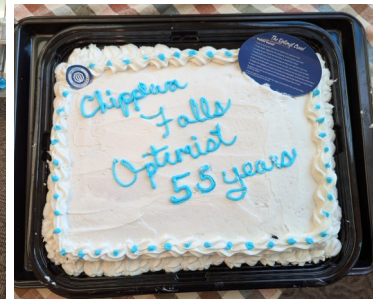
Members and guests at Chippewa Falls Optimist Club's 55th Anniversary



Charter member Dick Kauphusman sang "You Make Me Feel so Young" and "Young at Heart."



Long-time Optimist members Mike McGinley, Ralph Coughman, Dick Kauphusman and Lyle Krumenauer (Charter members), Jerry Verwey, and, in back row, Jack Halbleib. Dick and Lyle provided a program on some of the early club history. Thanks, gentlemen!



An anniversary cake made by Treasurer Deb Braden



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 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 fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

--Optimist International

WINUM 4th Quarter Convention **REVISED**
 August 16-17, 2024
HOLIDAY INN SOUTH - EAU CLAIRE WI
 4751 Owens Ayres Ct. 715-830-9889



Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

E-mail address _____ Phone _____

Is this your first conference? _____

Club Name _____ Zone # _____ Your 2023-24 office (if any) _____

REGISTRATION INFO

	(\$5 late fee each item)			
	Advance	On Site	Number	Total \$
Members	(by Aug 10th)			
Friday Fun Night:				
Graham Motor Museum				
12949 - 35th Ave, Lake Hallie	\$12.00	n/a	_____	_____
Registration & Saturday Lunch	\$50.00	\$55.00	_____	_____
Menu: <i>tbd</i>				
(all menus are subject to change)				

Spouse/Guest/Child (non-members) **Name(s):** _____

Friday Fun Night:				
Graham Motor Museum				
12949 - 35th Ave, Lake Hallie	\$12.00	n/a	_____	_____
Saturday Lunch: <i>tbd</i>	\$25.00	\$30.00	_____	_____
(all menus are subject to change)				

TOTAL ENCLOSED (Make checks payable to WINUM District) \$_____

TO REGISTER: Register on-line at www.WinumOptimists.org. Pay with a credit card thru PayPal OR indicate that you'll pay onsite. Then bring cash/check to the meeting! You can also snail mail your check & this form to:
 WINUM Conference Chair Laurel Schirmer, 1807 North 6 Street, Sheboygan, WI 53081

If you would like to request a special meal *due to specific food allergies* please indicate: YES NO
 Type of meal required: _____. Every effort will be made to accommodate special needs.

If you have any questions, please call Laurel at 920-946-7246 or e-mail: schirmerlaurel@gmail.com

ROOM RESERVATIONS: Call the **Holiday Inn at 715-830-9889** to reserve your room; Ask for the WI/Upper MI Optimist room block. OR use this link to make your reservation:
https://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/find-hotels/select-roomrate?fromRedirect=true&qSrt=sBR&qIta=99801505&icdv=99801505&qSIH=EAUHI&qCiD=16&qCiMy=072024&qCoD=17&qCoMy=072024&qGrpCd=MIG&setPMCookies=true&qSHBrC=HI&qDest=4751%20Owen%20Ayres%20Court,%20Eau%20Claire,%20WI,%20US&srb_u=1&qChAge=&qRmFltr= Rate is \$120 + tax. **Rooms "unblock August 5, 2024!**