



Official Newsletter of the
Superior Optimist Club



April 2019

PRESIDENT - Brian Hakanson

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's April, and Spring is finally here! That means that the end of the school year and graduations are just around the corner. It also means that we get to enjoy some really awesome presentations at our Wednesday meetings. Each week we will have at least 1 student presenting their Senior Project to our group. Some of you know that Superior Senior High School requires the completion of a "Senior Project", in order to graduate. A number of Superior Optimist members have even gotten involved with these projects, be it through Mentorship or the Youth Leadership Program. It was actually at an Optimist meeting a few years ago that I first learned of the Senior Project. I was blown away by the time and thought that some students had put into this assignment.

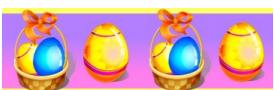
For those who do not know about it, here is a little information. For a more complete explanation you can also go to the Superior Chamber of Commerce website, (superiorchamber.org/senior-projects).

The Senior Project is a "learning stretch" final assignment. Basically, the purpose is to ask each student to take the learning he/she has acquired over thirteen years of public education and add to it. The project requires students to research, design and present a project that reflects their interests, knowledge and skills gained in school and their vision for the future. The Senior Project is an independent, student-selected project and must fit in the category of Service Learning, Career Exploration, Self-Development or Formal/Academic.

The project requirements are:

- **Propose the project idea during the student's junior or senior year.**
- **20 hour (minimum) involvement is necessary during the summer or senior year.**
- **Must work with a teacher advisor.**
- **Must find and work with a community mentor.**
- **Parent approval of project is required.**
- **Formal exhibition will be presented at the end of the senior year.**
- **Completion of Senior Project Portfolio to document student work is required.**
- **Evaluation of project will be pass/fail**

I really encourage everyone to try to make it to at least one weekly meeting this month. I think you will be very impressed by what you will see from these students.



REFLECTIONS - By Jan Jago



New Member Interview: Jen Howarth

1. Please tell us a little about yourself.

My name is Jennifer Howarth. I am married to EJ Howarth who is a Quality Analyst for Wilderness Health, which is part of St. Lukes. We have 4 kids, Mckinley is 7, Bristol is 5, Cutler is 2 and Cole is 3 months. I have worked in banking for almost ten years. I started with Wells Fargo in Alaska, until we moved back home three years ago. We bought a house in East End, about a block away from where I grew up. My kids go to Great Lakes which is where I went in 4th-6th when it was first built. I graduated from Superior High School in 2004. Since moving home I took a banker position at BMO Harris Bank here in Superior. While we loved living in Alaska and being close to my in-laws, we decided to move back to Superior to raise our children. We love to be outside, from camping in the summer to snowshoeing in the winter. We get out as often as we can. We also belong to Northbay Community Church where we are very active in different ministries and small groups.

2. Why did you join the Optimist Club?

I decided to join the Club after talking to both Jan and Brian because I wanted to start getting out in the community to help make Superior even better. I have the support of my job to join different networking groups, and since two people that I respect had invited me I thought that the Optimists would be a good fit for me. I see the Optimist Club enriching my life in many ways. We chose to come back to Superior to raise our kids, leaving a life and a career behind in Alaska. I know that Superior has so much to offer my kids and I want to be a part of bringing out the best of this beautiful town!

How do I know Jennifer?

Her father, John Seifert, was my daughter's hockey coach for many years. He has been a fantastic friend and role model for her. He started my daughter, Ari, coaching with him when she was 12 years old. They both STILL coach. I did not know Jen until she moved back home, but I felt like I knew her. John talked about her and her beautiful (continually growing) family non-stop. John loved his trips to Alaska to visit them. When they did move back to Superior, the 2 girls, Mckinley and Bristol signed up for hockey. John and Ari have both coached them. I am excited to watch them continue to play, well, maybe not Bristol (she is kind of a "free" spirit)! But there are 2 Howarth boys coming! I am excited to have Jen in the Club.

BOARD MEMBERS

Gary Dunning (2018-2020)
Jake Siptroth (2018-2020)
Joe Stensland (2018-2020)
Joel Certa-Werner (2018-2020)
Rick Rockwood (2017-2019)



OFFICERS 2018-19

President - Brian Hakanson
Vice President - Open Seat
Treasurer - Kim Pearson
Secretary - Jan Jago
Past President (2017-2018)
Carolyn Nelson-Kavajecz



YOUTH OPTIMISTS
Niya Wilson & Chelsy Middleton

Niya Wilson and Chelsy Middleton were the Youth Optimists for the month of March. Both are Juniors at Superior High School.

Niya is involved in tennis, basketball and softball. She also plays Gitch soccer. She is a member of Student Council, DECA and Chamber Youth Leadership. Niya is the daughter of Tarissa Wilson and Bruce Woodman. Niya plans on attending the College of St. Scholastica and pursuing a degree in Business. She would like to play soccer for the Saints while attending college.

Chelsy is involved in archery and quiz bowl. She is also a member of the Interact Club, NHS, Chamber Youth Leadership and Crime club. Chelsy is the daughter of Pam and Tom Middleton. She has one older brother, Colten, and two younger brothers, Chase and Connor. Although she is undecided where her future in education will be, she is interested in being a Psychologist or a Teacher.

Both students will have the opportunity to apply for the Youth Optimist Scholarship and Service Award.



PROGRAMS FOR April



April 3

Amelia Evavold/ Senior project

April 10

Jaylynn Glauss/ Senior project

April 17

Dezaray Haberling/ Senior project

April 24

Rachel Jackman/ Senior project
Caden Willie/ Senior project

Speaker Chair - Jan Jago

Optimist Anniversaries

George Glonek
19 Years

Kelly Thimm
19 years

Kathy Drinkwine
1 year



**March Attendance
Prize Winners:**

- March 6th – NO DRAWING
- March 13th – Jan Jago
- March 20th – Cari Matheson
- March 27th – Rick Rockwood

**This month's Prize Sponsor
Jan Jago**

Richard Keskinen - 4/15

Colleen Tuura-Wicklund - 4/19

George Glonek - 4/26



Thoughts and Prayers

Margaret Ciccone and Family
Kim Pearson and Family
Leola Keskinen (Dick's wife)



SAVE THE DATE

April 10th -Board Meeting
Immediately following regular
Wednesday meeting

Tuesday, May 14th
Meatball Dinner



Assistant Editor Judy Carlson
In Loving Memory of Merrill Thompson & Bill Downs, Jr.

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

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Or "like" us on our Facebook page:

Our website: www.superiortimist.org

CHECK US OUT



The Superior Optimist Club fosters positive fellowship and community awareness to inspire and support youth.

Mission Statement

**Superior Optimist Club
P.O. Box 1143
Superior, WI 54880**

