

February 7, 2025 Business Meeting

Those in attendance included: Clark Anderson, Charlie Clark, Amy Coffey, Howard Crofoot, Terri Ellis, Dan Engelke, Mark Essex, Robin Fatzinger, Linda Foht, Beth Frieders, Deanna Hinderman, Doreen Hlavaty, Dianne Jentz, Tom Nall, Jerry Schewe, Joy Schewe, Libby Sides, Bob Stephens, Ernie Thalmann, Wayne Wodarz, and Kim Woodworth.

Checks were presented to:

- Traci Wilkinson – Wisconsin Badger Camp
- Ann Rupp – Platteville fireworks
- Dianne Jentz – Platteville Community Arboretum

Steve Lane has a birthday on February 7 and Tim Boldt on February 12. There are no anniversaries this week. Membership anniversaries this month are Steve and Maxine Lane (February 6, 2009) and Libby Sides (February 10, 2023). Delta 3 Engineering became a Friend of Optimist on February 12, 2016.

Joy Schewe mystery greeted Wayne Wodarz.

Free Breakfast recipients: Breakfasts need to be redeemed in February.

- Present – Tom Nall and Howard Crofoot
- Not Present – George Byykkonen and Tim Boldt

Charlie Clark drew the three of clubs.

Announcements / Information Shared:

- Bob's Useless Information of the Day – Bob didn't have a lot of time today because he had a meeting about time share opportunities in Gaza
- Clark Anderson volunteered to find speakers for October 24 and October 31
- Tom Nall is going to create a slide show using information on the web site for the Community Involvement Fair to be held at the library on March 1
- Thank you cards from the Boy Scouts, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, and Holiday Project were passed around
- Anyone who joined in the last year and did not receive a member pin should contact Jerry Schewe
- The UCC pastor was very pleased with the way we cleaned up after using the church for our holiday social, and said we are invited back any time.

Moved by Tom Nall, seconded by Beth Frieders, to approve the January business meeting minutes. Passed.

Summary of the Board Meeting from February 3, 2025 Meeting

TREASURER'S REPORT: Duane Borgen

- Moved by the Board, seconded by Howard Crofoot, to accept the treasurer's report. Passed.

Committee Update Highlights:

Community Service:

- No report

Membership:

- The certificates drew no bids, so they will be returned to Maxine
- Still trying to organize a NOW social, possibly in May at First English Lutheran (FELC)

Publicity / Newsletter(s) / Website:

- Shirt order, possibly in the near future
- Things progressing on the web page with Stephanie and Dianne
- Educational presentation at a future meeting when everything is done
- Priscilla Hahn is providing information to the Platteville Journal about our meetings

Cheese Curd:

- Contact Alaina Reeves if you would like to help co-chair with her

Fellowship:

- February coordinator is Lisa Schmitt
 - February 14 – Dr. Cari Shaffer, Grant County Humane Society
 - February 21 – Daneen Bernhardt, Upland Hills Hospice, misconceptions and qualifying
 - February 28 – Abby Haas, PAIDC update

Youth Activities:

- Essay entries have been received. Charlie Clark, Doreen Hlavaty, and Jerry Schewe volunteered to judge
- Tri-Star Basketball location has to be moved due to planned court renovation. Bob Hundhausen will contact PHS about using their facility.

Old Business:

- Scholarship committee update
 - Simplifying application process, in cooperation with PHS, for 2026 grads. They are also looking at streamlining the disbursement process, starting with 2025 grads.

New Business:

- Moved by the board, seconded by Tom Nall, to donate \$50 to UCC for use of their facilities for our holiday party and \$50 to FELC for the upcoming NOW social. Passed.
- Moved by the board, seconded by Howard Crofoot, to donate \$50 to the HOSA, HUNCH and Educators Rising groups from the unbudgeted donation account. Passed.
- Information will be gathered on Optimist Day 2026 so we can work in advance for anything beyond wearing our shirts.
- We have not done a good job of having our Friends of Optimist renew their membership. We are going to try adding a personal contact component, either the sponsor or member of the membership committee, to see if we can increase the renewal rate.
- We had a generous donation to kick off our New Membership Fund. The intent of the donor is that others will contribute and the funds will be used to cover the dues of new members for the remainder of that Optimist year. The member will be responsible for paying the dues for subsequent years.
- Congratulations to Amy Coffey for her high school jazz dance team competing at state. Individuals competing at state included Jamison Coffey and Alayna Hingtgen.

Moved by Tom Nall to adjourn, seconded by Dan Engelke to adjourn at 7:57. Passed.

February 14, 2025 Meeting

Those in attendance included Tim Boldt, Charlie Clark, Amy Coffey, Howard Crofoot, Hap Daus, Mark Essex, Robin Fatzinger, Beth Frieders, Bob Hundhausen, Dianne Jentz, Clint Langreck, Michael Miller,

Tom Nall, Jerry Schewe, Joy Schewe, Barb Stockhausen, Ernie Thalmann, Linda Thomas, and Wayne Wodarz.

Linda Thomas mystery greeted Dianne Jentz.

Robin Fatzinger drew the Queen of Hearts.

Pat Moxness-Weier celebrates a birthday on February 16 and Kathy Kopp celebrates on February 19.

Announcements / Information Shared:

- **Welcome to Traci Wilkinson as a new Optimist member.** Traci is the Wisconsin Badger Camp Development Director.
- Thanks you notes from Wisconsin Badger Camp and the Platteville Community Arboretum were circulated.
- A sympathy card for Pat Moxness-Weier was passed around. Her son, Craig Henderson, died in a car accident.
- Wayne Wodarz promoted the Chamber Awards night for Thursday, March 13 at the Belmont Convention Center. Contact Wayne if you would like to attend. We are receiving an award for 35 years of membership.
- A total of \$1119.50 was sent to the OI Foundation. Thanks for everyone who donated.
- Anyone wanting to help Tom Nall at the Community Involvement Fair on March 1 at the library should contact Tom.
- Tri-Star Basketball is officially moving to Platteville High School this year due to court renovations on Bo Ryan Court. The date is still March 22 and sign-up sheets will be out soon.

Bob's Useless Information revolved around famous couples. He gave first names and we had to tell the respective last names. We did not do so well. Some examples:

Romeo and Juliet – Romeo Montague and Juliet Capulet

John and Jane – John Clayton / Lord Greystroke (aka Tarzan) and Jane Porter

Ross and Rachel – Ross Geller and Rachel Green

Next week's speaker is Daneen Bernhardt of Upland Hills Hospice. She will be talking about hospice misconceptions and how a person qualifies for qualifying.

The speaker was Bob Gates and city manager Clint Langreck. They presented a history of the current pool since 1996, which includes the leaking (which was the reason for the 1996 work) starting again in 2014, the repairs made in 2023, the decision to close the pool in 2024, and the work / studies that have taken place leading to the upcoming referendum.

February 21, 2025 Meeting

Those arriving at Country Kitchen were met by a row of farm tractors as PHS FFA members were gathering for their annual tractor parade to school in honor of FFA Week. They were having breakfast as we rose for the Pledge of Allegiance and, even though they were in a different room, they also rose to recite the Pledge with us.

Those in attendance included Clark Anderson, Carley Borcharding, Charlie Clark, Amy Coffey, Howard Crofoot, Mark Essex, Robin Fatzinger, Beth Frieders, Doreen Hlavaty, Bob Hundhausen, Dianne Jentz,

Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Jerry Schewe, Joy Schewe, Lisa Schmitt, Bob Stephens, Barb Stockhausen, Wayne Wodarz, and Traci Wilkinson.

Bob Gates attended as a guest. He also brought some yard signs for the pool referendum.

Tom Nall was mysteriously greeted by Mark Essex.

Charlie Clark cut the 10 of Spades, one card before the joker.

Beth Frieders will be celebrating a birthday on February 26. There were no wedding anniversaries.

Announcements / Information Shared:

- Reminders
 - Community Involvement Fair at the Platteville library on March 1
 - Annual Arthur Virtue Chamber Awards night in Belmont on March 13
 - Tri-Star Basketball at Platteville High School on March 22

Bob's Useless Information of the Week: Abraham Lincoln was born in 1809 in Kentucky. Most people know that Lincoln was our 16th president, serving 1861-1865. He is most known for his Gettysburg Address and for signing the Emancipation Proclamation. What is not commonly known, but is well-documented, is that Lincoln was probably gay. In fact, he may have married Mary Todd on the rebound from a breakup with one of his lovers.

Next week's speaker is Abby Haas, who will be presenting an update on PAIDC.

Today's speaker was Daneen Bernhardt, a hospice nurse for Upland Hills. Hospice nurses are a liaison between the hospice facility and the person's primary care provider. Hospice provides comfort and quality of life care for those no longer seeking curative treatment. Hospice has been covered by Medicare since 1985, so those utilizing hospice care do not incur additional out-of-pocket expenses. Doctors can either recommend a person for hospice care or the individual can request care, but a doctor still has to confirm that the person has an anticipated life expectancy of 6 months or less.

February 28, 2025 Meeting

Those in attendance included Tim Boldt, Charlie Clark, Amy Coffey, Howard Crofoot, Terri Ellis, Mark Essex, Linda Foht, Deanna Hinderman, Doreen Hlavaty, Dianne Jentz, Alaina Reeves, Joy Schewe, Bob Stephens, Barb Stockhausen, Wayne Jentz, and Kim Woodworth.

Kim Woodworth mysteriously greeted Joy Schewe.

Wayne Wodarz cut the 10 of Hearts.

Not a very exciting week as no one is celebrating a birthday or wedding anniversary.

Announcements / Information Shared:

- A sympathy card for Lisa Kratz was passed around. Her father passed away earlier this week.
- Best wishes to Pat Moxness-Weier on her upcoming surgery.

- Last weekend was the 2nd Quarter SWIS District meeting. Howard Crofoot accepted our banner patch for contributing \$150 per member to the OI Foundaton for the 2023-24 Optimist year.
- The Art Virtue Awards (Chamber banquet) is March 13 in Belmont.
- The Community Involvement Fair is tomorrow at the library
- Tri-Star basketball will be on March 22 at Platteville High School. Be looking for information on how to volunteer.

Bob's Useless Information revolved around another adventure he took, this one in 1990 to Machu Picchu in Peru. To give us the proper perspective, he began talking about the 1947 musical "Brigadoon". Brigadoon is about a quaint Scottish village that appears every hundred years for one day, then disappears back into the mists. Like Brigadoon, Machu Picchu is shrouded in mist and hard to see – as Bob discovered after a 3 day trek on foot.

Next week is the monthly business meeting, which means the monthly review of our membership as we draw for free breakfasts. Lt. Josh Grabandt of the Platteville Police Department will be our speaker on March 14, and he will be talking about school safety and police and ICE policy.

Today's speaker was Abby Haas from the Platteville Area Industrial Development Corporation (PAIDC). PAIDC works with manufacturing and industrial companies to find buildings. They also promote business expansion, helping get businesses started at the incubator before they (hopefully) are able to get their own building / office space.

Editor note: details for the last three items could be slightly wrong as they are written from notes submitted by Joy as the editor was officiating volleyball.