

Platteville Optimist Club Monthly Highlights September 2024

Vision Statement: "To Impact the lives of youth in a positive and encouraging manner"

<u>2023-2024 Officers:</u> Alaina Reeves, President – Bob Hundhausen, Vice President – Melissa Palfrey, Past President – Duane Borgen, Treasurer – Becky Schambow, Secretary

2023-2024 Board of Directors: Amy Coffey, Terri Ellis, Mark Essex, Jordan Holthaus, and Doreen Hlavaty.

Published for Members September 29, 2024 by Becky Schambow, Secretary

HIGHLIGHTS OF WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS HELD IN SEPTEMBER 2024 BUSINESS MEETING: - SEPTEMBER 6, 2024

Attendance: There were 31 members present including: Tim Boldt; Carley Borcherding; Chris and Paul Budden; Charlie Clark; Amy Coffey; Howard Crofoot; Hap Daus; Terri Ellis; Dan Engelke; Mark Essex; Curt and Robin Fatzinger; Linda Foht; Beth Frieders; Bob Hundhausen; Dianne Jentz; Ken Kamps; Maggie Kleisath; Michael Miller; Tim Murphy; Leon Neuheisel; Alaina Reeves; Becky Schambow; Jerry and Joy Schewe; Libby Sides; Bob Stephens; Ron Weier; Wayne Wodarz; and Kim Woodworth.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Alaina Reeves at 7:00 a.m.

Special Dates to Remember:

- Birthdays this Upcoming Week:
 - Chris Budden September 7th;
 - Melissa Palfrey September 10th
- Wedding Anniversaries this Upcoming Week: Charlie and Joyce Clark September 8th
- Membership Anniversaries this Month:
 - o Kim Skemp September 1, 1982;
 - Wayne Wodarz September 1, 1987;
 - Jerry Schewe September 1, 1992;
 - Charlie Clark September 30, 2002;
 - Chad Holstein September 28, 2016;
 - Mike and Priscilla Hahn September 29, 2018;
 - Aaron Kinard September 22, 2023.
- Friend Of Optimist Membership Anniversaries this Month
 - Bill's Plumbing and Heating September 29, 2015;
 - o Hermsen's Ace Hardware (formerly Heiser Hardware) September 28, 2016

Meeting Activities:

- Mystery Greeter: The Mystery Greeter was Dan Engelke, greeting Leon Neuheisel.
- Breakfast Drawing: Jerry Schewe and Howard Crofoot were the two members present, and Emmily Dreessens and Linda Thomas were the two members not present, whose names were drawn to receive a free breakfast in September.
- **Joker Draw:** Amy Coffey's ticket was drawn and she was the lucky winner by drawing the Joker. Congratulations to Amy.

Announcements – Information Shared:

- Annual Award and Installation Banquet Sept 29th: A signup sheet was circulated for the banquet, scheduled for September 29th at the Platteville Golf and Country Club.
- **Maxine Lane Injury:** A get-well card was circulated for signatures to be sent to Maxine Lane who sustained a knee injury over the Labor Day weekend.
- **Speaker Suggestions for December:** Dan Engelke, speaker coordinator for December, asked members to submit speaker suggestions to him.
- **Dairy Day Volunteer Needed:** Beth Frieders indicated a fryer was still needed to cover a Saturday night shift. Mike Miller volunteered.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT from SEPTEMBER 3, 2024: Highlights of the September 3, 2024 Governing Board meeting were presented by President Reeves.

TREASURER'S REPORT: President Reeves reviewed the Treasurer's Report submitted by Treasurer, Duane Borgen for period ending August 31, 2024, which included information on the Internal and Youth Account Balances.

- Grants Paid in August:
 - \$350 to Friends of Mining and Rollo Jamison Museums;
 - \$250 to Platteville Public Library
- **Motion for Approval:** President Reeves noted the Board has made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Dan Engelke, motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Finance / Administration: Duane Borgen provided a report to the Board as follows.
 - **Dues overdue:** Member #4 paid the overdue dues and also donated \$200 to Cheese Curd fund.
 - **Grants:** Agencies have been notified that an application is available on our website. Applications for grant consideration are due September 16, 2024.
 - October Dues Notices Application Process Update: Notices to members whose dues are due in October will be sent out soon.
 - Credit Card Policy: (Copies of proposed policy were made available for members to review.)
 - Club now has two credit cards for use in Club purchases:
 - o Cards identify the Club's name, with Duane Borgen's name under:
 - One card will be maintained by Duane as Treasurer; one will be maintained by Bob as Board President:
 - Cards can be used to purchase Club expenses, but must be checked out and returned to Duane or Bob;
 - Purchase amounts not approved in our budget cannot exceed \$500 without approval by the Governing Board.
 - Motion for Approval: President Reeves reported the Board has made a motion to approve the policy as printed. Seconded by Ron Weier, motion carried.

• Community Service:

- **Committee Meeting:** President Reeves reported that the Committee will be meeting within the next week.
- Homecoming Parade Entry October 12th: The Committee will determine if they want to have an entry in Homecoming parade. It was noted that if the Committee decides to have an entry, it will not include our Cheese Curd Band.
 - Theme: Howard Crofoot advised members that it is the 100th anniversary of the parade and that the theme is "Pete's Journey".

 Suggestion: Beth Frieders suggested that the Committee work with the Youth Committee and coordinate the parade's theme, suggesting a float theme such as "youth on their journey".

Membership:

- Membership Changes: None
- August 9th Informational Meeting Attendance Report: There were 3 attendees
- 5th Friday Social Meeting August 30th Attendance Report: There were 4 attendees
- Name Tags: After multiple contacts, OI has confirmed they are making name tags for our newest members and they should arrive soon.

Publicity / Newsletter(s) / Website:

- Meeting: Melissa Palfrey and Chris Budden met recently to discuss website responsibilities.
- **Website Cross References:** Melissa Palfrey has developed a connection that allows posts that Chris puts in the website Blog to automatically post in other areas of our website.
- Committee Needs Additional Members: If interested in serving on this committee, please contact Melissa or Chris.

Upcoming Secretary Documentation:

- o Jerry Schewe intends to send out weekly meeting notes via our email account.
- It was noted that Board members suggested he continue with a monthly summary of the meetings' information (*Highlights*) to be posted on our website as well to maintain the documentation of the history of our Club.

Cheese Curd :

- Fair Report: Net Sales were \$17,212, which were approximately \$1200 less than prior year Fair sales. Expenses are still pending receipt of bills.
- Dairy Days Sept. 6th 8th:
 - Shift Assignments with Job Descriptions were sent out;
 - o First English Lutheran Church has graciously consented to allow Club to mix our batter there.
 - Thank You to Dianne Jentz and her husband Ron, for their donation of a spare commercial mixer whisk for our Club to have on hand if needed after Country Club's whisk broke when we were mixing Fair batter.
 - Thank you was extended to all who have volunteered.

Fellowship / Weekly Programs:

- Speakers for September: Coordinated by Ron Weier and Doug Martin:
 - o September 13 Ryan Munz Head UWP football coach with update on the program and team:
 - o September 20 Troy Pitz will Speak about Alliant Energy and energy topics for our area;
 - o September 27 Dr. Jeff White Will update us on current medical topics.
- Annual Award and Installation Banquet Sept. 29, 2024: Planned as noted above
- Picnic at Doreen Hlavaty's and Dorothy Price's Rural Home October 19th with Oct. 20th as rain date: More information will be forthcoming.

Youth Activities:

- **Timeline Planning Meeting Update:** Amy Coffey and President Reeves will be meeting soon to begin preliminary timeline for planning activities.
- Bike Rodeo: Tabled until the date gets closer to spring.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Board Meeting Day and Time for 2024-2025 Board Meetings:** Board meetings will be held on the Tuesday mornings prior to the first Friday of each month at 7:00 a.m.
- **Email from Optimist:** Board members will be/are receiving emails from OI regarding training opportunities/expectations for Board responsibilities.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, October 1st at 7:00 a.m. via Zoom.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- OI Dues Increase: Howard Crofoot reported that OI will be increasing their membership dues effective October 1, 2024. This may result in an increase to our members, but he estimated the increase would be under \$5.
- **Comment from President:** President Reeves commented on this month being her last month in her year serving our Club as President. She expressed her love for our Club members.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: A motion was made by Charlie Clark at 7:50 a.m. to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Paul Budden, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Becky Schambow, Secretary

WEEKLY MEETING - SEPTEMBER 13, 2024

Attendance: There were 19 members and 1 guest (speaker) present.

- Convene: The meeting was called to order by President Alaina Reeves at 7:02 a.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed: Members joined together in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.
- Guest Welcomed: Ryan Munz, speaker, was welcomed as our guest.
- Mystery Greeter: Chris Budden was our Mystery Greeter, greeting Tim Boldt.
- Special Dates to Remember this Upcoming Week:
 - Member Birthdays: Mike Hahn and Amanda Trewin September 15th
 - Member Wedding Anniversaries: George and Diane Byykkonen September 14th
- Joker Draw: Christ Budden's ticket was drawn, however she drew the 5 of Clubs.
- Announcements / Items Discussed:
 - Annual Awards and Installation Banquet Sept. 29th: A sign-up sheet was circulated for the Annual Banquet to be held on Sept. 29th at the Platteville Golf and Country Club. Registration and cocktail hour starts at 4:30 p.m., with welcome and dinner at 5:30, followed by the Program.
 - Noon Informational Meeting Today at A & W
 - Cheese Curd Sales Update: President Reeves provided information on this year's sales stating:
 - Fair Sales \$17,212.
 - Dairy Day Sales \$14,818.

- Expenses Thus Far \$9151.67 (but large expenses such as pop and batter/oil supplies still not paid)
- Total Revenue at this point is \$23,078.33 (pending bills not yet received/paid)
- **Grand Theft Frosty:** Bob Hundhausen announced that there will be a brat sale at Katie's Garden on Thursday, Sept. 19th from 4:00 7:00 p.m. Proceeds will go towards replacement of the snowman inflatable decoration that was stolen from Katie's Garden last winter.
- **PCA Trail Tour:** Gene Weber noted that there will be a tour of the trail provided on Wednesday Sept.18th from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for individuals who can't walk the trail. They will have golf carts available. Tours begin behind Menards.
- Next Week's Speaker September 21st: Troy Pitz Alliant Energy & energy topics for our area
- Today's Speaker: Ryan Munz, Head UWP Football Coach, was recruited and introduced by Doug Martin.

Having grown up in Highland, WI on a farm that is now 168 years old, Ryan left the farm life to pursue his college degree at UW-Platteville. There, he played for the Pioneer football team as a quarterback and won the prestigious George Chryst Award in 2006. He earned his bachelor's degree in business finance and continued education to complete his master's degree in project management in 2008. In 2009 he traveled to Germany to play as a quarterback for the Fursty Razorbacks.

Returning to Platteville, Ryan is in his 3rd year as UW Platteville's head football coach and in his 16th year of coaching overall.

Talking about his coaching philosophies, he noted his belief in the importance of creating an avenue for a safe space for kids through football, focusing not only on the scoreboard, but on the development of young men. With a huge emphasis of brotherhood within the football team, he believes it is those relationships that players remember. He attempts to equip and empower his team to do the right things verses the wrong things, noting that if one person believes in you, it often is what makes you successful.

He is proud to be at UW-Platteville and noted some of the measures and purchases the University has provided to ensure the team can perform in the safest and most effective manner. For example, he stated that the college purchased "Guardian Caps" which the players wear in practice. Although the NCAA won't allow these GPS trackers in actual games, they provide a way for the college to monitor the impact on players enabling them to help manage their safety.

His pride in his position and his love of small communities was evident. He ended by stating if there is an opportunity for his team to connect a bridge (by volunteering) between his team and the community, we should let him know.

Conclusion: The meeting closed at approximately 8:00 a.m.

Recorded by: Becky Schambow, Secretary

WEEKLY MEETING – SEPTEMBER 20, 2024

Attendance: (names documented as Business with motion took place): There were 25 members and 1 guest present including: Carley Borcherding; Brad Brogley; Paul Budden; Charlie Clark; Amy Coffey; Howard Crowfoot; Terri Ellis; Dan Engelke; Robin Fatzinger; Beth Frieders; Dianne Jentz; Ken Kamps; Maggie Kleisath; Maxine Lane; Doug Martin; Michael Miller; Tom Nall; Alaina Reeves; Jerry and Joy Schewe; Libby Sides; Ernie Thalmann; Gene Weber (FOO); Ron Weier; Kim Woodorth; and Troy Pitz (speaker).

- Convene: The meeting was called to order by President Reeves at 7:03 a.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed: Members joined together in reciting the Pledge followed by the Optimist Creed.
- Guests to Welcome: Troy Pitz, (speaker) was welcomed as our guest.
- Mystery Greeter: Ron Weier was the Mystery Greeter, greeting Brad Brogley.
- Special Dates to Remember this Upcoming Week:
 - Member Birthdays: Bob Stephens September 23
 - Member Wedding Anniversaries:
 - Deanna and David Hinderman September 23
 - Tim and Kathy Murphy September 26
- Joker Draw: Terri Ellis' ticket was drawn, however, she cut the 7 of Diamonds.
- Announcements / Items Discussed:
 - Annual Award and Installation Banquet Sunday, Sept 29, 4:30 cocktails,
 5:00 dinner/program
 - Budget Committee budgets are due to Duane
 - New Fryer for Cheese Curd Trailer: President Reeves presented information on an opportunity the club has to purchase one new Fry Master fryer for the trailer. She stated our current fryers are 21 years old and if one should go out during an event, it could be considerable loss of revenue. Original cost of this fryer was \$6,000 and we can purchase it for \$3,000. Discussion concluded with Ken Kamps approving the Board recommendation to purchase. Jerry Schewe amended the motion, indicating if we have an opportunity within the year to purchase a second unit under similar circumstances we should do so. Motion passed unanimously.
 - **Homecoming Float:** Maxine Lane requested a minute to confirm we will have a float in the Homecoming Parade. Our primary message "Optimist Leading Kids on their Journey". The Committee is looking for kids to ride on the float in addition to Optimist Members.
- Next Week's Speaker September 27: Dr. Jeff White will speak on current medical topics.
- Today's Speaker: Troy Pitz, Key Account Manager from Alliant Energy was recruited and introduced by Ron Weier

Troy joined Wisconsin Power Light in 1986 as a residential representative in Dodgeville working with Wisconsin Power and Light residential customers on energy efficiency, natural gas conversions, high bill complaints and conducting trade shows.

In 1988 he took a job as an Agricultural representative for 15years. In this role he worked with farmers and agribusiness's mainly conducting stray voltage investigations on farms. He installed equipotential planes in animal contact areas, worked with electricians on wiring upgrades to reduce stray voltage, rebuilt utility distribution systems and helped implement energy efficiency rebate programs.

In 2003 Troy transitioned into his present role of Key Account Manager. In this role he works with Alliant Energy larger commercial/industrial customers on economic development, outages, rate analysis, business expansions, energy efficiency, renewable energy and any other issues that may come up Troy is also involved with several community groups including the Platteville Chamber and Platteville Main Street Program.

With a power point presentation, Troy provided information on Alliant services:

- Alliant serves 1300 communities in Iowa and Wisconsin:
- They have a Purpose Driven Strategy to "Serve Customers, Build Strong Communities";
- Shared Vision of Alliant between now and 2050 for "Clean Energy" with identified goals within each time period.

Troy spoke about renewable energy and what the future goals are for Alliant Energy. Alliant has a goal of having all of their smaller fleet vehicles like cars and small trucks to be total electric by 2030. They plan to plant 100,000 trees to help restore oxygen back into the environment by 2030. Their goal is by 2030 to be at 50% renewable energy and have a goal of being at 7% of power generated by coal by 2030 and eliminate all coal fired power plants by 2040.

Troy talked about wind mills and solar panel farms. They do 20 year leases on farm ground for solar panels with the option to extend the lease for another 5-10 years. The power company is responsible for restoring the ground back to farming after the leases expire.

Grant County has several solar panel farms including a 50 MW near Cassville and a 200 MW near Lancaster. They are not sure yet how to recycle the solar panels but the wind turbans are 90-99 percent recyclable. A 200 MW farm can support 50,000 homes.

Troy responded to many questions from members.

Conclusion: The meeting concluded at 8:05 a.m.

Recorded by: Maxine Lane, with contributions on speaker notes from Paul Budden

WEEKLY MEETING - SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

Attendance: There were 33 members and 1 guest present.

- Convene: The meeting was called to order by President Alaina Reeves at 7:00 a.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed: Members joined together to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed.
- **Guests to Welcome:** Joyce Clark was welcomed as our quest today.
- Mystery Greeter: Steve Lane was the Mystery Greeter, greeting Tim Murphy.
- Special Dates to Remember this Upcoming Week:
 - Member Birthdays:
 - Aaron Kinard September 28th;
 - Doug Martin October 2nd;
 - Dan Engelke October 3rd
 - Member Wedding Anniversaries: None
- Joker Draw: Jerry Schewe's ticket was drawn, however, he cut the 5 of Hearts.
- Announcements / Items Discussed:

- Thank You from Platteville Public Library: Appreciation was extended for our donation used to support the Library's Summer Reading Program. President Reeves read highlights from the letter noting that almost 200 kids signed up for the "Adventure Begins at Your Library" program. Throughout the summer children and teens logged their reading resulting in 5366 books read.
- Annual Banquet Reminder: Members were reminded of the banquet scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 29^{th.} Registration and cocktail hour is from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. The welcome and dinner will be at 5:30, with the program to follow. Linda Thomas said she has some cancellations, so members who hadn't signed up can let her know if they would like to attend. She also asked attendees to wear their id badges.
- **Committee Budgets are Due:** President Reeves reminded Committee Chairs that their 24-25 budget recommendations are due to Duane Borgen.
- Cheese Curd Sales Report: President Reeves reported that Duane Borgen submitted a 2024 sales report to the Cheese Curd Committee reporting net revenue slightly over \$21,200.
 Considering fiscal year payments and credits that crossed over in fiscal years, the 2024 Cheese Curd Sales would have been \$218.46 more than 2023. This is pending any receipt of any unforeseen bills.
 - Ken Kamps submitted interesting information about Monroe's recent Cheese Curd Days Optimist Cheese Curd sales. Monroe Optimist began selling cheese curds in 1970 and helped our Club get started selling curds in 1979. Last weekend's Cheese Days, which is held every other year, sold 78,000 pounds of curds.
- Shirts Donated for Members: Steve and Deb Elvidge, former members, and Maxine Lane have donated several shirts to the Club for those who may be interested.
- **Speaker Coordinator for December:** Dan Engelke asked for assistance in recruiting speakers for December. Ron Weier volunteered to assist.
- Flag Raising October 1st: Maggie Kleisath welcomed anyone interested in being at a flag raising ceremony on October 1st. Members interested should be at City Hall by 7:30 a.m.
- Homecoming Float October 12th: Maxine Lane indicated our Club's float will feature several youth. She would like some members to volunteer to be on the float as well. If interested, contact Maxine Lane.
- **SWIS District October 18-19:** Maxine Lane noted the upcoming SWIS District meeting will be held in DeForest. Maxine will be serving as the Coordinator and wants to assemble a basket for the SWIS Foundation raffle at the event. If anyone would like to donate something for the basket, please let her know.
- Maria Schmitt's Bench Project: Lisa Schmitt thanked members who contributed to her daughter's Girl Scout Gold Award project. Maria's goal is to replace benches at Abing Field with new and safer ones. The project is still ongoing.
- Next Week's Meeting October 4th Business Meeting:
- Today's Speaker: Today's speaker was our member, Dr. Jeff White, who was recruited and introduced by Ron Weier.

Dr. White has been in Family Practice at Medical Associates Clinic from 1997 until present. Dr. White lives in Platteville with his wife and has two children.

Having done his undergrad at the University of Portland in 1984 through 1988, he went to Medical School at Des Moines University in Des Moines, Iowa from 1990 to 1994. Dr. White then returned to Portland, Oregon where he did his residency in Family Practice.

With use of a power point, Dr. White provided a very informative presentation on various, current health topics.

Dr. White talked about the vaccinations that are available, noting:

- Covid vaccination Covid has been on the rise in our community. Dr. White recommends getting the vaccination, which he stated matches the current strain. He indicated the vaccine won't stop you from getting Covid, but you shouldn't get it as bad. Out of all the vaccinations, the most common reaction in getting the Covid vaccination would be some fatigue you may have within a day or two.
- Influenza vaccination Dr. White suggested that it would be best if members got the vaccination in October.
- RSV vaccination for people over 60 Dr. White stated getting the RSV vaccination reduces the risk by 83%, with 50% reduction the next year.
- Pneumonia vaccination he indicated you usually only need to get one in your lifetime.

After speaking about vaccinations, he provided an extremely interesting presentation on "conspiracy theories". Noting that he's "always been a geek", he has done his own research on understanding conspiracy theories.

He explained that conspiracy theories are often identified by groups of two or more actors who meet in secret. Sometimes the theories are good, but often they are not. Dr. White stated that 73% of people believe that conspiracy theories are out of control,

The later part of Dr. White's presentation provided education on the human brain. With power pictures identifying the different areas of the brain, Dr. White identified the names of each section and explained what those areas process.

• **Conclusion:** The meeting concluded at approximately 8:00 a.m.

Recorded by: Becky Schambow, Secretary

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MEMBERS' SPECIAL DAYS in OCTOBER 2024

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:

- Doug Martin October 2nd;
- Dan Engelke October 3rd;
- Maxine Lane October 5th:
- Steve Kleisath October 8th;
- Terri Ellis October 9th;
- John Zuehlke October 10th;
- Michael Miller October 10th;
- Diane VanNatta October 22nd;
- Carley Borcherding October 25th;
- Ken Kamps October 26th;
- Clinton Langreck October 29th

OCTOBER - MEMBERS' WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

- Dean and Vicki Feldman October 10th;
- Dr. Jeff and Amy White October 15th:
- Ronald and Jan Weier Octobr 16th:
- Kim and Barb Woodworth October 21st.

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OCTOBER MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES:

- Ken Kamps October 1, 1970 (Charter Member);
- Debra McWilliams October 20, 1995;
- Ernie Thalmann October 17, 2008;
- Brad Brogley October 16, 2015;
- Sultana Amin October 21, 2022.

OCTOBER - FRIENDS OF OPTIMISTS:

• Weber Business Consulting – October 20, 2016