



Platteville Optimist Club Monthly Highlights November 2023

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

2023-2024 Officers: 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, Doreen Hlavaty, and Tom Nall

Published for Members November 28, 2023 by Becky Schambow, Secretary

HIGHLIGHTS OF WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS HELD IN NOVEMBER 2023

BUSINESS MEETING: - NOVEMBER 3, 2023

Attendance: There were 22 members (*and no guests*) present including: Tim Boldt; Carley Borcharding; Chris and Paul Budden; Charlie Clark; Terri Ellis; Mark Essex; Linda Foht; Beth Frieders; Doreen Hlavaty; Bob Hundhausen; Dianne Jentz; Maxine and Steve Lane; Doug Martin; Tom Nall; Becky Schambow; Joy Schewe; Libby Sides; Bob Stephens; Ernie Thalmann; and Ron Weier.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Vice President Bob Hundhausen at 7:00 a.m. Members then joined together in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.

Special Dates to Remember:

- **Birthdays this Upcoming Week:**
 - Dr. Jeff White – November 7th;
 - Brad Brogley – November 9th.
- **Wedding Anniversaries this Upcoming Week:** None
- **Membership Anniversaries in November:**
 - Joy Schewe – November 16, 2015;
 - Dan Engelke – November 19, 2015;
 - Mark Essex – November 1, 2019.
- **Friend Of Optimist Membership Anniversaries in November:**
 - Bel-Aire Home Improvement – Nov. 26, 2018

Meeting Activities:

- **Mystery Greeter:** The Mystery Greeter was Steve Lane, who greeted Paul Budden.
- **Breakfast Drawing:** Dianne Jentz and Ron Weier were the two members present, and Maggie and Steve Kleisath were the two members not present whose names were drawn to receive a free breakfast in November.
- **Joker Draw:** Paul Budden's ticket was drawn, however, he drew the 9 of Hearts.

Announcements – Information Shared:

- **Katie's Garden Halloween Event:** It was reported that approximately 400 children went through the Halloween event at Katie's Garden on evenings of October 27th and 28th. The Optimist provided books to many of those children.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT: Vice President Hundhausen provided a summary of the Governing Board Meeting conducted at their October 30, 2023 meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: D. Borgen submitted the Treasurer's Report for period ending October 31, 2023 noting the balances of the Internal and Youth accounts. Vice President Hundhausen reported the Board has made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Maxine Lane, motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Finance / Administration:**
 - **Approval of Check Signers for 23-24:** Vice President Hundhausen reported the Board has made a motion to approve Duane Borgen, Amy Coffey, Howard Crofoot, Eileen Engelke, and Maxine Lane as authorized check signers. Seconded by Beth Frieders, motion carried.
 - **Approval of Volunteers to conduct a "Review of Accounts for Fiscal Year 22-23":** Vice President Hundhausen reported the Board has made a motion to authorize Dan Engelke, Dianne Jentz, and Jerry Schewe to conduct the annual review of accounts. Seconded by Chris Budden, motion carried.
 - **Update on Dues:** D. Borgen reported three names of members to the Board who have not yet paid their dues. Their names have been provided to the Membership Committee Chairs to contact for follow-up.
 - **Proposed Budget for 2023-2024 Fiscal Year:** Copies of the proposed Internal and External budgets were distributed for review. Vice President Hundhausen led discussions related to the proposed budget.
 - **Internal Account Budget:** Vice President Hundhausen reported that a motion has been made by the Board to approve the proposed Internal Budget as printed. Seconded by Doug Martin, motion carried.
 - **Youth Account Budget:** Vice President Hundhausen reported that the Board has made a motion to accept the proposed Youth Budget. This was seconded by Tom Nall as a Member (*also a Board member, however had not been present at Board Meeting.*)
 - **Discussion:** A lengthy discussion took place. Maxine Lane questioned the proposed Community Service Committee budget, noting it was less than what she as Chair of the Committee had requested. She provided information on events she wanted the Committee to facilitate. Vice President Hundhausen indicated he would donate funds to the Club to assist with some of the proposed events. --- Maxine also shared her concerns about budgeted support of the "Rainbow Alliance" organization, indicating she felt their mission wasn't in line with that of OI's, SWIS District's or our Club's. Becky Schambow also voiced opposition to the proposed grant to "Rainbow Alliance", noting she felt it set a precedence for any organization to request funding if "kids are present at their event". Others spoke in favor of supporting the grant request.
 - **Vote:** The members then voted. Few voices were heard "in favor" and Becky Schambow voted as being opposed. Some seemed to have abstained. Motion carried.
 - **Donation Request Payment Schedule:** Tabled until next Business Meeting.
 - **Youth Account Investment Rates:** Vice President Hundhausen reported that D. Borgen, Treasurer reported on CD and Money Market current investments and their interest percentage rates.
- **Community Service:** Tom Nall, Liaison
 - **Story Book Walks:** T. Ellis and B. Hundhausen reported that story books had recently been put up on Rountree Trail near the dog park, and at Katie's Garden.
- **Membership:** Terri Ellis, Co-Chair
 - **Membership Changes Noted:**
 - FOO - Honkamp & Krueger – Deleted by OI on 10-3-23 for non-pay;
 - FOO – Heiser Hardware – Deleted by OI on 10-3-23 for non-pay, but paid late, so OI added back as a new FOO member.
 - **Spring Fling:** T. Ellis reported she and Charlie Clark, Membership Committee Co-chair, have begun to talk about planning a "Spring Fling" dance in place of usual NOW event. They hope to partner with the Fellowship Committee on this event.
- **Publicity / Newsletter(s) / Website:** No report.
- **Cheese Curd :** Jordan Holthaus, Chair
 - **Fire Department Request:** J. Holthaus reported that the Platteville Fire Department is planning a celebration for their 150th anniversary to be held this upcoming June. The Fire Department has requested that our Club sell cheese curds at this event and has requested permission to borrow our Cheese Curd Trailer. This will be discussed by the Committee for their recommendation at a later date.
- **Fellowship / Weekly Programs:** Mark Essex and Doreen Hlavaty, Co-Liaisons

- **Speakers for November were noted:**
 - November 10th – Diane Matuszak, SWIS Governor, Building Optimist in 23-24 (*recruited by Maxine Lane*)
 - November 17th – Ed Barthel and a customer service rep from VESTAS (*wind turbines*) (*recruited by Tim Boldt*)
 - November 24th – *Day after Thanksgiving – no meeting*
- **Youth Activities:** Amy Coffey, Chair
 - **Pedestrian/Bicyclist Safety:** A.Coffey reported that the City has received a grant intended for use in education and promotion of bike and pedestrian safety. A focus group would like to partner with the Optimists on a bike rodeo and/or other related events. Amy will be contacting the coordinators to gain more information.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Committee Members Sign Up:** It was noted that an email was sent out to all members with a connection to a sign-up sheet for them to sign if they are interested in serving on a committee.
- **Second Friday Informational Meeting:** T. Ellis reported that an “Informational Meeting” will be held next Friday, November 10th at noon at the A & W.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Club Pride Report:** It was noted that B. Schambow submitted the year-end report (*due Sept. 30th*) to OI. Schambow requests that Committee Chairs and Liaisons attempt to keep track/estimate the numbers of youth attending our events throughout the year and provide those numbers to Schambow or President Reeves. These numbers are reportable on fiscal year-end “Club Pride Report”.
- **Holiday Weekend Friday Schedules December of 2023 through December of 2024:** Members were asked to make recommendations relative to whether or not regular Friday morning meetings on holiday weekends will be held in December of 2023 and in 2024. It was confirmed/decided that:
 - December 22, 2023 - Club will meet at 7:00 a.m. with speaker;
 - December 29, 2023 – Club will not have a 7:00 a.m. meeting, but will have a social meeting at noon (*as the 5th Friday of a month*) at Los Amigos.
 - March 29, 2024 (*Good Friday*) – no meeting;
 - November 29, 2024 (*day after Thanksgiving*) – no meeting

Friday meetings on other weekends around holidays will be held normally at 7:00 a.m.
- **Speaker Recruiters for 2024:** A sign-up sheet to obtain volunteers to recruit speakers for 2024 will be circulated in the near future.

Next Board Meeting: Monday, November 27, 2023 at 7:00 a.m. via Zoom

Other Business from Members: None

CONCLUSION:

- **Next Week – November 10, 2023:**
 - **Speaker at 7:00 a.m. Meeting:** Diane Matuszak, SWIS Governor
 - **Noon Informational Meeting** – will be held at A & W.
- **Adjournment:** A motion was made by Tom Nall, seconded by Ron Weier, to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 a.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:
Becky Schambow, Secretary

WEEKLY MEETING – November 10, 2023

There were 19 members and 7 guests present.

- **Convene:** The meeting was called to order by Vice President Bob Hundhausen at 7:03 a.m.
- **Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed:** Bob Stephens led the members in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and the Creed.

- **Guests Welcomed:** Diane Matuszak, SWIS District Governor (*speaker*); Brooke Brockman, Michelle Sasse, Peyton Deutsch, Kortnie Christen, and Kura Odriscoll, (*teachers at Westview Elementary School*); and Adam Bartels, (*Platteville Parks and Recreation*).
- **Check Presentations:**
 - **Platteville Public Schools:** A check for \$320 was presented to the teachers representing Westview Elementary School for purchase of the book “Sassy’s Vacation” for all first grade students. The author, Susan Leamy-Kies will be presenting the book to the students, after which a tour of Katie’s Garden / Rountree Trail will follow when the weather permits.
 - **City of Platteville Parks and Recreation Department:** A check for \$750 was presented to Adam Bartels who explained the grant will be put towards cost of a new backstop for the Rookie Field along with some seating.
- **Mystery Greeter:** Dan Engelke was the Mystery Greeter, greeting Wayne Wodarz.
- **Special Dates to Remember:**
 - **Member Birthdays this Upcoming Week:** None
 - **Member Wedding Anniversaries this Upcoming Week:** Doug & Kathy Martin – Nov. 11th
- **Joker Draw:** Steve Lane’s ticket was drawn, however he cut the King of Spades.
- **Announcements / Items Discussed:**
 - **Speaker Recruiter Sign-up:** Linda Thomas reported that speaker recruiters are needed for the calendar year 2024. A sign-up sheet was circulated and members were encouraged to sign up to recruit speakers.
 - **Holiday Party:** Linda reported that preliminary plans are being made for a holiday party to be held in January.
 - **Noon Informational Meeting:** Vice President Hundhausen noted that a noon “Informational Meeting” will be held at the A & W today.
- **Speaker(s) for Next Week, November 17th:** Ed Barthel, from VESTAS (*wind turbines*)
- **Today’s Speaker:** Diane Matuszak, SWIS District Governor for 2023-2024 fiscal year, was recruited and introduced by Maxine Lane.

Diane has been an Optimist member since 2004 and has served in various Optimist leadership positions. She has visited many clubs throughout the district and is evident to her is that no matter how big or small our clubs are, we are all aiming for the same goals, that is to advocate optimism as a lifestyle and exemplify it to our community.

Diane has 25 years of street law enforcement experience, retiring from the New York City Police Department as a Homicide Detective. She then moved home to Wisconsin and became the first female detective for the Lisbon Police Department for five years. Her passion is “Respect for Law”.

Diane reflected on the “Power of Platteville” and our connections to the SWIS District. She was pleased to report that our Club has had several members fill position of SWIS District Governor in the past. These members include: Maxine Lane, Gary Engelke, Jerry Schewe, and Howard Crowfoot.

Noting that “great things can happen when you put your energy and enthusiasm towards optimism”, she identified the themes for the SWIS District this fiscal year including: Cheers for 30 Years; Respect for Law; and community optimism. Diane would like to see all clubs do an event this year relative to “Respect for Law”.

Diane indicated she’d encourage every Optimist member to visit the Optimist Institute website. She also encouraged each club to add at least three new members.

Diane noted she will be hosting a Governor’s Social at her home and information about this will be sent out via the SWIS District email.

In conclusion, it was noted that the SWIS District's 2nd Quarter Conference will be held February 3rd, 2024 via Zoom from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Conclusion: The meeting concluded at 7:50 a.m.

Recorded by: Wayne Wodarz, Acting Secretary

WEEKLY MEETING – November 17, 2023

There were 23 members and 5 guests present.

- **Convene:** The meeting was called to order by President Alaina Reeves at 7:02 a.m.
- **Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed:** The meeting began by members reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.
- **Guests Welcomed:** Ed Barthel and Brodie Dockendorf (*speakers*); Terry and Dee Woolf, (*Badger Boys State and Badger Girls State*); and Jason Tyson, (*Blackhawk Area Boy Scouts*).
- **Check Presentations:**
 - **Leo M Kane – American Legion Post 42:** On behalf of the American Legion, Terry Woolf accepted the Club's donation of \$400 towards Badger Boys State Program.
 - **Leo M Kane – American Legion Post 42:** On behalf of the American Legion, Dee Woolf accepted the Club's donation of \$400 towards Badger Girls State Program.
 - Comments: With gratitude for our donations, the Woolf's explained that sponsorships of Boys and Girls State programs go to students in their junior year of high school. This year's Boy's State event will be held at UW-Eau Claire and the Girls' State event will be held at UW-Oshkosh. They noted that several Platteville students have gone on to become lawyers, judges, etc. after attending Badger State programs.
 - **Blackhawk Area Boy Scouts:** On behalf of the Boy Scout program, Jason Tyson accepted the Club's donation of \$300. Jason noted his appreciation and commented that the donation will be put towards program activities, training, camping programs, etc. and that it is felt the scouting program makes scouts become better leaders.
 - **Platteville Girl Scouts:** Maggie Kleisath, a Club Member and active leader in the Girl Scouting program, accepted the Club's donation of \$300 for the Girl Scout program. Maggie highlighted some events that will take place in which the Girl Scouts will be involved including: camp-in for K-12 age scouts; Caroling on Main Street; and Carriage Rides.
- **Special Dates to Remember:**
 - **Member Birthdays – Remainder of November:**
 - Emmily Dreessens – Nov. 17th;
 - George Bykkonen & Mike Olds – November 18th;
 - Doreen Hlavaty – November 19th;
 - Joy Schewe – November 24th;
 - Mary Sieckman & Linda Foht – November 25th.
 - **No Member Wedding Anniversaries – remainder of November.**
- **Joker Draw:** Hap Daus' ticket was drawn, however he drew the Jack of Hearts.
- **Announcements / Items Discussed:**
 - **Salvation Army Bell Ringers:** A sign-up sheet was circulated to recruit volunteers to be "Bell Ringers" for the Salvation Army donation campaign, held from November 17th through December 31st.
 - **Speaker Recruiters for 2024 Needed:** Volunteers are needed to be speaker coordinators for the year 2024. A sign-up sheet was circulated.
 - **Volunteers Needed for Santa Calling:** Volunteers to be "Santa (*or Mrs. Santa*) callers are needed for the evenings of Dec. 5th, 6th and 7th. As sign-up sheet was circulated.
 - **Thank You Received from Platteville Area Pickleball Association:** Card received for Club's \$50 donation for use of their shed during Dairy Days was circulated.
 - **Get Well Card to Terri Ellis:** A get well card was circulated to be sent to Terri Ellis who experienced a recent fall and is recuperating at home.

- **Review of Accounts for Fiscal Year 2022-2023:** Jerry Schewe gave a verbal report relative to review of accounts conducted by Jerry, Dianne Jentz, and Dan Engelke. The written report to be submitted to the Board for further review and response to reviewers' questions and suggestions.
 - **No Meeting Next Week – Nov. 24th (day after Thanksgiving)**
 - **Next Meeting – Dec. 1st – Business Meeting**
- **Today's Speakers:** Ed Barthel from Vestas American Wind Technology, accompanied by Brodie Dockendorf, from EDP Renewables – North America were our speakers today. They were recruited by Tim Boldt.

Ed Barthel works for Vestas American Wind Technology as a Site Manager. He's been in the wind industry for 13 years after completing studies at Highland Community College from 2008-2010 in Wind Turbine Technology. Since 2018 he's been the Site Manager for the Quilt Block Windfarm in Darlington. He is responsible for overseeing the operations and maintenance activities that take place on a daily basis. Prior to 2018 he was a Lead Technician at the site and also spent 7 years traveling across the United States and Canada building and commissioning new windfarms. He's lived in the Midwest his entire life and enjoys educating people about the benefits of wind energy and its impact to surrounding communities.

Brodie Dockendorf assisted in the presentation representing EDP Renewables – North America. EDP Renewables is a company with experienced developers and operators of renewable energy, with wind farms, solar parks, energy storage projects, and green hydrogen solutions throughout the continent. The EDPR NA team is passionate about achieving a clean energy future and creating long-term value in the communities where we operate.

Their presentation included information about wind turbines, particularly those in the "Quilt Block Windfarm" located in/around Darlington that has 49 turbines. Speed of the turbines is set by wind speed, pitch angle and is done by computer. Troubleshooting and repair of turbines is accomplished 24/7 via monitoring out of Portland's facility.

In addition to renewable energy, they spoke of the impacts that wind turbines have on the community including substantial revenue paid to counties, townships and landowners.

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

Recorded Collaboratively by: Joy Schewe and Maggie Kleisath, Acting Secretaries

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MEMBERS' SPECIAL DAYS in DECEMBER 2023

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

- Virgil Pufahl – December 1st
- Priscilla Hahn and Libby Sides – December 4th
- Mary Ann Shurson, December 9th;
- Kevin Haertzen and Howard Crofoot, December 16th
- Eileen Engelke – December 19th
- Phil Swift – December 23rd.

DECEMBER – MEMBERS' WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

- Eileen and Terry McCartney – December 7th
- Duane and Amy Borgen – December 17th
- Doreen Hlavaty and Dorothy Price – December 18th
- Mike and Priscilla Hahn – December 27th

DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES:

- Kathy Kopp – December 9, 993;
- Platteville Optimist Club – Highlights – November 2023
Page 6 of 7

- Thomas Nall – December 9, 2000;
- Beth Frieders – December 13, 2006;
- Tim Boldt – December 10, 2012;
- Bob Weier – December 14, 2012;
- Becky Schambow – December 12, 2014.

DECEMBER - FRIENDS OF OPTIMISTS ANNIVERSARIES:

- Busch Insurance – December 15, 2015