



Platteville Optimist Club Monthly Highlights June 2023

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

2022-2023 Officers: Melissa Palfrey, President; Alaina Reeves, Vice President; Howard Crofoot, Past President; Duane Borgen, Treasurer; and Becky Schambow, Secretary.

2022-2023 Board of Directors: Amy Coffey; Terri Ellis; Mark Essex; Doreen Hlavaty; Jordan Holthaus; and Leon Neuheisel.

Published for Members June 30, 2023 by Becky Schambow, Secretary

HIGHLIGHTS OF WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS HELD IN JUNE

BUSINESS MEETING: Friday, June 2, 2023

Attendance: There were 24 members and 2 guests present including: Tim Boldt; Chris and Paul Budden; Charlie Clark; Howard Crofoot; Hap Daus; Eileen and Gary Engelke; Mark Essex; Linda Foht; Lauren Ganzer; Bob Hundhausen; Dianne Jentz; Tom Jonas; Ken Kamps; Maggie Kleisath; Doug Martin; Tom Nall; Leon Neuheisel; Becky Schambow; Joy and Jerry Schewe; Ernie Thalman; Ron Weier; and guests / daughters of Lauren Ganzer, Elizabeth & Josephine.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Past President Howard Crofoot at 7:06 a.m. Members then joined together in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.

Special Welcome: Past President Crofoot welcomed Tom Jonas, noting that Tom, along with Ken Kamps (also present) are Charter Members of our Club. In addition, Crofoot welcomed new members Dianne Jentz, Lauren Ganzer, and Luran's daughters Elizabeth and Josephine.

Induction of New Members: Past President Crofoot officially inducted Dianne Jentz and Lauren Ganzer as new Club members. Dianne's sponsor was Bob Hundhausen, and standing in for Wayne Wodarz who was Lauren's sponsor, was Charlie Clark. Bob and Charlie assisted with their inductions.

New Member Inductions Pending: Past President Crofoot noted that Darlene Masters, Deanna Hinderman, Lynne Parrott, and Amanda Trewin are also new members. They will be officially installed at a later date.

Meeting Activities:

- **Mystery Greeter:** Past President Crofoot presented Tom Jonas with the Mystery Greeter ticket.
- **Joker Draw:** Tim Boldt drew our young guest Josephine Ganzer's ticket, but the cut ended with the 3 of Spades.
- **Breakfast Draw Winners:** Ken Kamps and Chris Budden were the two members present, and Diane VanNatta and Barb Stockhausen were the two member not present whose names were drawn to receive a free breakfast in June.

Special Dates to Remember:

- **Birthdays this Upcoming Week – Kim Skemp – June 2nd**
- **Wedding Anniversaries this Upcoming Week:**
 - June 2nd: Tim and Angie Boldt; Jerry and Joy Schewe; Greg and Mary Sieckman;
 - June 3 – Lisa and Bob Schmitt
- **Membership Anniversaries in June:**
 - Eileen Nickels – June 1, 1989;
 - Terri Ellis, Gary and Eileen Engelke, Tim Murphy – June 11, 2004;
 - Bob Hundhausen – June 30, 2019;

- Amy Coffey, Emmily and Dan Dreessens, Mary Ann Shurson, and Barb Stockhausen – June 20, 2022
- **Friend Of Optimist Membership Anniversaries in June:**
 - Melby Funeral Home and Crematory – June 2, 2015;
 - Fidelity Bank and Trust – June 22, 2020

Announcements / Information Shared:

- **Condolences:** To Jordan Holthaus and wife Katrina on loss of Katrina's father, Don Shaw (*A card was circulated for signatures.*)
- **T-Shirts for Sale:** Chris Budden noted there are three x-large club t-shirts leftover from last summer for sale at a cost of \$6.75 each.
- **Fund Crazer Tickets:** Can be obtained from Gary Engelke at a cost of \$20 per ticket.
- **Fidelity Bank Brat Sale Today:** Bob Hundhausen noted a brat sale will be held at the bank today with proceeds provided to support the 4th of July activities.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM BOARD MEETING CONDUCTED ON TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2023: Past

President Crofoot reviewed the following highlights from the Board meeting held on May 30, 2023.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer's Financial Report for Period Ending 5-31-2023: Past President Crofoot reviewed the Treasurer's Report for period ending 5-31-23 that was submitted by Club Treasurer, Duane Borgen.

- **Motion from Board for approval:** Past President Crofoot reported a motion has been made by the Board to accept the report as printed. Seconded by Tom Nall, motion carried.
 - **Noted Grants Paid in May** consisted of:
 - Platteville Fireworks;
 - Platteville Middle School 8th Grade Celebration Party;
 - SW Rainbow Alliance towards the youth activities at the Pride in the Park event.
- **Update on 4-30-23 Financial Report reported at Business Meeting on 5-5-23:** Past President Crofoot and Secretary Becky Schambow noted a clerical error in the April 30, 2023 Financial Report presented at the May 5, 2023 business meeting was made resulting in April account balances reported being incorrect. Balances reported were actually those of March 31, 2023 report.
 - **Board Motion to approve this corrected report:** Past President Crofoot reported a motion has been made by the Board to approve the corrected report for period ending April 30, 2023. Seconded by Tom Nall, motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS: Nothing to report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Finance / Administration:**
 - **Clarification of Payment Noted for Oratorical Winners:** It was noted in April Monthly Highlights that \$250 was awarded to our two Oratorical Winners going on to District Competition. To clarify this, it was noted this total of \$500 was sent to SWIS to offset their conference expenses and that the actual awards given to the winners were \$150 and \$100.
 - **Bonding Quote from State Farm:** Members were advised that OI recommends Club Treasurers be bonded. D. Borgen, Treasurer reported he had checked with Tricor Insurance and found that they could not provide bonding. Borgen also checked with State Farm Insurance and reported quote for bonding Treasurer only, and quote for bonding five individuals.
 - **Motion made by Board:** Past President Crofoot reported the Board has made a motion to approve the bonding of five participants. Seconded by R. Weier, motion carried. *The five individuals would be the Treasurer and the four authorized check signers who fill in for Treasurer when needed.*
- **Community Service - Inclusive Playground Event – Saturday, June 3rd from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.:** Past President Crofoot encouraged members to attend this event at which time our Club will be serving brats and hamburgers and providing a "donation jar" with free will donations going to the Inclusive Playground fund.

- **Membership:**
 - **Membership Changes:**
 - **Cancellation of Memberships:** It was noted that Karla & Todd Timmerman have chosen to resign from the club at this time. Becky Schambow will be sending them a letter thanking them for their past support and encouraging them to rejoin if they find they are able to do so at a later date.
 - **NOW Event – New Members:** The NOW event resulted in 5 new members including: Lauren Ganzer; Deanna Hinderman; Dianne Jentz; Lynne Parrott; and Amanda Trewin. Darlene Masters also joined the club at the invitation of M. Palfrey.
 - **Board Motion regarding Practice of Approval of New Members:** Past President Crofoot reported that the Board has made a motion to not require Board or Membership approval for new members so long as they pay their dues prior to formal induction. Seconded by Ken Kamps, motion carried with one opposed.
 - **Membership Committee Needs Volunteers to Serve:** Contact T. Ellis or C. Clark if you would like to volunteer.
 - **Thank You for Those Helping/Attending NOW Luncheon:** T. Ellis also wants to thank all of the members who attended and helped out at the NOW Luncheon (speakers, food preparation, set-up, just being there.)
- **Publicity / Newsletter(s) / Website Committee Needs Volunteers:** Committee really needs members who may have talents in these areas to volunteer to serve / help with the Committee functions. Contact President Palfrey if interested.
- **Cheese Curd:** It was reported that the Committee met on May 8th and discussed what went well last year and what changes may be needed for this year's cheese curd sales events. It was noted that the Committee has decided to change to a later start time for Wednesday shift at the fair. The trailer will be moved from winter storage, cleaned and restocked later in June. Inventory of items leftover from last year with plans to purchase necessary supplies are being worked on. Alaina Reeves will soon be starting the sign-up sheets for volunteers to sign up for shifts. The sign-up sheets will be sent electronically via Google doc for members to sign up for shifts.
- **Fellowship / Weekly Programs for June:**
 - **June Speakers were noted:** Doug Martin & Ron Weier, Coordinators
 - June 9th – Wayne Wodarz – Chamber Summer Update
 - June 16th – Jim Boebel – PHS Improvements – MEET and TOUR at PHS
 - B. Schambow will send out email notice to let members know of this change venue.
 - June 23rd - Jim Zelinski - Inclusive Playground
 - June 30th – Brent Bowers – WI Badger Camp
- **Youth Activities:** no report

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Suggestions from Maxine Lane for activities / events that the Board consider:** This continued to be tabled as President Palfrey was not in attendance to be able to present her thoughts at the Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Scholarship Recipients:** The following Platteville High School students were the chosen recipients for this year's Club Scholarships:
 - Emma NeCollins – will be attending SW Technical College – Social Work program;
 - Grace Stombaugh – will be attending UW-Platteville – Graphic Design.

B. Schambow will send them a letter to congratulate them on behalf of the Club. Letter will provide them Club's requirements for scholarship payments.
- **2023-2024 Board Officers – The Board confirmed that the following nominees are willing to serve in next fiscal year:**
 - President – Alaina Reeves;
 - Treasurer – Duane Borgen
 - Secretary – Becky Schambow

- Foundation Representative – Jerry Schewe
- *Vice President – Volunteer is needed to serve in this position.*
- **2023-2024 Board Directors:**
 - Mark Essex is eligible for second term and consented to run for re-election;
 - Terri Ellis is eligible for second term and consented to run for re-election;
 - **Volunteer(s) needed to serve Director position(s):** Seeking at least two, possibly three members to volunteer to run for election due to Leon Neuheisel's term expiring and lack of clarity at this time on whether or not Deb Elvidge (*or her alternate Amy Coffey*) will be able to fulfill Deb's term. H. Crofoot is eligible to re-run, however, would like to open the position up for other member(s) who might be interested. Eileen Engelke indicated she would be interested in running for a Director's position. If others are interested, please contact President Palfrey.

CONCLUSION:

- **Next Board Meeting Date:** It was noted that the standard date of Tuesday before the first Friday would be the 4th of July, however, due to the holiday the Board is being surveyed to determine an alternate meeting date, with most likely date being either Monday, July 3rd, or Wednesday, July 5th.
- **Adjournment:** Tom Nall made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 a.m. Seconded by Leon Neuheisel, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Becky Schambow, Secretary

WEEKLY MEETING – June 9, 2023

There were 30 members and 3 guests present

- **Convene:** The meeting was called to order by Vice President Alaina Reeves at 7:00 a.m.
- **Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed:** Members recited the Pledge and the Creed.
- **Guests Welcomed:** Clint Langreck , Christina Burr, and Denise Tolzman, co-speaker
- **Mystery Greeter:** Bob Hundhausen greeted Tim Murphy
- **Special Dates to Remember:**
 - **Member Birthdays this Upcoming Week:**
 - Ernie Thalmann – June 9
 - Lauren Ganzer and Lisa Schmitt – June 12
 - **Member Wedding Anniversaries this Upcoming Week:**
 - Amy and Steve Coffey – June 12th
- **Check Presentation to “Inspiring Community”:** Christina Burr was presented with Club's donation of \$500 that had been collected in a donation jar at the grand opening of the “Inclusive Playground”. Christina thanked the Club for our support of the playground and serving brats and hamburgers at the opening.

Induction of New Members:

- **Amanda Trewin:** Vice President Reeves officially inducted Amanda at this morning meeting as a new Club member. Amanda's sponsor, Beth Frieders assisted with the induction.
- **Deanna Hinderman:** It is noted that Vice President Reeves officially inducted Deanna at the noon “Informational Meeting” held at A & W on this date. Deanne's sponsor was Dan Engelke.
- **Joker Draw:** Beth Frieder's ticket was drawn, however, she drew the 3 of Hearts.
- **Announcements / Items Discussed:**
 - **Community Service Award received from Platteville Fire Dept** – in appreciation of our donations.
 - **Thank you's received from:**
 - **CESA 3** - for our support of Championship Games;
 - **Platteville Board of Education Club** – for our donation towards “Hillmen Highlights”
 - **Noon Informational Meeting:** was announced that the monthly noon “Informational” meeting would be at A & W today.

- **Bob Hundhausen – Volunteered to Serve as Vice President:** Vice President Reeves reported that Bob Hundhausen has volunteered to run for position of Vice President in fiscal year 2023-2024, which would mean he would become the President in fiscal year 2024-2025.
 - **Volunteers Needed to run for Board of Director positions:** It was noted that Eileen Engelke has volunteered to run for a Director position on the Board beginning fiscal year 2023-2024, however at least one or two more volunteers are needed. If interested, please contact Melissa Palfrey or Becky Schambow.
 - **Fund Crazer Tickets:** These tickets are on sale for \$20, of which \$13 of purchase will come back to our Club. Contact Gary Engelke if interested in purchasing.
 - **Well Wishes to Steve and Deb Elvidge:** A card was circulated for signatures to be sent to Steve and Deb Elvidge to let them know members are thinking of them. Steve has experienced some health issues and is awaiting heart surgery.
 - **Club T-shirts:** Maxine Lane volunteered to coordinate t-shirt sales for our Club.
- **Speaker for Next Week – June 16th – Jim Boebel:** Vice President Reeves announced that our Club will meet at Platteville High School on Friday, June 16th at 7:00 a.m. instead of Country Kitchen. At that time, Jim Boebel, club member and Platteville School Superintendent will be providing a tour of PHS noting recent changes and planned changes to PHS building and grounds.
 - **Today’s Speakers:** *recruited by Doug Martin & Ron Weier* - **Wayne Wodarz**, club member and Director of Platteville’s Regional Chamber, **and Denise Toltzman**, Chamber’s 4th of July Committee Representative

Chamber Summer Update: With use of a power point, Wayne provided an update on what’s been happening at / through the Chamber. A full list of their events can be found on their website calendar. Some of the items highlighted were:

- Chamber Offers Courses – periodic courses are open to the public, one of which was a “cyber security” course and they are hopeful that a similar course can be offered relative to cyber security for children;
- Chamber has much travel information available to the public;
- Make Music Platteville Event – is scheduled for June 21st;
- Annual Farmers Appreciation Lunch to promote farmers is scheduled for June 29th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Hometown Festival has a variety of events scheduled the week of July 15-22;
- Southwest Music Festival – begins July 15;
- Party in the Park, saluting volunteers – is on July 20;
- Dairy Day events.

Wayne also reported that the Chamber has provided for resurfacing of their parking lot, and installation of a car charging station. Wayne also noted and thanked those who maintain Katie’s Garden, acknowledging member, Carly Borcharding’s commitment to the garden.

4th of July Activities: Denise Toltzman provided some information on 4th of July activities planned in Platteville. She thanked our Club for our support of the fire-works and noted that they are still in need of contributions to ensure this program continues. Bob Hundhausen noted that local Edward Jones offices will be coordinating the “Fun Run” that is scheduled for July 4th.

Conclusion: The meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.

Recorded by: Becky Schambow, Secretary

WEEKLY MEETING – June 16, 2023

There were 36 members and 2 guests present

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Convene:** The meeting was called to order by President Melissa Palfrey at 7:00 a.m.
- **Pledge of Allegiance and Creed:** Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.
- **Guests Welcomed:** Shirley Thalmann and Jason Tyson (*from TC Networks*)
- **Special Dates to Remember:**
 - **Member Birthdays this Upcoming Week:**
 - Ron Weier – June 19;
 - Dean Feldman – June 21

- **Speaker for Next Week – June 23rd – Kim Zielinski – Inclusive Playground:**
- **Today’s Speaker(s): Jim Boebel** – Optimist Member and Superintendent of Platteville Public Schools

President Palfrey began by extending the Club’s appreciation to Jim for offering to host our meeting this morning to talk about and provide a tour of Platteville High School’s planned remodel projects including the outdoor sports complex being built. She also thanked Lynn Tanner and Becky Heins from the school system representatives for providing / serving refreshments to the members this morning and their assistance with the tours.

After a short introduction by Ron Weier, Jim began by highlighting the many improvement projects totaling estimated cost of \$36 million that are in process and/or planned to be done at the public schools. Some of the planned projects noted included:

- New, multisport stadium complex at Platteville High School with additional parking lot;
 - Jim was pleased to announce that a substantial donation was made by a community member for the purchase of a digital, video scoreboard for the PHS stadium.
- Updating kitchen and dining area at Platteville High School;
- Addition of some classrooms, with Consumer Science being brought back to PHS; Addition of entrance for PHS auditorium that will be more convenient to an added parking lot on the east side of building;
- Addition of a gym at Neal Wilkins;
- Changes at Westview to provide for better student drop off and pick up;
- Addition of bathrooms at the Middle School;

Jim advised that the civil engineering firm “Point of Beginnings” has been instrumental in planning and facilitating this process. Representatives from Point of Beginnings were present today to assist with the tours and explanations of the construction taking place. In addition, Jim recognized Jason Tyson from TC Networks, the firm that is handling the technology and security systems with the renovations / additions.

Separating into groups, the members were provided with tours and explanations of plans and/or construction processes taking place inside the high school, and outside via ATV rides. Members thoroughly enjoyed the tours and interesting facts learned about the improvements and processes for same.

Conclusion: The final tour concluded at 8:35 a.m.
Recorded by: Becky Schambow, Secretary

WEEKLY MEETING – June 23, 2023
There were 27 members and 3 guests present

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Convene:** The meeting was called to order by Past President Howard Crofoot at 7:00 a.m.
- **Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed:** Members recited the Pledge and the Creed.
- **Guests Welcomed:** Lisa Krantz, Clint Langreck, and Kim Zielinski (*speaker*)
- **Mystery Greeter:** : Past President Crofoot greeted Tom Nall
- **Special Dates to Remember:**
 - **Member Birthday this Upcoming Week:** Darlene Masters – June 26
 - **Member Wedding Anniversaries this Upcoming Week:**
 - Mark and Joan Haas – June 24;
 - Phil and Sandy Swift AND Wayne and Julie Wodarz – June 26;
 - Maxine and Steve Lane – June 27th.
- **Joker Draw:** Tom Nall’s ticket was drawn, however, he cut the 2 of Spades.
- **Announcements / Items Discussed:**
 - **United Methodist Church Correspondence:** Past President Crofoot advised that the Club received an email via our website advising the United Methodist Church is collecting new or gently used shoes and boots for Haiti. Donations can be dropped off at the church by July 15th.
 - **Social Meeting in addition to Morning Meeting – Next Week – June 30th at noon at Glenda’s – 50 S. Oak St.**

- **Thank You from Blake Knight:** A thank you card from Blake was circulated. The card noted his appreciation for the money he received for being one of the winners of our essay contest.
- **Speaker for Next Week – June 30th is Brent Bowers – Badger Camp**
- **Today’s Speaker: Kim Zielinski** representing the Committee responsible for planning the City’s new **Inclusive Park** area was introduced by Ron Weir.

Kim and her husband Matt have lived in Platteville for about 20 years. Matt works at the University and Kim works at Westview as a 2nd grade teacher. They love to spend time outside as a family with their two boys’ bike riding, playing sports, and walking their dog. They feel fortunate to be a part of the Platteville Community where there are so many opportunities for people to be involved in events and activities that make this city a great place to live.

Kim noted that both she and her husband are passionate about children with special needs and together with Christine Burr and Morgan Arnold, Kim presented the idea for an Inclusive Playground to the Platteville Parks and Recreation Committee about two years ago. She felt that parents with children who have special needs shouldn’t have to be ones who work to promote this endeavor. Together with the core committee and Inspiring Community representatives, they worked to raise funds and plan this playground. The importance of safety and providing a park that was multi-generational were also addressed when designing and choosing equipment, etc. She noted there is an Inclusive Playground Caring Committed that helps with clean up and/or continued fund raising.

Kim thanked our Club for our donation and commitment to this park, noting our efforts help to provide joy to those it is benefiting. She ended by stating they are establishing a long term maintenance fund and are working with the City to ensure security at the park.

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

Recorded by: Becky Schambow, Secretary

WEEKLY MEETING – June 30, 2023
There were 25 members and 3 guests present

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Convene** – Meeting called to order by Vice President Reeves at 7:00 a.m.
- **Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed:** Members recited the Pledge and the Creed.
- **Guests Welcomed:** Vice President Reeves welcomed guests:
 - Molly Bohn, who further introduced herself and shared a little about her job as a supplier of marketing items, previously managed by Mike Hahn;
 - Brent Bowers and Ashlyn Moon, WI Badger Camp speakers for today.
- **Mystery Greeter:** Maxine Lane greeted Ron Weier.
- **Special Dates to Remember:**
 - **Member Birthday this Upcoming Week:** Mark Essex – July 2
 - **Member Wedding Anniversary this Upcoming Week:** Howard and Kathy Crofoot - June 30th
- **Joker Draw Winner:** Gary Engelke not only conducted the joker draw, but the ticket drawn and announced by guest, Molly Bohn was none-other than Gary Engelke. Upon drawing, Gary came up with the Joker.
- **Announcements / Items Discussed:**
 - **Well Wishes for President Palfrey:** A card was circulated for signatures to be sent to President Palfrey who recently had surgery.
 - **Appreciation to Maxine Lane:** Vice President Reeves extended her appreciation to Maxine Lane for taking notes today in Becky Schambow’s absence.
 - **Sympathies to Terri Ellis:** Vice President Reeves announced that Terri Ellis’s father had passed away and a card for Terri was circulated as well.

- **Social Gathering – today at Glenda’s:** Vice President Reeves reminded members that today is a fifth Friday in a month and subsequently members are invited to meet for a social event at Glenda’s restaurant at noon located at 50 S. Oak St.
- **Next Week’s Meeting:** July 7th will be our Business Meeting.
- **Today’s Speakers: Brent Bowers and Ashlyn Moon from WI Badger Camp**

Doug Martin introduced Brent Bowers, Executive Director of Wisconsin Badger Camp. Brent in turn introduced Ashlyn Moon, Director of Development at WI Badger Camp. Brent provided a visual presentation covering: the history of the camp; camp opportunities and activities enjoyed by campers; updates that have been made in the facilities; and new events, in particular the Equestrian Center. Campers as well as volunteers are known to be international and coming from multiple states. No one is turned down due to inability to pay. Brent stated they have had to cap the number of campers as their current challenge is being under staffed. Time was allowed for questions/answers.

Conclusion: The meeting adjourned at 7:55 a.m.
Recorded by: Maxine Lane, Acting Secretary

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MEMBERS’ SPECIAL DAYS in JULY 2023

JULY - BIRTHDAYS:

- Mark Essex – July 2nd;
- Gary Engelke – July 15th;
- Jim Boebel – July 24th

JULY – MEMBERS’ WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

- Leon and Madge Neuheisel – July 11, 1970;
- Pat and Bob Weier – July 20, 2019;
- Arnie and Jan Roper – July 26th;
- Eileen and Gary Engelke – July 29, 1972;
- Dianne and Ron Jentz – July 31, 1993

JULY - MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES:

- Virgil Pufahl – July 1, 1975;
- Jim Boll – July 1, 1976;
- Carley Borcharding – July 24, 2017;
- Mike Hahn – July 31, 2017;
- Jim Boebel – July 24, 2019.

JULY - FRIENDS OF OPTIMISTS ANNIVERSARIES: None