

March 7, 2025 Business Meeting

Those in attendance included: Clark Anderson, Tim Boldt, Chris Budden, Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Amy Coffey, Howard Crofoot, Terri Ellis, Robin Fatzinger, Linda Foht, Beth Frieders, Bob Hundhausen, Dianne Jentz, Michael Miller, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Alaina Reeves, Jerry Schewe, Joy Schewe, Libby Sides, Bob Stephens, and Traci Wilkinson.

Herb Cody attended as a guest.

Checks were presented to:

- Jim Nelson – CESA 3 Championship Games
- Beth Flesch – Special Olympics

Traci Wilkinson was inducted as a new member.

No one is celebrating a birthday or anniversary this week, but there are many people celebrating membership anniversaries this month: Tom Jonas (March 1, 1972), Duane Borgen (March 1, 1980), Phil Swift (March 1, 1981), Hap Daus (March 1, 1988), Kevin Haertzen (March 4, 2013), Howard Crofoot and George Bykkonen (March 5, 1997), Ron Weier (March 13, 2009), Bill VanDeest (March 21, 2001), Doug Martin (March 25, 2005) and Dean Feldman (March 30, 1992).

Paul Budden, fresh back from his winter trip south, was mystery greeted by Leon Neuheisel.

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

- Present – Amy Coffey and Linda Foht
- Not Present – Sultana Amin and Maxine Lane

Tim Boldt cut the Jack of Spades for the Joker Draw.

Announcements / Information Shared:

- A thank you card for our recent donation to “Platteville Packs” from Megan Skemp was circulated
- **We need another volunteer to collect money on Friday mornings. Contact Bob Hundhausen if you are interested.**
- The Oratorical Contest will be held Monday night at 6:00 at the Mound City Bank Drive-Thru. There are four speakers. Charlie Clark, Robin Fatzinger and Dianne Jentz will be judging, Chris and Paul Budden will be monitors, and Jerry Schewe will be the timer.
- The Chamber banquet will be held in Belmont on Thursday night.
- Tri-Star Basketball will be held at Platteville High School on March 22 at noon.
- Next week’s speaker is Lt. Josh Grabandt, who will be updating us on the department’s school safety and police and ICE policies.

Moved by Beth Frieders, seconded by Terri Ellis, to approve the February 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 Tom Nall, to accept the treasurer's report. Passed.

Committee Update Highlights:

Finance:

- The deadline for paying the second half of dues is April 1. Notices will be going out soon.

Community Service:

- The community Involvement Fair was this past Saturday. Several people stopped and seemed interested in joining.

Membership:

- The time for the NOW meeting had to be changed to Friday, May 30 from 5:30 – 7:00 at First English Lutheran Church. The main entrée will be lasagna.

Publicity / Newsletter(s) / Website:

- Still trying to get a shirt order organized
- A presentation on the new web site will be May 16.

Cheese Curd:

- Alaina is going to be working with Jordan Holthaus to start getting things organized.
- Alaina, or someone, will be working on getting the second new fryer. We are still trying to decide what to do with the old fryers.

Fellowship:

- March coordinator is Barb Stockhausen
 - March 14 – Lt. Josh Grabandt, Platteville Police Dept. School Safety and Police and ICE policy
 - March 21 – Vilhelm Skals-Oldenborg, Rotary Club youth exchange student from Denmark
 - March 28 – Tammie Richter, SWTC Foundation Director, Charitable Giving

Youth Activities:

- Essays were judged last week and the winner's name was submitted to the District:
 - First – Nazaira Rabbani
 - Second – Josie Lauper
 - Third – Adeline Foley
- Oratorical is March 10 with four participants

- Tri-Star Basketball is March 22 at Platteville High School.

Old Business:

- Scholarship committee update
 - No final recommendation just yet

New Business:

- The Board proposes to donate \$50 to Country Kitchen to offset the price of eggs, with a hat to be passed next week for additional contributions.

Moved by the Board, seconded by Tom Nall, to donate \$50 to Country Kitchen to offset the price of eggs, with the hat being passed at a future meeting for additional contributions. Passed.

- Barb Stockhausen suggested promoting our events in the Chamber's weekly "News in a Nutshell". This was referred to the Publicity / Newsletter / Website Committee.
- Congratulations to Howard Crofoot for his nomination to be the 2026-27 Great Plains Region Vice-President. Voting will be held in May for him to become VP-Elect with his actual term beginning October 1, 2026.
- The next Board meeting will be Monday, March 31 at 7:00 am via Zoom.

Moved by Tim Boldt to adjourn, seconded by Tom Nall to adjourn at 7:57. Passed.

March 14, 2025 Meeting

Those in attendance included Clark Anderson, Tim Boldt, Carley Borcharding, Chris Budden, Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Amy Coffey, Howard Crofoot, Hap Daus, Mark Essex, Robin Fatzinger, Linda Foht, Beth Frieders, Bob Hundhausen, Dianne Jentz, Doug Martin, Michael Miller, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Alaina Reeves, Jerry Schewe, Joy Schewe, Bob Stephens, Barb Stockhausen, Ernie Thalman, Linda Thomas, Gene Weber and Kim Woodworth.

Tim Boldt mystery greeted Carley Borcharding.

Barb Stockhausen cut the Queen of Clubs for the Joker Draw.

Paul Budden and Jerry Schewe will be celebrating a birthday on March 19 while Clark Anderson will have a birthday the next day (March 20). Much to Bob's delight, no one is celebrating a wedding anniversary this week.

Announcements / Information Shared:

- **Saltana Amin and Maxine Lane** have free breakfasts to redeem for March.
- **Welcome to Herb Cody as a new Optimist member.** Herb is formerly with Queen B radio.

- A thank you note from Platteville schools acknowledging our contributions to Homework Club, Ben's Hope presentation and the volleyball media platform was circulated, along with the Rollo Jamison newsletter and an exhibit notification postcard from the Platteville Gallery.
- The Oratorical contest was held Monday night at the Mound City Bank drive-thru meeting room. Winners were:
 - First – Nazaira Rabbani
 - Second – Halle Furrer
 - Third – Adeline Foley
 Nazaira and Halle will be advancing to the Zone competition on a date to be determined.
- Bob Hundhausen accepted our certificate for 35 years of continual Platteville chamber membership at last night's Art Virtue awards night. Several other club members were in attendance to show support.
- Tri-Star Basketball will be held March 22 at Platteville High School. Set-up will begin at 10:00, registration at 11:30 and the actual contest at noon. Volunteers can sign up on the website
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1V8PI36Ff7lq_5hbcPXMTyQfxOld5kgv-tzKGDjw8m90/edit?tab=t.0
- Don't forget to send name of potential members to Terri Ellis for the NOW meeting to be held on Friday, May 30 at First English Lutheran Church at 5:30.

Bob's Useless Information started with Bob asking how many people remember Bob Newhart's two sitcoms (Bob Newhart Show and Newhart). Newhart was set at a small inn in rural Vermont. Bob moved to Vermont in 1979, and he agrees that Vermont is very rural. Robert Frost is a renowned poet from New England, and Bob ended by reading Frost's "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening".

Next week's speaker is Vilhelm Skals-Oldenborg, a Rotary Club exchange student from Denmark. Southwest Health Foundation Director Tammie Richter will be speaking on March 28 about charitable giving.

The speaker was Lt. Josh Grabandt of the Platteville Police Department. Josh recently celebrated 25 years as a member of the police department, so he was able to also impart perspective of changes that have occurred. Josh first talked about ICE and immigration – immigration status is a federal issue and not a local crime, so the department only gets involved if a federal immigration warrant is issued. Asking about immigration status is not something officers ask, either.

Josh's second topic was school safety. This has been a local concern since the Columbine shooting in 1999. Much of Platteville's response preparation is coordinating drills at the Platteville schools and UW-P. These drills are not publicized, which can create lots of confusion on Facebook. The Community Relations Officer at the schools has done a good job of establishing proactive lines of communication with students, and that has been helpful. The

preponderance of cameras around Platteville and the schools has also been instrumental in quickly resolving issues that arise.

March 21, 2025 Meeting

Those in attendance included Clark Anderson, Jim Boebel, Tim Boldt, Carley Borcharding, Chris Budden, Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Amy Coffey, Howard Crofoot, Mark Essex, Robin Fatzinger, Beth Frieders, Doreen Hlavaty, Bob Hundhausen, Dianne Jentz, Doug Martin, Michael Miller, Tom Nall, Alaina Reeves, Jerry Schewe, Joy Schewe, Libby Sides, Bob Stephens, Barb Stockhausen, and Ernie Thalmann.

Welcome to our guest, Amber Monroe.

Clark Anderson was mystery greeted by Paul Budden.

Charlie Clark cut the seven of Hearts. For the record, since it was asked, this is the **sixth** time Charlie's name has been drawn since Christmas and the fourth time in the past 8 meetings.

Celebrating birthdays on March 24 are Linda Thomas, Wayne Wodarz, and Kim Woodworth. Diane and Charlie Paynter are celebrating an anniversary the next day (March 25).

A thank you card from the Inclusive Playground Maintenance Fund for our recent donation was circulated.

Announcements / Information Shared:

- **Sultana Amin and Maxine Lane** have free breakfasts to redeem for March.
- Tom Nall gave a brief talk about remembering the first two lines of the Creed when meeting people (for whom you may have different ideas about things)
To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind
To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet
- Tri-Star Basketball is Sunday (March 22) at Platteville High School. Set-up will begin at 10:00, registration at 11:30 and the actual contest at noon. Volunteers can sign up at (https://docs.google.com/document/d/1V8PI36Ff7lq_5hbcPXMTyQfxOld5kgv-tzKGDjw8m90/edit?tab=t.0)
- Don't forget to send names of potential members to Terri Ellis for the NOW meeting to be held on Friday, May 30 at First English Lutheran Church at 5:30.
- The Board will be meeting via Zoom on Monday, March 31 at 7:00 am. Information should go out Thursday (March 27).

Next week's speaker is Southwest Health Foundation Director Tammie Richter and Southwest Tech Foundation Director Dennis Cooley, who will be speaking about charitable giving. April 3 is our monthly business meeting (am I the only person to think that March went by quickly?).

Bob's Useless Information revolved around the various generations:

- Baby Boomer – children of the silent generation. Idealistic, optimistic, strong work ethic
- Gen X – the “middle child”. First to have personal computers, adaptable
- Millennials – current largest generation world-wide. Diverse, tolerant, narcissist, 1/3 of all vegans, and 1 of 6 identify as LGBTQ+.
- Gen Z – 48% are non-Caucasian.

The speaker was Vilhelm Skals-Oldenborg, a Rotary Club exchange student from Denmark and his host mom (Tammy Black) and host sister (Ellie Black). Vilhelm’s presentation revolved around the differences between America / Platteville and Denmark:

- Denmark is one-fourth the size of Wisconsin (16,581 sq. mi. vs. 65,498 sq. mi.)
- Wisconsin is much hillier, with a peak elevation of 1952 feet compared to 561
- Denmark has more bikes than people
- There are lots of windmills in Denmark, as Danes are very ecologically minded
- Education is free in Denmark, including university, and some schools actually pay students to attend their school
- Denmark education features more breaks, and the education focuses on teamwork, creativity, and student well-being
- Surveys rank Denmark as the second happiest country in the world, somehow coming in behind Finland.

Tammy talked about the process required to host a student (lots of paperwork and deadlines) and Ellie talked about her journey to apply and be accepted as an exchange student for next year.

March 28, 2025 Meeting

Those in attendance included Clark Anderson, Carley Borcharding, Chris Budden, Paul Budden, Herb Cody, Amy Coffey, Howard Crofoot, Carter Cushman, Hap Daus, Mark Esses, Curt Fatzinger, Robin Fatzinger, Linda Foht, Beth Frieders, Doreen Hlavaty, Bob Hundhausen, Dianne Jentz, Doug Martin, Michael Miller, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Alaina Reeves, Joy Schewe, Barb Stockhausen, Ernie Thalmann, Gene Weber, Wayne Wodarz, and Kim Woodworth.

Troy Ruegsegger attended as a guest.

Wayne Wodarz was mysteriously greeted by Doug Martin.

Carter Cushman drew the Ace of Hearts for the Joker Draw.

Bob Hundhausen not only celebrates a birthday on March 30, but he and Victoria celebrate an anniversary on April 1 (no, that is not a joke). Bob and Jeanette Stephens have an anniversary on April 2.

Announcements / Information Shared:

- Tri-Star Basketball was Sunday (March 22) at Platteville High School. Even though it was held during spring break, there were still 31 participants. It went well and photos are already on the website.
- The Board meeting is Monday (March 31) at 7:00 am via Zoom.

April 4 will be our monthly business meeting and drawing for free breakfasts. Stephanie Rose, from the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau, will be talking about the Wisconsin Blue Book on April 11. **There will not be a meeting on April 18 because it is Good Friday / Easter weekend.**

Bob's Useless Information: Although the Dodgers and Cubs played two games (in Japan) last week, the major league baseball season officially kicked off yesterday (March 27). Of the current 30 teams, only five have never won a World Series title – Seattle Mariners (never played in a Series game), San Diego Padres, Colorado Rockies, Tampa Bay Rays, and Seattle Pilots / Milwaukee Brewers. There are lots of baseball sayings, but one that is heard a lot is “There’s no crying in baseball”.

Today's speakers were two foundation directors; Dennis Cooley of Southwest Tech and Tammie Richter of Southwest Health.

Dennis focused on the various scholarships SWTC awards. There are 50 scholarship programs that include \$500 for housing, \$5000 for 1-year programs, and \$10,000 for 2-year programs. Recruiters begin talking about financially planning for post-secondary education with sophomores and juniors.

Tammie talked about estate planning and the importance of planning for the inevitable. This includes completing a living will and determining a Power of Attorney for Health Care and a Power of Attorney for Finance and Property.

Estate planning is more than an inheritance plan (who gets what or how much). Estate planning includes naming a guardian for any minor children, granting authority or rights to a non-spouse, and outlining how you want your property distributed. There are many ways to arrange all of this, and it is important to periodically review the plans to ensure they convey current desires.