

ROOSTER CALL



PLATTEVILLE OPTIMIST CLUB

Currently Meeting 7:00 AM Fridays at Country Kitchen, Hwy 151, Platteville, WI



Becky Schambow, President
Dan Engelke, President Elect
Wayne Wodarz, Past President
Tom Nall, Vice President
Duane Borgen, Treasurer
Maxine Lane, Secretary

Directors

Tim Boldt *Chris Budden*
Pat Moxness *Tim Murphy*
Mary Sieckman *Ernie Thalmann*

***“To Impact the lives of youth
in a positive and encouraging manner”***

Platteville Optimist Weekly Bulletin – April 12, 2019

Attendance: 29 Members – Tim Boldt, Carley Borcharding, Duane Borgen, Chris Budden, Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Howard Crofoot, Hap Daus, Dan Engelke, Gary Engelke, Beth Frieders, Mike Hahn, Priscilla Hahn, Dennis Helbing, Dave Jones, Maggie Kleisath, Maxine Lane, Doug Martin, Gary Munson, Tim Murphy, Fern Nall, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Becky Schambow, Guy Stead, Ernie Thalmann, Gene Weber, Ron Weier Wayne Wodarz.

Guests: President Schambow welcomed our guest speakers. Much to our surprise, a scheduling issue brought an unexpected speaker this morning, Leah Mergen, one of our two oratorical winners. She was accompanied by her mother Jessica and her teacher, Hailee Kammerude. Leah was scheduled for next week; however, it was a pleasure to welcome her this morning. Also receiving a warm welcome was our scheduled speakers this morning, Sally Stead and Kelly Hubbard along with a special young lady, Blakely Hubbard, almost 3.

Update on Bob Weier: President Schambow along with Ron Weier reported that Bob is making progress, slow but ongoing. Short visits are welcome as he enjoys company. His therapy is intense, but results are positive.

Mystery Greeter: Carley was our mystery greeter this morning, with Dan Engelke receiving the lucky handshake.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: Paul and Chris will celebrate an anniversary on Sunday, 4/14 and upcoming birthday wishes were sent to Mark Haas on April 15 and Dennis Helbing on April 16.

Joker Draw: A member we have not heard from in a while, Leon Neuheisel, was holding the lucky ticket. A win was not to be as he drew the 6 of hearts.

Mail/Thank You Notes/Club Acknowledgements:

*Thank you received from Ruth Rogers, acknowledging our service at the visitation for Dave.

*Gene Weber acknowledged our club on behalf of the PCA for our ongoing support of their mission.

*Howard Crofoot announced the Platteville Area Optimist will hold their annual Bike Rodeo at Neal Wilkins School on Saturday, April 27. Howard reached out to our members for volunteers of 4 to 6 members. Set up starts at 8:30 with the event getting underway at 9:00. Please let Howard know if you are available,

crofooth@platteville.org

OLD BUSINESS/REMINDERS:

NOW Luncheon: President Schambow reminded members of the luncheon tomorrow, April 13 at First English Lutheran Church from 11:00-1:00.



Program: Maxine had the pleasure of introducing our speakers today starting with Leah Mergen, one of our two oratorical winners who will be participating in the SWIS District competition at the Wisconsin Dells in May. Leah is a seventh grade student at St. Rose in Cuba City. Maxine also acknowledged Leah's mother, Jessica, along with her teacher, Hailee Kammerude. In introducing Leah, Maxine made mention to the membership that this is what we are all about, bringing out the best in kids. Following Leah's presentation, she received a standing ovation from the members. It is always a pleasure hearing from our youth.



Maxine was just as enthusiastic about introducing our next speakers, Sally Stead and Kelly Hubbard, a mother and daughter combo. Although she had wanted to hold and introduce a young lady by the name of Blakely, Miss Blakely was not cooperating and was clinging dearly to her

mommy and grandma. But again, Maxine made special mention to the members that Blakely is what our club is all about.

Sally grew up in Platteville, an only child, on a farm with lots of pets. She married her high school sweetheart, our member, Guy Stead. She taught third grade at Lancaster for fifteen years and later went back to school to become a reading specialist for Iowa Grant School. Sally loves to read, do water aerobics and needless to say, spend time with her grandchildren.



Daughter, Kelly Hubbard, also grew up in Platteville, attending UW-Stevens Point, majoring in graphic design. She and her husband, Derek, met at Pizza Hut during their college years and married after dating for 5 years. No sense in rushing into something!! Kelly worked in Madison for 5 years, commuting from Dodgeville. She and Derek have since moved to Platteville and they both work at Southwest Health. She is a busy mom with 3 year old Blakely and is expecting a second child in September.

The bond of adoption was the topic for Sally and Kelly today as yes, they are mother and daughter but not biological. It is impossible to include the emotions felt during this presentation, only to say that in the end, Kelly was pretty much speechless.

Sally took us on a virtual experience, from the days she asked herself why she and Guy could not have a baby to the day they got the phone call. Sally was told early on their best chance at getting a baby would be through adoption. Time continued and she really never gave it consideration, until the day she talked with her grandmother who said, "You could adopt a baby," and something clicked! Sally and Guy are parents to two adopted children, Adam and Kelly. She covered for us the endless list of qualifications followed by the path they followed in hopes of receiving a baby. As excitement built, they just knew it would happen any day. Little did they know that six years after they started the process they would get the call that baby Adam was waiting for them. For baby Kelly, it took three years.

Sally closed with a surprise quote for her daughter Kelly, "I did not give you the gift of life but you gave me the gift of life." This pretty much left Kelly speechless. They celebrate not only their birthday but also their 'Special Day', their day of adoption. Both Adam and Kelly knew from little on that they were adopted. Kelly stated she has on occasion wondered what her birth parents looked like. On many occasions, she has been told she looks just like her dad, Guy, which is not such a bad thing. Time was allowed for Q & A.

Weekly Speakers: Thank you to Maxine Lane for coordinating April speakers.

April 19: Oratorical and Essay Winners – will recite/read their entry

April 26: Kelly Sponsler, Middle School Optimists (JOI Club)

Thanks to Paul and Chris Budden for scheduling our May Speakers

May 10: Alaine Olthafer-Lange/A & A Aviation

May 17: Matt Melby, Melby Funeral Home & Crematory

May 24: Jessica Munz & Keri Wedige/UW-P Continuing Education

May 31: Brooke Rowe/Box of Balloons

Your Help Is Needed!

Mike Hahn is looking for an 8mm movie projector that he could borrow. If you have one or know of one, please contact Mike at hahnmike6@gmail.com