



# Platteville Optimist Club Monthly Highlights July 2022

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

**2021-2022 Officers:** Howard Crofoot, President – Melissa Palfrey, Vice President – Tom Nall, Past President, – Duane Borgen, Treasurer – Becky Schambow, Secretary (*filling remainder of Fern Nall's term*)

**2021-2022 Board of Directors:** Terri Ellis, Mark Essex, Jordan Holthaus, Steve Lane, Leon Neuheisel, and Alaina Reeves

Published for Members on August 4, 2022 by Becky Schambow, Secretary

## HIGHLIGHTS OF WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS HELD IN JULY 2022

### **BUSINESS MEETING: - July 1, 2022**

**ATTENDEES:** There were 26 members who attended and participated including: Carley Borcharding, Chris & Paul Budden, Amy Coffee (new), Howard Crofoot, Hap Daus, Terri Ellis, Deb & Steve Elvidge, Dan Engelke, Eileen & Gary Engelke, Mark Essex, Bob Hundhausen, Ken Kamps, Maxine Lane, Doug Martin, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Melissa Palfrey, Alaina Reeves, Jerry & Joy Schewe, Mary Ann Shurson (new), Bob Stephens, and Ernie Thalmann.

**BUSINESS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:** Meeting was called to order by President H. Crofoot at 7:03 a.m. Attendees then recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- **Thank You Notes:** Thank you notes were received from: The Platteville Inclusive Playground for our donation to the project; and from PHS Scholarship recipients, Chase Carroll and Ava Graney.
- **Guests Welcomed:** Karla Timmerman stopped by breakfast this morning to let President Crofoot know that she and her husband Todd will be joining our Club.
- **Special Dates Noted:**
  - **Birthdays – this upcoming week:** Mark Essex on July 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - **Members' Wedding Anniversaries – the upcoming week:** None noted
  - **Membership Anniversaries this month:**
    - 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.
  - **FOO Membership Anniversaries this month:** None noted

#### **MEETING ACTIVITIES:**

- **Mystery Greeter:** Melissa Palfrey greeted Gary Engelke.
- **Joker Draw:** Ticket winner was Mark Essex, however, he drew a Queen of Diamonds.
- **Free Breakfast Drawing:** It was decided that our free breakfasts this month would be offered to our six new members.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT:** President Crofoot reviewed the following summary of Governing Board and Committee Updates from their June 28, 2022 meeting

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Duane Borgen, Treasurer, submitted Treasurer's Report dated June 24, 2022. President Crofoot noted amounts reported for the Internal and Youth accounts, and balance of the Joker Draw Fund. He noted items paid including: WI DATCP (restaurant license); Grant & Iowa County Cancer Coalition; OI Foundation; Grant County Fair Curd Contract; Fern Nall for Books for Babies reimbursement; and Becky Schambow for Zoom renewal. Incoming funds included membership dues paid from 4 new members. A motion was made by the Board to approve the budget report. Seconded by Hap Daus, motion carried.

#### **COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:** Nothing to report.

**YOUTH COMMITTEE:** Nothing to report.

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE:**

- **Party In The Park:** Gary Engelke and Ernie Thalmann will develop a sign-up sheet for "Party in the Park" event to be held July 21<sup>st</sup>. Gary called Schoeps regarding ice cream. It's roughly \$111 for the ice cream this year (*was \$92 last year*). He also reached out to Piggly Wiggly to work out a deal on hot dogs and buns.
- **Community Service Project:** The Board approved a joint community service project with Kiwanis and Rotary to do some cleanup along the PCA trail on Saturday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> from 9 – 11 a.m.

#### **FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE:**

- **Speakers and Topics for July** – recruited by Chris and Paul Budden include:
  - July 8, 2022 – Nancy Fairchild – "For the Fun of It"
  - July 15, 2022 – Gary Tuescher – the book "*45 Stories of Platteville Area Soldiers Who Died in America's Wars*"
  - July 22, 2022 – Cyrena Saxton – Director of Tri-State Homeschool Choir
  - July 29, 2022 – Jim Winters – The Driftless Digger – saving history & treasures

#### **MEMBERSHIP:**

- **Changes in Membership:** Reported on exceptional "NOW" luncheon held on June 11<sup>th</sup> resulting in 6 of our 7 new members joining including: Barb Stockhausen (*returning member*); Dan and Emmily Dreessens; Amy Coffey; Mary Ann Shurson; and Karla and Todd Timmerman. Removed due to non-renewal included Debi Sigwarth and Carolyn Kroll.
  - **Induction of (present) New Members:** At this time in the Business meeting, President Crofoot installed these new members in attendance:
    - Mary Ann Shurson: Mary Ann grew up in Minnesota. She retired 13 years ago from teaching business classes at PHS. In 2000 she began teaching Drivers' Ed. She estimates she was a passenger for 9000 parallel parks.
    - Amy Coffey: Amy grew up in Belmont. She recently came back to the area after living in Madison for years, working for St. Mary's Hospital and currently working for UW Hospital. She and her husband, Steve, have three children, Keagan (11<sup>th</sup> grade), Jameson (10<sup>th</sup> grade), and Aria (2<sup>nd</sup> grade) who all keep them busy.

#### **PUBLICITY / NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE COMMITTEE:**

- **Brochures:** Melissa Palfrey did a fantastic job updating our brochure, making it more reader friendly and including a condensed membership application form. The Marketing Committee approved the design prior to presenting it to the Board. The Board approved the design.

#### **CHEESE CURD COMMITTEE:**

- **Supplies:** Committee members are asking local businesses for supply donations to offset some supply costs.
- **Mileage Reimbursement:** Per committee recommendations, the Board made a motion to pay mileage compensation at the IRS rate for those members making supply runs for Cheese Curds. Seconded by member D. Engelke. Motion carried.

- **Insurance:** Per committee recommendations, the Board made a motion to authorize Jordan Holthaus to obtain an insurance quote for the trailer as a food trailer rather than a regular trailer. Seconded by the club.
- **Sign Up for Volunteers to Cover Grant County Fair Shifts:** Alaina Reeves will be sending out a sheet for members to sign-up to volunteer to work shift(s) at the Grant County Fair.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- **Officer Elections:** T. Ellis volunteered to fill Alaina Reeve's remaining year as Board member when Alaina takes on the Vice President position;
- **Football "Fund Crazr" Tickets:** Gary Engelke is organizing the sale of the Fund Crazr tickets sponsored by the district for 100 tickets at \$20 each with a chance to win cash prizes based on the top three scoring teams each week. Our club can receive up to \$1200 from the ticket sales. Members were encouraged to purchase them at a meeting or contact Gary directly.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- **Party in the Park:** Reminder that the event is scheduled for July 21, 2022.
- **Installation of New Members:** include – Barb Stockhausen; Dan and Emmily Dreessens; Amy Coffey; and Mary Ann Shurson.
- **Optimist Records:** Noted that Ken Kamps will be taking old Optimist records to the historical record room at UW-Platteville.

#### CONCLUSION:

- **Next Board Meeting:** Scheduled to be held via Zoom on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022.
- **Next Meeting:** Weekly meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup> will feature guest speaker, Nancy Fairchild.
- **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn meeting made by H. Crofoot, seconded by A. Reeves. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 7:59 a.m.

**Notes & Highlights from Board Meeting & Business Meeting provided by Alaina Reeves, filling in for Fern Nall**

### **WEEKLY MEETING - July 8, 2022**

*34 People in Attendance*

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:** President H. Crofoot opened the meeting at 7:00 a.m. Attendees then recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.

- **Guests Welcomed:** President Crofoot welcomed Nancy Fairchild, our guest speaker.

#### SPECIAL DATES NOTED:

- **Member Birthday – the upcoming week:** None noted.
- **Members' Wedding Anniversaries – the upcoming week:** Leon and Madge Neuheisel - July 11<sup>th</sup>

#### MEETING ACTIVITIES:

- **Mystery Greeter:** Dan Engelke was the Mystery Greeter, greeting Linda Foht.
- **Joker Draw:** Paul Budden's ticket was drawn, however, he drew the 7 of Hearts.

#### INFORMATION PROVIDED / DISCUSSED:

- **Party in the Park – July 21<sup>st</sup>:** Signup sheet for volunteers, roasters & coolers was circulated.
- **Cheese Curd Sales – Grant County Fair:** Noted that members could sign up on line, however, a sign-up sheet was also circulated at the meeting.
- **Community Service Day – PCA Trail Clean-up:** Reminder that this is scheduled to be done in collaboration with Kiwanis and Rotary on Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> from 9-11 a.m.

#### **GUEST SPEAKER – Nancy Fairchild – “For the Fun of It” – *program of Daughters' of American Revolution***

Nancy was recruited by Chris and Paul Budden to be our guest speaker. Nancy's presentation was relative to her involvement with the Daughters' of American Revolution "For the Fun of It" program. She explained that to be a member of the DAR, you must be a "Patriot" proving family lineage to someone who served in the Revolutionary War in years 1775-1783. With a power point displaying many interesting pictures, Nancy talked about her time spent representing DAR at the Washington Museum in D.C. that is across from the White House. Nancy also serves as a Platteville Optimist Club – Highlights – July 2022

corresponding docent for the “Wisconsin Room” of the museum where there is a collection of toys, etc. from the time period as far back as 1690. It was interesting to see the progression of dolls, toys, etc. Early toys taught children to mimic adult activities and it was impressive to see how differently materials were used in making toys over the years (i.e. from fabric to porcelain, wax, etc.)

**CONCLUSION:** The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 a.m.

*Recorded by: Becky Schambow*

## **WEEKLY MEETING – July 15, 2022**

*25 People in Attendance*

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:** President H. Crofoot opened the meeting at 7:00 a.m. Attendees then recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.

- **Guests Welcomed:** President Crofoot welcomed guest Gary Tuesday, our guest speaker.

### **SPECIAL DATES NOTED:**

- **Birthdays – the upcoming week:** Gary Engelke – on the day of this meeting – July 15th
- **Members’ Wedding Anniversaries – the upcoming week:** Bob and Pat Weier – July 20th

### **MEETING ACTIVITIES:**

- **Mystery Greeter:** President Crofoot was the Mystery Greeter, greeting Ken Kamps.
- **Joker Draw:** Greg Sieckman’s ticket was drawn, however, he drew the 7 of Clubs.

### **INFORMATION PROVIDED / DISCUSSED:**

- **Party in the Park – July 21:** Sign-up sheet for volunteer workers and loan of roasters and coolers was circulated.
- **Cheese Curd Sales – Grant County Fair – August 17-21<sup>st</sup>:** Members can still go on-line to sign up to cover shift(s), but a sign-up sheet was also circulated at the meeting.
- **Community Service Day:** Reminded that the day to clean up the PCA trail is scheduled for Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>.
- **Story Book Walk:** Carley Borcharding reluctantly reported that she needed to step down from facilitating the “Story Book Walk” due to health concerns. Options for continuing this program will be discussed by the Board.

**GUEST SPEAKER:** Gary Tuescher – Book entitled “45 Stories of Platteville Area Soldiers Who Died in America’s Wars”.

Gary was recruited to speak and introduced by Paul Budden.

A proud Veteran, Gary has spent many hours researching area Platteville soldiers’ histories. He was inspired by the special monument in Platteville’s City Park that has soldiers’ names who lost their lives in America’s wars. Thus far, he’s researched and published 45 soldiers’ histories and their stories in a book that is available at \$10 each. Proceeds from the book go to the “Veterans Honor Roll” for maintenance of the monuments/statues in City Park. Gary chose several of their stories to highlight at this meeting. Gary also spoke humbly about his experience and service as a soldier in the Viet Nam War. Members expressed appreciation for his service and all Veterans who have served our County.

**CONCLUSION:** Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 a.m.

*Recorded by: Becky Schambow, Secretary*

## **WEEKLY MEETING – July 22, 2022**

*24 Members in Attendance*

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:** President H. Crofoot opened the meeting at 7:02 a.m. Attendees then recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.

- **Guests Welcomed:** President Crofoot welcomed Dr. Cyrena Sexton, our guest speaker.

### **SPECIAL DATES NOTED:**

- **Birthdays – the upcoming week:** Jim Boebel – July 24<sup>th</sup>.
- **Members' Wedding Anniversaries – the upcoming week:** Arnie and Jan Roper – July 26<sup>th</sup>

### **MEETING ACTIVITIES:**

- **Mystery Greeter:** Doug Martin greeted Tom Nall.
- **Joker Draw:** Chris Budden's ticket was drawn, but Chris wasn't lucky enough to win this day.

### **INFORMATION PROVIDED / DISCUSSED:**

- **Fern Nall's Services:** Loyal and devoted member, Fern Nall passed away on Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup>. President Crofoot thanked those who attended her wake and/or funeral, followed by some nice memorial sentiments about Fern.
- **T-Shirts:** Melissa Palfrey passed around a sample of Club's new "Curd Crew" t-shirt. Orders for shirts were collected.
- **Cheese Curd Sales – Grant County Fair:** Members were again encouraged to sign up to cover shift(s) either electronically or on the schedule passed around at the meeting.
- **Community Service Day – Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> – 9 – 11 a.m.:** Continue to keep date in mind if you can volunteer.
- **Party in the Park – July 21<sup>st</sup>:** Reportedly had a great turn out by members and gave away lots of hotdogs and ice cream. Gave the leftover milk to Family Advocates.
  - **Optimist Volunteer of the Year:** Terri Ellis was recognized at the event as our Club's Volunteer of the Year.

### **GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Cyrena Sexton – Director of the Tri-State Homeschool Choir**

Originally from Texas, Cyrena Sexton spent time living in Arizona, Montana, and Washington before ending up in Platteville, WI. She is a dentist at Oak Park Dental but outside of work, she admitted she has an "addiction" to volunteering. In 2012, she and her husband made the decision to homeschool their 4 daughters, and since then, has kept busy teaching biology, physical science, math, and ACT prep to those in the Tri-state homeschool community. Since becoming involved with the Tri-State Homeschool Choir in 2016 (then directed by Susan Cramer), Cyrena has helped design costumes for 6 musicals. The choir was established in 1995 by Jacquie Schmaedick, and in 2022, there were 39 singers (17 male, 22 female) in the choir. Some of the benefits of choir include the feeling of togetherness & collectiveness, and a higher rate of social well-being than solo singers. We thoroughly enjoyed Cyrena's energy, photos and audio samples of the choir!

### **CONCLUSION:**

- **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 a.m.

*Appreciation is extended to Alaina Reeves for recording notes at this meeting in B. Schambow's absence.*

## **WEEKLY MEETING – July 29, 2022**

*24 People in Attendance*

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:** President H. Crofoot opened the meeting at 7:00 a.m. Attendees then recited the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.

- **Guests Welcomed:** President Crofoot welcomed Jim Winters, our guest speaker.

### **SPECIAL DATES NOTED:**

- **Birthdays – the upcoming week:** Eileen Nickels – August 3<sup>rd</sup> and it was noted that Maggie Kleisath's birthday would be next week on August 5<sup>th</sup> when she would not be attending.
- **Members' Wedding Anniversaries – the upcoming week:** Gary and Eileen Engelke were celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on this day (July 29<sup>th</sup>). They invited Optimist members to attend an Open House on Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Platteville Country Club (*noted – no presents please*).

### **MEETING ACTIVITIES:**

- **Mystery Greeter:** Joy Schewe was the Mystery Greeter greeting Ernie Thalmann.
- **Joker Draw:** Ken Kamp's ticket was drawn, however he cut the deck showing an 8 of clubs.

### INFORMATION PROVIDED / DISCUSSED:

- **OI Recognition of NOW Meeting:** Letter with a banner patch was received from OI in recognition of our successful NOW recruitment luncheon.
- **Books for Babies:** President Crofoot thanked Chris Budden for taking over this program.
- **Website:** Volunteer(s) are needed for helping to keep our website updated.
- **Optimist Club Volunteer of the Year Presentation to Terri Ellis:** Terri was recognized at the Party in the Park as our Club's volunteer of the year. President Crofoot recognized her today and provided her with her award.
- **Cheese Curd Sales – Grant County Fair:** Members were again encouraged to sign up to cover shift(s).
- **Community Service Day – Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> – 9 – 11 a.m.:** Continue to keep date in mind if can volunteer.

### GUEST SPEAKER: Jim Winters – “Driftless Digger” – Treasure Hunter / Metal Detector

Jim Winters, who calls himself and his sideline business “Driftless Digger” was recruited to speak by Chris and Paul Budden. Jim is a Digital Content Director for a 106 year old media company, but his passion is truly treasure hunting. He is also the Founder and Co-director of the “Transcendent Paranormal Society”. The name “Driftless Digger” was chosen as 95% of his treasure hunting takes place in the Driftless area. He noted his motivation stems from his desire to save as much of history as possible before it's lost forever. His treasure hunting encompasses metal detecting, bottle digging, creek walking, and magnet fishing. Jim showed a power point depicting many of his interesting and historical and sometimes valuable finds. You can find out more information by going to his Facebook site “Facebook.com/Driftless Digger”.

### CONCLUSION:

- **Noted Next Board Meeting:** Scheduled to be held via Zoom on August 2<sup>nd</sup>;
- **Noted Next Business Meeting:** Scheduled to be held Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at Country Kitchen at 7:00 a.m.
- **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:55 a.m.

*Recorded by: Becky Schambow, Secretary*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MEMBERS' SPECIAL DAYS UPCOMING IN AUGUST

<b>BIRTHDAYS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Eileen Nickels – August 3<sup>rd</sup></li><li>▪ Maggie Kleisath – August 5<sup>th</sup></li><li>▪ Jim Boll – August 9<sup>th</sup></li><li>▪ Barbara Stockhausen – August 28<sup>th</sup></li></ul>	<b>MEMBERS' WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Brad and Jessica Brogley – August 7<sup>th</sup></li><li>▪ Mark and Karen Essex – August 9<sup>th</sup></li><li>▪ Todd and Karla Timmerman – August 11<sup>th</sup></li><li>▪ Steve and Maggie Kleisath – August 17<sup>th</sup></li><li>▪ Kathy and Joe Kopp – August 19<sup>th</sup></li><li>▪ Virg and Marcia Pufahl – August 22<sup>nd</sup></li><li>▪ Ken and Lois Jean Kamps – August 23<sup>rd</sup></li><li>▪ Kim and Cindy Skemp – August 30<sup>th</sup></li></ul>
<b>MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Mike Olds – August 12, 1994</li><li>▪ Diane VanNatta – August 20, 2004</li><li>▪ Maggie and Steve Kleisath – August 31, 2012</li><li>▪ Chris Budden – August 4, 2017</li><li>▪ Paul Budden – August 30, 2018</li><li>▪ Diane Paynter – August 13, 2019</li></ul>	<b>FRIENDS OF OPTIMISTS ANNIVERSARIES:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dairy Queen - August 27, 2019</li></ul>

## SPEAKERS and TOPICS FOR AUGUST MEETINGS

*Note: Schedule can also be found on Platteville Optimist Club's Website Calendar*

### SPEAKERS FOR AUGUST WERE RECRUITED BY: Terri Ellis

- **August 5<sup>th</sup> – Business Meeting – No speaker**
- **August August 12<sup>th</sup> – Jim Boebel – Update on the Platteville Schools**
- **August 19<sup>th</sup> – Bonnie Beam-Stratz from ADRC**
- **August 26<sup>th</sup> - Sarah Ellis – MT Shorts and navigating a career in performing arts**