

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



"To Impact the lives of youth in a positive and encouraging manner"

Platteville Optimist Weekly Bulletin - Friday, April 20, 2018

<u>Attendance:</u> 26 Members – Tim Boldt, Carley Borcherding, Duane Borgen, Laura Brown, Charlie Clark, Gary Engelke, Beth Frieders, Kevin Haertzen, Ken Kamps,

Maggie Kleisath, Maxine Lane, Steve Lane, Pat Moxness, Gary Munson, Fern Nall, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Becky Schambow, Bob Stephens, Barb Stockhausen, Ernie Thalmann, Linda Thomas, Bob Weier, Ron Weier, Naomi Wells, Wayne Wodarz.

Mystery Greeter: Maggie Kleisath was the greeter, with Pat Moxness being the lucky hand shake.

Joker Draw: Mr. 'Lucky'...Bob Weier was holding the lucky ticket; however drawing the 3 of diamonds.

Announcements:

<u>Birthdays/Anniversaries:</u> Anniversary celebrations were recognized this morning, Bob Stephens on 4/21 and Eileen Nickels 4/25.

Youth Activities:

*Tri-Star Basketball: Tim Boldt reported that 8 of our 9 qualifiers attended the event in Mukwonago, with 4 placing second in their age group and 1 placed 3rd in their age group. Governor Engelke attended the event and reported that overall there were 106 kids at the District Tri-Star Basketball event. Both Tim and Gary received many good comments from parents regarding our event.

50th Anniversary Committee:

- *President Wodarz summarized recent updates:
 - -Proclamation/check presentation at Council Meeting 4.24.
 - -Full page ad will run on April 25,
 - -Celebration Event on 6/23, menu/pricing finalized with PGCC new manager, Ashley quantity determined after receipt of RSVP results.
 - -Invitations being prepared, will be forwarded early May,
 - -Program in final drafting stages,
 - -Dairy Days subcommittee to meet in the near future.
 - -One last request for Tot Slide donations was made as we are so close to reaching \$5,000.00

Miscellaneous:

*NOW Luncheon – April 21 from 11:00 to 1:00 – FELC.

Maxine reported there are 8 members attending and 6 guests have been invited.

- *President Wodarz reminded the members that the Platteville Area Optimists were holding their annual Bike Rodeo on Saturday, April 21.
- *Bob Weier handed new trail maps, also indicating the need for people to perform maintenance on the trail.
- *President Wodarz recognized Becky Schambow's upcoming retirement on 4/27, from SH after 43 years.
- *In the absence of Howard Crofoot, Maxine shared with the members a quote Howard shared...
 - "Everything will be OK in the end. If it isn't OK, then it isn't the end."

Program: Many thanks to Beth Frieders for scheduling Eva Birtell, a sophomore at UW-Platteville.

As the publisher, all I can say is WOW!! I can summarize this presentation, but to get the full dynamics, you had to be there. My 'gig' has never been science or biology; however, after last week and this week, I have a

new found interest.

Eva is carrying a double major at UW-P, Soil and Crop Science and Environmental Horticulture with a minor in Biotechnology. Born and raised in rural Iowa, Eva's interest started at an early age with her interest in birds, trees and the outdoors in general. Eva shared many of her experiences and experiments that lead her to where she is today. In



high school, she developed an experiment in the area of aquaponics. She explained the process of being able to grow plants, tilapia fish and bacteria in a closed system so that everything "fed" on everything else...the fish wastes were used by the bacteria, the bacterial wastes were used by the plants and the fish ate the plants.

After multiple applications for various internships at several entities and multiple turn downs, Eva was beyond ecstatic when



the call came from NASA. There were multiple phone calls, in-depth screenings and more phone calls. From June 4 to August 10, Eva will experience her ultimate dream, an Internship at the Kennedy Space

Center. She will be working alongside lead scientists to study plants on the space station. Including Eva there will be 61 interns studying and researching plant growth and future crop production. Time was allowed for multiple questions.

Thank you to Beth Frieders for coordinating our April speakers.

April 27 – Alex Harman, UWP Biology Dept. – Program to increase native plants for pollinators

Thanks to Maxine for coordinating our May Speakers.

May 4 – Business Meeting

- May 11 Kate Kozial, Executive Director Platteville Business Incubator What's Happening at PBII
- May 18 Laura Gutierrez, Secretary WI Dept. Safety & Professional Services Heroin in our Communities
- May 25 Ellen Warren, Clarity Clinic Educating the community on health issues



Celebrating 50 Years of Serving Youth April 26 1968 – April 26, 2018