

ROOSTER CALL



PLATTEVILLE OPTIMIST CLUB

CURRENTLY MEETING 7:00 AM FRIDAYS AT COUNTRY KITCHEN, HWY 151, PLATTEVILLE, WI

Friday, October 23, 2015

Attendance: Twenty-one Optimists attended. Eight were wearing their Optimist Shirts (Bob Weier, Bob Stephens, Ken Kamps, Maggie Kleisath, Charlie Clark, John Urness, Gary Engelke, Maxine Lane, and Ernie Thalmann).

Mystery Greeter: Maggie Kleisath greeted Bob Stephens

Joker Draw: Doug Martin's ticket was drawn for the Joker Draw. Doug drew and got the 10 of hearts as well as \$2.00 for the time together.

Business Meeting:

++ Maxine showed the club the picture our club was awarded at the SWIS District Conference for donating \$500 to the Optimist International Foundation. Maxine suggested that the picture be donated to Badger Camp to be used at their silent auction. Club agreed.

++The Jingle Bell walk to raise money for Thursday's Child will be held December 5th. Sign up information will be out soon. The walk will start at the middle school.

++Ken was pleased that all in attendance remembered to sign in this morning making his job for the day easier.

Program: Kevin Haertzen introduced the speaker Dr. Jessica Fick. Dr. Fick graduated from Bay Port High School in Howard-Suamico, WI, attended UW-P and received her BS in Mechanical Engineering. Following graduation, she relocated to Maryland to work at the Army Research Laboratory in Adelphi, MD. She further did her graduate studies at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, receiving her MS and PhD. Her specialty is in computational solid mechanics and failure mechanisms. Dr. Fick is in her 5th year as an assistant professor of Mechanical Engineering at UW-Platteville.

Dr. Fick described engineering as a process that uses math and science to solve problems and design new things. It is important to be accurate in your work as an engineer as mistakes hurt all aspects of life and the environment. To ensure that engineers take pride and responsibility in the engineering profession most participate in the Order of the Engineer. The order was started in the United States in 1970 and is the Hippocratic Oath of engineers. It was modeled after the Canadian the Ritual of the Calling of an Engineer (started in 1926). Purpose is to develop comradery with the public and enrich human lives. When you take the oath a steel ring is placed on the pinky finger of your dominant hand to remind you of



Dr. Jessica Fick, asst. professor of Mechanical Engineering at UW-Platteville, spoke about engineering, highlighting the encouragement of women in engineering professions.

your responsibility as it flows across the papers you work on.

It is a lot of responsibility to be an engineer as any mistake can cause a lot of damage. The reason the Canadian Oath was developed is interesting. In 1907, they were building the bridge across the St Lawrence Seaway to Quebec. The engineer didn't risk the design and do enough testing. The result--the weight of bridge was too great and the collapse killed 75 men. It took 2 years to clean the debris out of the St. Lawrence Seaway. When they tried to rebuild it, the bridge collapsed again killing 13 people.

The hope is that the Order of the Engineer will encourage engineers to take the oath personally and trust what engineers do and share knowledge to encourage comradery to strengthen knowledge to solve problems and design new things.

Most people join the Order of the Engineer. In her question answer period she told us that it costs \$10 to take the oath. Some of those who decide not to take the oath don't understand the importance of it. Taking the Oath will provide you with more opportunities. You may join after graduation also.

When asked about where UWP engineering graduates find employment, John Deere is still the largest employer of engineers who attend Platteville. Women are being encouraged to go into the engineering field also. The NSF (National Science Foundation) awarded Platteville a grant to develop one wing of the dorm to house women engineers as a way to encourage more women to go into engineering.

Minutes taken and submitted by Fern Nall; edited for "Rooster Call" by Charlie Clark.