



ROOSTER CALL

'Second Time Around'

Platteville Optimist Club



Established 1968

Vision Statement

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

WAYNE'S WORLD



Greetings Everyone!

It is hard to believe, but we are fast approaching the midway point of our Optimist year. And what a successful start we have had! Through the hard work and dedication of our club members we have accomplished many things we can all be proud of. Just since Christmas we have:

- *Recruited 7 new members, bringing our membership to 102,
- *Kicked off the Essay Contest with 19 participants,
- *Oratorical Contest will be held March 6th, with the Zone 6 competition on March 17,

- *Hosted the 2nd Quarter SWIS District Conference here in Platteville with over 40 Optimists throughout SW WI participating,
- *Our club also was recognized as a "Distinguished Club" for 2016-2017 year. Special recognition was Awarded to Past President Kevin Haertzen, Secretary Maxine Lane, and Treasurer Ken Kamps. Thanks to our membership for helping to make this happen!!
- *Tri-Star Basketball competition is scheduled for April 7th at UWP on Bo Ryan Court,
- *Celebration plans are being made for our 50th Anniversary. Our Legacy Gift has gotten over 50% of our club membership to participate in the Tot Slide donation to the Platteville Family Aquatic Center. Well done! We will be getting some great publicity during April as we will have a proclamation honoring our 50 years from City Manager, Karen Kurt. Our 'Grand Finale' happens in June when we have the pleasure of honoring our Past Presidents and Charter Members with a social at the Platteville Country Club. It is amazing what we can do when we put our talented Membership to work! Thanks for getting our year off to a great start!

Platteville Optimist Club ~ 1968 - 2018

Celebrating our 50th Anniversary, there was a desire to do something to commemorate this milestone. We wanted something that would benefit both youth and our community which resulted in a Tot Slide at the Platteville Aquatic Center.

Thank You to the Members who supported our Legacy Gift!

| | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Joan Bahr | Tim Boldt | Jim Boll | Carley Borcharding | Duane Borgen |
| Brian & Laura Brown | Chris & Paul Budden | George Byykkonen | Charlie Clark | Howard Crofoot |
| Hap Daus | Terri Ellis | Dan Engelke | Eileen & Gary Engelke | Kevin Haertzen |
| Mike Hahn | Tom Jonas | Dave Jones | Gary & Lu Jones | Ken Kamps |
| Ann Klawiter | Maggie & Steve Kleisath | Kathy Kopp | Steve & Maxine Lane | Doug Martin |
| Deb McWilliams | Pat Moxness | Tom & Fern Nall | Leon Neuheisel | Eileen Nickels |
| Virg Pufahl | Becky Schambow | Greg & Mary Sieckman | Pam Stark | Guy Stead |
| Barb Stockhausen | Ernie Thalmann | Linda Thomas | John Urness | Ron Weier |
| Bob Weier | Naomi Wells | Jeff White | Wayne Wodarz | Melby Funeral Home |
| Oakpark Dental | | | | |

We also extend a big thank you to the members and Friends of Optimist who supported our cause with a sponsorship ad for our full page celebration ad to come out in April: Bill's Plumbing & Heating, Heiser Hardware, Family Pet Hospital (Dr. Terry Beebe), My Tires, Matt Melby, Gene Weber, Morrissey Printing, Garvey Service, Classic Reunion Music (Charlie Clark), RFW Handyman Service (Bob Weier)

New Members Welcome Wagon

It is always a pleasure when we welcome new members to our Optimist Club! In December we extended a welcome to new Friends of Optimists. We since presented both with Certificates of Membership and are once again happy to welcome both!



Terry Malliet, Mgr.
Country Inn and Suites



Tom & Scott Morrissey
Morrissey Printing, Inc.



Welcome ~ Rob Bell Friend of Optimist

It is a pleasure to welcome Rob, as a new FOO. Rob was the guest speaker at the 2nd Quarter SWIS Conference held in Platteville on February 10.

Welcome to Pam Stark! A lifelong resident of Platteville, Pam is a graduate of PHS. She has worked at B & W Milling, Haskins Gas & Oil, Ferrellgas and lastly, Mound City Bank, where she retired from in February, 2017. Pam has two senior fur babies, Dempsy, a 13 year old Teacup Yorkie, and Gretchen, an 11 year old Dachshund. She enjoys going to movies, sewing, reading, traveling, cooking/baking and helping where needed. Pam stated she is impressed with the Optimist's dedication to youth and delighted that her sponsor, Gary Engelke, asked her to become a member.

Welcome to Pat Moxness! Pat grew up in Platteville, graduating from PHS. Her nursing career began at the age of 16, working as a nursing assistant at the Platteville Municipal Hospital and Nursing Home. Over the years she continued her education, getting her RN Certification and later became certified in Long Term Care receiving her Nursing Home Administrator's license. She became the Nursing Home Administrator of SH Nursing Home in Cuba City in 1985. Pat has a son and daughter-in-law, two stepsons and four lovely grandchildren. Since her husband's death and her retirement in 2012, she has been able to enjoy volunteering, traveling, reading, leisurely walks, and spending time with family and friends.

Welcome to Naomi Wells! Naomi moved to Platteville in June, 2009 from McFarland, WI. She has 2 children Julie and Ron, Jr., 5 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Naomi worked at UW-Madison for many years, first in Population Health Sciences Dept. and then the Dept. of French and Italian, retiring in 2005. When Gary invited Naomi to join the Optimist Club, he asked me if I liked "helping kids". Needless to say her immediate answer was "yes." Naomi stated that the Optimist Club is a great organization which will give her the opportunity to help the kids in our community and schools. She enjoys spending time with her family, reading, rock and fossil hunting and volunteer work at church.

Welcome to Joan Bahr! Joan has called southwest Wisconsin home for the past 30 years. A native of Bismarck, North Dakota she is always quick to tell of the beauty and history of North Dakota. Joan is married to Kevin, has two children, Mark and Melissa, living in Katy, TX and Port Washington, WI, respectively, and 5 grandchildren. Kevin's son, Daniel, wife and 3 children, live just around the corner at the farm. Joan has worked at Southwest Health for the past 30 years as a dietitian and certified diabetes educator. In her free time, Joan likes to read, travel, cook, sew, walk, and enjoy family and friends.

Welcome to Talia Mushinsky! Talia was born and raised in Elkhorn, WI. With a passion for education, she set on her path to UW-Platteville where she began to study Criminal Justice, later switching her major to English Literature and Spanish. Talia has been privileged to travel to several different countries, including China, Spain, and Mexico. One of her favorite reasons to travel is to experience the different cultures, which includes the food! Talia especially likes sharing the food she cooks with her family and friends. Talia enjoys cooking, hiking, writing, running, and fishing. Talia stated she is a generous, kind, passionate, bright and is excited to share her talents with the community through the Optimist Club!

Welcome to Matt Bohlken! Matt is the UWP Women's Golf Coach. We will learn more about Matt in our June newsletter.

Spring Luncheon ~ Membership Drive ~ a/k/a NOW Meeting
First English Lutheran Church ~ Fellowship Hall

Saturday, April 21, 2018 ~ 11:00 to 1:00

Start forming your list of guests to invite

Luncheon – Silent Auction

New Membership Special (\$54.00 dues 1 year)

**Sign-up 2 or more new members at the luncheon
receive a 50% discount on your 2018-2019 dues**

Invitations for sharing with guests will be coming your way soon!

Tri-Star Basketball - April 7 - Noon to 2:00 - Bo Ryan Court

This is one example of what being an Optimist is all about. Being there for the kids, working to improve their basketball skills. The smiles and determination on the little faces says “it is worth every minute of our time.” Come out and join the fun, watch the kids, visit with the parents and enjoy time with other Optimist Members.



A BIG shout out to Tim Boldt, Youth Committee Chair and his team for working to make this happen! If you can volunteer and don't make Friday morning meetings, contact Tim at tjboldt@pioneerfm.net

Oratorical and Essay Contest Season 2018 – submitted by Gary Munson

Optimism is reaching into the schools in Platteville and the surrounding area with the Optimist International's Essay and Oratorical contests. Again this year, our club is working with the Platteville Area Noon Club to encourage students to make the effort to put their optimism into essays and speeches. Christine Storlie from the Noon Club and Gary Munson from our Club are heading the project.



The Essay Contest is the first on the calendar. This year's topic is “Can Society Function Without Respect?” Twenty-three students made the effort to submit essays. The Platteville Middle School sent 19 essays and there were 4 from Iowa-Grant. We have to thank Platteville teachers Sarah Droessler and Jay Gesin, and Angie Boldt from Iowa-Grant for their efforts in promoting the contest in their classrooms. Eight cash awards are presented at the local level. The winners are Caroline Gates, first place and Cassidy Whitney, second place. The top two essay writers were awarded one hundred dollars each. Their essays were sent to District to compete for top prize of \$2,500.

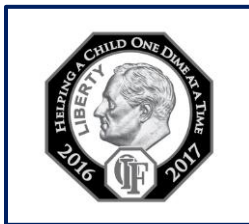


The Oratorical Contest is another opportunity for area students. This year's topic is “Where are My Roots of Optimism?” The club contest will be held in Platteville on March 8. The top two speakers will advance to the Zone 6 contest on March 17. The winner will compete at the District level on May 4 & 5 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells. Again this year, the District winner will be eligible to go on to the Regional and International contests. Last year's overall winner earned \$22,500 in scholarships.

All club members deserve a big “Thank You” for the support they give to these contests. The cash awards that are given to the local winners come directly from the fundraising efforts of the clubs. And, a special shout out to the members who volunteer their time and talents to help make the contests a success for the youth of the Platteville area.

OPTIMST CREED

- To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.
- To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.
- To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.
- To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.
- To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.
- To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.
- To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.
- To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.
- To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.
- To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.



Dime-a-Day Campaign

Thank you to the twenty-six members who participated in our Dime-A-Day campaign. The total contributed was over \$1,100.00 when taking into consideration the multiple levels that one can contribute. Your support directly impacts our club and the Platteville Community. All scholarships awarded for the Essay Contest and Oratorical Contest come from the Optimist Foundation. The Foundation is partly funded by member donations, such as Dime-A-Day. The Foundation also defrays the cost for Tri-Star Basketball, Tri-Star Soccer, and many other youth programs. We easily see over \$1,000.00 of benefit each year.

Submitted by:
Jerry Schewe CFR

Contributing in January during our campaign period:

Tim Boldt, Carley Borcharding, Duane Borgen, Charlie Clark, Dan Engelke, Kevin Haertzen, Ken Kamps, Steve and Maggie Kleisath, Steve Lane, Doug Martin, Patricia Moxness, Tom and Fern Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Eileen Nickels, Becky Schambow, Jerry and Joy Schewe, Guy Stead, Ernie Thalmann, John Urness, Bob Weier, Ron Weier, Naomi Wells, and Wayne Wodarz.

Previously contributing were Gary and Eileen Engelke and Maxine Lane

Although our official campaign concluded on January 31, 2018, you can still contribute and have your donation credited to the club. Simply send \$36.50 to me (860 Jefferson Street, Platteville WI 53818) and I will forward to St. Louis. Checks should be payable to OI Foundation.



I'm not sure how many of our members read the quarterly SWIS District Newsletter, so I am sharing my last article, as SWIS Fitness Club/Membership Chair, with our members.

You Cannot Plow a Field by Turning it Over in Your Mind

For anyone who missed my article last month, WHO AM I you ask? Maxine Lane, member of the Platteville Optimist Club 09137 since 2009, Lt. Governor Zone 6 2016-2017/2017-2018 and **I AM AN OPTIMIST!!** The quote I used last month was by Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm." As I stumbled across the quote I'm using in this article, I really never got the connection between the two until giving both some thought. Hopefully you will find the connection, as did I. How do I relate this quote to my position of Fitness/Membership Chair? If all you do is 'think' about inviting someone to join you at a meeting, allowing them to learn about Optimists and the wonderful things our clubs do, nothing is going to change! You invite them to become a member and the decision is for them to make.

You cannot plow a field by turning it over in your mind!

You cannot build your membership by just thinking about asking someone to join!

Member Celebrations

Happy Birthday

March

- 05– John Urness
- 19 – Jerry Schewe
- 19 – Paul Budden
- 23 – Naomi Wells
- 24 – Linda Thomas
- 24 – Wayne Wodarz

April

- 09 – Leon Neuheisel
- 16 – Dennis Helbing
- 29 – Tom Nall
- 30 – Jim Olds

May

- 02 – Bob Weier
- 22 – Becky Schambow
- 27 – Janelle Davis

Happy Anniversary

March - n/a

April

- 08 – Ernie Thalmann
- 14 – Paul & Chris Budden
- 21 – Bob Stephens
- 25 – Eileen Nickels

May

- 03 – Diane VanNatta
- 26 – John Adams & Barb Stockhausen
- 29 – Hap Daus



**CONGRATULATIONS
THANK YOU**

for your years of service
and loyalty to
Platteville Optimist

March

- 1972 – Tom Jonas
- 1980 – Duane Borgen (L)
- 1981 – Phil Swift (L)
- 1988 – Hap Daus
- 1992 – George Byykkonen
- 1992 – Dean Feldman
- 1997 – Howard Crofoot
- 2001 – Bill VanDeest
- 2005 – Doug Martin
- 2009 – Ron Weier
- 2011 – Fern Nall
- 2013 – Kevin Haertzen
- 2016 – Guy Stead

April

- 1974– Dave Jones (L)
- 1999 – Lynn Schlager
- 2002 – John Urness
- 2003 – Ron Holl
- 2016 – Tri-Com, Inc. (*)
- 2017 – Brian Brown
- 2017 – Laura Brown
- 2017 – Peggy Compton
- 2017 – Janelle Davis
- 2017 – Donna Gavin
- 2017 – Gary & Lu Jones
- 2017 – Andrea Pastor
- 2017 – Mary & Greg Sieckman
- 2017 – Linda Thomas
- 2017 – Jeff White

May

- 1977 – Arnie Roper
- 1991 – Jan Waite
- 1993 – Jim Schneller
- 2011 – Leon Neuheisel
- 2015 – Brad Mootz

(L) – Lifetime Members
(*) – Friends of Optimist

Optimist Club of Platteville Recognized as Distinguished Club



Kevin Haertzen, 16-17 Club President receives Congrats from 16-17 SWIS District Governor, Josh Zaidel



Members attending and helping out at the Second Quarter SWIS Conference were able to celebrate together the honor of being a Distinguished Club.

Platteville Hosts SWIS Second Quarter Conference



OPTIMISTIC OUTLOOK

March

- 8- Oratorical Contest
- 11 – Daylight Savings Time
- 17 – Zone 6 Oratorical
- 17 – St. Patrick’s Day
- 20 – Spring begins
- 30 – Good Friday



April

- 1 – Easter Sunday
- 3 – Board Meeting
- 7 – Tri-Star Basketball
- 21 – Spring NOW Luncheon



May

- 1 – May Day
- 1 – Board Meeting
- 13 – Mother’s Day
- 19 – Armed Forces Day*
- 28 – Memorial Day
- 29 – Board Meeting



Armed Forces Day*

Many Americans celebrate Armed Forces Day annually on the third Saturday of May. It is a day to pay tribute to men and women who serve the United States’ armed forces. Armed Forces Day is also part of Armed Forces Week, which begins on the second Saturday of May.



On August 31, 1949, Louis Johnson, who was the United States’ Secretary of Defense, announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy and Air Force Days. The event stemmed from the armed forces’ unification under one department – the Department of Defense. The Army, Navy and Air Force leagues adopted the newly formed day. The Marine Corps League declined to drop support for Marine Corps Day but supports Armed Forces Day too. The first Armed Forces Day was celebrated on Saturday, May 20, 1950. Armed Forces Day is still celebrated nationwide today and is part of Armed Forces Week.

To the men and women of our Club who served or still serve in the military to defend the freedom(s) we realize today.

SERVING YOUR CLUB

In a ‘short’ six months, your club will be in need of three Directors and a Second Vice President. Directors who have expiring terms are Duane Borgen, Dan Engelke and Charlie Clark. Terms are for 2 years and involve a monthly meeting, currently the Tuesday before the first Friday. Any one of these current members can certainly serve another term; however, our club prospers with new ideas and it is a matter of fairness that we do not expect the same members to serve continuously. As Barb Stockhausen moves to President, Becky Schambow moves into 1st VP, leaving a need for a 2nd VP. If you are interested in serving your club as a Board Member or 2nd VP, you are encouraged to visit with any of these Board Members and they will share their experience with you.

A Reason to



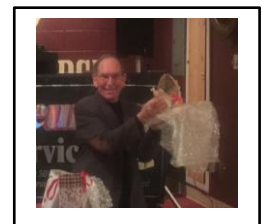
Thanks
Pam
Stark
>>>>



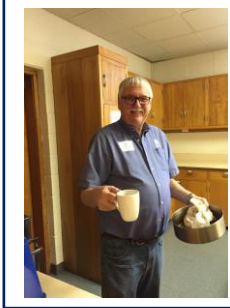
OPTIMISTS OUT n ABOUT White Elephant Gift Exchange

The annual Post-Holiday/White Elephant Gift Exchange Party was enjoyed by 41 members/spouses and guests. The Elks did an outstanding job with the meal. We would certainly entertain visiting them in the future.

The members on Oakhaven Court are developing a complex as the ‘Shell Lamp’ once again returned to the ‘hill’ under the loving care of Bob Weier. What Bob thought was a bottle of wine, turned out to be a ‘Message in a Bottle’ detailing the history of our famous ‘Shell Lamp/Shelly.’



The Back Page



Many thanks to Naomi, Steve and Pam for helping with the SWIS Second Quarter Conference. Also helping, and not pictured, was Becky Schambow. Governor Gary sincerely appreciates your help.

Charlie, Max and Howard shared information about our Club at the Library Community Fair.

Clips from Post-Holiday Party/White Elephant Gift Exchange

