



Platteville Optimist Club Monthly Highlights June 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 July 31, 2022 by Becky Schambow, Secretary

GOVERNING BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES from May 31, 2022 BOARD MEETING

TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion was made by L. Neuheisel, seconded by T. Ellis to approve the minutes from the May 3, 2022 Board Meeting. Motion approved. Motion was made by T. Ellis, seconded by A. Reeves to approve the Treasurer's Report for period ending May 31, 2022. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT COMMENTS:

- Jordan Holthaus and his wife welcomed Iris Catherine into their family May 26th.
- Our member Linda Foht who has served our Club as a waitress at Country Kitchen will be retiring June 3rd.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

FINANCE COMMITTEE: With exception of approval of Treasurer's Report named above, nothing to report.

YOUTH COMMITTEE: No report.

COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE: See New Business

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE:

- **Speakers for June:**
 - June 3rd - Business Meeting;
 - June 10th – Dr. Lauren Prister – SARS-Covid Virus & Covid Treatments
 - June 17 – Ryan Simmons, Platteville Fire Chief
 - June 24 – Dr Jeff White

MEMBERSHIP:

- **Changes in Membership:** Deb Siegwarth has chosen not to renew her membership, and Barb Stockhausen is planning to re-join as a Member (*Barb's business H&R Block has a FOO membership.*)
- **Prospective New Members:** T. Ellis reported that 3 prospective members plan to attend the NOW luncheon on June 11th.
- **Oratorical & Essay Contest Winners:** T. Ellis noted that the winners and their families are planning to attend an upcoming meeting where the students will present their winning presentations.

PUBLICITY / NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE COMMITTEE: See Old Business

CHEESE CURD COMMITTEE: No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **2022-2023 Board:** Alaina Reeves has agreed to serve as Vice President, Jordan Holthaus has agreed to fill a second term, and Dorothy Hlavaty and Deb Elbidge have agreed to serve a first term on the Board. On June 3rd, President Crofoot will request nominations from the floor. L. Neuheisel made a motion, seconded by T. Ellis that these names be submitted to members for approval at the June 3rd meeting. Motion carried.
- **Brochures:**
 - **Current Brochures:** Charlie Clark has located enough brochures to use at NOW meeting;
 - **Updated Brochures:** Board was asked to look at a pdf of current brochure and submit ideas to Membership/Publicity Committee.
- **Football Crazr Tickets:** Gary Engelke still has tickets available for purchase at \$20 each. Club can receive up to \$1200 from these ticket sales.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Party In The Park:** Club serves hotdogs, milk, and ice cream at this event. Gary Engelke and Ernie Thalmann will oversee the event this year. A sign-up sheet for workers to set up, serve and loan out coolers and roasters will be circulated at upcoming meeting(s).
- **Wear Orange on June 3rd:** Members were encouraged to wear orange June 3rd in recognition of "National Initiative Wear Orange Day" to show support for those being killed by gun violence and those encouraging changes to the gun control laws.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Scheduled to be held via Zoom on Tuesday, June 28, 2022.

Board Report Respectfully submitted (from notes provided by Fern Nall) by: Becky Schambow, Secretary

HIGHLIGHTS OF WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS HELD IN MONTH

BUSINESS MEETING: - June 3, 2022

ATTENDEES: There were 27 members attending including: Tim Boldt, Carley Borcharding, Chris Budden, Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Howard Crofoot, Terri Ellis, Deb Elvidge, Steve Elvidge, Dan Engelke, Eileen Engelke, Linda Foht, Beth Frieders, Bob Hundhausen, Ken Kamps, Maggie Kleisath, Maxine Lane, Fern Nall, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Alaina Reeves, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Joy Schewe, Bob Stephens, Ernie Thalmann, and Wayne Wodarz.

BUSINESS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

Call to ORDER: H. Crofoot opened the membership's "Business Meeting" at 7:02 a.m., followed by attendees reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Welcomed Linda Foht to the meeting side of the Club after her retirement from Country Kitchen,
- Tim Boldt and his wife Angie welcomed a new granddaughter to their family.
- Guy Stead was moved to the Memory Care Unit at Oak Park recently.
- Now Luncheon to be held June 11th from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at First English Lutheran Church.
- Joy Schewe has retired from Fennimore Schools.
- Appreciation extended to those who wore orange today in support of changes in gun violence laws and those killed in recent shootings.
- Maxine Lane announced that the JOY Club will be dis-banning in June due to difficulties keeping consistent leadership.
- Maxine noted the SWIS District Conference is planned for August 13th and will be held in DeForest. She will be presenting a tribute in memory of Joan Bahr as part of the program.
- Bob Hundhausen encouraged people to attend the Rotary Club's "Wine Walk" which will be held June 10th from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. Tickets are available for this event which will start at City Park's gazebo with local businesses participating.

SPECIAL DATES NOTED:

- **Birthdays – the upcoming week:**
 - Kim Skemp – June 2nd
 - Ernie Thalmann – June 9th
- **Members' Wedding Anniversaries – the upcoming week:**
 - Linda and Rod Thomas – June 1st
 - Tim and Angie Boldt – June 2nd
 - Jerry and Joy Schewe – June 2nd
 - Greg and Mary Sieckman – June 2nd
 - Lisa and Robert Schmitt – June 3rd
- **Membership Anniversaries this month:**
 - Eileen Nickels – June 1, 1989
 - Terri Ellis – June 11, 2004
 - Eileen Engelke – June 11, 2004
 - Gary Engelke – June 11, 2004
 - Tim Murphy – June 11, 2004
- **FOO Membership Anniversaries this month:**
 - Melby Funeral Home – June 2, 2015
 - Fidelity Bank and Trust – June 22, 2020

MEETING ACTIVITIES:

- **Mystery Greeter:** Dan Engelke greeted Eileen Engelke.
- **Joker Draw:** Ernie Thalmann held the winning ticket, but Ernie did not draw the joker.
- **Free Breakfast Drawing:** Howard Crofoot and Jerry Schewe were the two members present who were drawn to receive free breakfasts in June. Austin Polebitski and Kevin Hartzon were two members absent who were drawn to receive free breakfasts in June.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT: Howard reviewed and provided summary of Governing Board and Committee Updates from the May 31, 2022 meeting as documented above.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Officer Elections for 2022-2023 Year:** Board submitted names of Alaina Reeves, to be named new Vice President, Deb Elvidge and Doreen Halferty to serve a first term as Board member, and Jordan Holthaus to serve a second term as Board Member. President Crofoot called for further nominations from the floor. Following brief discussion, Becky Schambow made a motion, seconded by Paul Budden to close nominations and approve these nominees for Board positions. Motion carried.
- **Inclusive Playground:** A. Reeves announced that the groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled to take place today at 4 p.m. with a rain date of June 11th.

OTHER BUSINESS – ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- **Garden on PCA Trail:** Volunteers were recruited to help clean up our assigned area (*west of Country Kitchen*). Those willing to help were asked to be there on Tuesday, June 15th at 3:00 p.m.

CONCLUSION:

- **Next Week's Speaker:** June 10th – Dr. Lauren Prister – SARS-Covid 2 Virus & Covid Vaccines
- **Meeting Adjourned:** at approximately 7:45 a.m.

Minutes of Business Meeting Submitted by: **Becky Schambow, Secretary** (*based on notes taken by Fern Nall*)

WEEKLY MEETING – June 10, 2022

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: H. Crofoot opened the Weekly Meeting" at 7:00 a.m., followed by attendees reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed President

- **Guests Welcomed:** President Crofoot welcomed Dr. Lauren Prister as our guest today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Sympathy card was passed for signatures to extend sympathies to Deb and Steve Elvidge on the passing of Deb's father in Utah.
- Card passed for signatures to let Guy Stead know we are thinking about him. Guy is now at Oak Park.
- Beth Frieders has arranged for volunteers to help clean up our garden on PCA trail on June 14th at 3:00 p.m.
- A thank-you note was received for our donation to the "8th Grade Graduation Celebration".

SPECIAL DATES NOTED:

- **Birthdays – the upcoming week:**
 - Lisa Schmitt – June 10th
- **Membership Anniversaries – the upcoming week:**
 - Terri Ellis, Gary and Eileen Engelke, and Tim Murphy – all June 11, 2004

MEETING ACTIVITIES:

- **Mystery Greeter:** Leon Neuheisel greeted Ron Weier
- **Joker Draw:** Eileen Engelke's ticket was drawn for a chance to win the Joker, however, she wasn't successful.

INFORMATION PROVIDED / DISCUSSED:

- **Another Board Member Needed:** President Crofoot announced that we will need another Board member to fill the remainder of Alaina Reeve's term (*through fiscal year ending 2023*) as she will become our Vice President effective 10-1-2022.

GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Lauren Prister - SARS-Covid 2 Virus & Covid Vaccines

Our guest speaker was recruited and introduced by Beth Frieders. Dr. Prister, from Lunington, MI studied Microbiology at Michigan State University and minored in Public Health and Epidemiology. She worked in a research lab during her undergraduate career studying bacteria that causes cholera. She then pursued her PhD at Northwestern University and continued to study microbiology. She is currently teaching at UW-Platteville.

Lauren spoke about Covid, noting similarities between this pandemic and that of SARS in years 2002-2007. Lauren explained how the Covid variants have progressed and spread by copying themselves from one person to the next resulting in different mutations. Dr. Prister also provided information on recent medication treatments such as Paxlovid which is in pill form taken for a period of five days.

CONCLUSION:

- **Next Week's Speaker:** June 17th – Ryan Simmons, Platteville Fire Chief
- **Adjournment:** Approximately 7:55 a.m.

Meeting Notes Recorded by: Becky Schambow, from notes taken by Fern Nall, Secretary

WEEKLY MEETING - June 17, 2022

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: H. Crofoot opened the Weekly Meeting" at 7:00 a.m., followed by attendees reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed.

- **Guests Welcomed:** President Crofoot welcomed Ryan Simmons and Tammy Evetovich as our guests today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Now Luncheon:** Held on June 11th at First English Lutheran Church with three new members in the process of joining our Club. Program was led by Terri Ellis and Charlie Clark. Program included a presentation by Phil Swift relative to the Optimist organization, and presentations by the 1st and 2nd place winners of the Oratorical Contest. Lunch was provided by Maggie Kleisath and Joyce Clark. Carley Borcharding provided the centerpieces and door prizes.
- **OI President Elect:** OI announced that the winner of the election for OI President-Elect for 2022-2023 is Tracy Huxley from Canada. A past member of our Club, and current member of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Club, Terry Gorman, was elected to the OI Board of Directors.

SPECIAL DATES NOTED:

- **Birthdays – the upcoming week:**
 - Dean Feldman – June 21st

- **Members' Wedding Anniversaries – the upcoming week:**
 - Tom and Fern Nall – will celebrate their 45th wedding anniversary on June 18th

MEETING ACTIVITIES:

- **Mystery Greeter:** Dan Engelke greeted Eileen Engelke.
- **Joker Draw:** Tammy Evetovich drew Eileen Engelke's name for a chance to win the Joker Draw, but Eileen was unsuccessful.

INFORMATION PROVIDED / DISCUSSED:

- **Cheese Curd Committee:** Group was reminded that Cheese Curds will not be sold at this year's July 4th celebration.
- **Party in the Park:** Gary Engelke and Ernie Thalmann continue to work on plans for event.

GUEST SPEAKER: Ryan Simmons, Platteville's Fire Department Chief – Update on Plans for New Facility

Ryan began his presentation by stating he joined the Fire Department as a volunteer in 2001 and progressed to Captain and then Chief in 2020 when he became a full-time paid employee. He oversees the City's Fire Inspector, and 50 volunteer fire fighters. Ryan provided updates about the plans for Platteville's new fire station to be built on the O. E. Gray school site, noting that the City purchased the property for \$1 from the school system. Research for identifying a location was done by three different consultants over the years, all who felt that site would be the best suited for a new fire station. A seven million dollar grant has been approved to be put towards the building costs, and other grant funding is being pursued. Ryan also talked about the department's contract/services with area townships, noting that some of their trucks are owned by various townships.

CONCLUSION:

- **Next Week's Speaker:** Dr. Jeff White – Health Effects of Global Warming
- **Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at approximate 8:05 a.m.

Meeting Notes Recorded by: Becky Schambow, from notes taken by Fern Nall

WEEKLY MEETING – June 24, 2022

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: Vice President Melissa Palfrey opened the Weekly Meeting" at 7:00 a.m., followed by attendees reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed.

SPECIAL DATES NOTED:

- **Birthdays – the upcoming week:** None noted.
- **Members' Wedding Anniversaries – the upcoming week:**
 - Mark and Joan Haas – June 24th
 - Phil and Sandy Swift – June 26th
 - Wayne and Julie Wodarz – June 26th
 - Steve and Maxine Lane - June 27th
 - Howard and Kathy Crofoot – June 30th

- **Membership Anniversaries – upcoming week:**
 - Bob Hundhausen and Austin Polebitski – both on June 30, 2019

MEETING ACTIVITIES: Documentation of Mystery Greeter & Joker Draw candidates was not available, but it is known that no one won the Joker Draw.

INFORMATION PROVIDED / DISCUSSED: Documentation of Information was not available.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Cheese Curd Committee:** Members were reminded that Committee has decided we would not participate in the City's July 4th celebration this year.

- **Party in the Park:** Members advised to watch for communication from Ernie Thalmann and Gary Engelke from the Community Service Committee relative to this event. It will run from setup at 3:00 p.m. to cleanup at 8:00 p.m. Club will be serving hotdogs, milk, and ice cream. Signup sheets will be circulated soon.
- **Garden on PCA Trail:** Appreciation was extended to Beth Frieders, Terri Ellis, Charlie Clark and Howard Crofoot for their efforts in cleaning up our Club's assigned garden section west of Country Kitchen.

NEW BUSINESS: None

JULY SPEAKERS: *Monthly speakers and topics are posted on Platteville Optimist's Website.* July's speakers have been 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

GUEST SPEAKER: Dr. Jeff White – Health Effects of Global Warming

Ron Weier recruited and introduced our Club member Dr. Jeff White, as our guest speaker. Dr. White grew up in California, attended college at the University of Portland, attended Medical School at Des Moines University and did his residency at East Moreland Hospital in Portland Oregon. He is currently a provider at Medical Associates Clinic.

Dr. White began his presentation with a short update on Covid vaccinations and was pleased to report that Moderna has developed a vaccination that has the Omicron variant in it. Dr. White then provided a presentation on “Climate Change and its Potential Health Affects. These included: decrease by food production by 30% by 2050; water contamination affecting food supplies, disease & depression. With contaminated water & poor air quality, there is an increase in ticks, bugs, etc. so we will see more diseases like Meningitis, Cholera, Zika Virus, etc. He concluded by listing things that are being done to help decrease global warming affects such as: attempting to have “clean” energy such as stopping the CO2 from being released into the atmosphere; recognizing that we need our trees as they consume CO2; taking ocean water to purify and make potable water; developing electric cars; and finding ways for more favorable carbon storage.

Speaker Notes: Recorded by Becky Schambow

CONCLUSION:

- **Next Meeting:** July 1, 2022 – Business Meeting
- **Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 a.m.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MEMBERS’ SPECIAL DAYS IN JULY

JULY MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES:

- 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

JULY - FRIENDS OF OPTIMISTS ANNIVERSARIES: None applicable in July

JULY – MEMBERS’ WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

- Leon and Madge Neuheisel – July 11th
- Bob and Pat Weier – July 20th
- Arnie and Jan Roper – July 26th
- Gary and Eileen Engelke – July 29th

JULY - BIRTHDAYS:

- Mark Essex – July 2nd
- Gary Engelke – July 15th
- Jim Boebel – July 24th