



Platteville Optimist Club Monthly Highlights March 2023

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

2022-2023 Officers: Melissa Palfrey, President; Alaina Reeves, Vice President; Howard Crofoot, Past President; Duane Borgen, Treasurer; and Becky Schambow, Secretary.

2022-2023 Board of Directors: Terri Ellis; Deb Elvidge; Mark Essex; Doreen Hlavaty; Jordan Holthaus; and Leon Neuheisel.

Published for Members April 2, 2023 by Becky Schambow, Secretary

HIGHLIGHTS OF WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS HELD IN MARCH 2023

BUSINESS MEETING: Friday, March 3, 2023

Attendance: There were 24 members present including: Tim Boldt; Charlie Clark; Amy Coffey; Howard Crofoot; Hap Daus; Terri Ellis; Deb and Steve Edvidge; Dan Engelke; Linda Foht; Beth Frieders; Doreen Hlavaty; Maxine and Steve Lane; Tom Nall; Leon Neuheisel; Melissa Palfrey; Alaina Reeves; Becky Schambow; Joy Schewe; Libby Sides; Bob Stephens; Ernie Thalmann; and Wayne Wodarz.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Palfrey at 7:00 a.m. Members then joined together in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.

Meeting Activities:

- **Joker Draw Check Presentation:** President Palfrey presented Howard Crofoot with his winning check in the amount of \$198 from last week's Joker Draw.
- **Mystery Greeter:** Tom Nall was the Mystery Greeter, greeting Joy Schewe.
- **Joker Draw:** Joy Schewe picked Hap Daus' ticket, however he drew the King of Hearts.
- **Breakfast Draw Winners:** Libby Sides and Tom Nall were the two members present whose names were drawn, and Maggie Kleisath and Mary Sieckman were the two members not present whose names were drawn to receive a free breakfast in March.

Special Dates to Remember:

- **No Birthdays or Wedding Anniversaries this Upcoming Week**
- **Membership Anniversaries in March:**
 - Tom Jonas – March 1, 1972
 - Duane Borgen – March 1, 1980
 - Phil Swift – March 1, 1981
 - Hap Daus – March 1, 1988
 - Dean Feldman – March 30, 1992
 - Howard Crofoot and George Byykkonen - March 5, 1997
 - William VanDeest – March 31, 2001
 - Doug Martin – March 25, 2005
 - Ronald Weier – March 13, 2009
 - Kevin Haertzen – March 4, 2013
- **No Friend Of Optimist Membership Anniversaries in March**

Announcements:

- **Oratorical Volunteers:** Were reminded to meet at WI Bank and Trust at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 6th.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM BOARD MEETING CONDUCTED ON TUESDAY, February 28, 2023: President Palfrey reviewed the following highlights from the Board meeting held on February 28, 2023.

President's Comments:

- **Suggestions Received from Maxine Lane for activities / events:** President Palfrey noted receipt of correspondence from Maxine with suggestions she had for our Club to consider after her visits to Optimist meetings in Alabama while she was vacationing there. The Board will discuss the suggestions at the next Board meeting.

Treasurer's Report Period Ending Feb 28, 2023: Treasurer's report for period ending 2-28-2023 was submitted by Club Treasurer, Duane Borgen.

- **Motion from Board for approval:** President Palfrey reported a motion has been made by the Board to "approve the report as printed". Seconded by Beth Frieders, motion carried.

Committee Highlights:

- **Finance Committee** – After multiple attempts to contact one of our 2022 scholarship recipients who didn't turn in proof of registration the Club will not be paying out his scholarship award.
- **Community Service** –
 - Story Book Walk – Schedule is in place awaiting Park Board approval – will be posted on our website
- **Membership:**
 - **Membership Changes:**
 - **New Member – Libby Sides** – sponsored by Linda Foht
 - **New FOO Member – Caroline Sawyer** (*member of Madison Optimist Club – sponsored by Howard*)
 - **LOSS of FOOs** – Rosemeyer – Jones Chiropractic and PBII
Howard Crofoot made a motion, seconded by Charlie Clark to approve these membership changes. Motion carried.
 - **NOW Meeting** – tentatively scheduled for June 3 to be held at First English Lutheran Church.
 - **Noon Meetings Scheduled** –
 - 2nd Friday – March 10th at Noon at A & W – Informational Business Meeting
 - 5th Friday – March 31st – Social Meeting at Noon – Los Amigos
- **Publicity / Newsletter & Website:** Updates continue to be made – forms, such as grant applications, etc. to be on-line. Tom Nall volunteered to help with website postings, etc.
- **Cheese Curd:** Committee will meet at end of March or early April to begin planning
- **Fellowship:**
 - **March Speakers:** recruited by Doreen Hlavaty & Eileen McCartney
 - March 10 - Lynn Raley – Scuba Diving Experiences & Changing Ocean Conditions
 - March 17 – Lynn Parrott
 - March 24 - Ally Shanahan - What is happening at the Senior Center.
 - March 31 - Platteville High School FFA officers - Their program and experiences
- **Youth:**
 - **Essay Contest Winners:** were Nicole Jentz; Nuzaria Rabbani & Blake Knight
 - **Oratorical Contest:** Scheduled for Monday, March 6th – 13 are registered.
 - **Tri-Star Basketball:** To be held April 15 at UW-Platteville.
 - **Presentation of Winning Essays & Oratorical Presentations:** Being planned for May

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Policy Approval – "Board Motions to Members":** President Palfrey noted the Board has made a motion to approve the written policy dated January 6, 2023. Seconded by Hap Daus, motion carried with four members

being opposed. (Policy documents Board and Members decision made Jan. 6th to have Board motions be seconded and voted on by membership.)

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Night Safety Program – Reflective Gear for Kids** – Board referring to Community Service Committee to be considered as part of Bike Rodeo (*after it is determined if Boy Scouts will be collaborating with*)
- **Joker Draw – Suggestion to raise \$2 award to \$5** – President Palfrey noted that Charlie Clark suggested the Board consider raising the \$2 for the winning ticket to \$5. The Board recommended the membership be asked for input. After discussion, Charlie made a motion to raise the award to \$5, seconded by Joy Schewe. Motion failed with 15 opposed and 7 in favor.

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 4th

Other Business from Members: None

Next Week – March 10th

- Speaker at 7:00 a.m. Meeting - Lynn Raley – Scuba Diving Experiences & Changing Ocean Conditions
- Noon Business Informational Meeting at Noon – A & W

Motion to Adjourn: A motion was made by Leon Neuheisel, seconded by Terri Ellis, to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 a.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully recorded by:
Becky Schambow, Secretary

WEEKLY MEETING – March 10, 2023 – cancelled due to weather

WEEKLY MEETING – March 17, 2023

There were 19 members and one guest present.

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Convene:** The meeting was called to order by President Melissa Palfrey at 7:00 a.m.
- **Pledge of Allegiance and Creed:** Members recited the Pledge and the Creed.
- **Guests Welcomed:** Lynn Parrott, speaker
- **Mystery Greeter:** Terri Ellis was the Mystery Greeter, greeting Hap Daus
- **Joker Draw:** Tom Nall's ticket was drawn, however Tom drew the 7 of Diamonds.
- **Special Dates to Remember:**
 - **Member Birthdays in Upcoming Week:** Paul Budden and Jerry Schewe – March 19th

INFORMATION PROVIDED:

- **Noon Informational Meeting:** As meetings were cancelled on March 10th due to weather concerns, the first Noon Informational Meeting at A & W will be Friday, April 7th and will be on the 2nd Friday of each month thereafter.
- **Bob Weier is Home from Nursing Home:** Visitors are welcome (*suggest calling Pat first.*)
- **Update on Oratorical:** Nuzaira Rabbani (1st); Maria Schmitt (2nd) & Halle Furer (3rd). They will be invited to present their oratorical presentations at a May meeting.
- **Tri-Star Basketball Event on April 15:** A sign-up sheet for volunteers to work at the event was circulated.
- **NOW Event – May 20th:** Terri Ellis noted that event date has been changed to Saturday, May 20th. An email will be sent to members requesting suggestions of names and addresses of potential members to be invited to event to learn more about our Club.
- **Speakers: Speaker Coordinators for March** – Doreen Hlavaty & Eileen McCartney
 - **Next Week's Speaker - March 24:** Ally Shanahan who will be speaking on "What is happening at the Senior Center".

- **Today's Speaker: Lynn Parrott – Setting Boundaries for Kids & Being Village Keepers**, introduced by Doreen Hlavaty

Lynn is a native of Chicago, IL who relocated to Platteville in the spring of 2017. In the fall of 2017 she became the first African American female to pastor the Bread of Life Church in Platteville. By 2018, she was the first African American female to be on the Board of Directors at Family Advocates, and in 2021, she became the first African American female to be elected as an Alderperson At Large for the City of Platteville.

Lynn facilitated an open conversation focusing on youth. She spoke about her upbringing, and how times and people have changed throughout the generations. Lynn stated she wanted to spark us to help kids who don't have foundations. She noted that parents in current times often want to be their children's friend, are working parents, and allow their children to be preoccupied with electronics. She encouraged members to be role models for our youth by; being involved and participating with the youth; being significant as "Village People" leaving seeds of character and growth. She ended her conversation noting that everyone makes mistakes and in an effort to give children self-confidence, let them know we can learn from our mistakes.

Conclusion: The meeting concluded at 8:00 a.m.

Recorded by: Becky Schambow

WEEKLY MEETING – March 24, 2023

There were 23 members and two guests present.

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Convene:** The meeting was called to order by President Melissa Palfrey at 7:00 a.m.
- **Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed:** Members recited the Pledge and the Creed.
- **Guests Welcomed:** Ally Shanahan and Jill Goffinet, speakers.
- **Mystery Greeter:** Maxine Lane was the Mystery Greeter, greeting Bob Stephens.
- **Joker Draw:** Doug Martin's ticket was drawn, however Doug drew the 10 of Diamonds.
- **Special Dates to Remember:**
 - **Birthdays this upcoming week:**
 - Linda Thomas and Wayne Wodarz – March 24th (today)
 - Eileen McCartney – March 25th
 - Bob Hundhausen – March 30th
 - **Wedding Anniversary:** Diane and Charlie Paynter – March 25th

INFORMATION PROVIDED:

- **Member Illness:** President Palfrey updated the membership on the status of Steve Elvidge, who has been experiencing some medical issues. A get well card was circulated for signatures to be sent to Steve.
- **Resignation from Board and Youth Committee:** Due to Steve's health concern, Deb Elvidge has requested to step away from her position on the Board and Youth Activities Committee. President Palfrey requested anyone interested in filling these positions should contact her.
- **Tri-Star Basketball – April 15:** Tim Boldt reminded the members of the date, time and location. A volunteer sign-up sheet was circulated.
- **NOW Event – May 20:** Terri Ellis updated the members regarding the location and date. Event will be held at First English Lutheran Church. Terri also reminded members to turn in their list of persons to be invited.
- **Speakers: Speaker Coordinators for March – Doreen Hlavaty & Eileen McCartney**
 - **Next Week's Speakers, March 31st:** will be Platteville High School FFA officers who will talk about their program and experiences.
- **Today's Speakers: Ally Shanahan and Jill Goffinet - "What's Happening at Senior Center:**

Eileen McCartney introduced Ally Shanahan, noting Ally is a 2018 graduate of Loras College with a degree in social work and a 2020 graduate of Des Moines Area Community College with a degree in Mortuary Science. Following a move to Platteville to work at Martin Schwartz Funeral Home, she applied for a seat on the Commission on Aging. She quickly found herself as the President of Platteville Area Senior Support, the

fundraising arm of the Senior Center. In 2022, Ally began as a volunteer at the Center, then as Jill's assistant, and made her way to being the Manager.

Ally took time to introduce, Jill Goffinet, Program Coordinator from the Senior Center.

Ally informed the members that with the Fire Station securing OE Gray, their current location, they will be relocating to City Hall where the former police department was housed. They are currently underway with renovations which are being funded by their many fundraisers (brat sales, garage sale, crafts, etc.) which are coordinated through PASS, the fundraising arm of the Senior Center. She shared their newsletter which is published monthly, features highlights from the Center.

Jill spoke regarding the annual trips they provide, usually 4 per year and highlighted information on the upcoming trips for 2023. Several questions were asked and responded to.

Conclusion: The meeting adjourned at 7:52 a.m.

Recorded by: Maxine Lane

WEEKLY MEETING – March 31, 2023

There were 23 members and three guests present

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Convene:** The meeting was called to order by President Melissa Palfrey at 7:00 a.m.
- **Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed:** Members recited the Pledge and the Creed.
- **Guests Welcomed:** Sam Pinchart, Grace Schuler, and Jadyn Fiedler, speakers.
- **Mystery Greeter:** Tom Nall was the Mystery Greeter, greeting Doreen Hlavaty.
- **Joker Draw:** Charlie Clark's ticket was drawn, however Charlie drew the 2 of Clubs.

- **Special Dates to Remember:**
 - **Member Birthdays this Upcoming Week:** None
 - **Member Wedding Anniversaries this Upcoming Week:**
 - Bob and Victoria Hundhausen – April 1, 1991
 - Robert and Jeanette Stephens – April 2, 1988

INFORMATION PROVIDED:

- **Thank You from Bob and Pat Weier:** President Palfrey read a note received from Bob and Pat Weier in appreciation of a "thinking of you" video that was filmed with members' waving at last week's meeting and sent to Weiers and Steve Elvidge. Bob and Pat acknowledged their continued support of our Club and noted that they miss being able to join us at morning meetings.
- **Thank You received from Platteville Fire Department for our donation:** was circulated.
- **Tri-Star Basketball – April 15:** President Palfrey noted that there is still time to volunteer to help at the April 15th event by contacting Becky Schambow.
- **Volunteer to fill Deb Elvidge's Board Position:** President Palfrey reported that Amy Coffey has indicated her interest in filling Deb Elvidge's board position.
- **Next Week's Meeting - April 7:** Will be our monthly Business Meeting.

- **Speakers: Thank You to Speaker Coordinators – Doreen Hlavaty & Eileen McCartney**

- **Today's Speakers:** Sam Pinchart, Advisor; Grace Schuler and Jayden Fiedler, Officers of **Platteville High School FFA - Their program and Experiences**

Today's speakers were introduced by Eileen McCartney noting that the FFA develops a student's potential for premier leadership personal growth and career success. They do this through participation in competitions and conferences that expose them to many diverse areas of agricultural leadership. Sam Pinchart is the current Platteville Agriscience instructor and FFA advisor. He grew up on a farm in northeastern Wisconsin and received his bachelor's degree of science in agricultural education from South Dakota State University. Grace Schuler is currently a sophomore at Platteville high school (*and niece of Eileen McCartney*). She has been incredibly active in the FFA and has participated in numerous events including representing the Platteville FFA at

this year's state Halftime conference. Jadyn Fiedler is a current senior at Platteville high school and has been involved in all aspects of agricultural education including the FFA. Eileen noted they were excited to be at the meeting today to share how the FFA is growing leaders, building communities, and strengthening agriculture.

Mr. Pinchart provided information on various career development opportunities where students can get hands on experiences. Some he mentioned included: ag mechanics; judging dairy cattle; evaluating livestock; property development; veterinary science; food science; and meat science.

FFA is a student led organization providing chances for students to get involved with various learning experiences. Both Grace and Jayden talked about their valuable experiences and opportunities FFA has provided to them and it was evident their experiences will enhance their lives in years to come.

Conclusion: The meeting adjourned at 7:50 a.m.

Recorded by: Becky Schambow

SPEAKERS and TOPICS FOR APRIL 2023

- April 7 – Business Meeting
- April 14 – Bob Hundhausen – President of Building Platteville – Light Programs
 - April 14th – Noon Informational Business Meeting – at A & W
- April 21 - Joe Biba – Creators of Hope Mission (608-778-7621; joeb@joebibaconstruction.com)
- April 28 - Bob Hundhausen & representatives - PCA Trail

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MEMBERS' SPECIAL DAYS COMING UP in APRIL 2023

MARCH BIRTHDAYS:

- Leon Neuheisel – April 9th;
- Diane Paynter – April 10th;
- Mark Haas – April 15th;
- Deb Elvidge – April 18th;
- Penny Droessler – April 23rd;
- Thomas Nall – April 29th;
- Tim Murphy – April 30th.

MARCH – MEMBERS' WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

- Bob and Victoria Hundhausen – April 1st;
- Robert and Jeanette Stephens – April 2nd;
- Ernie and Shirley Thalmann – April 8th;
- Chris and Paul Budden – April 14th;
- Eileen and Tom Nickels – April 25th
- Libby and Wayne Sides – April 25th;
- Melissa and Levi Palfrey – April 26th.

MARCH – MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES:

- Lynn Schlager – April 7, 1999;
- Ronald Holl – April 17, 2003;
- Mary and Greg Sieckman – April 16, 2017;
- Linda Thomas – April 16th 2017;
- Jeff White – April 28, 2017
- Jordan Holthaus – April 14, 2018;
- Penny Droessler – April 30, 2019;
- Eileen McCartney – April 30, 2019;
- Alaina Reeves – April 30, 2019'
- Barb Deis – April 30, 2019

MARCH – FRIEND of OPTIMIST ANNIVERSARIES:

- Family Pet Hospital – April 30, 2019

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