

# ROOSTER CALL



## PLATTEVILLE OPTIMIST CLUB

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, November 10, 2017**

**Attendance:** 31 Members – Tim Boldt, Carley Borcharding, Duane Borgen, Chris Budden, Charlie Clark, Peggy Compton, Howard Crofoot, Hap Daus, Dan Engelke, Gary Engelke, Beth Frieders, Kevin Haertzen, Maggie Kleisath, Maxine Lane, Steve Lane, Doug Martin, Fern Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Arnie Roper, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Greg Sieckman, Mary Sieckman, Bob Stephens, Barb Stockhausen, Ernie Thalmann, Linda Thomas, John Urness, Bob Weier, Ron Weier, Wayne Wodarz.

**Guests:** n/a

**Mystery Greeter:** Bob Stephens greeted Linda Thomas.

**Joker Draw:** With an extra drawing this morning, both recipients were seated at the same table. Maggie Kleisath won for the joker draw, drawing the 6 of hearts and a cheese knife from Emmi Roth was won by Chris Budden

### **Announcements:**

**Birthdays/Anniversaries:** Only one anniversary this morning, Doug Martin on November 11.

**Thank You Notes:** n/a

**Platteville Holiday Project:** Toy pickup will start next Friday, November 17.

**Santa Calling:** Dates are scheduled for December 12, 13, 14. A volunteer signup sheet will be prepared for members. It was noted this is the 29<sup>th</sup> year Platteville Optimist have participated in this program.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** President Wodarz has contacted members interested in helping to schedule a brainstorming session(s) prior to the end of the year, looking at a Monday evening(s).

**WI Badger Camp Event:** December 9 at Holiday Gardens, Potosi. Executive Director, Brent Bowers will be our guest speaker on Friday December 15. Following the meeting this morning, President Wodarz and SWIS Governor Engelke presented Brent with our Club donation.

**Optimist Caps:** President Wodarz reminded members to purchase a cap for \$7 and represent our club and would also make a nice gift.

**Speaker Coordinators:** Becky Schambow announced we are in still looking for speaker coordinator(s) for September and December, 2018.

**Badger Boys/Girls State:** Hap Daus stated he attended the recent banquet at which the Platteville Optimists were recognized and received a certificate acknowledging our support of this youth organization.

**New Club Organized:** SWIS Governor Gary announced the formation of a new club in the SWIS District, Sussex WI. Our club is one of the sponsors and he will attend their organizational meeting next Tuesday.



**Program:** Thanks to Doug Martin for organizing our speakers. A presentation we look forward to annually, this morning we welcomed UWP Basketball Coach, Jeff Gard along with UWP Athletic Director, Shannon Ealy.



Coach Gard is beginning his 9<sup>th</sup> year as Head Coach of the UWP Men's Basketball. He was named the 13<sup>th</sup> UWP basketball coach on June 9, 2009. Jeff was an assistant at UWP for 6 seasons prior to accepting the head coaching position. He also served as an assistant at Lakeland College, Cuba City, under the legendary Coach Jerry Petitgoue, and Southwestern High School. Jeff is a graduate of Iowa Grant High School and UWP in 2001 with a degree in Physical and Health Education. Jeff resides in Platteville with his wife Amy and children, Hannah and Vincent, whom we enjoy seeing at the home games!!

It was great to welcome yet other UWP alumni to our meeting this morning, UWP Athletic Director, Shannon Ealy, recently hired in June, 2017. Prior to coming to UWP, Shannon was the Interim Director of Athletics at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Shannon is a 1991 grad of UWP, where he majored in Business Administration. He also lettered 4 years on the Pioneer Football Team, playing wide receiver and quarterback under Coach George Chryst. He earned honorable mention in the Wisconsin State University Conference in 1990. Shannon, and his wife Carolyn, have 3 children, Caitlin, Brian and Alyssa.

AD, Ealy stated he has spent much time developing relationships in and around the community, staff and students at UWP. He is looking forward to doing some strategic planning within his position and stated he has some great coaches to work with. His tenure with UAB was short lived due to realignment within the system. Since his goal was to someday return to Platteville, his home roots, he was very pleased when the opportunity to become the UWP Athletic Director presented itself and he is delighted to be back.

Coach Gard shared his excitement about some new recruits and the energy he sees from his players. Many of the returning players have been doing strength training over the off season and coming back with increased weight and stronger. Seven new freshmen join the team this year and Coach Gard stated 3-4 of these freshmen will definitely be seeing time on the court. Over the past weeks, Coach Gard has been entertaining opportunities for the players to meet and hear former players and coaches from within the NBA and various sports areas who provided guidance and motivation to these young players. Time was allowed for questions and answers.

**Every Day  
is a Great Day  
to be a Pioneer**



Weekly Speakers: November Programs, Coordinator, Doug Martin  
**November 17 – Karen Kurt, Platteville City Manager**  
**November 24 – No Meeting (Happy Thanksgiving)**

Minutes taken and drafted for Rooster Call by Maxine Lane