



Platteville Optimist Club Monthly Highlights | December 2021

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; Fern Nall, Secretary

2021-2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Doug Martin, Leon Neuheisel, Linda Thomas, Steve Lane, Terri Ellis, Jordan Holthaus

PUBLISHED FOR MEMBERS ON December 31st, 2021 Due to COVID-19, the Platteville Optimist Board and Members have not been able to meet in person since March 6, 2020. To continue Club business, the Board of Directors has been meeting via Zoom, with our most recent meeting held on November 30, 2021. The following "Governing Board & Committee Updates" below were reported to the Membership at their Business Meeting on December 3, 2021.

GOVERNING BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES FROM Board Meeting November 30, 2021

Treasurer's Report:

- ✓ Financial Report dated 11.30.21 was submitted by D. Borgen, Treasurer. L. Neuheisel moved to approve the report, seconded by M. Palfrey. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION:

- **FINANCE COMMITTEE:**
 - ✓ Dues are paid through April of 2022.
 - ✓ Need to establish a group to conduct the review of the financial review.
- **YOUTH ACTIVITIES:**
 - ✓ Tom Nall is working on the Essay Contest
- **COMMUNITY SERVICE:** Nothing
- **FELLOWSHIP:**
 - ✓ December Speakers coordinated by Kevin Hartzon
 - December 3 Business Meeting Erik Flesch will attend to accept the donation request for the Rollo Jamison Museum and the \$800 donation to restore one of the train cars.
 - December 10th: Les Hollingsworth - Director of UWP College of Business, will talk about the Business College, and their students and their programs.
 - December 17th: Dr. Michael Black - Associate Professor of Statistics, will talk about Data Science and Probability
 - December 24: No Meeting
 - December 31: No Meeting
- **THANK YOU NOTES:** Platteville High School for donation to their newspaper Hillmen Highlights and Iowa County Cancer Coalition for our donation.
- **MEMBERSHIP:**
 - ✓ Joan Bahr resigned from the board and fellowship committee due to health issues.
 - ✓ Family advocates will return as a Friend of Optimist member.
- **PUBLICITY/NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE:**
 - ✓ M. Palfrey explained updates to the website. She is looking into the Facebook and Instagram accounts. She discussed putting more information on the social media platforms Using the big check was discussed when the donation requests are presented each month.
- **CHEESE CURD:** Nothing

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Santa calling and speaker coordinators**
 - ✓ Both signup sheets will be passed around as they both need more volunteers.
- **2021-2022 committee members**
 - ✓ Notes were made on the discussion of present members of each committee as well as possibilities of new members for each committee

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Holiday party**

- ✓ The holiday party wasn't held in 2020 with the pandemic restrictions. Board decided to evaluate the interest of the club in holding the party this year at the business meeting

CONCLUSION:

- ✓ Next Business Meeting is Friday, December 3rd at 7:00 a.m. at Country Kitchen.
- ✓ Next Board Meeting is Tuesday, January 4th at 7:00 a.m. via Zoom.
- ✓ Motion to adjourn made by T. Ellis, seconded by D. Borgen. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 a.m.

ATTACHMENTS: Attachments:

- ✓ Today's Agenda
- ✓ 11.2.21 Board Minutes
- ✓ Financial Documents:

Board Minutes submitted by Fern Nall, Secretary

DECEMBER 3, 2021 – BUSINESS MEETING

ATTENDEES: There were 20 members in attendance including: Carley Borcharding, Chris Budden, Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Hap Daus, Mark Essex, Doreen Hlavaty, Maggie Kleisath, Maxine Lane, Doug Martin, Eileen McCarthy, Tim Murphy, Fern Nall, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Melissa Palfrey, Alaina Reeves, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, and guest Erik Flesch.

BUSINESS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: Meeting was called to order by M. Palfrey at 7:26 am, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- ✓ M. Palfrey conducted the meeting as H. Crofoot was at the ER with his wife who injured her foot.
- ✓ Erik Flesch, Museum Director of the Rollo Jamison Mining Museum, accepted our check for their donation request and the \$800 donation to update one of the train cars at the museum.

SPECIAL DATES NOTED:

- ✓ Membership Birthdays – Virgil Pufahl, December 1st and Priscilla Hahn, December 4th
- ✓ Membership Anniversaries - Kathy Kopp – December 9th, 1993

MEETING ACTIVITIES:

- ✓ Mystery Greeter: M. Palfrey acted as greeter and Eric Flesch was the winner.
- ✓ Joker Draw: led by Charlie Clark: Doug Martin held the winning ticket and drew the 4 of Hearts.
- ✓ Free Breakfast Drawing: Not done today.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT & COMMENTS: Vice President M. Palfrey reviewed the Board and Committee updates from the Board's November 30, 2021 meeting as noted above. Members approved the Board's motions as follows:

- ✓ Treasurer's report: M. Palfrey reported the information from the treasurer's report ending 11.30.21 which had been approved at the board meeting. Motion from the club for approval made by M. Lane. Motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED:

- ✓ **Youth:**
T. Nall indicated that he is working on the Essay Contest and information had been sent to the Platteville Middle School. M. Lane updated the club on the CCDDH (Communication Contest for the Deaf and hard of Hearing).
- ✓ **Fellowship:**
December Speakers – recruited by Kevin Haertzen
December 10th: Les Hollingsworth - Director of UWP College of Business, will talk about the Business College, and their students and their programs.
December 17th: Dr. Michael Black - Associate Professor of Statistics, will talk about Data Science and Probability
December 24: No Meeting
December 31: No Meeting
- ✓ **Publicity/Newsletter & Website:**
M. Palfrey reported that she will be acting as publicity chair and Mary Sieckman will work on the Website. They plan to post photos from the weekly meetings on Facebook each week to increase the interest in the club.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ✓ Board discussed the Holiday Party which is held in January. They decided to see if there was interest from the club to plan the event this year. A. Reeves explained that the fellowship committee plans the event and restrictions with Covid-19. Club showed an interest in having the event and more discussion will follow. D. Hlavaty and M. Essex volunteered to join the fellowship committee.

CONCLUSION:

- ✓ Next meeting will be Friday, December 10th at 7 pm at Country Kitchen.
- ✓ Next Board Meeting is Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 7:00 a.m. via Zoom
- ✓ Meeting adjourned at 7:55 a.m.
- ✓ Minutes were recorded by Fern Nall, Secretary

DECEMBER 10, 2021: Les Hollingsworth

ATTENDEES: There were 24 members and 1 guest. In attendance were Tim Boldt, Carley Borcharding, Chris Budden, Paul Budden, Howard Crofoot, Hap Daus, Terri Ellis, Dan Engelke, Mark Essex, Doreen Hlavaty, Maggie Kleisath, Maxine Lane, Doug Martin, Fern Nall, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Melissa Palfrey, Alaina Reeves, Jerry Schewe, Bob Stephens, Ernie Thalmann, Gene Weber, Ron Weier, Wayne Wodarz, and guest Steve Van Kooten.

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: Meeting was called to order by H. Crofoot at 7:02 a.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed.

SPECIAL DATES NOTED: Happy Birthday to Priscilla Hahn (December 4th). Kathy Kopp celebrated her Membership Anniversary (December 9, 1993).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- ✓ Maggie Kleisath reminded us that she needs workers and donation of baked items for the Alone for Christmas Dinner. Fern will send out a link to signup genius to help members sign up.
- ✓ A collection was taken for the servers this week.
- ✓ Becky Schambow extended Joan Bahr's appreciation for our cards and well wishes.

SPECIAL GUESTS TODAY:

- ✓ Steve Van Kooten from Wisconsin Badger Camp accepted their donation request of \$1,500. He Thanked the club for their support over the years.

MEETING ACTIVITIES:

- ✓ Mystery Greeter: Gene Weber greeted Doug Martin.
- ✓ Joker Draw (led by A. Reeves): H. Daus drew C. Budden's ticket. She drew the Ace of Spades.

OLD BUSINESS:

- ✓ H. Crofoot thanked everyone who had helped with the Santa Calling.
- ✓ Speaker coordinator sheet was circulated and can be accessed online.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ✓ OI Dime a Day Campaign will happen again in January.

GUEST SPEAKER: Les Hollingsworth

Les Hollingsworth, the Director of the University of Wisconsin Platteville College of Business was introduced by his father-in-law, Ron Weier. Les attended Luther College where he met his wife, Lindsey. He joined the National Guard at was stationed at Camp McCoy where he helped train people from places like Nicaragua, China, and Brazil. Les went on to earn his master's degree. He has taught at various locations including the University of Phoenix.

Les uses stories to help his students realize that education is life changing. He tries to find ways to reduce the cost for the students and was able to provide \$53,000 to freshman students this year and \$40,000 to students working towards their master's degrees. Business classes aren't emphasized nor are the various aspects of business understood at the high school level. He is conducting a recruiting event this spring to develop more interest in business degrees.

He went on to discuss the success of the college of business at the university. The business department is half the size of the mechanical engineering department. He is trying to recruit students from places like Loas, Germany, California. The Platteville students work with these students to develop a partnership that will hopefully encourage some of them to remain in the community. Other areas these students explore are finance, economic development, work with non-governmental organizations, public safety, and marketing.

The club enjoyed the positive interactions he is encouraging in his department to develop strong relationships and job opportunities for the students after graduation.

CONCLUSION:

- ✓ Next Meeting will be Friday, December 17th at 7:00 am at Country Kitchen.
- ✓ Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 4th at 7:00 a.m. via Zoom.
- ✓ Adjournment: 7:53 am
- ✓ Minutes recorded by Fern Nall, Secretary

DECEMBER 17, 2021: Dr. Michael Black

ATTENDEES: There were 25 members, 1 Friend of Optimist (FOO) and 2 guests in attendance including: Michael Black (guest speaker), Tim Boldt, Carley Borcharding, Chris & Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Howard Crofoot, Terri Ellis, Deb & Steve Elvidge, Dan Engelke, Mark Essex, Beth Frieders, Bob Gates (guest), Kevin Haertzen, Doreen Hlavaty, Bob Hundhausen, Maggie Kleisath, Maxine Lane, Doug Martin, Eileen McCartney, Melissa Palfrey, Alaina Reeves, Jerry Schewe, Bob Stephens, Gene Weber (FOO-Weber Business Consulting), Ron Weier, and Wayne Wodarz.

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: Meeting was called to order by H. Crofoot at 7:02 a.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed.

- **SPECIAL DATES NOTED:**

- **Member Birthdays for the rest of the month:**
 - Howard Crofoot-December 16th
 - Kevin Hartzen-December 16th
 - Eileen Engelke – December 19th
 - Phil Swift – December 23rd
 - Anne Klawiter – December 27th
- **Member Wedding Anniversaries for the rest of the month:**
 - Duane & Amy Borgen – December 17
 - Barb & Tim Deis – December 20
 - Mike & Priscilla Hahn – December 27
- **December Membership Anniversaries:**
 - Tim Boldt – December 10, 2012
 - Becky Schambow – December 12, 2014
 - Beth Frieders – December 13, 2006
 - Bob Weier – December 14, 2012
 - Tom Nall – December 19, 2000
- **December Friends of Optimist Anniversaries:**
 - Busch Insurance – December 15, 2015

- **Announcements:**

- **OI Foundation Dime a Day campaign in January** – Jerry Schewe announced that he will begin collecting Dime a Day contributions (\$36.50 for the year) and plans to send all of them in at once in February. Checks may be made payable to: OI Foundation
- **Katie's Garden Books** – Carley Borcharding shared that over the Halloween and Christmas events at Katie's Garden, the Platteville Optimist Club gave out over 500 books.
- **Alone for Christmas** – Maggie Kleisath gave out extra flyers for the Alone for Christmas event and reminded everyone of the Sign-up Genius link if they would like to volunteer. They are in specific need of people who are willing to be outside on Christmas directing traffic. Those who wish to contribute but cannot make it to the event can donate Christmas cookies.

- **Presentation of Checks:**

- **Platteville Music Boosters** -Check accepted by Bob Gates - \$250.00 (on big check). Bob gates thanked the group, stating this money will go towards new instruments (mentioned new pianos and a new drum set at Platteville Middle School).

MEETING ACTIVITIES:

- **Mystery Greeter** was Ron Weier who greeted Eileen McCartney.
- **Joker Draw** – Led by Charlie Clark; Steve Elvidge's ticket was drawn. During the last meeting of the year, Steve chose to "draw" and drew the JOKER! Gets ½ of the pot, which was around \$517 not including today's proceeds.
- **December Breakfast Drawing (breakfast good for month of January):**
 - Present (2):** Ron Weier & Charlie Clark
 - Absent (2):** Linda Thomas & Kim Skemp

NEW BUSINESS:

- Donation was taken for the Country kitchen Staff to thank them for their service. It was a nice collection and well appreciated by Linda and the staff.

- **Speakers For January: Eileen McCartney and Doreen Hlavaty are the speaker coordinators**
 - January 7th – Business Meeting
 - January 14th – Deb Browning will talk about the Senior Center
 - January 21st – Alaina Reeves will talk about the plans for the Platteville Inclusive Playground
 - January 28th -Doreen Hlavaty will talk about her trip to Africa
- **Speaker Today:** Kevin Hartzel will introduce Dr Michael Black, Associate Professor of Statistics at University of Wisconsin Platteville

Dr. Michael Black, Associate Professor of Statistics at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, was introduced by Kevin Haertzen. Dr. Black earned his PhD in Statistics from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Prior to earning his PhD he worked as an actuary for six years in Minneapolis, MN. His primary areas of interest include probability, general statistical consulting, and actuarial studies. In his spare time, Dr. Black collects comic books.

Dr. Michael Black referenced many renowned mathematicians including Julian Havil, Martin Gardner and Hans Freudenthal during his presentation. In the December 1979 issue of *Scientific American*, Martin Gardner wrote a puzzle that he deemed "impossible." Dr. Black shared with us the Excel worksheet(s) that he built out to attempt to solve this puzzle, shared pieces of his thought process behind building it, and offered some reasonings behind his results. Though most of us got lost along the way (see visual aids below), we thoroughly enjoyed Dr. Black's presence and presentation.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Alaina Reeves, filling in for Secretary Fern Nall.

DECEMBER 24, 2021: NO MEETING- CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 31, 2021: NO MEETING- NEW YEAR'S EVE

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF MEMBERS' SPECIAL DAYS IN JANUARY:

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- ✓ **Greg Sieckman** – January 5
- ✓ **Duane Borgen** – January 9
- ✓ **Alaina Reeves** – January 13
- ✓ **Rod Thomas** – January 19
- ✓ **Charlie Clark** – January 28

JANUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- ✓ **Penny and Steve Droessler** – January 28
- ✓ **Steve and Deb Elvidge** – January 30

JANUARY MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES:

- ✓ **Bob Stephens** – January 1, 1987
- ✓ **Linda Foht** – January 1, 2020
- ✓ **Pat Moxness Weier** – January 6, 2018
- ✓ **Joan Bahr** - January 28, 2018

JANUARY FRIENDS OF OPTIMIST ANNIVERSARIES:

- ✓ **Dupaco** – January 12, 2016 (renew by Jan 12, 2022)
- ✓ **Thrivent** – January 24, 2019 (renew by Jan 24.22)
- ✓ **Delta 3** – January 27, 2016 (renew by 1.27.22)
- ✓ **Rosemeyer Jones Chiropractic** – January 27, 2020