# PLATTEVILLE OPTIMIST CLUB

CURRENTLY MEETING 7:00 AM FRIDAYS AT COUNTRY KITCHEN, HWY 151, PLATTEVILLE, WI

### Friday, November 13, 2015

**Attendance:** Twenty-two (22) members were present today, including our newest member, Dan Engelke, who was installed today. Doug Martin is Dan's sponsor.

**Mystery Greeter: Doug Martin** was the lucky recipient of a Joker Draw ticket for today's drawing, courtesy of mystery greeter **Kevin Haertzen**.

**Luck of the Draw:** Coach Gard draw and read the number of the lucky ticket held by Ron Weier. He had Coach Gard cut the cards for him. Everyone was delighted when the card drawn was the 5 of Diamonds. Pot continues to grow, now exceeding \$900.

# **Business Meeting:**

- ++ Signup sheets were circulated for...
  - ...Santa Calling (December 15, 16, 17; need 4 volunteers each night from 6 to 8 PM)
  - ... Holiday Project toy pickup (need four volunteers for Nov. 25th, Dec. 4th and Dec. 11th),
  - ...Speaker coordinators needed for April, May, July and August.
- ++ Legion Park Signage Bob Weier informed the members that he and Tud Bowden would be installing the Optimist Sign at Legion Park following the meeting. Pictures will be taken next week for the newspaper.
- ++ Badger Girls/Boys State Hap Daus reported on the potluck at the Elks, hosted by the American Legion Auxiliary. He presented to President Weier a Certificate of Participation from the Auxiliary in recognition of the donation made by the Platteville Optimist.

#### ++ Reminders -

At our meeting on December 4 we'll collect donations for the Platteville Food Pantry. Leon Neuheisel will contact the food pantry to determine their needs and report back to the members.

December 5 Jingle Bell Run/Walk for Thursday's Child. Maxine reported we have 7 Optimist members registered and are hoping for more.

Shirts and sweaters will be ordered within the next couple weeks; if you want to order one, get in contact with Maxine.



Welcome to our newest member, Dan Engelke (left), seen here with his sponsor, Doug Martin.

## **Program:**

UW-Platteville Pioneer Basketball Coach Jeff Gard opened his presentation stating it is always his pleasure to join our meeting as our vision and that of his team is similar, impacting the lives of youth.

He shared a couple programs the basketball players are involved with, "Reading with the Pioneers", where they go into the elementary schools and read with or read to children. A second program Coach Gard commented on was working with the young men at the Orion House to help them develop into productive individuals. Coach Gard and the Pioneer Basketball Team have a philosophy of Giving Back.

Coach Gard summarized the make-up of the team this year, 2 returning seniors, Peyton River and Boston Johnson, returning junior,



Doug Martin (left), this month's program coordinator, and today's speaker, Jeff Gard, UW-Platteville's Pioneer Basketball Coach.

Corey Vaassen and the roster of freshman. He made mention of the connection the team has with Dr. Joe, in fitting the team with mouth guards as well as working with Dr. Lindsay at Southwest Health Center. He stated we are extremely fortunate to have these resources in Platteville.

He covered the season schedule, commenting on various teams and the challenges that will be faced and briefed the members on some of the game changes that will be implemented.

Minutes taken and submitted by Maxine Lane; edited for "Rooster Call" by Charlie Clark.