

# ROOSTER CALL



## PLATTEVILLE OPTIMIST CLUB

Currently Meeting 7:00 AM Fridays at Country Kitchen, Hwy 151, Platteville, WI

**Platteville Optimist Weekly Bulletin – Friday, March 24, 2017**

**Attendance:** 21 members attended –Duane Borgen, Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Howard Crofoot, Dan Engelke, Kevin Haertzen, Dave Jones, Maxine Lane, Steve Lane, Doug Martin, Fern Nall, Tom Nall, Mike Olds, Virg Pufahl, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Bob Stephens, Ernie Thalmann, John Urness, Ron Weier and Gene Weber

**Guest:** Our Speakers today: Jen Collins, Linsay Hollingsworth, and Paula Pittz

**Mystery Greeter:** Jerry Schewe was greeted by Becky Schambow. He was glad to get a chance at the Joker Draw.

**Joker Draw:** Today there was a lucky winner. Tom Nall had the winning ticket and was surprised as he drew the Joker. The pot was up to \$385 so his lucky draw earned him \$193.

**Birthdays/ Anniversaries:** Happy birthday to Wayne Wodarz today March 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **Announcements:**

\*\* Members are reminded to sign up for the Membership Spring Lunch on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> from 11-1 pm at the First English Lutheran Fellowship Hall. **Please email Maxine Lane your reservations by April 1<sup>st</sup>.** Thanks for bringing a friend and helping to build our club membership.

\*\*Tri-Star Basketball will be held on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at UWP. Two or three more members are needed to make the event run smoothly. Watch for more information about the sign up.

**Program:** Ron Weier was pleased to announce our three speakers today. They provided an interesting presentation on the UWP Study Abroad Program.

Jen Collins, a five year veteran of the UW Platteville School of Education, spoke about the importance of studying abroad. She has led Study Abroad groups to England, Russia and Africa. Before their trip, the undergrad students study the language and culture of the country they are going to. When abroad, students develop their self-confidence and independence skills, through the use of maps and other resources they don't use on a daily basis. When reflecting on the experience she said that the students usually conclude that "People are just People."



Left to Right: Jen Collins, Paula Pittz, Linsay Hollingsworth, and Ron Weier

Linsay Hollingsworth, also a five year veteran of the UW Platteville School of Education, talked about the Harlaxton Manor House where they stayed and studied. She described the different features of the classrooms and daily routine of the group while they were there. Linsay talked about the various sites the students saw as well as how they developed new independence skills by touring in groups of two during their free time.



Harlaxton Manor House

Paula Pittz, a junior in Middle Childhood/Early Adolescence Education, talked about her first visit abroad. She talked about the things she experienced including, airplane food, drinking tea, the various parts of the transit system (subway, taxi, and train), transferring money, the geography and history of the places they visited. She emphasized how important it was to be organized to get from place to place successfully. Even though English was the language spoken, the students had to learn the different terms they used like lift for elevator. The UWP students went into a Grade 6 (6<sup>th</sup> Grade in the US) classroom to learn about the education system. To prepare for meeting the college students, Grade 6 students tried learn something about where they came from. Due to miscommunication they learned about both the states of Iowa and Wisconsin.

Cost for the 3 credit two week study abroad experience was about \$3,000/per student which included air fare, hotel, meals, and transportation. Jen and Linsay raised \$13,000 in grants to make the cost reasonable for the students.

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned.

~~~~Minutes taken and drafted for Rooster Call by Fern Nall.

**UPCOMING SPEAKER:** *March Speakers are arranged by Ron Weier*

March 31: Tim Zauche, Thrivent Charitable giving