

# ROOSTER CALL



## PLATTEVILLE OPTIMIST CLUB

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

**Platteville Optimist Weekly Bulletin – Friday, March 10, 2017**

**Attendance:** 26 members attended – Tim Boldt, Duane Borgen, Howard Crofoot, Dan Engelke, Eileen Engelke, Gary Engelke, Kevin Haertzen, Steve Lane, Doug Martin, Brad Mootz, Gary Munson, Fern Nall, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Arnie Roper, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Guy Stead, Bob Stephens, Barb Stockhausen, Ernie Thalmann, John Urness, Gene Weber, Ron Weier, Bob Weier and Wayne Wodarz

**Guest:** Our Speaker today Dr. Gene Tesdahl from the UWP History Department

**Mystery Greeter:** Bob Weier brought joy to Arnie Roper when he selected as the winner the ticket for the Joker Draw today.

**Joker Draw:** Winning the \$2.00 today was Bob Weier who cut to find the 8 of Spades.

**Birthdays/ Anniversaries:** None Today

### **Announcements:**

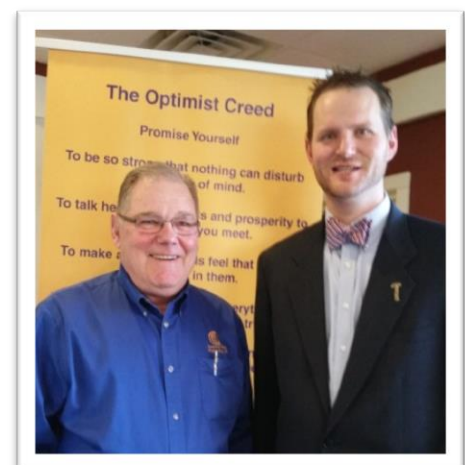
\*\* Members are reminded to sign up for the Membership Spring Lunch on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> from 11-1 pm at The First English Lutheran Fellowship Hall. Please email Maxine Lane your reservations by April 1<sup>st</sup>. You should have received an email with all of the information in it. Thanks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

\*\*Gary Munson reported the results of the Oratorical Contest. There were two participants, one sponsored by the Noon Club and one sponsored by our club. Both did a good job and were pleased to win their gift of \$100 and proceed to the next level of competition.

**Program:** Ron Weier introduced our speaker Dr. Gene Tesdahl, who has been an Assistant Professor of history at UWP since 2014. Dr. Tesdahl started by explaining how he came to Platteville. He was already friends with several people here and has been very glad to be here with his wife, Pastor Jasmine Tesdahl, and their two children, Aspen and Harvest.

He talked about his love of teaching and emphasized how important it is to all aspects of history, the celebratory and the unfortunate stories, be told. History is made of three parts—who lives, who dies and who tells our story.

The world is our classroom and he encourages his students to learn by doing and actively researching the stories. We are fortunate to have the Southwest Wisconsin Room on the UWP campus, one of the 6 well respected Area Research Centers in the UW system. He reminded us that people come from all over to do research here. His time as a professor is split between research and teaching. As a result he has had several publications on the areas which include early America, Native American History, women's history, and public history—which are his favorite topics.



He became interested in history by visiting and participating in living history farms at an early age. His story of being involved in living history for the past 25 years is very interesting and carries over into his classroom and his participation with the Platteville Historical Re-enactment committee.

An interesting fact he shared is that he usually wears bow ties. Historians usually wore bow ties so that the end of a tie would not interfere or damage fragile, aged documents they were studying. His favorite bow tie is one his daughter gave him which is bunny pink.



Dr. Tesdahl teaching a class

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned.

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

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

March 17: Chris Baxter, UWP Prof of Soil and Crop Science: UWP soil judging

March 24: Linsay Hollingsworth/Jen Collins, Student Abroad Program,

March 31: Tim Zauche, Thrivent Charitable giving.



*May the luck of the Irish shine up you  
Friday during the Joker Draw.*