



ROOSTER CALL



'Second Time Around'

Platteville Optimist Club

Vision Statement

"To impact the lives of youth in a positive and encouraging manner"

KEVIN'S KORNER

This final issue of 2016, it is only appropriate that I extend a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of our members. This not only comes from me, but also from our Officers and Directors. It is a time to look back and be thankful for the many good fortunes that we have been blessed with over the years and look forward to another year of good health and gratification.



It humbles me to see the loyalty and support we receive on a consistent basis from our members. To date, since assuming the office of President on October 1, 2016, we have acquired 4 new members and maintained all existing members. Our membership currently stands at 82. I acknowledge we have several months to go, but this is a remarkable start to our year.

We also just completed another successful raffle to support a community project that is significant to the youth of Platteville today and for many tomorrows in the future. I acknowledge this project and hosting the raffle created many different opinions. I thank everyone for finding common ground on this issue and coming together to realize success and meet our commitment.

The focus on the first quarter SWIS District Conference was 'membership'. I would encourage you to invite friends to our breakfast meetings and remember, they will receive a 'free' breakfast. We receive many positive comments about our service club in the community. It is important that we share the opportunity of being a member of this great organization with others.

Going forward, we strive to be the 'best we can be'. Your suggestions/comments are always welcome

Kevin Haertzen
President



MEMO FROM JERRY SCHEWE
OI FOUNDATION REPRESENTATIVE



DIME-A-DAY



The past several years has seen many of our members supporting the Optimist Foundation through the Dime-A-Day fund. Quite simply, members contribute .10 per day for the entire year (\$36.50 total) to help Optimist International support the many youth projects held during the year, including:

- District Oratorical scholarship
- Regional Oratorical scholarship
- World-wide Oratorical scholarship
- District CCDHH scholarship
- District Essay scholarship
- Junior World Golf
- District Tri-Star Basketball
- Club grants for new projects within a community
- Program development

Last year we had 28 members and 3 Friends of Optimist participate. Our total donation was just over \$1,100 in Dime-A-Day contributions. I ask you....Can we exceed that number this year?

In advance, the Optimist Foundation thanks you for your generous donation as do I as our Club Foundation Representative. On or before January 29, 2017, please bring your check to a Friday morning meeting or mail to me at 860 Jefferson St., Platteville WI 53818. Checks should be payable to OI Foundation. I will mail checks to Optimist International, St. Louis, early in February.



PROMISE YOURSELF

*It's All About
What We Are All About*



HATS OFF TO OUR 2015-2016 AWARD RECIPIENTS

We had the pleasure of sharing an evening with 34 members/spouses and guests at the 2015-2016 Installation of Officers and enjoying the opportunity to recognize four (4) of our members for their efforts and dedication to help us reach out and serve the youth in our community and surrounding communities. It was also a pleasure for our Club to have SWIS District Zone 6 Lt. Governor, Maxine Lane install the new slate of officers for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

Chuck Thalman Service Award: In recognition of Outstanding Service, Loyalty & Devotion.

Recipient: Doug Martin to acknowledge his. . .

- ~ 11 year membership
- ~ leadership in serving on our Board of Directors
- ~ guidance as Chairman of the Youth Activities Committee
- ~ coordinating our raffle fund raising activities

Optimist of the Year: In recognition of ones willingness to perform in a leadership position to achieve a goal and/or manage a program

Recipient: Kevin Haertzen to acknowledge his. . .

- ~ enthusiasm and willingness to volunteer
- ~ expertise and assistance in website development
- ~ leadership as a member of our Board of Directors and 2016-2017 President

Outstanding Member of the Year: In recognition of a member who generously serves the Club.

Recipient: Fern Nall to acknowledge her. . .

- ~ loyalty in serving on our Board of Directors
- ~ management of the "Books for Babies" program
- ~scribe for minutes at our weekly meetings
- ~community service, primarily 'Family Promise'

President's Citation: Signed by the President Optimist International, to recognize a member who is said to embody the spirit and essence of Optimism.

Recipient: Maxine Lane to acknowledge her commitment and perseverance in sharing information throughout the membership. To recognize her for her service on the Board of Directors, President, accepting the position of Board Secretary (2016-2017) and serving at SWIS District Zone 6 Lt. Governor, (2016-2017)

As a thank you and to recognize Ron Weier for his term as President, Ken Kamps presented Ron with an engraved desk clock.

**Congratulations to Doug Martin, Kevin Haertzen,
Fern Nall, Maxine Lane & Ron Weier!**

Thank you for being a Platteville Optimist!



HONORARY GREEN JACKET PRESENTED TO HOWARD CROFOOT

If you ever have an opportunity to attend a SWIS District Conference, you will see a number of individuals wearing 'Green Jackets'. This is an honor as it represents someone who served as SWIS District Governor. At the first quarter conference in November, Howard was presented with his green jacket, representing his year as SWIS District Governor.



BOOKS FOR BABIES

This is one youth activity Platteville Optimist can hang our hats on with many thanks to Fern Nall, for her dedication to the overall success.



Each newborn baby and their family at Southwest Health Center receive a book from the Platteville Optimist Club, along with tips on reading to children and using the library. Erin Isabell, from the Public Library, helps Fern choose books to allow the club to get the most economical cost per book while being beneficial to the child and family.

In 2015, 138 books were presented to families. To date in 2016, 107 books have been distributed. The final restocking in December will again bring our numbers to approximately 140 total books. OB staff notify Fern when the books need to be restocked. In August, Jessie Lee Jones, Platteville Library Director, and a friend of Fern's both received the Books for Babies package. Maxine also received an acknowledgement from a member of the Fennimore Optimist, a new mom at SWHC, who received this and thought it to be a wonderful gesture for our club.

Thanks Fern, for representing Platteville Optimist!

SANTA CALLING

It's that time of year, when good little boys and girls get that much anticipated phone call from the jolly old fella with the red hat, Santa. We have scheduled December 13, 14, 15 from 6 PM – 8 PM at City Hall. We still have need for 'Santa's' or Mrs. Santa. Many thanks to Howard for once again making the arrangements at City Hall and thank you to **YOU** if you can arrange your schedule to help one of these nights. Online registration is not available; however, please call Maxine, 778-7786, to volunteer.



OPTIMIST ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Our tradition continues. Always a great evening with friends. Join your Optimist Members on Friday, January 13th. Signup with Becky Schambow, 348-9981 or

beckyschambow@gmail.com

JOIN THE FUN!!



WELCOME WAGON

It is always a pleasure to welcome new members to our club. We have had an awesome start to our new year, welcoming four (4) new Friends of Optimist.



It is a pleasure to welcome. . .

Cyrena Sexton/Oakpark Dental, sponsor-Howard Crofoot
Gene Weber, sponsor- Ron Weier

Kevin Garvey/Garvey Auto Service, sponsor-Maxine Lane
Rita Udelhoven/Mindful Solutions, sponsor-Maxine Lane



Through the FOO memberships and support, we are able to reach more children and/or youth organizations. This membership category provides a means for

individuals/organizations that believe in our mission; however, do not have the time to fully commit as a regular member. To all of our Friends of Optimist, Thank You!

It Is With Optimistic Enthusiasm We Welcome

Cyrena Sexton~Gene Weber~Kevin Garvey~Rita Udelhoven


RAFFLE RESULTS

Our #1 priority was meeting our \$5M commitment to the Platteville Library fundraiser, which we did. Many thanks to Doug Martin and Charlie Clark for coordinating this raffle and helping to meet our obligation while also adding delight to several winners.



Congratulations to our winners, as follows:

Scott Morrissey	Diana Blindert
Dan Engelke	Dennis Helbing
Arnie Roper	Wally Iselin
Gary Burkholder	Matt Weier
Charlie Clark	Ronald Budden
Rita Zimmerman	Tim Dunbar
Gary Engelke	Cory Borgen
Lisa Hensley	Zayna Thompson
Jason Bell	Lori Velte
Brittany Kowalski	Becky Schambow
Karen Rundell	Jeff Udelhofen
Peggy Haertzen	Ed Averkamp
Kevin Haertzen	Leon Neuheisel
Ken Kamps	Steve Lane

We also send sincere thanks to our members who were able to help sell tickets. A big  to Bob Weier, who was successful in selling approximately 60 tickets. This raffle would not have been possible without the efforts of all of our members.



OPTIMISTIC OUTLOOK

December

- 11/29 – Board Meeting 7:00 AM PBII
- 07 – Pearl Harbor Day
- 10 – WI Badger Camp 1966 Event Potosi Holiday Gardens
- 13-14-15 – Santa Calling
- 21 – Winter begins
- 25 – Christmas Day



January

- 01 – Welcome 2017
- 03 – Board Meeting 7:00 AM
- 13 – Annual White Elephant Gift Exchange (WI Bank and Trust Community Room)

February

- 01/31- February Board Meeting 7:00 AM
- 02 – Ground Hog Day
- 14 – Valentine’s Day
- 15 – President’s Day (fly your flag proudly)



SHARING SPECIAL EVENTS

Sending Birthday Wishes to . . .

December

- 01 – Virgil Pufahl
- 16 – Howard Crofoot
- 19 – Eileen Engelke
- 23 – Phil Swift
- 27 – Anne Klawiter



January

- 08 – Duane Borgen
- 28 – Charlie Clark

February

- 07 – Steve Lane ~ ~ 08 – John Adams
- 15 – Brad Mootz ~ ~ 26 – Beth Frieders

Sending Anniversary Wishes to Member & Spouse

December

- 17 – Duane Borgen
- 18 – Dave Jones



January – none ~ ~ February – 02 Jim Boll

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE TO PLATTEVILLE OPTIMIST

December

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1993 – Kathy Kopp | 2012 – Tim Boldt |
| 2000 – Tom Nall | 2012 – Bob Weier |
| 2006 – Beth Frieders | 2014 – Becki Schambow |

January - 1987 – Bob Stephens

February –

- 2009 – Steve & Maxine Lane
- 2015 – Dennis Helbing



OPTIMISTS OUT and ABOUT

We caught you having fun!



Life is
GREAT!

Grandpa Stead
with grandson,
Luke Stead



Summer fun
with the
Grandkids

*UW-P 2016
Homecoming
Time away from
the classroom.*



Forward your pictures to Maxine, msmacy105@yahoo.com
for publishing in future Candid Camera Corner.

2016 SPEAKER COORDINATORS

Many volunteers result in a lighter work load. It is with appreciation that we say thank you to the following members for accepting the task of recruiting speakers for our weekly meetings: Becky Schambow, Duane Borgen, Ron Weier, Maxine Lane, Fern Nall, Ken Kamps, Paul Budden, Barb Stockhausen, Charlie Clark, Tom Nall, Dan Engelke, Doug Martin, Gary & Eileen Engelke. Our volunteers are always open to suggestions. Please contact any one of these members if you know of a potential speaker for a Friday morning meeting.

A CHRISTMAS STORY of INSPIRATION

The Gold Wrapping Paper

Once upon a time, there was a man who worked very hard just to keep food on the table for his family. This particular year a few days before Christmas, he punished his little five-year-old daughter after learning that she had used up the family's only roll of expensive gold wrapping paper.

As money was tight, he became even more upset when on Christmas Eve he saw that the child had used all of the expensive gold paper to decorate one shoebox she had put under the Christmas tree. He also was concerned about where she had gotten money to buy what was in the box.

Nevertheless, the next morning the little girl, filled with excitement, brought the gift box to her father and said, "This is for you, Daddy!" As he opened the box, the father was embarrassed by his earlier overreaction, now regretting how he had punished her. But when he opened the shoebox, he found it was empty and again his anger flared. "Don't you know, young lady," he said harshly, "when you give someone a present, there's supposed to be something inside the package!" The little girl looked up at him with sad tears rolling from her eyes and whispered: "Daddy, it's not empty. I blew kisses into it until it was all full." The father was crushed. He fell on his knees and put his arms around his precious little girl. He begged her to forgive him for his unnecessary anger.

An accident took the life of the child only a short time later. It is told that the father kept this little gold box by his bed for all the years of his life. Whenever he was discouraged or faced difficult problems, he would open the box, take out an imaginary kiss, and remember the love of this beautiful child who had put it there. In a very real sense, each of us has been given an invisible golden box filled with unconditional love and kisses from our children, family, friends and God. There is no more precious possession anyone could hold.



*May you hearts and homes be filled with
the joy of the season and the new year full
of happiness and good health!*