

# Platteville Optimist Club Monthly Highlights | April 2022

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:

Terri Ellis, Mark Essex, Jordan Holthaus, Steve Lane, Leon Neuheisel & Alaina Reeves

## Published for Members on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Due to COVID-19, the Board of Directors has been meeting via Zoom, with our most recent meeting held on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The "Governing Board & Committee Updates" below were reported to the Membership at their Business Meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

## Governing Board & Committee Updates

**Treasurer's Report & Approval of Board Meeting Minutes:** Motion made by L. Neuheisel, seconded by D. Borgen to approve the 3.1.22 Board minutes. Treasurer's report dated 3.29.22 was presented by D. Borgen indicated account balances and highlighted the fund requests paid for the month. Motion by M. Essex, second by M. Palfrey to accept the budget as presented.

**Finance Committee:** D. Borgen reported that the Transaction Review Team had completed their work. The recommendation was to include more information in the check memos to make the next audit easier. He suggested that a similar audit be conducted each year. If an audit committee was established with members on a 3-year rotating basis that would help completion of the audit. Motion to accept the review was made by J. Holthaus, seconded by M. Essex, motion carried.

D. Borgen also mentioned that we received a request from the Fire Department to help supply educational materials. Dues paid, D Borgen sent 35 notices to members for semiannual dues. Of that, 21 paid, and 3 decided not to renew. Remaining have until April 1 to pay.

## **Youth Committee:**

- Essay Contest – recap: Theme of the contest was *How Does an Optimistic Mindset Change My Tomorrow?* There were 35 entries. Arrangements are being made to meet the winners and present their checks.  
Winners are

1st place	Nuzaira Rabbani	Platteville Middle School (\$150)
2nd place	Caleb Timmerman	St. Rose, Cuba City (\$100)
3rd place	Ben Thill	St. Rose, Cuba City (\$50)

They are invited to April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Oratorical Contest- held March 14 Theme of the contest was *Staying Optimistic in Challenging Times*. There were 5 contest winners out of 10 entries, and the winners were

1 <sup>st</sup> place	Nuzaira Rabbani	Platteville Middle School (\$150)
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Caleb Timmerman	St Rose, Cuba City (\$100)
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Treyton Furrer	St. Rose, Cuba City (\$50)

Contestants plan to attend the April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting and present their speeches.
- Zone Oratorical Contest  
We need to set up a zone contest for Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9 am - 12 pm at the Platteville Middle School, as the Darlington school district also conducted a contest conducted. M. Lane and Nancy Sutherland are help with the arrangements.
- Tri-Star Basketball  
Tim Boldt and Eileen McCartney notified the schools. News releases were placed in the Journal, sent from the Parks and Recreation Department, and on Queen B Radio.  
There were 57 participants at the event. We received many words of thanks as the people left. Help was provided by 14 Optimist members, one member's grandson, and 6 UW-P basketball players.  
Howard thanked the Optimist volunteers and was overwhelmed with the event. Having Coach Gard and players present at the event was important to the participants.

## **Fellowship Committee:**

- **Fellowship / Weekly Programs:**

Thanks to Beth Frieders for providing the speakers for March.

April Speakers, provided by Tom Nall:

- April 1 Business Meeting
- April 8 TBD
- April 15 Doreen Hlavaty will talk about her recent trip to Africa
- April 22 Rand Atkinson Book
- April 29 Presentation by the Oratorical and Essay Contest winners

## **Community Service:**

- Our club received the Community Health & Wellness grant match for OI for \$1,000. Alaina will make arrangements to get the check to the Platteville Inclusive Playground committee. The club has raised \$1,275. D. Borgen recommended that we work to round our donation to \$2,500. It was agreed that a blurb about the idea would be included in the weekly email with a donation deadline of April 15<sup>th</sup> so that it could be included in the check to be presented at the meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Membership:** The NOW Event is scheduled for Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, from 11-1, and there is a membership meeting next Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. T. Ellis indicated that the menu will be the same as last NOW meeting. Plans are to change the format and include more ice breakers and fewer testimonies from members. She encourages the board to think of people to invite and to not forget the people who joined us in “Voom on Zoom” meetings.

**Publicity / Newsletter(s) / Website:** A. Reeves indicated the March highlights will be completed soon. She has photos from the Tri-Star basketball contest. Discussion was held whether we needed to have parental consent for posting of photos to social medias at youth event. Several people checked the registration sheet at the Tri-Star Basketball event and couldn't find any indication of permission. H. Crofoot will check with OI to see what their procedures are.

## **Cheese Curd:**

- J. Holthaus indicated the committee will meet the third week in April. So far, the committee ordered parts and is getting estimates for signs for the trailer for Pick Up and Order. Trailer is in storage, but plans are being discussed to get it ready. Committee plans a “soft” cheese curd training session for people prior to the Grant County Fair at the Annex. More information will be given at the April meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Name Tag “fine”. The Board previously established a program to levy a \$1.00 fine per meeting if you failed to wear your name tag. There are two sides to the conversation as the fine was to be a fun event with the money going to the “internal” account for administrative expenses, etc. After discussion, the Board decided that the president will make an announcement to establish a better understanding about it, soften the feelings of members, and encourage members to participate.

## **New Business:**

- Time to check in with Committees  
It is the middle of the year and H. Crofoot encouraged the committees to hold a meeting and report at the Status of their committee including chairperson for the committee at next Board meeting.
- Officer elections.  
Per international bylaws, elections of offices are to be completed and reported to OI by May 20<sup>th</sup>. The club has the following vacancies that need to be filled: VP and 3 Board members to replace Terri, Steve and Jordan. He asked the past presidents to help him with a list of possible candidates. He thanked those going off the Board and said they are welcome to serve another term. H. Crofoot will check the bylaws to see if you need a break between your years of service.
- Additional audio-visual equipment to make meetings hybrid  
M. Palfrey indicated that she and H. Daus have checked into the necessary equipment and the cost would be around \$500. Board discussion included the following: management of equipment during the meeting, number of people it would serve, the fact that it would be used more during the winter than the summer. H. Crofoot said we could set up a committee to run this. Several board members indicated their interest in participating to run the equipment.

## **CONCLUSION:**

- Next Board Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, 7:00 am via Zoom
- Next Business Meeting: Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 at Country Kitchen
- **Adjournment:**  
Motion to adjourn was made by T. Ellis, seconded by M. Essex. Meeting adjourned at 8:02 am.  
*Minutes submitted by Fern Nall, Secretary*

**Attendance:** There were 24 in attendance: Tim Boldt, Carley Borcharding, Charlie Clark, Howard Crofoot, Hap Daus, Terri Ellis, Dan Engelke, Eileen Engelke, Mark Essex, Beth Frieders, Doreen Hlavaty, Maxine Lane, Eileen McCartney, Fern Nall, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Alaina Reeves, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Bob Stephens, Ernie Thalmann, Diana VanNatta, Ron Weier, Wayne Wodarz

**Introduction:** Meeting called to order by President H. Crofoot at 7:05 am. Pledge was led by B. Frieders and creed was recited.

**Announcements: Announcements:**

**Special Dates:**

- Member Birthdays: Leon Neuheisel – April 9<sup>th</sup>, Diane Paynter – April 10<sup>th</sup>
- Member Anniversaries: Bob and Victoria Hundhausen-April 1<sup>st</sup>, Bob and Jeanette Stephens-April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ernie and Shirley Thalmann-April 8<sup>th</sup>
- Membership Anniversaries: Lynn Schlager-April 7<sup>th</sup>
- Friends of Optimist Anniversaries: None

Welcomed Diana Van Natta back to the meeting.

**Thank You Notes:**

- Notes were received from members of the CESA 3 Deaf and Hard of Hearing Department (\$250), Platteville Arboretum (\$250), Parks and Recreation Department for <sub>Every</sub> Child Plays (\$300), and Shirts for Soccer and Swim teams (\$350), and Family Advocates (\$600). Notes will be passed around.
- And the thank you from the Joan Bahr family

**Meeting Activities:**

- Mystery Greeter was Tim Boldt and he greeted Alaina Reeves.
- Joker Draw: Jerry Schewe drew Doreen Hlavaty' ticket. She cut and got the 8 of Spades.
- Free breakfast: Two in person winners were Fern Nall and Tim Boldt. Two not here winners were Lisa Schmidt and Melissa Palfrey

**Board of Directors Meeting Report & Comments:** H. Crofoot reviewed the March Board and Committee Updates as noted on pages 1-2. Members discussed items and approved the Board's motions as follows:

- **Treasurer's Report:** 3.31.22 presented by H. Crofoot. Motion for club approval by T. Boldt. Motion carried.
- **Finance Committee:** Transaction audit was completed, and recommendation was given. Request from Fire Department for educational materials was discussed. Cub decided to honor the request as we have in the past. Motion by J. Schewe, second by B. Frieders, motion carried.
- **Youth Committee:** See listings of Oratorical and Essay winners on pgs. 1-2 as well as Tri Star Basketball information.
- **Community Service Committee:** Read about the Inclusive Playground fundraiser on pages 1-2.
- **Fellowship Committee:** See list of speakers above.
- **Membership Committee:** Talked about NOW Event.
- **Publicity/Newsletter/Website Committee:** See information on pages 1-2
- **Cheese Curd Committee:** See notes from the committee above.

**Old Business:**

Talked about name tags as listed above.

**New Business:**

- Time to think about officer and board elections at they need to be completed by May 20<sup>th</sup>
- Discussed additional AV equipment. M Palfrey and H. Daus are looking into it.

**Conclusion:**

Adjourned at 7:50 am

*Minutes submitted by Fern Nall, Secretary*

**Attendance:** There were 24 in attendance including Jim Boebel, Tim Boldt, Carley Borcharding, Chris Budden, Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Howard Crofoot, Terri Ellis, Dan Engelke, Doreen Hlavaty, Maxine Lane, Doug Martin, Fern Nall, Tom Nall, Melissa Palfrey, Alaina Reeves, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Bob Stephens, Gene Weber, Ron Weier, Wayne Wodarz, guest speakers Bob Lowe, and Adam Bartels

**Introduction:** H. Crofoot convened the meeting at 7:02 am. Pledge and creed were led by A. Reeves. Guest to welcome were Bob Lowe and Adam Bartels our speakers for today.

**Announcements:**

- Special Dates this week:
  - Birthdays: 2<sup>nd</sup> shout out to Leon Neuheisel – April 9<sup>th</sup> and Diane Paynter – April 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Wedding anniversaries: Ernie and Shirley Thalmann – April 9<sup>th</sup>, Chris & Paul Budden – April 14<sup>th</sup>
  - No Membership Anniversaries
  - No FOO anniversaries this week

**Meeting Activities:**

- Mystery Greeter (Doug Martin) Greeted Becky Schambow
- Joker Draw: Adam Bartels drew Howard's ticket He drew the Jack of hearts.
- Maxine collected the OOPS award from Alaina Reeves and Jerry Schewe.
- Terri will be getting an email about the NOW banquet on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Old Business:**

- The Zone Oratorical contest went well. Three contestants participated.
    - Winners were 1<sup>st</sup> place, Nuzaira Rabbani from Platteville Middle School
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Caleb Timmerman from St. Rose, Cuba City
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Thea Kammerude from Darlington School
- Thanks to Tom and Maxine and District Governor Nancy Sutherland for coordinating the event. Thanks to Jim Boebel for allowing us to use the Middle school and to the volunteers that helped that day.

**New Business:**

- Reminder to the committee chairs to meet with their committees and send a report to the board.
- Donations to the Inclusive Playground may be sent to Duane or given to Maxine until the April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Guest Speakers:**

Bob Lowe the Parks and Recreation Department Director and Adam Bartels the Recreation & Community Events Coordinator were introduced by Howard Crofoot.

*Bob described his position as filled with two aspects short term accountability and long-term planning. Short term accountability as the parks department is supported by taxpayers and must be budget friendly. Long-term planning is needed for accountability into the future. The parks must be eco-friendly and leave a low carbon footprint.*

*Bob's goals for the future are to bring the individuality of each of the parks and trails to their forefront as each has their own passion and directions. Some examples he gave are that Legion Park could grow to include participation by travel teams in the future. Mound View Campground has seen an increase in use as well as interest in the history of the Indian Park Burial Grounds. Plans for Valley View Park include the addition of a parking lot and other things. In the future it could be a site for an amphitheater for music as it has nice sloping grounds.*

*Adam Bartels graduated from college and was hired by the city to work in maintenance and then was hired for his present position in the Parks Department. He responds to the phone calls for the recreation department activities and the use of the Broske Center. The Broske Center was an important addition to the community. He spoke about the improvements to the Broske Center acoustics as well as improvements to some of the other parks.*

Conclusion:

- Next Week's Meeting: Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00AM at Country Kitchen. Doreen Hlavaty will talk about her trip to Africa
- Adjournment at 7:55am

*Minutes submitted by Fern Nall*

**Attendance:** There were 25 members and 1 guest including Carley Borcharding, Chris Budden, Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Howard Crofoot, Hap Daus, Dan Engelke, Mark Essex, Doreen Hlavaty, Bob Hundhausen, Maxine Lane, Eileen McCartney, Tim Murphy, Fern Nall, Tom Nall, Melissa Palfrey, Alaina Reeves, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Joy Schewe, Bob Stephens, Ernie Thalmann, Diane VanNatta, Gene Weber, Ron Weier, and Jeff McDonald

**Introduction:** H. Crofoot began the meeting at 7 am. Ernie Thalmann led the pledge, and we repeated the creed together. Jeff McDonald, Alaina Reeves's fiancé, was our guest today.

**Announcements:**

- President's comments No checks to present
- Special Dates this week:
  - Birthdays: Mark Haas-April 15<sup>th</sup>, Deb Elvidge-April 17<sup>th</sup>, and Chad Holstein-April 19<sup>th</sup>
  - Wedding anniversaries: none
  - Membership Anniversaries: Mary and Greg Sieckman-April 16, 2017 and Linda Thomas-April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017
  - No FOO anniversaries this week
- Alaina brought Jeff McDonald, her fiancé today
- Members were reminded to invite friends to the NOW event on June 11<sup>th</sup> at First English Lutheran Church from 11-1.

**Meeting Activities:**

- Mystery Greeter was Dan Engelke who greeted Mark Essex
- Joker Draw: Jeff McDonald drew Chris Budden's ticket. It was her lucky day as she drew the Joker!

**Old Business:**

- Reminder to the committee chairs to meet with their committees and report to the board.
- Today is the last day to donate to the Inclusive Playground. We have raised an additional \$460 for the Inclusive Playground bringing our total donations to \$2,735.

**New Business:**

- Reminder to the committee chairs to meet with their committees and report to the board.
- Today is the last day to donate to the Inclusive Playground. We have raised an additional \$460 for the project bringing our total donations to \$2,735.

**Guest Speaker:**

- Next week's speaker will be Rand Atkinson who will talk about his book *Revolt- Practical Ecology to Save Planet Earth for our Children*. Rand graduated from UW Platteville with a degree in zoology and emphasis on fisheries. His career has many varied experiences with studying nature and preserving it for the future.

Today's speaker was Doreen Hlavaty who shared her African safari to Botswana with us.

*Doreen and her wife, Dorothy Price, took a safari trip to Botswana, Africa in July 2021. They had planned the trip in 2020, but it was cancelled due to COVID. After some frustrations with recovering the cost of airfare, they were able to recover the cost of the trip and rebooked it. They chose the travel company, Natural Habitat, for several reasons: their attention to the environment and the local communities, small group safaris which allowed for intimate interactions with the animals, high class accommodations amid the landscape where animals wander through camp at will, and the quality of the guides. They would highly recommend this company for quality safaris.*

*Due to covid regulations they had to endure lots of covid tests during the trip. In fact, they were quarantined for 1 ½ days during the trip as Dorothy had a cold. The camp manager did a nice job serving them during the quarantine and even took Doreen on a walking tour of the camp. She also took this time to take walks and see birds that were difficult to see from a jeep and had a wonderful conversation with one of the staff members.*

*Doreen shared beautiful photos of the four lodgings, which were like 4-star hotels located in the wilderness. It was the end of winter when they were there and so the temperatures were in the 30s at night (they slept with hot water*

bottles) but rose to the 70s early in the day. No extreme heat, rain, or bugs! Travel between their camps was on a small Delta plane. There was Wi-Fi in some of the camps which allowed some communication with home – only through Facebook Messenger.

The animals included in the presentation were: elephants (Botswana has the most elephants in Africa, about 130,000); giraffes eating the leaves off the Acacia trees; Impala (very regal and the diet of many of the animals there); ostriches (served for lunch one day); baboons; zebras (with the ever present Oxeckers eating bugs off their backs); crocodiles (one of which jumped into the water and scared Dorothy); magnificent lions, both male and female; and many other interesting animals.

Doreen is an avid birdwatcher and spent a lot of time photographing the many brightly colored birds which her guide would easily locate for her due to his amazing eyesight (Doreen asked him if he had binoculars in his eyes). The various birds were shown in their natural habitat and Doreen was asked about their varied beaks, each naturally designed to help them retrieve the food necessary for their diet, which varied from eating termites, bugs, fish, to carcasses left behind after other animals had eaten their fill.

She is also interested in nature and showed photos of plant life including the Boa tree of life, Acacia trees, enormous termite hills, general landscape, and areas of water they saw and traveled on.

After the question-and-answer presentation, Doreen passed around several different baskets she had purchased from various ladies selling them. She also took videos of animals and showed one of a baby and mother elephant as they came out while they were on the water. She is giving her presentation (a longer version) again at the Senior Center on July 28 at 10:00 if you would like to see it. Thanks, Doreen, for another fantastic presentation. Good luck on your next adventure to the Galapagos Islands.

**Conclusion:** Conclusion:

- Next Week's Meeting: Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:00AM at Country Kitchen
- Adjournment

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Fern Nall*

**Attendance:** There were 23 members and 4 guests in attendance: Tim Boldt, Howard Crofoot, Hap Daus, Terri Ellis, Dan Engelke, Mark Essex, Beth Frieders, Bob Hundhausen, Ken Kamps, Tim Murphy, Fern Nall, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Melissa Palfrey, Alaina Reeves, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Joy Schewe, Greg Sieckman, Mary Sieckman, Bob Stephens, Gene Weber, Ron Weier, and guests Rand Atkinson, Rick Liddle, Mary Ann Krogen, and Tim Melssen

**Introduction:** Meeting was began at 7 am. Pledge and Creed were recited. Guests included Rand Atkinson, Rick Liddle, Mary Ann Krogen, and Tim Melssen

**Announcements:**

- Check Presentation to CESA 3 for Champion Games. Thirty-one schools will send students to participate at Boscobel track on May 6<sup>th</sup>. UWP students help set up the games. The rain Date will be May 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - Inclusive Playground check of \$2,800 was accepted by Alaina as a member of the Inspiring community committee. The check for \$2,800 was composed of the \$1,000 grant from OI international and \$1,800 donated by our club members. Our dime day contributions are part of the OI grant. We should be proud of our contribution.
- **Special Dates this week:**
  - Birthdays: 2<sup>nd</sup> shout out to Penny Droessler-April 23rd
  - Wedding anniversaries: Eileen and Tom Nickels-April 25<sup>th</sup>  
Melissa and Levi Palfrey-April 26<sup>th</sup>
  - Membership Anniversary: Jeff White-April 28, 2017
  - No FOO anniversaries this week
- Member Concerns
  - Bob Weier is back at home and would enjoy calls and visits.

**Meeting Activities:**

- Mystery Greeter was Ken Kamps who greeted Mark Essex.
- Joker Draw Rand Atkinson drew Mary Sieckman's ticket. She drew the Jack of spades, Chris Budden won \$154 which will be presented next week.

**Old Business:**

- Reminder to the committee chairs to meet with their committees and report to the board.

**New Business:**

- District Conference in Deforest is May 13-14<sup>th</sup>. Sign up before May 1<sup>st</sup>. Cost is \$40 which includes coffee/rolls, lunch, and afternoon refreshments. The program includes the presentation of the Oratorical and Essay contest winners as well as Guest speaker Craig Culver from the Culver's Restaurants.
- Terri passed forms to nominate possible candidates
- No donations for missed name tags

**Guest Speaker:** Rand Atkinson

*Bob Hundhausen introduced Rand Atkinson stating that they met 7 years ago when Rand was delivering steel head trout from his fish silo. They talked and solved world problems. Rand is familiar to the area as he grew up here and graduated from UW Platteville as a field biologist in the 1970's. He lives in the Northwoods of Wisconsin and shared his book called "Revolt" to save planet for future generations.*

*Rand described his introduction to the world around him through his jobs as a paper carrier, working on a Holstein farm and at Shepherd's Toyland when he grew up. In college he read the Sand County Alamac by Aldo Leopold and became aware of the environment and what was happening to it.*

*He realized that Leopold was ahead of his time in his awareness of the ecosystem, principles of conservationism, the responsible use of nature, and explicit guidelines on how to live ethically with nature in his book. Wildlife conservation didn't exist during Leopold's time. Rand talked about communities and the ecosystem and gave examples how they are related, and how the relationship has changed over time. He talked about climate change and the fact that it is here.*



*His book is laid out like the Sand County Almanac. He included the Platteville tornado and the damage to the birds and trees in his book. He had copies of the book for sale after the question-and-answer period.*

Conclusion:

- Next Week's Meeting: Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00AM at Country Kitchen – Oratorical Contestants presentations
- Adjournment 7:50 am

*Minutes submitted by Fern Nall, Secretary*

**Attendance:** There were 28 members and 7 guests at the meeting: Tim Boldt, Carley Borcharding, Chris Budden, Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Howard Crofoot, Hap Daus, Deb Elvidge, Steve Elvidge, Dan Engelke, Mark Essex, Beth Frieders, Mike Hahn, Doreen Hlavaty, Ken Kamps, Maggie Kleisath, Maxine Lane, Doug Martin, Tim Murphy, Fern Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Melissa Palfrey, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Bob Stephens, Ernie Thalmann, Ron Weier, Wayne Wodwarz and guests Nuzaira Rabbani, Marni Farzana, Mohammad Rabbani, Todd Timmerman, Caleb Timmerman, Becca Timmerman, and Karla Timmerman

**Introduction:** Meeting began at 7 am. Please and Creed were recited.

**Announcements:**

- Guests to Welcome: Oratorical and Essay Contest winners and their families  
1<sup>st</sup> place Nuzaira Rabbani and her parents, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place winner Caleb Timmerman and his parents and sister
- President's comments: Tom Nall will be leading the business meeting May 6th
- **Special Dates this week:**
  - **Birthdays:** Tom Nall-April 29<sup>th</sup>
  - **Wedding anniversaries:** None
  - **Membership Anniversaries:** None
  - **Friends of Optimist anniversaries:** Family Pet Hospital -April 30, 2019

**Meeting Activities:**

- Mystery Greeter Hap Daus greeted Leon Neuheisel today.
- Joker Draw Becca Timmerman drew Steve Elvidge's ticket. He drew the 10 of hearts.
- Chris Budden graciously accepted her check of \$154 for winning the jocker draw.

**Old Business:**

- District Conference in Deforest is May 13-14<sup>th</sup>. Sign up before May 1<sup>st</sup>. Cost is \$40 which includes coffee/rolls, lunch, and afternoon refreshments. The program includes the presentation of the Oratorical and Essay contest winners as well as Guest speaker Craig Culver from the Culver's Restaurants.
- The NOW Luncheon will be June 11<sup>th</sup>. Please think about people who you would like to invite to attend and consider membership in the club. Forms are on the table at the front of the room to fill out and return to Terri Ellis. If you invite a guest, consider attending to help welcome your guest.

**New Business:**

- Speakers for May arranged by Melissa Palfrey and Carley Borcharding
  - May 6 Business Meeting
  - May 13 Kathy Buhr is the Director of Strategic Philanthropy and Schmitt Island Development for the Dubuque Racing Association.
  - May 20 Terri Slapak-Fugate - Director of Emergency/Urgent Care at Southwest Health speaking about SANE nurses and our area's SART (Sexual Assault ResponseTeam).
  - May 27 Erin Isabell - Platteville Public Library - Talking about the story walk and summer plans for the library.
- Melissa Palfrey announced that she has Family Advocates raffle tickets to sell for their drawing June 17<sup>th</sup> to cover electrical upgrades.

**Guest Speakers:**

Howard introduced the two oratorical winners who presented their speeches. The topic of the speeches was *"Staying Optimistic in Challenging Times"*.

1<sup>st</sup> place Nuzaira Rabbani talked about How to stay optimistic during the pandemic.

Highlights of her speech are that challenges can be stressful and cause you to lose hope. Optimism is the outcome of something. If you believe, you can accomplish what you are working toward. Keeping optimistic will help you solve your situations. Failure allows us to come up with solutions. Optimists are better at being optimistic. She left us with this question, Will you choose to be optimistic in these challenging times?

2<sup>nd</sup> Place winner Caleb Timmerman talked about how we need to be dedicated when something is challenging. Don't give up. Dedication, courage, and hard work help overcome challenges. A positive attitude will give you hope, help you perform better, and succeed. Focus on the solution instead of the problem. Focus on the positive rather than the negative. If you have a bad day, it won't be the same tomorrow. Learn from a bad event and don't let one bad event get you down. The benefits will out way the difficulties.

Conclusion:

- Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 am via zoom
- Next Week's Business Meeting: Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00AM at Country Kitchen
- Adjournment 7:40 am

*Minutes by Fern Nall, Secretary*

**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

Bob Weier – May 2nd  
Becky Schambow – May 22nd  
Steve Elvidge – May 29th

**MAY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

Jordan Holthaus – May 1st  
Diana VanNatta – May 3rd  
Hap & Barb Daus – May 29th

**MAY MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES:**

Arnie Roper – May 1, 1977  
Melissa Palfrey – May, 19, 2021  
Deb Elvidge – May 22, 2021  
Steve Elvidge – May 22, 2021  
Lisa Schmitt – May 22, 2021  
Debi Sigwarth – May 22, 2021  
Leon Neuheisel – May 24, 2011  
Doreen Hlavaty – May 25, 2021

**MAY FRIENDS OF OPTIMIST ANNIVERSARIES:**

None