

ROOSTER CALL



PLATTEVILLE OPTIMIST CLUB

MEETING 7:00 A.M.

EVERY FRIDAY AT TAKE 2 RESTAURANT



SECOND TIME AROUND



MESSAGE FROM MAX

As I write this, my first column as President of the Platteville Optimist, it is done in unison to all members; however, I ask that you read it as if it were directed to you personally. My message is sincere and I am hopeful that everyone will jump on board with me and our Board of Directors.



I would like to acknowledge the members who have volunteered their time and talent to serve our Club as Officers and Board Members. On the second of their two year term, Doug Martin, Leon Neuheisel and Bob Weier. New to the Board with terms expiring in 2016, Beth Frieders, Kevin Haertzen and Maggie Kleisath. Ron Weier is our First Vice President/President Elect, Ken Kamps and John Urness serve as Sec'y/Treas and Eileen Engelke is a member of the Board as Past President. We are still in need of a Second Vice President. I have personally approached several members, and remain unsuccessful in securing someone for this position. I again reach out to our members, to consider serving your Club in the position of Second Vice President and join the members listed above.

As your President and your Board of Directors, we have established goals for our club for the 2014-2015 term and we are depending on all of our members to help accomplish these goals. It is important that we share in this endeavor for the good of our club, to continue supporting the youth that we have a positive effect on and in service to our community. Your Board set these goals; however, it takes more than a group of 10 people to be successful at meeting these goals. We are striving to add 4 new members add one new youth activity and one new community event.

As we have set goals, I challenge our members to also set goals. If you have not joined an Optimist Club Friday Morning Meeting in quite some time, set a goal to attend one to **Optimistically Energize Your Involvement!** A goal for all members, attend at least one meeting throughout the year and invite a guest to join you.

PROMISE YOURSELF

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2013-2014 AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Installation and Awards Banquet was well attended and an evening enjoyed by all who joined. It was also a pleasure to share the evening with the Noon Platteville Area Club and the UW-P Student Club.



Our Club was honored to acknowledge four of our members with awards for their service, not only for just this past year, but years past!

Chuck Thalmann Service Award: Presented in recognition of Outstanding Service, Loyalty & Devotion.
Recipient: **Duane Borgen** in recognition of his....
 ~34 years as a member in good standing,
 ~serving as President (1997-1998),
 ~regular attendance and positive energy he brings to our Friday morning meetings,
 ~leadership for many years in coordinating the annual Tri-Star Basketball
 ~past and continued support of Platteville Optimist

Optimist of the Year Award: Presented in recognition of ones willingness to perform in a leadership position to achieve a goal/successfully manage a program.
Recipient: **Gary Munson** as the 2014 Chairman of the Essay (How Dreams Lead to Success) and Oratorical (How My Passions Impact the World) contests. Gary's dedication and commitment resulted in a record number of entries.

Outstanding Member of the Year Award: Presented in recognition of a member who generously serves the Club.
Recipient(s): **Steve Lane** and **Bob Weier** for the numerous hours given in the preservation, improvements, maintenance, care and transporting of the cheese curd trailer, essential to the success of our fundraising.

**Congratulations to Duane, Gary, Steve and Bob!
 Thank You for being a Platteville Optimist!**

NEW RECRUITMENT INCENTIVE

(excerpt from OI Leadership Hotline)

Optimist International is excited to announce a new Sponsor Pin incentive. Starting October 1, 2014, members will receive pins when they sponsor their 1st, 5th, 15th, 20th, and 35th members. This incentive was established by the 2013-2014 International Membership Committee to reward those members who are helping the organization grow and reach more children in our communities. Each member should be proud of how many people they have brought into our organization and encourage everyone else to continue to promote member recruitment. This incentive is cumulative and permanent. It will not be retroactive before this year.

(I'm hopeful that some of our members will be worthy of receiving a pin. It certainly goes hand in hand with our goal of increasing membership. As I look at the list of members who have gone before us, we owe it to them as well as to our current membership and 'Our Kids' to help our club grow.)



BOOKS FOR BABIES

It is with pleasure I again acknowledge Fern Nall for her dedication to this very special community activity. Fern currently manages this program, monitoring our supply to make sure each newborn at SWHC and their family receives a book, compliments of Platteville Optimist Club. Books given to families through September, 2014, total 112 compared to 62 in 2013.

March, 2014 – April, 2014: 52 books
May, 2014 – September, 2014: 60 books



It's "all about" what we're "all about"

SANTA CALLING

December 16, 17, 18. We could really use your help (Santa)!! Calling will be done from 6:00 to 8:00 from City Hall, thanks to Howard for making these arrangements. It's like no other excitement to receive a call from Santa so we are reaching out to our 'Santa Voices' to help us this year. To volunteer, sign up at a Friday morning breakfast meeting or email Leon Neuheisel at lmneuheisel@gmail.com We have spots available on all three nights.



WISCONSIN BADGER CAMP CHRISTMAS TELETHON

Our tradition continues! December 6 from 1:30 to 3:00 Platteville Optimist Members will be answering phones for this community event to benefit those who are limited to do what we take for granted. Thank you to the members who have so willingly volunteered. We have all 9 spots filled.



MESSAGE FROM SWIS DISTRICT GOVERNOR

SWIS District Vision Statement

To be the premier youth serving organization in
Southern Wisconsin:
Bringing out the Best in Kids ... Right Here, Right Now

Jeff Kuchenbecker, from Madison, is the SWIS District Governor for 2014-2015. As Governor Elect, Howard shared with members that were in attendance at the Installation/Awards Banquet the vision Jeff has for the SWIS District organizations and a couple programs he would like to see clubs participate in this year.

The first program is entitled "*Let's Be Visible.*" Optimists are called the 'Best Kept Secret', Jeff would like to change that by clubs becoming more visible in their communities. He would like to see clubs forge new partnerships in the community. His challenge...any club that develops a partnership with a school or community center and gets new members from this partnership will receive \$50.00 from the SWIS District.

The second program he is promoting amongst clubs is to support Optimist International Foundation. They provide \$10,000 in scholarships to each district annually. Jeff is encouraging clubs to show support of the Dime-A-Day program. For the first 100 new Dime-A-Day (\$36.50) donations, he will match the donations.

Visit the SWIS District website at www.swisdistrict.org



DIME-A-DAY

With just one dime a day, you can become part of the movement of "*Helping Optimists Help Kids*" and become part of a large group of Foundation supporters who realize what a difference they make every day in the lives of children.

Can You Spare a Dime A Day?

The Dime-A-Day level is reached by a contribution of \$36.50 to the Foundation within one Optimist Year, and is recognized by the presentation of a pin.

In 2013-2014 we had 13 members participate in this program. ***Join*** with me in supporting the Foundation, ***join*** with me in supporting Governor Jeff with your donation of \$36.50, ***join*** with me in surpassing last year, ***join*** with me in doubling our number, ***join*** with me. . . .

In Building A Future Where Every Kid Counts

We will kick off our campaign in January or you can send your donation now to Platteville Optimist, P.O. Box 622, Platteville WI 53818. Please make your check payable to Optimist International Foundation. We will complete necessary paperwork to report your donation.



AND THEN IT IS WINTER

You know...time has a way of moving quickly and catching you unaware of the passing years.

It seems just yesterday that I was young, just married and embarking on my new life with my mate. Yet in a way, it seems like eons ago, and I wonder where all the years went. I know that I lived them all.



I have glimpses of how it was back then and of all my hopes and dreams. But, here it is...the winter of my life and it catches me by surprise...How did I get here so fast? Where did the years go and where did my youth go?

I remember well seeing older people through the years and thinking that those older people were years away from me and that winter was so far off that I could not fathom it or imagine fully what it would be like. But, here it is...my friends are retired and getting grey...they move slower and I see an older person now. Some are in better and some worse shape than me...but, I see the great change...Not like the ones that I remember who were young and vibrant...but, like me, their age is beginning to show and we are now those older folks that we used to see and never thought we'd be.

Each day now, I find that just getting a shower is a real target for the day! And taking a nap is not a treat anymore...it's mandatory! Cause if I don't on my own free will...I just fall asleep where I sit.



And so...now I enter into this new season of my life unprepared for all the aches and pains and the loss of strength and ability to go and do things that I wish I had done but never did!

*You and your spouse and/or special friend are invited!!
Join fellow Optimist on
Friday, January 16, 2015*

*The Ceremonial
"Passing of the Shell Lamp"
a/k/a "Shelly"
a/k/a White Elephant Gift Exchange*

The time has arrived to locate that 'priceless' item that you have treasured for years and feel the need to share with an Optimist Friend.

*Schedule the Date
Friday, January 16, 2015
Time ~ Location - Details
will soon be delivered via email*

And Then It Is Winter (continued)

But, at least I know, that though the winter has come, and I'm not sure how long it will last...this I know, that when it's over on this earth...it's NOT over. A new adventure will begin!

Yes, I have regrets. There are things I wish I hadn't done...things I should have done, but indeed, there are many things I'm happy to have done. It's all in a lifetime.

So, if you're not in your winter yet...let me remind you, that it will be here faster than you think. So, whatever you would like to accomplish in your life please do it quickly! Don't put things off too long!

Life goes by quickly. So, do what you can today, as you can never be sure whether this is your winter or not! You have no promise that you will see all the seasons of your life...so, live for today and say all the things that you want your loved ones to remember...and hope that they appreciate and love you for all the things that you have done for them in all the years past!



"Life" is a gift to you. The way you live your life is your gift to those who come after. Make it a fantastic one.

Remember...It is Health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver!

Lastly, consider the following:

Today is the **OLDEST** you've ever been, yet the **YOUNGEST** you'll ever be!

OPTIMISTIC OUTLOOK

December

- 02 – Board Meeting 7:00 AM PBII Conference Room
- 06 – WI Badger Camp Telethon
- 07 – Pearl Harbor Day
- 16-17-18 – Santa Calling
- 21 – Winter Begins
- 25 – Christmas Day
- 26 – **NO Friday Morning Optimist Meeting**
- 30 – Board Meeting 7 AM PBII Conference Room (Jan.)



January

- 1 – Welcome 2015
- 16 – Annual White Elephant Gift Exchange (see insert, additional details to follow via email)
- 19 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day



February

- 02 – Ground Hog Day
- 03 – Board Meeting 7:00 AM PBII Conference Room
- 14 – Valentine's Day
- 16 – President's Day



MEMBERS SERVING MEMBERS

It is with pleasure that I share the talents that make up our committees for 2014-2015. As President, I thank each and every member for taking time from their personal schedules to spend a few hours to generate new and exciting opportunities for the Platteville Optimist Club.

Finance Committee – *Ken Kamps, Chairman
John Urness, Ron Weier, Maxine Lane



Youth Activities – *Doug Martin, Chairman
Kevin Haertzen, Duane Borgen, Stacia Stephenson,
Valerie Martin, Tim Boldt

Community Activities – *Leon Neuheisel, Chairman
Kathy Kopp, John Dutcher, Dave Jones

Membership/Club Building – *Beth Frieders, Chairperson
Members pending

Fellowship/Weekly Programs – * Bob Weier, Chairman
Gordy Gimski, Charlie Clark, Ron Weier, Maxine Lane

Publicity/Newsletter – *Eileen Engelke, Chairperson
Maggie Kleisath, Charlie Clark, Maxine Lane

Cheese Curd – *Gary Engelke, Chairman
Bob Weier, Steve Lane, Beth Frieders, John Urness

Please feel free to share your ideas/suggestions with any of these committee members. They will appreciate your input and willingness to help when called upon.

MONTHLY/WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Many, many thanks to the members who signed up to coordinate speakers during 2015. We have filled all 12 months, thanks to Stacia Stephenson, Maxine Lane, Ron Weier, Charlie Clark, Tom Nall, Kathy Kopp, Gary Engelke, Ken Kamps, Maggie Kleisath, Kevin Haertzen, Doug Martin and Diane VanNatta. If you hear of someone who would make an interesting speaker, please contact any one of these members. I'm sure they would welcome your suggestions.

30 and Under for \$30

To help Clubs bring in new energy, talent and leadership, OI is offering an Optimistic incentive for young adult members. For one year, young adults can enjoy the benefits of an Optimist Club with less of a financial impact! Optimist International is offering a one year, introductory membership to individuals **30 and under for \$30**. Any new traditional member age 30 and under that joins an Optimist Club between 10/1/14 and 9/30/15 will receive this special dues offer. This is a great benefit and an added incentive to invite potential new members to our Friday meetings.

Please send announcements, events, birthday/anniversary dates to Maxine at msmacy105@yahoo.com for sharing in our newsletter. Your contributions are appreciated.

Publisher: Maxine Lane ~ Editor: Beth Frieders



SHARING SPECIAL EVENTS

Happy Birthday Wishes Go Out To . . .

December

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

January

08 – Duane Borgen
10 – Gordy Gimski
28 – Charlie Clark



February

07 – Steve Lane
08 – John Adams
25 – Valerie Martin
26 – Beth Frieders

Happy Anniversary Wishes To Member & Spouse. . . .

December

09 – Terry Vaassen
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 – 21 years
2000 – Tom Nall – 14 years
2006 – Beth Frieders – 8 years
2012 – Tim Boldt – 2 years
2012 – Bob Weier – 2 years



January: 1987 – Bob Stephens – 27 years

February: 2009 – Steve & Maxine Lane – 5 years

CONGRATULATIONS go out to

Ron & Jan Weier – Son-in-law, Les Hollingsworth, was recently selected as the new Assistant Dean of the BILSA College at UW-P. New duties for Les will begin in January, 2015. In addition to this promotion, he will continue to teach two business courses.

With Our Sympathy... We extend our sincere sympathy to Gary & Eileen Engelke on the passing of Gary's mother, Ruby Engelke. May you find comfort through family, friends and fond memories.

**Merry
Christmas**

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