

ROOSTER CALL



PLATTEVILLE OPTIMIST CLUB

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



***“To Impact the lives of youth
in a positive and encouraging manner”***

Platteville Optimist Weekly Bulletin – October 19, 2018

Attendance: 33 Members – Tim Boldt, Duane Borgen, Chris Budden, Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Peggy Compton, Howard Crofoot, Dan Engelke, Gary Engelke, Kevin Haerten, Mike Hahn, Priscilla Hahn, Dave Jones, Ken Kamps, Maggie Kleisath, Maxine Lane, Steve Lane, Doug Martin, Tim Murphy, Fern Nall, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Virgil Pufahl, Becky Schambow, Greg Sieckman, Mary Sieckman, Guy Stead, Bob Stephens, Ernie Thalmann, Linda Thomas, Gene Weber, Ron Weier, Wayne Wodarz.

Guests: n/a

Mystery Greeter: Linda Thomas greeted Paul Budden earning him a free entry to the joker draw.

Joker Draw: It was Charlie holding the lucky ticket when the number was announced; however, it was the 10 of diamonds that turned up.

Announcements:

Mail/Thank You Notes/Club Acknowledgements: A notice was received from Optimist International Foundation, acknowledging our donation of \$650 in unrestricted dollars and \$250 of restricted dollars. Since inception, Optimist Club of Platteville has donated \$17,985.18 to the OI Foundation.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: Birthday wishes were extended to Diane VanNatta on 10/22 and to Carley Borcharding on 10/25.

Installation: Former Lt. Governor, Maxine Lane, installed Dan Engelke, as a 1st VP/President Elect, as he was unable to attend the installation banquet earlier in the month.

Program: Thank you to Dan Engelke for arranging to have Jean Napp attend our meeting this morning and share her experience as an Astronomical League Master Observer and President of the Starsplitters of Wyalusing State Park.



A native of Platteville, Jean graduated from UW-Platteville and UW-Madison, and taught English as a second language in Middleton. Eventually Jean and her husband moved to a farm near Stitzer where she began to homeschool their three children. Jean was presented with an opportunity to look through a telescope and discovered the beauty of the night sky. The rest is history!

Jean’s presentation was appropriately entitled, “Falling in Love with the Night Sky”, which is exactly what she did when looking through that telescope for the first time. Jean knew immediately she was not presenting to a group of astronomers as they ‘never get together this early in the morning’. Astronomers are usually preparing to go to bed at an early morning hour.

Some of the many areas covered by Jean, all of which you can see with the naked eye through a telescope, included seeing the 3 planets, Mars, Saturn and Jupiter. She touched on the constellations noting that they are seasonal. She provided pictures of the Milky Way, Northern Lights, comet and meteor showers, and the International Space Station. She shared stories of her experiences looking through a telescope, seeing stars being born, stars disintegrating as clusters, visual siting of the rings around Saturn and others.



A most interesting image Jean provided was an aerial map of the United States at night. It was disbelieving how the night sky is illuminated by the millions and millions of lights across the country and serving little, if any, purpose. Jean shared several situations where light can and does have a negative effect on society and nature.

A very interesting presentation with time allowed for questions.

Weekly Speakers:

Thank you to Dan Engelke & Tom Nall for coordinating October speakers.

October 26: Julie Stephenson, Occupational Health and Patient Experience Manager SHC

Thank you to Maggie Kleisath for coordinating our November speakers.

November 9: Jeff Gard, UW-Platteville Men's Basketball Coach

November 16: Erik Flesch, Director of Mining/Jamison Museums

November 23: **NO MEETING**

November 30: Maggie Kleisath, Girl Scouts

Minutes taken and drafted by Maxine Lane

