



Platteville Optimist Club Monthly Highlights August 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 – Becky Schambow, Secretary (*filling remainder of Fern Nall's term*)

2021-2022 Board of Directors: Terri Ellis, Mark Essex, Jordan Holthaus, Steve Lane, Leon Neuheisel, and Alaina Reeves

Published for Members September 8, 2022 by Becky Schambow, Secretary

HIGHLIGHTS OF WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS HELD IN MONTH

BUSINESS MEETING: - August 5, 2022

ATTENDEES: There were 23 members in attendance including: Jim Boebel, Carley Borcharding, Chris Budden, Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Amy Coffey, Howard Crofoot, Eileen Engelke, Gary Engelke, Mark Essex, Linda Foht, Bob Hundhausen, Maxine Lane, Doug Martin, Tim Murphy, Leon Neuheisel, Melissa Palfrey, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Joy Schewe, Bob Stephens, Ernie Thalmann, and Wayne Wodarz.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President H Crofoot at 7:03 a.m. Attendees then recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed.

MEETING ACTIVITIES:

- **Mystery Greeter:** President Crofoot was Mystery Greeter, greeting Linda Foht.
- **Joker Draw:** Becky Schambow's ticket was drawn, however she cut the King of Diamonds.
- **Free Breakfast Drawing:** Jerry Schewe and Tim Murphy were the two members present whose name were drawn and Dean Feldman and Virg Pufahl were the two members not present whose names were drawn to receive free breakfast in August.

SPECIAL DATES NOTED:

- **Birthdays – the upcoming week:**
 - Maggie Kleisath – August 5th;
 - Jim Boll – August 9th
- **Members' Wedding Anniversaries – the upcoming week:**
 - Brad and Jessica Brogley – August 7th;
 - Mark and Karen Essex – August 9th;
 - Karla and Todd Timmerman – August 11th.
- **Membership Anniversaries this month:**
 - Mike Olds – August 12, 1994
 - Diane VanNatta – August 20, 2004
 - Maggie and Steve Kleisath – August 31, 2012
 - Chris Budden – August 4, 2017
 - Paul Budden – August 30, 2016
 - Diane Paynter – August 13, 2019
- **Friend of Optimist Anniversaries of Joining This Month:**
 - Dairy Queen – August 27, 2019

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT: President Crofoot reviewed the following summary from the Board meeting held on August 2nd, 2022 with the membership.

- **TREASURER'S REPORT Period Ending 7-31-22:** *(report submitted by Duane Borgen, Treasurer).*
Howard noted the Internal and Youth Account Balances contained in report. The Board has made a motion to approve the report as printed. Wayne Wodarz seconded the Board's motion. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

- **Finance Committee:**
 - **Budget Process Begins:** President Crofoot reported that D. Borgen has begun budget process for the upcoming fiscal year beginning 10-1-22 by preparing to send out the "Donation Request Forms".
 - **OI Dues Increase of \$15/person:** President reported that OI will be increasing the OI dues by \$15 per member effective 10-1-2022. He noted the Board discussed this, but Board desired to bring this up at this Business Meeting to gain member's input/suggestions for how to handle this increase. Some suggestions included: breaking out the insurance portion of our dues to OI from the Youth account; raising our dues from \$84 to \$96, \$99 or \$100 with difference paid by our internal account, or raising our members' dues the entire \$15. It was also recommended that Board attempt to find out what other SWIS clubs charge their members for dues. Comments / suggestions will be discussed at next Board meeting where they will make final recommendation.
- **Community Service:**
 - **Party in Park-July 21, 2022:** President Crofoot noted the event was successful and thanked those who planned and/or worked at the event.
 - **PCA Clean Up Day – Sept. 17th from 9-11: a.m.:** Specific information relative to where volunteers will meet and be assigned will be provided soon.
- **Membership:**
 - **OI Recognition of NOW Event:** Patch received for our banner.
 - **Membership Changes:** None
- **Publicity / Newsletter & Website:**
 - **T-Shirts:** Have been ordered.
 - **Revised Brochures:** Have been ordered.
 - **Website:** Looking for volunteer to help post things on website.
- **Cheese Curd Committee:**
 - **Trailer Cleaned and Reorganized;**
 - **Change in Insurance Policy:** New plan now provides for full coverage on trailer & all Club equipment and liability coverage for "non-member" volunteers over 18 who may work at events.
 - **Board recommendation to approve non-member volunteers to help cover Cheese Curd shifts**
 - Motion from Board for approval:
 - Second by Gary Engelke.
 - Call for discussion and hearing none, President Crofoot called for a vote, which carried unanimously.
 - **Training for Volunteers:** Tentative plans are to offer training for volunteers conducted via Zoom on August 10th and 11th.
 - **Shift Reminders:** It was reported that reminders are being sent out to volunteers to advise them of their scheduled shift(s) and task assignments.
- **Fellowship:**
 - **Speakers for August:** Recruited by Terri Ellis
 - August 12th – Jim Boebel – Update on the Platteville Schools
 - August 19th – Bonnie Beam-Stratz from ADRC
 - August 26th - Sarah Ellis – will talk about MT Shorts and navigating a career in performing arts.
 - Members were reminded that names of speakers and topics are posted on our Optimist website calendar.
 - **Installation Banquet:** Is tentatively being planned for Sunday, October 9th.
- **Youth Committee:**
 - **Books for Babies:** Chris Budden has taken over this project. Chris has delivered a supply of books to the hospital and has placed an order for more books. President Crofoot expressed his appreciation to Tonya Nall (*Tom and Fern's daughter*) for helping us get Fern's files to aid us in continuing this project.

- **Books for Babies in Memory of Fern Nall:** President Crofoot reported that the Board made a motion that a notation be placed in books provided to newborns that this program is in memory of Fern Nall.
 - Motion from Board for approval;
 - Seconded by Maxine Lane;
 - Call for discussion and hearing none, President Crofoot called for a vote, which carried unanimously.
- **Story Book Walk:** Board is appreciative of Carley Borcharding's efforts with this program. Due to the fact that Carley needs to step down from this program, the Board is referring this to the Youth Committee for discussion of alternatives and make a recommendation relative to this program.

Old Business:

- **Board Nomination:** President Crofoot reported that the Board is making a motion to the membership to elect Terri Ellis to fill the 2nd year of Alaina Reeve's Board of Directors position (*as Alaina was elected to position of Vice President*) effective Oct. 1, 2022.
 - Motion from Board for Approval;
 - Seconded by Chris Budden;
 - Call for discussion and hearing none, President Crofoot called for a vote, which carried unanimously.
- **SWIS District Conference:** President Crofoot reminded members that the conference is scheduled for August 12th and 13th at DeForest.
- **Fund Craz Tickets:** It was announced that tickets are still available and can be purchased from Gary Engelke.

New Business:

- **Thank You Notes Received:** President Crofoot reported that notes of appreciation have been received from:
 - **Platteville Fire Dept.:** Our donation being used toward purchase of Thermal Imaging Cameras;
 - **OI Foundation:** June 30th Report - unrestricted giving year-to-date to OI was \$250; Lifetime giving total equals \$19 135.18.
 - **CCDHH:** Maxine Lane read a Thank You from CESA 3 staff for the donation from the Club. This allowed them to host a celebration of accomplishments party for the deaf and hard of hearing students and their families. A poster, prepared by the students, was also shared identifying the appreciation from the students. Maxine further stated that annually she reaches out to this group hoping to create interest and participation from the students in the CCDHH program providing an opportunity to win either a \$1,000 or \$1,500 scholarship.

Other Business:

- **Optimist Face Book Report:** Maxine Lane noted that posting on our Face Book page of Terri Ellis' award as our "Volunteer of the Year" had over 500 responses.
- **Dairy Day Plans:** Cheese Curd Committee will be working on plans for cheese curd sales after fair event is over. There are no plans to have an Optimist entry in the parade.

Conclusion: President Crofoot noted:

- **Next Board Meeting:** Scheduled for Tuesday, August 30th;
- **Next Business Meeting:** Friday, Sept. 2nd
- **Adjourn:** A motion was made by Wayne Wodarz, seconded by Charlie Clark, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 a.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by: *Becky Schambow, Secretary*

WEEKLY MEETING - August 12, 2022

27 Members in Attendance

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: President H. Crofoot opened the meeting and led the attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.

SPECIAL DATES NOTED:

- **Birthdays – this upcoming week:** There were no birthdays noted this upcoming week.
- **Members' Wedding Anniversaries – the upcoming week:** Steve and Maggie Kleisath – August 17th.

MEETING ACTIVITIES:

- **Mystery Greeter:** Jim Boebel was greeted by Leon Neuheisel.
- **Joker Draw:** Tom Nall's ticket was drawn, however he drew the 6 of Diamonds.

INFORMATION PROVIDED / DISCUSSED:

- **Cheese Curd – Grant County Fair – August 17th – 21st:** Shift assignment and job task descriptions have been sent out. Entry passes have been purchased for those needing and will get them from Becky Schambow.
- **Community Service Day for PCA Clean Up Day – Sept. 17th:** Collaborative effort between our club, Kiwanis and Rotary. Interested members were asked to volunteer.

TODAY'S GUEST SPEAKER – Jim Boebel, Superintendent of Platteville Public Schools and Club Member - providing "Update on Platteville Schools".

Jim Boebel was recruited to speak by Terri Ellis and was introduced by Joy Schewe.

Jim began his talk by giving a brief overview of the system's primary goals, which include "providing a welcoming, safe environment every day" and ensuring the community is welcomed into school buildings.

He spoke briefly about system's strategic plan including a focus on learning to eliminate achievement gaps and improve results. He noted the system wants to become nationally recognized and that teachers meet on a Wednesday early release day to collaborate towards this goal. In addition, they are working to ensure that everyone (students) is welcomed and feels that they belong.

Finally, Jim talked about the Board's decision to ask for a referendum for a \$36 million dollar capital improvement project to appear on City's November 8th ballot. This would increase property owners' tax assessment by 68 cents/\$1000. This would involve improvements in all four schools and include: a new activities complex at the high school with improved parking, etc.; addition of bathrooms and additional classrooms and new doors (improved handicap accessibility) at Middle School; improved parking and parent drop-off / pick-up at Westview; and addition of gymnasium; and upgrade of kitchen and canopies at Neal Wilkins. He encouraged members to look at the school website for more information on this project.

CONCLUSION: Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:00 a.m.

Meeting Notes Recorded by: Becky Schambow, Secretary

WEEKLY MEETING - August 19, 2022

32 Members plus Guest Speaker in Attendance

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: President H. Crofoot opened the meeting and led the attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.

- **Guests Welcomed:** Bonnie Beam-Stratz was welcomed as a guest.

SPECIAL DATES NOTED:

- **Birthdays:** There were no birthdays noted upcoming this week.
- **Members' Wedding Anniversaries – the upcoming week:**
 - Kathy and Joe Kopp – August 19th;
 - Virg and Marcia Pufahl – August 22nd;
 - Ken and Lois Jean Kamps – August 23rd.

MEETING ACTIVITIES:

- **Mystery Greeter:** Maggie Kleisath greeted Joy Schewe.
- **Joker Draw:** Charlie Clark's ticket was drawn, however, he didn't draw the Joker.

INFORMATION PROVIDED / DISCUSSED:

- **Cheese Curds at Fair Update:** Becky Schambow noted sales Wed. and Thursday were excellent and thanked those who have and will be volunteering at the fair from August 17-21st.
- **Sign-up For Dairy Days Cheese Curd Sales Sept. 9-11:** was circulated and will be on-line.
- **Installation Banquet – October 9th:** Date has been chosen and more information will be forthcoming.
- **Patch for Banner for Surviving the Pandemic:** has been awarded to our Club by OI.
- **Thank You from Nall Family:** received for our contribution towards “Books for Babies’ program in memory of Fern Nall. Club has received over \$800 in memorial gifts from members to be used towards this program.
- **United Methodist Church:** Received email noting collection of new or gently worn shoes is being taken at UM Church up until August 31st. Shoes will be sent to Haiti.
- **Community Service PCA Clean Up Day:** Reminder that it is scheduled for Sept. 17th
- **Shirt Pick-up:** Club shirts are in and those who ordered can pick up from Chris Budden. A few XL shirts are still available.

GUEST SPEAKER: Bonnie Beam-Stratz – ADRC – recruited and introduced by Terri Ellis.

Bonnie Beam Stratz, representing “Aging and Disability Resource Center” (ADRC) provided a handout to members and spoke on a “Dementia Friendly Community”. She noted that such a community involves: awareness and understanding; dignity and respect; supports independence; and guides and supports those with dementia when needed.

She talked about the importance of identifying someone that may have dementia to be able to effectively communicate and interact with those individuals. She noted there are over six million people in the US that had Alzheimer’s disease in 2022, with 120,000 in WI having dementia in 2022. 70% of these individuals live at home.

After highlighting some of the signs, symptoms, and treatments for those individuals, she provided some tips for interaction. Those included: being patient; offer reassurance; guide; slow down; use friendly non-verbal communication such as smiling, making eye contact; putting the person at ease; involve person directly in conversation; provide simple, short statements; don’t try to correct or argue; if they ask same thing multiple times – repeat your response; and validate them.

CONCLUSION: The meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.

Meeting Notes Recorded by: Becky Schambow, Secretary

WEEKLY MEETING – August 26, 2022

29 Members in Attendance

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: President H. Crofoot opened the meeting and led the attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.

- **Guests Welcomed:** Sarah Ellis, today’s speaker, was welcomed as our guest.

SPECIAL DATES NOTED:

- **Birthdays – the upcoming week:** Barb Stockhausen on August 28th
- **Members’ Wedding Anniversaries – the upcoming week:** Kim and Cindy Skemp on August 30th, and John and Molly Zuehlke on September 1st.

MEETING ACTIVITIES:

- **Mystery Greeter:** President H. Crofoot greeted Mark Essex.
- **Joker Draw:** Maggie Kleisath’s ticket was drawn, however she drew the Ace of Hearts.

INFORMATION PROVIDED / DISCUSSED:

- **Thank You Notes:** Received from Platteville Sports Boosters for our donation and Bonnie Beam-Stratz (*prior week’s speaker from ADRC*). Bonnie’s note also encouraged members to consider the many classes offered by ADRC. Information can be found on the ADRC-Southwest WI website.

- **Invitation to Platteville Kiwanis 100 Year Celebration on Sept. 24th:** If members are interested in attending, they can contact phone number 608-642-9227.
- **Historic Re-enactment at Dairy Days Reception – 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 9th:** Members were advised of event.
- **T-shirts:** Still some XL size club t-shirts available for sale.
- **Dairy Days Sept. 9-11th:** Sign-up sheet was circulated for volunteers to sign up to cover cheese curd sales shifts.

GUEST SPEAKER: Sarah Ellis – MT Shorts and navigating a career in performing arts.

Sarah was recruited and introduced by her mother Terri Ellis.

Sarah provided a very informative session on what it takes to be an actor in the theater. Sarah talked about her acting, dancing and singing experiences and her love of Broadway. She noted that Broadway is made up of 40 actual theatres, and others are considered “off Broadway”. She then explained that there are “Touring Houses”, such as the Overture Center in Madison.

Sarah went through the various and many stages that actors go through to be considered for a part. In most situations, want to be actors have an agent. Producers call Casting Directors who contact agents with the types of actors they are looking for. The agents then submit names back to the Casting Directors who determine who they may want to audition. There may be multiple auditions to go through for any given part.

Sarah, together with her partner Greg Kamp, have developed a program called “MT Shirts”. This is a creative platform where musical theatre and short film meet, forging a new medium of storytelling. Their mission is to bring the voices of an emerging generation of creatives to screen. MT Shorts provides a platform for new composers and actors to hone their craft.

CONCLUSION: Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 a.m.

Meeting Notes Recorded by: Becky Schambow, Secretary

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MEMBERS’ SPECIAL DAYS in SEPTEMBER 2022

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

- Hap Daus – Sept. 3rd;
- Jordan Holthaus – Sept. 3rd;
- Debra McWilliams – Sept. 4th;
- Arnie Roper – Sept. 5th;
- Christine Budden – Sept. 7th;
- Melissa Palfrey – Sept. 10th
- Mike Hahn – Sept. 15th
- Robert Stephens – Sept. 23rd

SEPTEMBER – MEMBERS’ WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

- John and Molly Zuehlke – Sept. 1st;
- Jim and Tami Boebel – Sept. 3rd;
- Debra and Harvey McWilliams – Sept. 4th;
- Charlie and Joyce Clark – Sept. 8th;
- George Byykkonen and spouse – Sept. 14th;
- Mike and Tonya Olds – Sept. 19th;
- Tim and Kathy Murphy – Sept. 26th

SEPTEMBER - MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES:

- Kim Skemp – Sept. 1, 1982;
- Wayne Wodarz – Sept. 1, 1987;
- Jerry Schewe – Sept. 1, 1992;
- Charlie Clark – Sept. 30, 2002;

- Chad Holstein – Sept. 28, 2016;
- Mark Haas – Sept. 29, 2018;
- Priscilla Hahn – Sept. 29, 2018.

SEPTEMBER - FRIENDS OF OPTIMISTS MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES:

- Bills Plumbing and Heating – Sept. 29, 2015;
- Queen B – Sept. 20, 2016;
- Heiser Hardward – Sept. 28, 2016
- Honkamp and Krueger – Sept. 29, 2018