

CURRENTLY MEETING 7:00 AM FRIDAYS AT COUNTRY KITCHEN, HWY 151, PLATTEVILLE, WI

Friday, January 8, 2015

Attendance: Twenty Optimists attended. Six were wearing their Optimist Shirts (Bob Weier, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Steve Lane, Ron Weier, and John Urness).

Mystery Greeter: Beth Frieders greeted Diane Van Natta, giving Diane another shot in Joker Draw.

Luck of the Draw: John Urness's ticket was drawn for the Joker Draw. John drew the Jack of Diamonds and earned \$2.00 for his efforts, but not the pot, which is got to be over a grand by now. With this being the first meeting of the month, our free breakfast drawing for those attending went to Terry Vaassen and Gary Engelke, and for those "not in attendance," Dean Feldman and Maxine Lane.

Business Meeting:

Announcements and Old Business

- ++ Duane Borgen is celebrating his birthday today, January 8th. Bob Stephens is celebrating his membership anniversary of 28 yrs. (1987) Way to go, Bob!!
- ++ There's a change in the location for our **January Social** will be held at the First English Lutheran Church instead of Wisconsin Bank of Trust. Twenty-three have signed up so far. Hope to see you there on Friday, January 15 @ 5:30. Bring a salad or dessert and your own beverage.
- ++ Thank you cards were circulated from Thursday's Child and Badger Camp. Christmas cards were circulated from Barb Stockhausen and Ken Kamps.
- ++ Becky Schambow shared the information from the Platteville Police Department on the "Platteville Citizens Academy" class. Applications can be gotten and turned in at the Platteville Police Department.

New Business:

- * John reported that there is \$17,000 in the Youth Account and \$3,826.58 in the Internal Account. The Joke Draw has \$1,328. Gary moved to approve the budget. Seconded by Bob Weier, Motion carried.
- * John reminded us that the Dime-A-Day checks (\$36.50) or money is due by the end of the month so that Jerry Schewe can send it in. Checks should be made out to OI Foundation to be used as a tax credit.
- * Lindsay Hollingsworth submitted an application to the Wisconsin State Reading Association competition. Her application described the collaboration between Platteville Optimists and the Hidden Valley Reading Association working with the Free Little Library project. The project was selected as the Sate Winner. Thanks to Bob Weier and Leon Neuheisel for helping bring this award to southwest Wisconsin.
- * Fern Nall was recognized for the article in the Platteville Journal describing the Books for Babies program. She works with the Erin Isabell and the SWH staff to make sure that each family of a baby born at the hospital has a book to take home and enjoy.
- * Membership: Diane Van Natta recruited Dupaco Credit Union as a Friend of Optimist and was awarded a pin. *Note:* We have lost 4 members and gained 5 new friends and members. (68 at the end of the year) Only 4 more are needed to meet our goal.

- * Tri-Star Basketball will be held in late March. Doug Martin, Duane Borgen, and Tim Boldt are organizing it and will let us know when we can sign up to help. (Members can be "basketball challenged" and still help!) This year they plan to have seating for the audience.
- * Oratorical and Essay Contests: Essay contest is underway. Deadline for entries is Feb.1. We will need people to evaluate the entries again. Please let Ron or Gary Munson know if you are able to help.

Upcoming Speakers:

- ++ January 15th, Dr. Josh Linsday,
- ++ January 22nd Jessie Lee-Jones, the Library Director,
- ++ January 29th Bruce Schmidt, Woodworker and musician who will talk about making banjos.



Minutes taken and submitted by Fern Nall; edited for "Rooster Call" by Charlie Clark.