

# ROOSTER CALL



## PLATTEVILLE OPTIMIST CLUB

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

### Platteville Optimist Weekly Bulletin - Friday, February 17, 2017

**Attendance:** 24 Members – Tim Boldt, Duane Borgen, Howard Crofoot, Hap Daus, Eileen Engelke, Gary Engelke, Beth Frieders, Kevin Haertzen, Maxine Lane, Steve Lane, Doug Martin, Fern Nall, Tom Fall, Leon Neuheisel, Mike Olds, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Bob Stephens, Ernie Thalmann, John Urness, Gene Weber, Bob Weier, Ron Weier, Wayne Wodarz.

**Mystery Greeter:** Doug Martin was the designated Mystery Greeter this morning, identifying Eileen Engelke as the lucky hand shake this morning.

**Joker Draw:** Leon Neuheisel had the lucky ticket this morning, only to draw the king of spades.

#### **Announcements:**

**Birthdays/Anniversaries:** Tim Boldt celebrated a birthday on February 12.

**Sympathy Card:** Maxine passed a sympathy card to the members that will be mailed to the Monroe Club. She had received an email, sharing the grief being experienced by the community, the Optimist Club and the families of the 3 teens killed in an auto accident the past weekend.

**PHS Scholarship Banquet:** President Haertzen reminded the membership that our club would be represented at this event on February 25.

**SWIS District Conference** President Haertzen reminded the members that Ron Weier, Wayne Wodarz, Kevin Haertzen, Maxine Lane, Gary Engelke, and Howard Crofoot would be attending the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter SWIS District Conference on February 17 and 18 in Janesville.

**Program:** Duane Borgen introduced Bill Kloster, Chairman of the Platteville Municipal Airport Commission. Bill grew up in California, graduating in 1976 from Cal Poly in Aero Engineering. He flew helicopters in the Army and retired as a LTC in 1996. Bill also served as Deputy Secretary of WI Department of Veteran Affairs.

Prior to Bill giving his presentation today, he introduced Alaine Olthafer. Alaine and her husband, Andy, manage the Platteville Municipal Airport. Alaine is certified as an Aviation Flight Instructor from MN State Mankato and has over 2000 hours flight experience. Her husband, Andy performs plane maintenance and maintains the grounds.

Alaine started by informing the members that the airport is owned by the City of Platteville. Included in the 532 acres is crop land which is rented to local seed dealers. The airport is classified as a Medium Size General Aviation Airport by the DOT. There is no scheduled airline service. She stated there are 34 aircraft on site, 2 being jets. There are over 7000 operations per year. Use of the airport comes from businesses (local and those traveling to Platteville), students, ag (crop dusting), Medivac, recreational (fly in breakfast/breakfast with Santa), public and others (pipeline patrol, DNR, law enforcement). Alaine made mention of some of the improvements that have taken place and others that are scheduled such as areas for resurfacing and lighting.



Alaine turned the presentation over to Bill, who gave a most interesting history on the growth of aviation, going back to the Wright Brothers and coming full circle to today. Bill explained the impact that flying has, Time = Money = Productivity = Quality of Life = Customer Satisfaction. The reduced time it takes to arrive at a destination increases profits as productivity is improved. Less time traveling results in more family time improving the quality of life and the end result, increasing customer satisfaction with more timely meetings. Platteville Airport is one of 2 self-sufficient operations in the State. It is a known fact that airports open doors for communities. Bill stated the airport is a very well maintained facility and currently has 2 courtesy vehicles for those flying into the airport and needing to get to a local destination. Following a question and answer session, Bill concluded by stating we can help increase traffic at the airport by encouraging use, visiting the airport, and simply learning about the facility.

Maxine inquired about holding a Friday morning meeting at the airport. Both Bill and Alaine encouraged this. A Friday morning meeting in April will be scheduled at the airport with a continental breakfast.

Weekly Speakers: February Programs, Coordinator(s), Duane Borgen

**February 24 – Steve Braun, Grant County Emergency Management**

**March 3 – Business Meeting**



Minutes taken and drafted for  
Rooster Call by Maxine Lane.