



# Platteville Optimist Club Monthly Highlights | September 2021

**Vision Statement:** "To Impact the lives of youth in a positive and encouraging manner"

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**2020-2021 OFFICERS:** Tom Nall, President; Howard Crofoot, Vice President; Dan Engelke; Past President; Duane Borgen, Treasurer; Alaina Reeves, Secretary

**2020-2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Doug Martin, Leon Neuheisel, Linda Thomas, Steve Lane, Terri Ellis, Jordan Holthaus

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**PUBLISHED FOR MEMBERS ON September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021** Due to COVID-19, the Platteville Optimist Board and Members have not been able to meet in person since March 6, 2020. To continue Club business, the Board of Directors has been meeting via Zoom, with our most recent meeting held on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021. The following "Governing Board & Committee Updates" below were reported to the Membership at their Business Meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.

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## GOVERNING BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES

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### FINANCE COMMITTEE:

- ✓ **Treasurer's Report:** Financial Report dated August 31<sup>st</sup> was submitted by D. Borgen, Treasurer. L. Thomas motioned to approve the reports, seconded by D. Martin. Motion carried.
  - **Discussion:** Duane sent out 39 grant requests, got some back so far. Duane will be sending out 62 due notices. Money for Stuff the Bus came out from Joker Fund. A. Reeves will deliver 2020-2021 Notes of Appreciation Received to H. Crofoot prior to their meeting to make the 2021-2022 budget.
- ✓ **Notes of Appreciation Received in August:** None to report.

**YOUTH COMMITTEE:** Nothing to report.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE:** Nothing to report.

### FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE:

- ✓ **September 10<sup>th</sup>:** Jen Collins from UW-Platteville School of Education
- ✓ **September 17<sup>th</sup>:** Jim Boebel, Platteville School District Superintendent
- ✓ **September 24<sup>th</sup>:** Darlene Masters & Paula Schoenfield from Family Advocates.
- ✓ **Optimist Installation Banquet:** (Please note item on agenda for New Business)

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:** Nothing to report.

**PUBLICITY COMMITTEE:** Nothing to report.

### CHEESE CURD COMMITTEE:

- ✓ Grant County Cheese Curds: Reviewed net income from the fundraiser. 1,100 pounds of cheese curds were sold (ordered 100 pounds more than last year).
- ✓ Platteville Dairy Days: schedule is complete. H. Crofoot will check with Luke Peters to see what's going on with plug-ins, etc.
- ✓ Cheese Curd Committee Meeting tonight: if anyone has any comments, thoughts, etc. please relay them to T. Nall who will be at the meeting.
- ✓ Needing members committed to take the leadership roles of the committee. Capable members to be trained as shift leaders and for other duties performed by Steve & Maxine over the last 4 years. Training sessions will be held on preparation of the batter, coordination of trailer clean-up, delivery/set-up, as well as final shift clean up and return/storage of trailer.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

- ✓ Meetings at Country Kitchen: Attendance seems to be around the same as pre-COVID. We will continue to monitor.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- ✓ **Installation Banquet:** Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 PM at the Country Club (reservation verified) and will finish no later than 7:00PM because of the Packer Game. \$150 rental fee plus \$16.95/meal; if we charge \$20 per person we should be able to cover it. \$650 is in the budget. The meal will include two entrée options and we will bring a sheet cake. Alaina & Tom put together the program.
  - **Sign-up/Attendance:** L. Thomas will pass a sign-up sheet around this Friday. Need to give the final count by September 17<sup>th</sup>. We will stress to membership that if they sign-up and don't cancel by September 17<sup>th</sup>, they must pay for their meal.
  - Discussed inviting the new Lt. Governor (Elizabeth) – traditionally, we do this at the installation banquet and she installs the new members.
- ✓ Discussion on next Board Meeting (Howard)
  - Next Board meeting is Howard's. He is fine with keeping them on Tuesday's, but Fern prefers Monday's. Howard will think about Monday vs. Tuesday and Alaina will send out an email to Board Members to send in their preference.
  - Tim Boldt offered up his Board room for our Board Meetings.
  - Howard would like to have the Board officially approve our projects for the year in advance. This goes back to the insurance: if a project is approved in writing in the Board meeting minutes, OI will cover insurance for the club for that project (i.e., Dairy Days, Grant County Fair, Tri-star Basketball, Oratorical, Bike Rodeo, etc.). If we approve them all at once we are done with it for the year, unless we come up with a new project during that year.

## **CONCLUSION:**

- ✓ Next Meeting is Friday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 a.m. at Country Kitchen – September Business Meeting
- ✓ Next Board Meeting is Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m. via Zoom.
- ✓ Motion to adjourn made by L. Thomas, seconded by T. Ellis. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 a.m.

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

- ✓ Review of financials
- ✓ Information on Installation Banquet
- ✓ Additional Funds Request from Books for Babies

**BOARD REPORT SUBMITTED BY: ALAINA REEVES, SECRETARY**

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## **SEPTEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2021 – BUSINESS MEETING**

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**ATTENDEES:** There were 28 members in attendance including: Joan Bahr, Tim Boldt, Chris & Paul Budden, Howard Crofoot, Hap Daus, Terri Ellis, Deb Elvidge, Steve Elvidge, Dan Engelke, Mark Essex, Beth Frieders, Ken Kamps, Maggie Kleisath, Maxine Lane, Tim Murphy, Fern & Tom Nall, Alaina Reeves, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Greg Sieckman, Bob Stephens, Ernie Thalman, Linda Thomas, Rod Thomas, Ron Weier, and Wayne Wodarz.

**BUSINESS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:** Meeting was called to order by Howard Crofoot at 7:04 a.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.

**SPECIAL DATES NOTED:** Happy Birthday to Jordan Holtaus and Hap Daus today (September 3<sup>rd</sup>), Deb McWilliams (September 4<sup>th</sup>), Arnie Roper (September 5<sup>th</sup>) and Chris Budden (September 7<sup>th</sup>). Happy Wedding Anniversary to Jim & Tami Boebel today (September 3<sup>rd</sup>), Deb & Harvey McWilliams (September 4<sup>th</sup>), and Charlie & Joyce Clark (September 8<sup>th</sup>).

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REPORT & COMMENTS:** Howard reviewed Board and Committee updates from Board's August 31<sup>st</sup> meeting as noted above. Members approved Board's motions as follows:

- ✓ Finance Committee:
  - Approved the Treasurer's report for period ending 8-31-2021.
  - Notes of appreciation received: Platteville 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee, Grant County CST Resource Fair & Backpack Pickup, Friends of the Mining & Rollo Jamison Museum for sponsoring the Platteville Historic Encampment.
- ✓ Fellowship Committee: Installation banquet scheduled for September 26<sup>th</sup>.
- ✓ Cheese Curd Committee: Passed the Cheese Curd revenue & expense sheet around. Work schedule for Dairy Days is all set – plan is to purchase extra 25 lbs of curds. Would still like members to be on standby for filling slots if needed.

#### **MEETING ACTIVITIES:**

- ✓ Sang "Happy Birthday" to Hap Daus. He said "Aw," as he wiped a tear.
- ✓ Mystery Greeter: Paul Budden who greeted Jerry Schewe.
- ✓ Joker Draw: Maxine Lane drew Howard Crofoot's ticket. Howard chose to draw and DREW THE JOKER TICKET!

#### **CONCLUSION:**

- ✓ Next meeting is Friday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m.: Jen Collins from UW-Platteville School of Education.
- ✓ Next Board Meeting is Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m. via Zoom
- ✓ Meeting motioned to adjourn by T. Ellis, seconded by F. Nall. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 a.m.

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### **SEPTEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 – JEN COLLINS, UW-PLATTEVILLE**

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**ATTENDEES:** There were 25 members and 1 guest who attended and participated including: Tim Boldt, Chris & Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Jen Collins (guest speaker), Howard Crofoot, Terri Ellis, Deb & Steve Elvidge, Dan Engelke, Mark Essex, Beth Frieders, Kevin Haerten, Ken Kamps, Maggie Kleisath, Maxine Lane, Fern & Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Alaina Reeves, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Bob Stephens, Ernie Thalmann, Ron Weier and Wayne Wodarz.

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:** Meeting was called to order by T. Nall at 7:03 a.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed.

**SPECIAL DATES NOTED:** Happy Birthday to Joan Bahr (September 14<sup>th</sup>), Mike Hahn (September 15<sup>th</sup>) and Peggy Compton (September 15<sup>th</sup>). Happy Wedding Anniversary to George Byykkonen (September 14<sup>th</sup>).

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- ✓ Installation banquet on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Packer/49er game at 7:20 p.m.
- ✓ Cheese Curd Pizza Party: Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at Uno's Pizza Upstairs. 5:15 PM to 8:00 PM. No cost for those who worked at least 1 Cheese Curd Shift for Grant Co. Fair and/or Dairy Days. \$10 each for spouses or significant others who did not work a shift.
- ✓ Leon Neuheisel shared they are still looking for volunteers for the Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Build on September 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### **MEETING ACTIVITIES:**

- ✓ Mystery Greeter: Maxine Lane greeted Chris Budden.
- ✓ Joker Draw (led by Charlie Clark): Bob Stephens drew Maxine Lane's Ticket. Maxine drew a King of Hearts.

#### **GUEST SPEAKER: Jen Collins, UW-Platteville**

Introduced by Ron Weier, Jen Collins spoke to us from the UW-Platteville School of Education. Jen is a passionate advocate for rural schools and has been working diligently within her department to improve the experience

and education offered to students who will go on to teach in rural communities. UW-Platteville has been educating teaching for 150 years, though their focus has not always been what it is today. In the past, curriculum was designed for "preparation everywhere" as opposed to "preparation *somewhere*," which is what Jen and her colleagues have been trying to change. In this case, that "somewhere" is rural, which is so different than urban education that it deserves its own curriculum. What's unique about rural education, Jen shared, is the importance of community and the fact that they suffer in funding which makes it hard to recruit teachers who have received higher paying job offers in more urban areas. In effort to tailor their curriculum to rural areas, students are required to take a course on community-based learning and the School of Education is delivering coursework on "ruralness." Jen was energetic and fun to hear from, and she encouraged us to go see the timeline mural in Doudna Hall highlighting education from 1866 to Present Day.

**CONCLUSION:**

- ✓ Next meeting: Friday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m. – Jim Boebel, Platteville Schools Superintendent
- ✓ Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m. via Zoom.
- ✓ Adjournment: 8:05 a.m.

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**SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>: JIM BOEBEL, PLATTEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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**ATTENDEES:** There were 24 members who attended and participated including: Joan Bahr, Jim Boebel, Tim Boldt, Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Hap Daus, Penny Droessler, Terri Ellis, Deb & Steve Elvidge, Dan Engelke, Mark Essex, Kevin Haertzen, Doreen Hlavaty, Eileen McCartney, Fern & Tom Nall, Melissa Palfrey, Alaina Reeves, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Ernie Thalmann, Ron Weier, and Wayne Wodarz.

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:** Meeting was called to order by T. Nall at 7:04 a.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed.

**SPECIAL DATES NOTED:** Happy Birthday to Nichole Tyc (September 19<sup>th</sup>) and Bob Stephens (September 23<sup>rd</sup>). Happy Wedding Anniversary to Mike & Tonya Olds (September 19<sup>th</sup>) and Matt & Nichole Tyc (September 23<sup>rd</sup>).

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- ✓ Provided update on Dairy Days Cheese Curds Sales
- ✓ Reminder: Cheese Curd Pizza Party is on Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ Reminder: Installation Banquet is on Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ Prayer request for Rod Thomas

**MEETING ACTIVITIES:**

- ✓ Mystery Greeter was Fern Nall who greeted Penny Droessler.
- ✓ Joker Draw: Terri Ellis drew Hap Daus' ticket. Hap Drew a 7 of Diamonds.
- ✓ Ron told a joke from Bob Weier to lighten the day.

**GUEST SPEAKER: Jim Boebel, Platteville School District.**

Melissa Palfrey introduced Superintendent Jim Boebel, who is in his 26<sup>th</sup> year in education and 3<sup>rd</sup> year working as the Platteville School District Superintendent. Jim provided an update on where the schools, students and staff are at for the year. Prior to the school year starting, the administration had some goals: to improve their ability to serve every student in terms of inclusion, to be recognized nationally as a professional learning community, and to ensure they can work in-person with students. To work towards their goal of inclusion, they partnered with The Center for All (Oshkosh, WI – CESA 6), who performed an equity walkthrough in Neal Wilkins to point out things in the classroom that might not make a student feel welcome. Jim touched on the concept of "initiative overload" which is caused when teachers and staff feel the need to implement too many ideas at once. To combat this, he worked with staff to identify a small number of priorities to focus on for the year. Acknowledging the controversy surrounding mask mandates in schools, Jim explained that some school districts choose to require masks right off the bat (Platteville being one of them) which certainly causes more friction, and other school districts choose the "wait and see" approach. Implementing the mask mandate was an effort to be able to work in-person with students, and Jim noted that the masks are helping kids stay in school. As an advisor of Jim's illustrated: "waiting to implement masks is like pumping the breaks after you've wrapped your car around a tree." We surely appreciated Jim's presence at our meeting and wish him the best for this school year!

## **CONCLUSION:**

- ✓ Next meeting: Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m. – Darlene Masters & Paula Schoenfield from Family Advocates
- ✓ Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m. via Zoom.
- ✓ Meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.

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## **SEPTEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>: FAMILY ADVOCATES PRESENTATION**

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**ATTENDEES:** There were 21 members and 2 guests who attended and participated including: Joan Bahr, Tim Boldt, Paul Budden, Howard Crofoot, Hap Daus, Terri Ellis, Dan Engelke, Mark Essex, Beth Frieders, Maggie Kleisath, Maxine Lane, Doug Martin, Darlene Masters (guest), Eileen McCartney, Fern & Tom Nall, Alaina Reeves, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Paula Schoenfield (guest), Bob Stephens, Ernie Thalmann, and Ron Weier.

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:** The meeting was called to order by President T. Nall at 7:03 a.m. at which time the Pledge of Allegiance and Optimist Creed were recited. Jon Fons, incoming SWIS District Governor, stopped by as he was passing through town and highlighted the importance, as Optimists, of treating each other with dignity & respect. Also noting that during these times, it's extremely important to be optimistic and demonstrate fellowship, harmony, and cooperation.

**SPECIAL DATES NOTED:** Happy Wedding Anniversary to Joan & Kevin Bahr (September 27<sup>th</sup>). Happy Membership Anniversary to Chad Holstein (September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016), Mark Haas (September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018), Priscilla Hahn (September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018) and Charlie Clark (September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2002).

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- ✓ President Tom Nall said Thank You to all for a great term as President. Dan Engelke thanked him on behalf of the entire club.
- ✓ Board of Directors Meeting this Tuesday

## **MEETING ACTIVITIES:**

- ✓ Doug Martin was the mystery greeter who greeted Alaina Reeves.
- ✓ Maxine Lane drew Maggie Kleisath's ticket. Maggie drew a 5 of Spades.

## **GUEST SPEAKER: Family Advocates Presentation**

Melissa Palfrey introduced Darlene Masters (Executive Director) and Paula Schoenfield (Outreach Services) from Family Advocates. Darlene shared that Family Advocates has been in the area since 1982. Originally being a "private" or hidden shelter, the home is now public and is located at 250 N Court St. in Platteville. Darlene and Paula conducted an activity with the Optimist members which was designed to illustrate the many hardships that their residents have faced before coming to them for help. Each Optimist member received a pouch of tokens: some teal and some purple. Members had to choose where they were going to stay after deciding to leave a dangerous home situation (often driven by what they could afford with their tokens). Locations to stay and their costs were: Hotel (two teal tokens), Friend's house (two purple tokens), Shelter (1 purple), Apartment (3 teal), homeless (free) and staying at home in an abusive situation (free). The activity opened our eyes wide to the people Family Advocates helps and the situations they come from.

## **CONCLUSION:**

- ✓ Next Meeting: Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 a.m. – October Business Meeting
- ✓ Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m. via Zoom.
- ✓ Meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.

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## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF MEMBERS' SPECIAL DAYS IN OCTOBER:**

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### **OCTOBER MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES:**

- ✓ **Brad Brogley** – October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015
- ✓ **Ken Kamps** – October 1<sup>st</sup>, 1970
- ✓ **Debra McWilliams** – October 20<sup>th</sup>, 1995
- ✓ **Ernie Thalmann** – October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008
- ✓ **Rod Thomas** – October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

### **OCTOBER FRIENDS OF OPTIMIST ANNIVERSARIES:**

- ✓ **Garvey's Auto Service** – October 2016
- ✓ **H&R Block-Barbara Stockhausen** – October 2019
- ✓ **Weber Business Consulting** – October 2016

### **OCTOBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

- ✓ **Dean (& Vicki) Feldman** – October 10<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ **Ron (& Jan) Weier** – October 26<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ **Jeff (& Amy) White** – October 15<sup>th</sup>

### **OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

- ✓ **Carley Borcharding** – October 25<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ **Terri Ellis** – October 9<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ **Dan Engelke** – October 3<sup>rd</sup>
- ✓ **Ken Kamps** – October 28<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ **Steve Kleisath** – October 8<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ **Caroline Kroll** – October 1<sup>st</sup>
- ✓ **Maxine Lane** – October 5<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ **Doug Martin** – October 2<sup>nd</sup>
- ✓ **Diane VanNatta** – October 22<sup>nd</sup>
- ✓ **John Zuehlke** – October 10<sup>th</sup>