



# *Platteville Optimist Club Monthly Highlights August 2020*



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

## **2019 – 2020 Officers and Board of Directors**

**Officers:** Dan Engelke, President – Tom Nall, Vice President –  
Tim Boldt, Second Vice President – Wayne Wodarz, Past President –  
Duane Borgen, Treasurer – Becky Schambow, Secretary

**Board of Directors:** Chris Budden, Steve Lane, Tim Murphy, Doug Martin,  
Leon Neuheisel, and Linda Thomas

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**NOTE:** Due to Covid Pandemic and “safe distancing” requirements, the Platteville Optimist Board and Members have not been able to meet in person since March 6, 2020. In an effort to continue Club business, the Board of Directors has been meeting via Zoom’s internet application, with most recent meeting held on August 4, 2020. The following “Governing Board & Committee Updates” highlighted below were reported to the Membership at their Business Meeting on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

## **GOVERNING BOARD & COMMITTEE UPDATES**

### **COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

- **Treasurer’s Report:** Financial Report dated August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 was submitted by D. Borgen, Treasurer and approved.
- **Scheduled Donation Changes:** Scheduled donation to “Historic Enactment” was not sent due to event cancellation. Donation to “Summer Reading Program” was decreased due to change in program this year.
- **Thank You Received:** from Ashley Moon-Henry who was one of Club’s 2020 scholarship recipients.
- **Donation Request Forms:** will be sent out to agencies for upcoming fiscal year on/about August 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **YOUTH COMMITTEE:**

- **Bike Safety Event:** Platteville Optimist Club is in initial planning stages to co-host a Bike Safety Event in collaboration with the Boy Scouts in October.

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE:**

- **Party in The Park Event – Optimist Club Volunteer of the Year:** Becky Schambow was recognized and expressed her gratitude to our Club for being presented with Optimist Club’s “Volunteer of the Year” award at this event in July.
- **Stuff the Bus Event:** Due to Covid and virtual school plans, Club is not able to donate supplies to needy students. Possible donations of cash are being considered, but no action was taken at this time.

### **FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE:**

- **August Speakers Announced:** August 14<sup>th</sup> – Ryan Del Balso – owner of Wakewell Pillow; August 21 – Jim Boebel, Platteville’s School Superintendent; August 28<sup>th</sup> – speaker from the Thrift Shop.
- **Preliminary Discussion regarding Proposed Subcommittee of Fellowship & Publicity Committee:** Board discussed possibility of naming a subcommittee to assist with clerical responsibilities. Possible responsibilities might include: speaker recruitment; meeting set up; hosting Zoom meetings; documentation of meeting highlights; design and maintenance of website and Facebook page, etc.

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

- **Changes in Membership:** Melby Funeral Home (*Friend of Optimist*) membership was reinstated after receipt of late dues payment, however, Warco Transportation (FOO) has chosen not to renew their membership.

### **PUBLICITY / NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE COMMITTEE:**

- **Maintenance of Rooster Call Documentation on Website:** The Board recommended / voted to maintain last two years of “Rooster Calls” on our website for purpose of looking at back history of speakers, etc.

### **CHEESE CURD COMMITTEE:**

- **Cheese Curd Sales:** Dairy Days has officially been cancelled so Board discussed possible other venues to facilitate cheese curd sales. Concerns were noted such as: inability to accurately predict number of sales which would affect supply orders; and fact that members may not want to volunteer to work at events in light of Covid pandemic. It was suggested that this be discussed with Membership at the Business Meeting on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Fund Raiser Ideas:** L. Thomas reported to the Board that she had received a suggestion from Mike Hahn that Club consider a “No Fuss Festival” fundraiser. This fundraiser would be a solicitation for monies from our members who may choose to donate funds for our upcoming fiscal year in lieu of not being able to meet and/or conduct cheese curd sales. It was recommended that Mike Hahn be asked to share his idea further with the Membership at the Business Meeting on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Club G-Mail Account:** B. Schambow reported that our Club has a new Gmail account which will be used for Club business in the future as opposed to Secretary’s personal email account. She is collaborating with Alaina Reeves, Secretary Elect to download member contact information, create list-serves, etc. The intent is that this account can be used by Secretary as well as Club Officers to send emails out to membership in the future. It is anticipated use of this account will take effect with our new fiscal year beginning October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** Scheduled to be held via Zoom on Tuesday, September 1st, 2020 at 7:00 a.m.

**Board Report Respectfully submitted by: Becky Schambow, Secretary**

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS HELD IN AUGUST**

- **August 7, 2020 –Virtual “Business Meeting” via Zoom – Hosted by Peggy Compton:**
  - **Attendees:** There were 22 members who linked in and participated including: Tim Boldt; Carley Borcharding; Duane Borgen; Chris and Paul Budden; Charlie Clark; Peggy Compton; Howard Crofoot; Terri Ellis; Mike Hahn; Maggie Kleisath; Maxine and Steve Lane; Doug Martin; Fern and Tom Nall; Alaina Reeves; Becky Schambow; Joy Schewe; Robert Stephens; Ernie Thalmann; and John Zuehlke.
  - **Meeting Highlights:** Vice President Tom Nall opened the meeting and led attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and our Optimist Creed.
    - **Installation of John Zuehlke:** On behalf of President D. Engelke, B. Schambow had the privilege of conducting our Club’s first virtual installation. John Zuehlke, whose application for membership had been submitted and approved in March was not able to be officially installed due to in-person meeting cancellations. We welcome John as our newest Club member.
    - **Board of Directors Meeting Report:** B. Schambow reviewed summary of Governing Board and Committee Updates as documented above.
    - **Membership Solicitations:**

- **Contribution to Gary & Eileen Engelke's Grandson's Medical Expenses:** Maxine Lane made a motion that our Club use Joker Fund monies to donate to a fund to assist in expenses being accrued by the parents of Gary and Eileen Engelke's grandson Pierce Delger who was recently diagnosed with a brain tumor. Pierce has had major surgery at Children's Hospital in MN and has a long road ahead of him.
- **Stuff the Bus:** Doug Martin made a motion, seconded by Carley Borcharding, that interested members submit monetary donations to Club Treasurer to be provided to Platteville Public Schools for supplies for needy children.
- **Platteville Optimist No Fuss Fundraiser:** Mike Hahn provided a verbal proposal for a fund raiser wherein Optimist members would be asked to consider making monetary donations to the Club to help facilitate our continued giving to needy agencies. He felt that members may support a fundraiser such as this in lieu of having to sell items to gain money for our Club. After discussion regarding these multiple solicitation motions/ideas, motions were withdrawn and topic / discussion will be referred to President D. Engelke for consideration and/or further Board discussion.
- **Maintenance of Rooster Calls on Website:** Suggestions were voiced by members who felt that our "Rooster Call" history should be maintained in some format if not kept on our website. Suggestions were to have them downloaded to a flash drive, or the Cloud. This will be referred back to the Board for further discussion.
- **Announcements:** B. Schambow noted the following special dates this upcoming week / month:
  - **Birthdays:** Jim Boll - August 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - **Anniversaries:** Brad Brogley *and wife* Jessica – August 7<sup>th</sup>; and Mark Essex *and wife* Karen – August 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - **Membership Anniversaries this Month:**
    - Mike Olds - 1994
    - Diane VanNatta - 2004
    - Maggie and Steve Kleisath - 2012
    - Paul Budden - 2016
    - Christine Budden – 2017
    - Diane Paynter – 2019
    - Dairy Queen - Friend of Optimist 2019
- **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:20 a.m.
- **August 14, 2020 –Meeting was held via Zoom – Hosted by Peggy Compton:**
  - **Attendees:** There were 22 members, 1 Friend of Optimist member and 1 guest speaker who linked in and participated including: Carley Borcharding; Duane Borgen; Chris and Paul Budden; Charlie Clark; Peggy Compton; Hap Daus; Dan Engelke; Ken Kamps; Maggie Kleisath; Maxine and Steve Lane; Doug Martin; Tim Murphy; Tom Nall; Leon Neuheisel; Becky Schambow; Joy Schewe; Robert Stephens; Barb Stockhausen (*FOO*); Ernie Thalmann; Ron Weier; Wayne Wodarz; and guest speaker Ryan Del Balso.
  - **Meeting Highlights:** President Dan Engelke opened the meeting and led the attendees in reciting The Pledge of Allegiance. Prior to leading members in recitation of our Creed, President Engelke noted that we were dedicating today's recitation in honor of James Olds, long time member of our Club who started as a Charter Member of the Club on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1989. Jim passed away on August 8<sup>th</sup>.
    - **Announcements of Special Dates this Upcoming Week:** President Engelke noted that he was not aware of any birthdays but noted the following members' will be celebrating anniversaries including: Maggie and Steve Kleisath - August 17<sup>th</sup>; Kathy Kopp *and husband* Joe – August 19<sup>th</sup>; and Anne Klawiter *and her husband* Richard – August 20<sup>th</sup>.
    - **Speaker – Ryan Del Balso – WakeWell, LLC.** Today's speaker was recruited and introduced by Leon Neuheisel. Ryan is the founder and owner of WakeWell, LLC, a small pillow manufacturer operating out of Platteville's Business Incubator, Inc. As an engineer, he designed a pillow that is adjustable, comfortable, and most importantly to Ryan, environmentally friendly and made from sustainable healthy products. You are encouraged to go to his website to learn about his patented pillows at: [www.wakewelltoday.com](http://www.wakewelltoday.com) You may also contact him and/or visit his business at PBII.
    - **SWIS District Conference:** Maxine Lane encouraged members to sign up for the "SWIS District's Virtual 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Convention" scheduled for Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. She noted that she will be installed as the upcoming fiscal year's SWIS District Governor, and that our own Joan Bahr will be installed as the SWIS District Secretary and Kevin Haertzen will be installed as SWIS District Treasurer.

- **Upcoming Speakers:** B. Schambow noted that Jim Boebel, Platteville School Superintendent will be our guest speaker on August 21<sup>st</sup>, and Jean Sanders, speaking on behalf of the Thrift Shop program at Platteville will be the guest speaker on August 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.
- **August 21, 2020 –Meeting was held via Zoom – Hosted by Peggy Compton:**
    - o **Attendees:** There were 30 members, 2 Friend of Optimist Members, and one guest who linked in and participated including: Jim Boebel; Tim Boldt; Carley Borcharding; Duane Borgen; Chris and Paul Budden; Charlie Clark; Peggy Compton; Howard Crofoot; Hap Daus; Janelle Davis; Penny Droessler; Terri Ellis; Priscilla and Mike Hahn; Maggie Kleisath; Maxine and Steve Lane; Tim Murphy; Fern and Tom Nall; Eileen Nickels; Alaina Reeves; Becky Schambow; Joy Schewe; Bob Stephens; Ernie Thalmann; Linda Thomas; Ron Weier; and Wayne Wodarz. Barb Stockhausen and Tim Zauche were Friend of Optimist members attending, and Angie Boldt was a guest attending.
    - o **Meeting Highlights:** Vice President Tom Nall opened the meeting and led the attendees in reciting The Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.
      - **Announcements of Special Dates this Upcoming Week:** Vice President Nall noted that Dave Jone’s birthday is August 26<sup>th</sup>. Anniversaries noted were: Virgil Pufahl *and wife Marcia* - August 22<sup>nd</sup>; Ken Kamps *and his wife Lois Jean* - August 23<sup>rd</sup>; and Jen and Jim Schweigert – August 26<sup>th</sup>.
      - **Speaker – Jim Boebel – Platteville Public Schools Superintendent:** Our member, Jim Boebel was the speaker today and provided information relative to the extensive plans the School District has made to help ensure the safety of both students and staff from possible Covid exposure. Jim believes the resilience of our school system will shine through. Members asked how Optimists can help with supporting our school system during this difficult time. Jim suggested supporting teachers and staff with encouraging messages would be greatly appreciated. Our member, Carley Borcharding will also work with school representatives to provide “Story Book Walks” at schools whose teachers are planning to have as many outside activities as possible.
      - **Upcoming Speakers:** Vice President noted that Jean Sanders, speaking on behalf of the Thrift Shop program at Platteville will be the guest speaker on August 28<sup>th</sup>.
      - **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 8:00 a.m.
- **August 28, 2020 –Meeting was held via Zoom – Hosted by Peggy Compton:**
  - o **Attendees:** There were 16 members and two guest speakers who linked in and participated including: Tim Boldt; Carley Borcharding; Duane Borgen; Charlie Clark; Peggy Compton; Dan Engelke; Bob Hundhausen; Ken Kamps; Maggie Kleisath; Doug Martin; Fern and Tom Nall; Leon Neuheisel; Becky Schambow; Joy Schewe; and Ernie Thalmann. Guest speakers included Jean Sanders and Cindy Martens.
  - o **Meeting Highlights:** President Dan Engelke opened the meeting and led the attendees in reciting The Pledge of Allegiance and the Optimist Creed.
    - **Announcements of Special Dates this Upcoming Week:** President Engelke noted that Fern Nall’s birthday is on Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>, and Hap Daus and Jordan Holthaus’ birthdays are Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Anniversaries noted included: Kim Skemp *and wife Cindy* August 30<sup>th</sup>; John Zuehlke *and his wife Molly* – September 1<sup>st</sup>; and Jim Boebe *and his wife Tami* – September 3<sup>rd</sup>.
    - **Speakers – Jean Sanders and Cindy Martens – Thrift Shop:** Jean Sander, who was a Charter Member in formation of the Thrift Shop was recruited and introduced by Leon Neuheisel. Cindy Martens, President of the Thrift Shop Governing Board assisted in the presentation. Jean provided an in-depth history of the Thrift Shop, noting that the concept began 48 years ago when several women from different church denominations wanted to be able to recycle good, reusable clothing at minimal prices to community members. In 1973 they first opened their doors in the basement of the Municipal building and their first day of sales was slightly over \$13. Their business located at 950 Lancaster Street since 2000 and has clothes as well as household items. The Thrift Shop now shows a profit of \$300,000 annually. Jean noted in some years they have been able to return as much as \$60,000 to the community in forms of support of community members in need, donations to non-profit agencies, scholarships, etc. The Thrift Shop currently employees 11 individuals, and has in excess of 40 volunteers. If anyone is interested in volunteering at the Thrift Shop, they should contact either Jean or Cindy.
    - **Upcoming Meetings:**
      - **Governing Board Meeting: September 1<sup>st</sup>.** Tom Nall noted that the Board will be discussing ideas for alternative fund raisers.
      - **Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup> – Business Meeting:** Will be conducted via Zoom at 7:00 a.m. at which time Board report will be provided to the membership.
    - **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 7:50.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MEMBERS' SPECIAL DAYS in SEPTEMBER**

Please note recognition of membership anniversaries, birthdays, and members' wedding anniversaries that will occur in September. *(Please let B. Schambow know if we missed anyone.)*

### **SEPTEMBER MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES:**

- Kim Skemp – 1982;
- Wayne Wodarz – 1987;
- Jerry Schewe – 1992;
- Charlie Clark – 2002;
- Chad Holstein – 2016;
- Mark Haas and Priscilla Hahn – 2018.

### **SEPTEMBER - FRIENDS OF OPTIMISTS**

- Bill's Plumbing and Heating – 2015;
- Heiser Hardware and Queen Bee Radio – 2016;
- First English Lutheran Church and Honkamp and Krueger – 2018;
- Platteville Dental – 2019.

### **SEPTEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:**

- John Zuehlke and wife Molly – September 1<sup>st</sup>;
- Jim Boebel and wife Tami – September 3<sup>rd</sup>;
- Debra McWilliams and husband Harley – September 4<sup>th</sup>;
- Charlie Clark and wife Joyce – September 8<sup>th</sup>;
- George Bykkonen and wife – September 14<sup>th</sup>;
- Mike Olds and wife Tonia – September 19<sup>th</sup>;
- Matt and Nicole Tyc – September 23<sup>rd</sup>;
- Tim Murphy and wife Kathy – September 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Joan Bahr and husband Kevin – September 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:**

- Hap Daus and Jordan Holthaus – September 3<sup>rd</sup>;
- Debra McWilliams – September 4<sup>th</sup>;
- Arnie Roper – September 5<sup>th</sup>;
- Christine Budden – September 7<sup>th</sup>;
- Joan Bahr – September 14<sup>th</sup>;
- Peggy Compton and Mike Hahn – September 15<sup>th</sup>;
- Nicole Tyc – September 19<sup>th</sup>;
- Robert Stephens – September 23<sup>rd</sup>