

ROOSTER CALL

PLATTEVILLE OPTIMIST CLUB

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

Platteville Optimist Weekly Bulletin – Friday, June 30, 2017

Attendance: 27 members attended –Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Peggy Compton, Howard Crofoot, Hap Daus, Janelle Davis, Beth Frieders, Kevin Haertzen, Dave Jones, Gary Jones, Lu Jones, Maggie Kleisath, Steve Lane, Doug Martin, Gary Munson, Fern Nall, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Arnie Roper, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Joy Schewe, Bob Stephens, John Urness, Bob Weier, Ron Weier, and Wayne Wodarz

Guest: Brian Allen, EMS Director our speaker today

Mystery Greeter: Paul Budden was mysteriously greeted by Tom Nall today.

Joker Draw: Ron Weier was pleased to have his lucky number drawn today. He drew the 3 of diamonds, one away from the joker. He was pleased to receive his \$2. To date the pot is up to \$193.

Announcements:

***Birthdays/Anniversaries:** Birthday: None
Anniversaries: Howard Crofoot (6/30)

***Retiring:** We were able to wish Bob Stephens good luck on his last day of work at the Post Office. He announced that he was having a retirement celebration on July 2.

***Optimist Summer Social Survey:** Becky Schambow talked about the results of the survey. At this point an outdoor event on August 5 was favored, but surveys were being taken until the end of the day. The committee will announce further information after they met to compile the final details.

***Board Meeting:** Thursday, July 6 at 7:00 am at Platteville Incubator

*Upcoming SWIS District Quarterly Conferences-August 17-20, Milwaukee, WI (Annual Convention)

Program: Paul Budden introduced our speaker today. Brian Allen is the Director of Emergency Medical Services at Southwest Health and is responsible for the day to day operations of EMS. He has a Bachelor of Science degree from UW-Platteville and Master's degree in Public Service from Capella University in Minneapolis. Brian is a Nationally Registered Paramedic and holds Paramedic licenses in Wisconsin and Iowa. He is also a State of Wisconsin EMS Instructor II and teaches EMS courses at Southwest Technical College. He started his career as a 911 dispatcher for the Grant County Sheriff's Office. During this time he joined the Lancaster EMS and became the Service Director and President of the Lancaster EMS in 2006. He accepted the position of EMS Administrator for the City of Platteville in 2009. In September of 2015 Brian was hired by Southwest Health as the Director of Emergency Medical Services when the City of Platteville contracted with Southwest Health for ambulance services.

The facility at Southwest Health is 3 times the size of the previous city ambulance facility. It houses 4 dorm rooms, day room, 2 offices, training room and kitchen in addition to the vehicle storage area. They have two ambulances (one provides emergency services and one provides paramedic services) and they are trying to acquire a third ambulance. The county's Hazmat trailer is stored there also. When asked about the difference in response time, Brian said that they had a limit of 4 minutes to get to the ambulance whereas now they are right there to respond. The paramedic ambulance is the only one in Grant county with the closest being Paramount in Dubuque or one in Prairie du Chien. The paramedic ambulance can transport patients within a 200 mile radius of Southwest Health.

Emergency Medical Services has a staff of 20 which includes 6 paramedics, 5 advanced EMTs, and 9 EMTs. Brian described the differences in training for EMTs, advanced EMTs, and paramedics as well as the services each is certified to provide. It was interesting to listen to how the information received in a 911 call determines which ambulance will respond. The paramedics intercept calls to speed up the transport of patients with life threatening conditions to facilities and to places like the UW Hospital. When not on call, the staff assists triage patients, assist in the OB department and the infusion center in the Oncology Department.



Brian also covered the cost of the ambulance service and the financing of the Emergency Medical Services and how the funding is divided between the city and surrounding townships according to the population of their area. He talked about the practice exercises they participate in so that they are prepared for situations they don't ordinarily see including active shooter, plane crash, tornados, large scale situations and hazmat situations. The cost of an ambulance as well as the program to retire ambulances was very interesting. You can check with any of the Optimists there today to find out if your thoughts on the topic are cored. We are glad the Emergency Medical Services are available to keep our community safe.

Weekly Speakers: June/ July Programs, Coordinator(s), Ken Kamps & Paul Budden

June 30- Brian Allen, EMS Director

July 7 - Business Meeting (Special guest, Parker Velte)

July 14 - Jon Meidinger, Senior Center (arranged by Ken Kamps)

July 21 - Dave Niehaus, Fire Inspector for Platteville

July 28 - Melissa Lovell, Platteville's first female Firefighter

~~~~Minutes taken and drafted for Rooster Call by Fern Nall

