

ROOSTER CALL

PLATTEVILLE OPTIMIST CLUB

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

“To Impact the lives of youth in a positive and encouraging manner”

Platteville Optimist Weekly Bulletin – Friday, June 8, 2018

Attendance: 33 members attended –Duane Borgen, Paul Budden, Chris Budden, Howard Crowfoot, Hap Daus, Terri Ellis, Dan Engelke, Gary Engelke, Beth Frieders, Jordan Holthaus, Dave Jones, Ken Kamps, Maggie Kleisath, Doug Martin, Pat Moxness, Fern Nall, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Joy Schewe, Greg Sieckman, Guy Stead, Pam Stark, Bob Stephens, Barb Stockhausen, Ernie Thalmann, Linda Thomas, Gene Weber, Bob Weier, Ron Weier, Naomi Wells, and Wayne Wodarz

Guests: Guests for the day were James Hamilton, our speaker.

Mystery Greeter: Duane Borgen shook Becky Schambow’s hand. She has been as lucky as Bob Weier lately. However, her ticket wasn’t lucky today.

Joker Draw: Lucky Bob Weier was chosen to participate in the Joker Draw this morning. He drew the 7 of clubs and accepted the \$2.00.

Announcements:

***Birthdays/Anniversaries:** Birthday: Ernie Thalmann (6/9) Anniversaries: John Urness (6/13)

Now Patch: We received our NOW patch for the banner.

TOT SLIDE DEDICATION: Members are encouraged to attend the Tot Slide Dedication, Friday, June 15th at 6 pm at the pool. Our club is passing out free ice cream sponsored by Thrivent. President Wodarz is encouraging members to attend and pass out the ice cream.

50th Anniversary, Saturday, June 23rd: There are 84 reservations.

JOI Club- The ‘sharing because we care pot’ was passed today to help the club build up their financial status. We collected \$81 for them.

Rotary Club Uncork Fundraiser is being held Friday, June 15th beginning at 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$20/ glass which allows you to taste various beers and wines down Main Street. This is the main fundraiser for the organization and the use the proceeds to sponsor scholarships and foreign students. President Wodarz and Barb Stockhausen encouraged the membership to support the other organizations in the community by attending.

New Business: President Wodarz had received a letter from the Community Theatre asking for a donation to put on the play “Boys Next Door”. Ken Kamps moved to give them a donation of \$100 from the Joker Draw as this was not a budgeted item. Motion was seconded by Barb Stockhausen; approved by the members.

Program: Ken Kamps introduced our speaker, Jim Hamilton, a former Optimist member. Dave Jones added that he was the fastest cheese curd fryer he had ever worked with. James Hamilton is a distinguished chemistry professor at UWP. Over the last 25 years, he has worked to develop a polymer called, First Contact Polymer, which is used to clean



various size lens, from small to very large, without damaging the surface. First Contact is sold in liter bottles for \$500 a liter. The Polymer is sprayed on the surface and left to dry into a film. When dry, the film peels off in a sheet.

Pictured on the right is Jim showing us his slideshow describing the various places he has worked on telescope lenses and surfaces using his Polymer. Most of the lenses he cleans are large and in hard to reach locations on mountains. NASA has worked with Jim on various projects for the last 10 years. He has worked on the Hubble lens and will work on the replacement for the Hubble Telescope. He recently received a \$750,000 grant from NASA. He has 15 distributors who sell First Contact in 72 countries. Because of the uniqueness of his product and his services he doesn't have to do any marketing. NASA has sold his product indirectly by picturing it on several of their science magazine. Other projects he has worked on include cleaning the largest diamond at the Smithsonian Institute as well as lens in Hawaii and Chile and other countries in the world. Photographers from Hollywood contacted him to help them clean the lens on the cameras they use. In addition to determining the cleaning power of his product, he has to determine if the surfaces are clean. The various ways this happens was interesting also.

Jim and Ken Kamps are pictured here with a slide of his lasts challenge. Now he is working on a lens that will fold up to be sent into space and then unfold into the slide shown. He and his 9 employees are working on a solution to clean the edges of the leaves when it expands in outer space. They want the special formulation to prevent contamination and be biologically clean.

The club enjoyed the question and answer time following the presentation. When asked why he remains Platteville, he said that he likes the people he works with and the association and support of the university.



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Weekly Speakers: Thank you Ken Kamps/Charlie for coordinating our June speakers!!

June 15 – Tom Sigwarth: Platteville Historical Facts

June 22 – Ken Kamps: Impressions of Russia

June 29 – Charlie Clark sponsoring: Jason Julius, Day in the Life of a Principal

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

