

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, May 18, 2018

Attendance: 28 Members – Carley Borcherding, Duane Borgen, Charlie Clark, Howard Crofoot, Eileen Engelke, Gary Engelke, Beth Frieders, Donna Gavin, Kevin Haertzen, Dave Jones, Ken Kamps, Maggie Kleisath, Maxine Lane, Steve Lane, Doug Martin, Marilyn Mead, Pat Moxness, Leon Neuheisel, Becky Schambow, Greg Sieckman, Mary Sieckman, Bob Stephens, John Urness, Diane VanNatta, Gene Weber, Bob Weier, Ron Weier, Wayne Wodarz.

Mystery Greeter: Leon Neuheisel was the designated 'greeter' this morning, greeting Ken Kamps.

Joker Draw: Yes, I did update this, Mr. Lucky, Bob Weier's number was called, drawing the 6 of Diamonds.

Announcements:

Birthdays/Anniversaries: Birthday wishes to Becky Schambow on May 22.

50th Anniversary:

President Wodarz summarized recent updates:

*Tot slide delivered, working with Luke Peters for dedication date,

*Invitations were sent, low response from members, hoping for more. RSVP by June 8 to Maxine

<u>Challenge from Governor Gary:</u> With 55 clubs in the SWIS District, if each club were to bring in 2 new members during these last 4 months, our membership would exceed 100 members.

<u>PHS Scholarship:</u> President Wodarz informed the membership he presented our \$1,000 scholarship on Monday evening to Austin Butson. Austin will be attending the University of Dubuque, majoring in nursing.

<u>WILS Leadership:</u> President Wodarz reported he had received a letter informing our club there are 3 area students interested in attending the WILS Leadership Conference, Cuba City, Potosi, and Lancaster. We will wait to hear from these schools regarding any financial support we can provide.

<u>Dime-A-Day Pins:</u> Howard Crofoot distributed the Dime-A-Day pins to those members present and that had made the annual donation of \$36.50 to this OIF fundraiser. Members eligible to receive these pins and not present will receive theirs at a future meeting.



Program: Maxine introduced our speaker for today, Laura Gutierrez, Secretary of the Department of Safety & Professional Services. Joining Laura this was Andrea Magermans, an assistant within the department.

Maxine also invited Platteville Chief of Police, Doug McKinley for an overview of the Opioid situation locally. Laura Gutierrez was appointed by Governor Walker in February, 2017 as Secretary of the Department of Safety and Professional Services. Growing up in Milwaukee, Laura graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from Carroll College and a Master of Arts in Leadership and Policy from Marquette University. She completed the District Administrator Licensure Program at Cardinal Stritch University and received her Superintendent License in 2016. She most recently served as Vice President of Academic Affairs at St. Anthony School in Milwaukee. Prior to that, she served as Assistant Principal and Director of Instruction at Bruce Guadalupe Community School. She has served as an elementary and middle school instructor in various capacities and also worked as a clinical and microbiology laboratory assistant at Waukesha Memorial Hospital. She resides in Wind Lake with her husband, George and together they have four children.



Prior to her main presentation this morning, Laura complimented our Club for working to form the new JOI Club here in the Platteville Middle School, stating "It takes a village to

raise a child." She was very impressed with our Creed and felt it is a way of life everyone should follow.

Secretary Gutierrez shared many life experiences during her years as an educator; however, her primary focus this morning was the efforts being made to combat the ongoing prescription drug abuse epidemic in Wisconsin. It starts with people, children and adults making bad choices to 'fit in'. During her time in Milwaukee, she would hear about 'farm' parties. What we think about when we hear 'farm' party is a bonfire, beer and having fun. The 'farm' parties she was hearing about were actually 'pharm' parties. Kids mixing prescription drugs that were acquired by whatever means and popping them, not knowing what they were or what effect they would have. Thus we have an opioid crisis.

When the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) was started in 2013, there were roughly 18,000 users. Today, records reflect over 40,000 registered users. These include pharmacies, healthcare professionals, law enforcement agencies and public health officials. The program collects approximately 1 million records per month. The program is successful as there were over 1 million fewer opioid prescriptions dispensed in 2017 compared to 2015, a 20% drop. Yet another supporting statistic comparing 2015 to 2017, there has been a 47% decrease in average monthly doctor shopping alerts.

Chief McKinley referenced over the past 7 years, Platteville has recorded 3 deaths from prescription drug overdose. He shared with the membership procedures in place within the department as well as the Drug Task force to monitor and combat opioid/drug issues within the city.

Time was allowed for many questions for what was a very interesting and informative presentation by both Secretary Gutierrez and Chief McKinley.

Weekly Speakers:

Thank you to Maxine Lane for coordinating our May speakers.

May 25 – Ellen Warren, Clarity Clinic – Educating the community on health issues

June Speakers – Thank you to Ken Kamps for coordinating.

June 1 – Business Meeting

June 8 – Jim Hamilton: Latest developments in Lens Coating

June 15 – Tom Goodney: Trial Expert Witness

June 22 – Ken Kamps: Impressions of Russia

June 29 – Charlie Clark hosting, speaker TBA