

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



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PLATTEVILLE OPTIMIST WEEKLY MEETING: October 11, 2019

<u>Attendance:</u> 29 members – Tim Boldt, Duane Borgen, Paul and Chris Budden, Charlie Clark, Howard Crofoot, Dan Engelke, Gary and Eileen Engelke, Beth Frieders, Mike and Priscilla Hahn, Dave Jones, Maggie Kleisath, Doug Martin, Tim Murphy, Tom and Fern Nall, Alaina Reeves, Becky Schambow, Guy Stead, Barb Stockhausen, Ernie Thalmann, Gene Weber, Ron Weier, Wayne Wodarz, Tim and Terry Wood, Tim Zauche.

<u>Guests:</u> President Engelke welcomed our speaker, Dr. Jeff Kueter. Ron Weier sponsored Mark Esser again this week. Hopefully, we can convince him to join.

Mystery Greeter: Tom Nall greeted Tim Wood for another chance at the Joker Draw.

<u>Anniversaries:</u> Dennis Helbing and his wife are celebrating an anniversary today October 11. Dr. Jeff White and Amy are celebrating their anniversary on October 15.

Birthdays: None.

<u>Joker Draw:</u> Ernie Thalmann snuck in there before the recorder and purchased the lucky ticket. He drew the 9 of Clubs and won \$2.

Mail /Thank You Notes /Club Acknowledgements / Special Announcements:

President Engelke passed a thank you note from our own Maxine Lane

Old Business / Reminders: None.

New Business: Fern Nall wins the sippy cup award for spilling her drink this morning.

<u>Program:</u> Dr. Jeffrey Kueter is a family medicine physician at Southwest Health Center. He recently retired after a 25-year career in the Air Force in military medicine. From 2008 – 2013 and again from 2016 – 2017, Dr. Kueter served as a White House Physician providing in-

person, global health care spanning the Bush, Obama and Trump administrations. During his White House service, he traveled to 42 different countries and liaisoned with foreign governments, international medical executives and health care facilities across the globe. Dr. Kueter was born and raised in Platteville. He is proud to be back in the area with his wife Crystal and their four children.



Here is Dr. Kueter with Past President Becky Schambow. Dr. Kueter spoke about his time as part of the White House Medical Unit. The unit is composed of medical professionals from all branches of the military. After he had been in practice for a decade, an Air Force position opened up. He submitted an application package. The Air Force provided their top 6 candidates to the White House. After three days of interviews and security reviews he was selected for the position.

The White House Medical Unit takes care of the President, Vice-President and their families. In many cases, Dr. Kueter was part of a team that would go in advance of presidential trips to foreign countries. He did initial planning for 15 tours in the Obama administration. There are places like western Europe that have comparable medical care to the US and other places like Botswana that are not up to the same standard. He showed photos of the many places he went, including the Louvre in Paris, the Great Wall in China, the Taj Mahal in India, the Demilitarized Zone in Panmunjom, Korea, Christ the Redeemer in Brazil and Robben Island prison, South Africa where Nelson Mandela was kept prisoner for 26 years during Apartheid. He went with the President for trips to disaster areas in the US including the tornado in Joplin, MO, Hurricane Sandy in NJ and meeting with wounded servicemembers in Afghanistan and Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, MD.

His job is to plan for contingencies and look for medical threats to the people in their care. It can be from injuries – like an animal on an African safari, or illness – like malaria that is pandemic in many areas of the globe. They need to plan evacuation routes whether it is an open area or limited space.

It was not as fun for family because Dr. Kueter was gone a lot, but there were photos of his family with the First Family and other celebrities, visits to Camp David, etc.

Thank you Dr. Kueter for the interesting speech and your service to our Nation!

Highlights of Meeting Recorded by: Howard Crofoot, Editor Emeritus