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, September 22, 2017

<u>Attendance:</u> 26 Members – Tim Boldt, Carley Borcherding, Duane Borgen, Charlie Clark, Howard Crofoot, Janelle Davis, Dan Engelke, Eileen Engelke, Gary Engelke, Beth Frieders, Kevin Haertzen, Dave Jones, Maxine Lane, Steve Lane, Fern Nall, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Mike Olds, Becky Schambow, Greg Sieckman, Mary Sieckman, Bob Stephens, John Urness, Bob Weier, Ron Weier, Wayne Wodarz

Mystery Greeter: Bob Weier greeted Duane Borgen, receiving a free entry into the Joker Draw.

Special Announcement: Carley Borcherding took a few minutes to share a new program underway, Trail of Tales, Children Book Walk. Carley learned of this program and took the initiative to bring it to Platteville. She shared with the members the current schedule, the first being at Mitchell Rountree Stone Cottage on Saturday, September 23. She encouraged attendance, and further encouraged to bring a child with you. This will be looked at as a possible project for Platteville Optimist to support in the future.

Joker Draw: Dave Jones was holding the lucky ticket, cutting the cards to reveal the King of Clubs.

Announcements:

Birthdays/Anniversaries: No Birthdays or anniversaries.

Thank You Notes: Thank you received from FCLAA.

Program: Thanks to Charlie Clark & wife, Joyce, who discovered Bees on Campus and Goats in the Woods while walking the trail at UW-P and brought the program to our Friday morning meeting.

It was a pleasure to welcome Amy Seeboth-Wilson, Sustainability Coordinator at UW-Platteville. In her position on Campus, Amy helps build campus capacity for long-term investments supporting their triple-bottom line (people, places, profit). Prior to joining the university, Amy was a regional planner for Southwest Wisconsin, specializing in rural economics and community development.

Amy stated that the goal of sustainability is to look at programs that are environmentally friendly, good for people and good for the bottom line. The program looks at sustainability of land, waste, transportation, energy and academics. Amy talked about two recent projects, Bees on Campus and Goats in the Woods.



In late April, 2 bee hives were established on campus, each hive holding 50,000 bees. Amy stated the bees were brought in by mail and described the process of transferring them into the hives. They were positioned in an out-of-the-way location on campus for their protection as well as the protection of people/students. With the decline in the bee population and the benefit of their pollination to the environment, this program was adopted to help rebuild the bee community. The hives will be closely monitored over winter to help maintain their existence/survival.



The discussion then moved to Goats in the Woods! Amy shared with the members the amount of land the university has, including areas requiring mowing and land that is overgrown with invasive species. Methods to restore native ecology, allowing growth of beneficial plants, were researched resulting in 40 goats brought to campus to help clear the invasive growth. Amy had a before and after picture, which was almost unbelievable, and within 9 days, the goats had accomplished the goal established. The goats were on campus from July 10 to Aug. 3.

Both programs were extremely interesting and we thank Charlie and Joyce for their insight in bringing this local program to our meeting and we thank Amy for her excellent presentation.

With a few minutes remaining, Amy mentioned a couple other sustainability programs managed by her department, the community buses, which provided 50,000 rides last year, campus thrift store, which sells used furniture/equipment, and a compost program for food waste.

Amy's presentation provided a very interesting concept to these programs and was very informative.

Weekly Speakers: September Programs, Coordinator(s), Charlie Clark/Wayne Wodarz

September 29 – Jim Kondrasuk, Optimist International President (Choosing Your Successor and Leaving a Legacy)

Minutes taken and drafted for Rooster Call by Maxine Lane



To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.