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

Platteville Optimist Weekly Bulletin - Friday, May 12, 2017

<u>Attendance:</u> 27 Members – Tim Boldt, Duane Borgen, Laura Brown, Paul Budden, Charlie Clark, Peggy Compton, Hap Daus, Gary Engelke, Kevin Haertzen, Gary Jones, Lu Jones, Ken Kamps, Maxine Lane, Steve Lane, Doug Martin, Fern Nall, Tom Fall, Leon Neuheisel, Andrea Pastor, Becky Schambow, Greg Sieckman, Mary Sieckman, Bob Stephens, Barb Stockhausen, Gene Weber, Bob Weier, Wayne Wodarz

Guests: It was a pleasure to welcome Joyce Clark, wife of Charlie Clark. We also welcomed Connor Timlin, eighth grader at Platteville Middle School and his father, Curt Timlin, guests this morning of Peggy Compton. Connor had a request to the Optimist Club for a donation to the PMS Class of 2021 for the annual year end party. This is a supervised party and funds are used to supplement supplies, food, etc. After brief discussion, President Haertzen recommended \$200.00, paid from the excess Joker Draw funds. Motion was made by Tim Boldt, seconded by Barb Stockhausen. Carried.

It was a pleasure to again be part of the induction ceremony for two new members, Gary and Lu Jones. Gary and Lu were introduced to Platteville Optimists at the April Spring luncheon having received an invitation from Charlie Clark. Thank you Charlie for sponsoring Gary and Lu

Mystery Greeter: Becky Schambow was greeted this morning by Hap Daus.

<u>Joker Draw:</u> Becky was two for two this morning; however three was not to be, drawing the 7 of hearts.



Announcements:

Birthdays/Anniversaries: n/a

<u>Library Bench:</u> Hap Daus announced that with the donation our club made to the Library, we have the opportunity to have our club name inscribed on a bench. He indicated we had a choice of location, first, second or third floor. After discussion, it was unanimous to allow Hap to decide on the location.

<u>Leadership Program:</u> Ken Kamps reported that we have received another request for support to this program from Iowa Grant. As a reminder, Ken stated this is a program of leadership for sophomores and we approved last week funds to Platteville and Lancaster in the amount of \$200.00 each. Following brief discussion, \$200.00 was approved for Iowa Grant on motion of Gary Engelke, second by Bob Weier. Carried.

Program: Many, many thanks to Fern Nall for bringing such an interesting speaker/program to our morning meeting. Fern introduced Deputy Ben Keller, K9 handler for the Grant County Sheriff Department as our presenter this morning. Waiting in the car for a later introduction was K9 Riko. Deputy Keller joined the Sheriff's Department part time in 2010 and became a full time deputy in January 2013. As the opportunity became available to be a K9 handler, Keller applied and started working with K9 Riko in April 2016. Riko is a German Shepherd, born in Hungry and is approximately 2.5 years old. K9 Riko was imported to the United States late 2015 to early 2016. Deputy Keller and Riko trained 6 weeks in North Carolina and training continues today, approximately



16 hours/month with required documentation. Deputy Keller was asked why



these types of dogs come from Europe and not the United States. He responded that the dogs need to have a level of drive/determination, high energy and stamina, which is more characteristic in European dogs versus those bred in the United States. Riko is a dual purpose K9, trained in narcotic searches/locating, tracking people, searches (both interior structures and exterior), locating articles, and handler protection. In closing the presentation, Deputy Keller and the members moved outside



for a demonstration of Riko in action in locating narcotics, which the scent was placed into that which Riko thinks of as his 'toy' and was hidden within the squad. When the scent was located, Riko reacted. His reward was being given his 'toy', which is not harmful. This was a very interesting presentation with many more questions asked by members, of which Deputy Keller responded to all.

Weekly Speakers: May Programs, Coordinator(s), Fern Nall

May 19 – Chief Doug McKinley and Chief Ryan Simmons (department updates)

May 26 – Grant County Sheriff Nate Dreckman (update on Kids in Crisis and design/progress of new jail)

Minutes taken and drafted for Rooster Call by Maxine Lane Edited by Charlie Clark

