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



Becky Schambow, President
Dan Engelke, President Elect
Wayne Wodarz, Past President
Tom Nall, Vice President
Duane Borgen, Treasurer
Maxine Lane, Secretary
Directors

Tim Boldt Chris Budden
Pat Moxness Tim Murphy
Mary Sieckman Ernie Thalmann

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

Platteville Optimist Weekly Bulletin – February 15, 2019

Attendance: 31 Members – Tim Boldt, Carley Borcherding, Duane Borgen, Charlie Clark, Peggy Compton, Howard Crofoot, Hap Daus, Dan Engelke, Gary Engelke, Beth Frieders, Donna Gavin, Kevin Haertzen, Dennis Helbing, Dave Jones, Maxine Lane, Doug Martin, Tim Murphy, Fern Nall, Tom Nall, Leon Neuheisel, Virgil Pufahl, Becky Schambow, Jerry Schewe, Greg Sieckman, Mary Sieckman, Guy Stead, Bob Stephens, Ernie Thalmann, Gene Weber, Wayne Wodarz, Tim Zauche.

President Schambow opened the meeting with an update on Bob Weier who suffered a stroke over the past weekend while in Minneapolis at his son's residence. Pat has been updating family and friends via email or Facebook. For the benefit of those not on Facebook, an update was provided. President Schambow also asked everyone to share in a moment of silence, for Bob's recovery.

Guests: n/a

<u>Mystery Greeter:</u> Number 1 was holding the lucky spot as Duane Borgen was the first to shake hands with Max.

<u>Birthdays/Anniversaries:</u> Birthday wishes were extended to Brad Mootz, celebrating today, 2/15, and to Pat Moxness celebrating tomorrow, February 16.

<u>Joker Draw:</u> Hap Daus was holding the lucky ticket as Tim Boldt read the winning number backwards. (can't fool Hap Daus). Drawing the 8 of hearts, Hap settled for his \$2.00.

Mail/Thank You Notes/Club Acknowledgements: n/a

Announcements:

- President Schambow reminded members of the announcement from last week regarding the fire Jordan Flogel family experienced recently and lost everything. A GoFundMe page has been established https://www.gofundme.com/jordan-and-family-lost-everything-in-a-fire. Members can contact Ron Weier with questions at riweier@centurytel.net
- Gene Weber updated the membership on the progress being made on the Event Center, including a revised design of the building.
- Charlie Clark asked members to start thinking about individuals as potential guests to our upcoming spring luncheon. Names will be provided to the committee and invitations mailed.





Welcome Tim Zauche:

President Schambow presented a Friend of Optimist plaque to Tim Zauche as our most recent Friend of Optimist member.

We had to add a little humor to the presentation by asking President Schambow to stand for the picture. Since she was already standing, Tim made the adjustment. We do have fun at our Friday morning meetings.





Program: Beth introduced our speaker, Donna Gavin, who is also a member of our Club. Donna has two adult children and as Beth described him, a big furry friend, named Hank, who happens to be Great Pyrenees.

A Senior Lecturer in the Department of Computer Science and Software Engineering, Donna started at UW-P in 1997. She consistently finds ways to encourage the involvement of women in the technical fields. Over the past year, Donna has helped organize a new UW-P club and a club for young women off campus. The on-campus club is a student chapter of the Association of Computing Machinery – Women. This organization emphasizes the full engagement of women in all aspects of the computing field. The student chapter at UW-P plans to focus on reaching out to the

community, working with the Girls Who Code Club, and hosting social activities. In the wider Platteville community, Donna organized a Girls Who Code Club. This is a national organization that assists middle school and high school girls learn the concepts of loops, variables, conditionals and functions while building a supportive sisterhood of peers and role models who help girls succeed in computing.

The club currently has 11 girls, and the classes are supported by 8 mentors from UW-P. In addition to learning the background of computer coding, these 8 young ladies are learning about decision making, problem solving, leadership and team building. Donna further explained that it is well known that women in general need to be perfect, need all the facts and are hesitant to take risk. On the other hand, men are more likely to take a risk, are more centrally focused on one area, will make a mistake and learn from that mistake. Thus she organized this organization, Girls Who Code Club, to help them to excel in the world of technology. Time was allowed for questions.

Weekly Speakers: Thank you to Beth Frieders for serving as our speaker coordinator for February.

February 22: Kieler Farms – coordinated by Dennis Helbing

Thank you to Charlie Clark and Ron Weier for serving as our speaker coordinators for March.

March 1: Business Meeting

March 8: Amy Jo Studden, WI Department Workforce Development – helping disabled individuals

receive training and work experience.

March 15: Brigid Reimann and FFA Officers

March 22: Dr. Ray Sloan – Exploring the wonders of Peru

March 29: George Smith, Retired UW-P Professor – His collection of music

Minutes taken and drafted by Maxine Lane

Just in case you are interested!

Watch here for future items of interest. To post, send email to msmacy105@yahoo.com

Items for sale, looking to buy, member social outings, etc.