



The Optimist Club of Treynor, IA NEWSLETTER

Iowa District, Zone 3, Club Number 40-109

Iowa District Governor Craig Kelley, C: 641-891-8700

Optimist International President Ronnie Dunn, C: 502-226-0205



Club Officers for 2006-2007

President	Gary Gutttau	487-3248	Board Member	
V. Pres., Pres. Elect	Dale Willenborg	366-6815	2005-2007	2006-2008
V. Pres.	Jon Jacobsen	487-3193	John Klein	Steve Irvin
Secretary	Teresa Fahrenkrug	487-3675	Bob Hibbard	Gerald Forristall
Treasurer	Jeff Jorgensen	487-3355	Larry Kramer	Denny White
Past President	Gary Funkhouser	487-3343		



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NEXT CLUB MEETING

The next meeting of the Optimist Club of Treynor is planned at 7:20 a.m. Saturday morning November 25, 2006 at the Treynor Community Center. JOHN KLEIN has arranged for Treynor Octagon Club President Nicole Schmidt to speak about their club activities. All members are encouraged to bring a guest.

REPORT OF RECENT CLUB MEETINGS

At the Club meeting on 11/11 there were 14 members and present. President GARY GUTTAU opened the meeting by leading the pledge. ARLYN NORRIS offered a devotional prayer.

The 50/50 was awarded to RICHARD VORTHMANN. The attendance pot was awarded to DALE WILLENBORG, but it was not collected.

A contribution to the Youth Fund was received from JEFF JORGENSEN for a photo in the newspaper. RICHARD VORTHMANN contributed a dollar in recognition of the achievement of the Treynor High girls volleyball team. GERALD FORRISTALL added a dollar in recognition of the election of his son, Greg, to the Iowa State Legislature.

LES HARVEY read the Veteran's Prayer.

ARLYN NORRIS circulated a prayer list signup. Pres. GUTTAU invited members to car pool for the field trip to Macedonia to visit Santa's Children Christmas Village.

At the Club meeting on 11/18 there were 21 members and 6 guests present. Pres. GUTTAU opened the meeting by leading the pledge. KEITH DENTON offered a prayer.

The 50/50 was awarded to DICK BABER. The attendance pot was awarded to JEFF JORGENSEN.

KEITH DENTON introduced guests Bill Smits, Bob Soloth, Gene Young, and Allan and Elizabeth Tiarks. It took so long for the introductions that DENTON felt compelled to contribute a dollar to the Youth Fund. LES HARVEY added a dollar to tell about the great response to his Veteran's Day program at the Elk's Lodge.

The wedding anniversaries of LES and MILLI HARVEY (56-yr) and JOHN and Carol KLEIN (31-yr) were recognized as LES and JOHN contributed to the Youth Fund.

Thanks to Pres. GUTTAU, JOHN KLEIN, JEFF JORGENSEN, and LARRY KRAMER for assisting the Honor Band members, parents and friends with a large can and bottle sorting. KRAMER noted that the reconstruction of the Can Kennel would begin soon. Perry Vorthmann was asked to build the roof structure. Club members will complete the floor, install lights, and reset the walls of the collection area.

Cub Scout liaison JEFF JORGENSEN announced the Cub Pack registration fee is about \$1700 for the approximately 75 cubs and leaders currently active in the Pack.

LARRY KRAMER announced the community fund raising activity for the Treynor Welcome Signs is now scheduled February 10, 2007.

JEFF JORGENSEN auctioned some items for the Endowment Fund. An Optimist cap went for a bargain at \$4, and four tickets to Valentinos Grand Italian Buffet in Council Bluffs plus an Optimist money clip for an even better bargain at \$11.

Pres. GUTTAU gave the last call for club activity ideas and activity leaders for this Optimist year.

HAVE YOU BEEN TO CHRISTMAS VILLAGE?

There is a year-round winter wonderland created in the old Macedonia, IA school house. It is called Christmas Village and is the setting of Santa's Children Christmas Charity, a non-profit organization that provides services and visits with Santa to children who are experiencing life threatening illnesses, who are in crisis situations, or who are in need of new clothing, toys, shoes, books, or other child products. Orien Hodges, president and founder, explained how he got the Christmas Village started in 2005 to meet the needs of the expanding charity services. Hodges also described plans to further transform the old school house to fulfill the purposes of the charity. Hodges said more work on the old school house is needed and volunteers are asked to help. There are also many volunteer opportunities with Santa's Children Charity, from wrapping gifts to fund raising. Christmas Village is available for family, business, or any group holiday party. Call 712-486-2599 for arrangements.

THE IRAQI TRIALS FOR WAR CRIMES

U.S. Asst. Attorney Bob Cryne of Omaha served about 8 months in Iraq with a multi-national force to support the Iraqi High Tribunal (IHT) with trials of Saddam Hussein and other former Iraqi government and military leaders who are charged with genocide war crimes and crimes against humanity. The IHT is an independent, special civil court of nine judges created about two years ago to specifically address charges associated with events from July 1968 to May 2003. Cryne explained he was part of a team of assistant attorneys to advise and assist IHT with many tasks, but most important were security, military liaison, investigations, judicial-legal advice, mass grave processing, and detainee operations. Cryne noted Iraq is about the size of California with 27 million people. Seven million live in Bagdad the capital. Iraq is populated by three main ethnic groups, Shi'a Arab, Kurd, and Sunni Arab; two main religious groups, Shi'a Arab and Sunni Islam; and has two main languages, Arabic and Kurdish. However, Cryne noted the adult literacy is only 40%. Thus, information is passed primarily by work of mouth, a source of conspiracy and rumor. Cryne expressed his opinion that partitioning Iraq would not be successful because the water and fuel resources are not evenly distributed and ethnic groups are mixed throughout the country. Cryne observed the U.S. military in Iraq was well prepared and supplied as were doctors and hospital units in the field. He is satisfied with the need to be there to help the Iraqi people, but he is apprehensive about the outcome.

CALENDAR

November Can Collections for Honor Band.

Nov. 25 Club meeting, program presented by Octagon Club.

Nov. 29 Can and bottle sorting, 5:30 p.m.

December Can Collections for After-the-Prom.

Dec. 2 Club meeting, program TBA.

Birthdays

11/8 MICK GUTTAU, 11/25 KATHY SCHMITT

Anniversaries

11/22 LES & MILLI HARVEY#, 11/22 JOHN KLEIN#

11/25 WARD CHAMBERS, 11/27 ROCKY SAAR

recognized to date

P.S. "Are you a lawyer?"
"Yes."
"How much do you charge?"
"A hundred dollars for four questions."
"Isn't that awfully expensive?"
"Yes, What is your forth question?"

