



## Cement vs Concrete

Keith Norris, brother of Arlyn Norris, spoke at the Optimist Club on November 13. Keith has worked for the Iowa Department of Transportation for 33 years.

Cement is the white mixture that is the binder ingredient of concrete. Cement consists of limestone, clay, and iron ore to help with chemical reactions. This mixture is heated to 2700 degrees to make clinker. The clinker is ground to a powder and mixed with gypsum to make cement. The gypsum slows the setting time of the cement.

Although there were many types of cement from the time of the Romans, modern day Portland cement was discovered in England in the mid 1800s. The quality of the limestone and clay helps determine the quality of the cement. The best cement in Iowa comes from the Mason City area and Northeast Iowa.

Concrete is made from adding gravel, sand, water, and admixtures to cement. The water reacts with the cement, which bonds the other components together. Concrete is used more than any other man-made material in the world.

Because cement is the weakest part of concrete, it is desirable to reduce the amount of cement paste used in concrete. It is also desirable to keep the amount of water added as low as possible.

On roads, concrete is expected to last at least 30 years on the Interstate with minimal patching. The goal is to have it last 50 years with minimal patching. Due to the rising cost of oil, the initial cost of asphalt and of concrete for a road is about the same today.

## Meeting Minutes

Dennis White opened the meeting November 13 and Arlyn Norris gave the opening prayer. Keith

Denton provided jokes. Gary Funkhouser gave an update on Vision Treynor. They have hired an architecture firm to consult on the best site for the athletic fields and pool.

Gary Gutttau, Jeff Jorgensen, and Dennis White helped with can kennel sorting for the Cub Scouts. Keith Denton won the 50/50 drawing and Steve Irvin won the attendance drawing, but did not collect. There were 13 members and one guest at the meeting.

There is a good video on Facebook from the Treynor Volleyball team. In Facebook.com, search for "Treynor Volleyball Dig Pink" and watch the 11 minute video.

There was a short board meeting after the meeting. Two or three more members are needed for the Optimist board.

## CALENDAR

Next Can Kennel sorting on Wed, Dec 1, 3:30 p.m. for the Cub Scouts.

## Birthdays

Nov 8 - Mick Gutttau  
Nov 18 - Dianne Willenborg

## Anniversaries

Nov 21 - Les (deceased) & Milli Harvey  
Nov 22 - John & Carol Klein  
Nov 25 - Ward & Suzanne Chambers

## Speakers

Nov 20 - Pastor Harry Wahler, MOHM's Place in Council Bluffs  
Nov 27 - Arlyn Norris, featuring a video on our recent Pilgrimage to Tanzania  
Dec 4 - Speaker from Field Services, 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District.  
Dec 11 - Jim Mathai, Chief Deputy, Pottawattamie County

## Programs

Nov - Arlyn Norris  
Dec - Chuck Nielsen/Keith Denton

Q: Why is it dangerous for a lawyer to walk onto a construction site when plumbers are working?

A: Because they might connect the drain line to the wrong suer.

If a lawyer and an IRS agent were both drowning, and you could only save one of them, would you go to lunch or read the paper?

Q: What do you have if three lawyers are buried up to their necks in cement?

A: Not enough cement.

My husband, Ray, was attempting to build a patio for the first time.

He bought 100 cement blocks. Laying them out in a pattern, he discovered the chosen area was too small. He stacked the blocks against the house and cleared more space. The next day Ray put the cement blocks back down, only to find that the ground was too hard to keep the patio level. He ordered a truckload of sand to be delivered the following morning.

Again he stacked the 100 blocks against the house. Observing all this, our next-door neighbor asked, "Ray, are you going to put your patio away every night?"