



October 7, 2017

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### **Mark Christian – Noble Faith Institute**

Mark Christian, Omaha, spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club meeting on Saturday, October 7. He grew up in Cairo, Egypt as a Muslim from a devout Muslim family with ties to the Muslim Brotherhood. In the process of becoming an Islam leader at the age of 23, he questioned his religion and dug for truth and it was revealed to him. He became a Christian in 2003 and is now an American citizen and loves the freedoms



Americans share.

He speaks strongly about the need for American citizens to keep fighting to make our country a safe haven for people with different backgrounds who want to live up to their potential and

enjoy the freedoms we have. He doesn't hate Muslims. He stated, "Muslims are friends until they belong to the Muslim Brotherhood." He believes the Muslim Brotherhood is resurrecting a political agenda which began 1400 years ago and those concepts are contrary to American values.

Sharia Law covers everything in a Muslim's life, not just their faith. He quoted, "Condemnation propitiates Islam through Sharia Law (said by Mohammed himself)". Reliance of the Traveler is a comprehensive book that explains Sharia Law.

"Infiltration of Islamic ideas has expanded in American universities in the Middle East", he stated. He shared that there are many American universities which have developed branches in the

Middle East and Islamic laws must be followed. The Middle East has become a world power competing with the West in innovation, education, a better life, and with the desire to combine these values with their Islam beliefs.

Qatar went from being a very poor country to a very wealthy country, and is now a main force behind Islamic beliefs.

He stated that a strong military force is absolute for the U.S.

His assistant, Vicky Hahn, informed the Optimists about a two week camp, Summit Ministries in CO, which teaches Christian young people, ages 16-25, about all world views and how to defend their faith, which she highly recommends.

### **Meeting Minutes**

Keith Denton conducted the meeting of the Treynor Optimist Club as the new President on October 7. Other new officers for the year are: Dale Willenborg- Vice President, Gary Guttau- Treasurer, and Secretary-Judy Guttau assisted by Dee Guttau. The meeting began with humor by Gary Funkhouser, Dale Willenborg, and Gary Guttau followed by the pledge of allegiance. Dale Willenborg provided the opening prayer.

Gary Funkhouser was a double winner. He won the 50/50 drawing and the attendance prize. There were 13 members and three guests at the meeting- Mark Christian, Vicky Hahn, Lou Howell.

No birthdays or anniversaries were celebrated.

Bill Vorthmann contributed to the Youth Fund to announce his father had graduated from Hospice. Keith Denton also contributed in appreciation of last year's officers. Gary Guttau contributed to announce he enjoyed visiting at the Class of '67 and '77's class reunions.

Assisting with the can kennel sorting on Wednesday were Gary Guttau, Chad Guttau, John Klein and Gary Funkhouser.

Judy Guttau served breakfast today to the Optimists in celebration of the Can Kennel reaching the milestone of \$150,000 and 3 million cans which benefits youth organizations with their goals. Local media and social media were used to thank the community for their help in collecting cans. A letter was read from Larry Kramer regarding this milestone.

The Club will put up flags on Sun., Oct. 8 at 2 p.m. Flags will be stored for next year after this.

The Club voted to approve a \$150 donation to assist with a special field trip for 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

John Klein has prepared an application for a donation from TS Banking Group for 2 local hydrant parties in 2018. The Club desires to build its own hydrant sprayers for future use.

A sign-up sheet was circulated for Programs for 2018.

Dee Guttau was contacted about Optimists sponsoring a bike safety event again. Holly Fenn has offered to assist with developing a Facebook page for the Optimist Club. Judy Guttau will contact her.

Lou Howell is applying for membership. She has volunteered to attend the Oct. 21 quarterly district meeting in Des Moines.

Dee Guttau provided a non-basket display of gourds as an auction item.

The meeting closed with the Optimist creed.

#### **Calendar**

Oct 8 – Put up flags (last for 2017)

#### **Birthdays**

Oct 17 – Marsha Underwood

Oct 29 – Bill Vorthmann

#### **Anniversaries**

Oct 13 – Dale & Dianne Willenborg

Oct 17 – Dennis & Kay White

*To Members and guests: We invite you to attend any meeting you can. It's a time for discussing ways to serve our youth (our mission) and to interact with each other. It is a great way to know what is happening in the community (with youth and others) and to learn about interesting topics from speakers in the area each week! Meetings run from 8-9 AM on Saturday mornings at the Treynor Community Building (Legion Room).*

#### **Board Meeting**

Keith Denton presided. Gary Funkhouser, new District Lt. Governor, led discussion of annual club planning and discussed a location for a zone meeting to be hosted in Treynor. Gary Guttau recommended officers check the Optimist International Leadership website. Dale will bring membership applications for use at meetings. Can kennel applications were assigned for several months and will be listed in a future newsletter. Growing membership was suggested as a future discussion item. The next board meeting will be after the regular meeting on Sat., Nov. 4.

#### **Speakers**

Oct. 7 – Mark Christian, Noble Faith Institute

Oct. 14 – Jill Kay, Elem. Principal

Oct. 21 – Jose Puncel, Spanish teacher

Oct. 28 – Lou Howell, Superintendent

#### **Programs**

October - Gary Guttau

November – Linda Danker

December – Mick Guttau