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Jose Puncel– Treynor Community School Spanish Teacher

Jose Puncel, new Spanish Teacher at the Treynor Community School, spoke to the Treynor Optimist Club on Saturday, October 21. He first thanked the community for its hospitality to his family and him. They did not expect a furnished rental home upon arrival. He stated, “The first shock was so good! We are happy! Thank you for the welcome!” His family includes his wife, Cristina, and daughters, Naroa, 10 and Irune, 8. In their hometown of Pamprona, Spain, Cristina was a social worker in a 600 person nursing home.



Jose was first in the US in 1991 as an exchange student for one month in Oregon. This time he applied one year ago for a teacher exchange program. His desire was for a rural Iowa school. In April, 2017 he was called to Madrid for an interview with the Iowa Dept. of

Education, and one week later the Treynor High School Principal emailed/skyped him.

His daughters are active in sports and love Treynor. They like that there are more experimental activities in their classes in Treynor, which is not usual in Spain.

In Spain after 6th grade, students attend High School, which is divided into two parts. You receive a high school degree at age 16. Then there are two options: 1) college prep for two years or 2) vocational training for two years.

There is no cost for elementary and secondary school. Some are charter schools, religious schools, but all teachers are paid by the government. Tuition for university education is approximately \$1500/year. Most students travel to university by foot, bike or bus from home.

Jose has a first degree in industrial engineering. He spent one year in England and learned English well. He then worked for Volkswagen for 8 years as an engineer. At age 23 he was manager over 50 people, later 500 people. There are 5000 people working at Volkswagen, which manufactures 1500 cars/day.

He made a career change because he was not happy. He got a degree in education while working and taught 13 years in his home town. He stated, “We are happy; earn much less but that’s what counts.”

He explained that in Spain lunch is typically eaten at 2:00 PM and is very important. It is a big meal with time for socializing and perhaps a 20-30 minutes siesta (nap). One would never eat their meal while also working at their computer. The shops close at 2 PM and open again at 4 PM. When he got the schedule for teaching in Treynor, he thought, “Twenty minutes for lunch! Is that a joke?” Dinner in Spain is not eaten until 9 so they go to bed very late. He prefers not eating so late.

A famous American author, Ernest Hemingway, frequently attended a popular 9 day festival in his hometown. He explained that the “Running of the Bulls” causes the population of his town to swell from 200,000 to 1 million people for this festival. Each day at 8 AM the bulls run through the streets along with people who want this experience. It lasts 3-4 mins. “No way” was his response when asked if he would do that.

Welcome the Puncels to Treynor when you see them!

Meeting Minutes

Keith Denton conducted the meeting of the Treynor Optimist Club. There were 13 members and one guest at the meeting- Jose Puncel. The meeting began with humor by Gary Gutttau, Mick Gutttau, and John Klein, followed by the pledge of allegiance. Dee Gutttau offered the prayer.

Dee Gutttau won the 50/50 drawing. Chad Gutttau won the attendance prize.

Judy Gutttau contributed to the Youth Fund to state the high school football team was young but won more games than predicted. She also told about TS Promise speaker, Jon Pritiken, who will speak in area schools and also at a youth rally on Wed. evening at the Community Building. Chad Gutttau contributed because their pumpkin patch will be featured in the Sunday Nonpareil.

A Trunk or Treat event will occur on Sun., Oct. 29 from 1:30-3:30 outside the Community Building. Judy volunteered to set this up for the Optimist Club. The hat was passed to purchase candy.

John Klein announced that the Cardinal Combine sponsored by the Cardinal Core held their event on Friday (due to inclement weather at Homecoming). 37 kids participated with 17 volunteers.

Keith invited all to attend a wiener roast at their house Sunday evening starting at 4:30 PM.

Shop with the Sheriff will be further discussed at the next meeting.

Calendar

Oct. 29 – Trunk or Treat 1:30 – 3:30
Treynor Community Bldg.

Birthdays

Oct 29 – Bill Vorthmann
Nov 8 - Mick Gutttau
Nov 18 – Dianne Willenborg

Anniversaries

Nov 2 - Kirk & Lynell Vorthmann
Nov 6 - Kenneth & Linda Graham

The meeting was closed by President Denton and by stating the Optimist creed.

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).

Groaner Jokes:

What did the football coach say to the broken vending machine? Give me my quarterback!

Why do coaches like punters? Because punters always put their best foot forward.

What do receivers catch after running downfield? Their breath.

Speakers

Oct. 28 – Lou Howell, Treynor Supt.
Nov. 4 – Jennifer Clark, Primrose Retirement, "Community Living"
Nov. 11 – Cati Dezmasi, The Center, "Mind, Body, Spirit & Health"
Nov. 18 – Marcia Anderson, Pinecone Partners, "Elder Fraud and More"
Nov. 25 – Teri Wilson, Connections, "General Elder Information"

Programs

October - Gary Gutttau
November – Linda Danker
December – Mick Gutttau

