



January 13, 2018.

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Tom Becka, TV Commentator

Tom Becka, KPTM Fox 42 television commentator, spoke to the Treynor Optimist Club on Saturday, January 13. Becka is known for his biting commentary about news and societal issues. He is a daily regular on a program known as "Becka's Beat" on the 9:00 pm Fox 42 News At Nine Program. He tackles a hot local or national issue and gives his insight and food for thought. Prior work experience included being an advertising sales manager, and he spent five years traveling the country as a stand-up comic opening for the likes of Jerry Seinfeld, Darrell Hammond, and the rock band Chicago.



Tom Becka and John Klein

In preparing for Becka's Beat, he is limited to 370 words which he first hammers out on his computer. His goal is to get people to think and look at things a different way. He considers himself an open-minded conservative. He strongly supports the First and Second Amendment. He recommended all see the movie, "The Post", which deals with the media.

He stated that Simpson's Fox News, owned by Clear Broadcasting, has never told him what to say or not to say, but advised him to inform, entertain, and don't cause them to lose their license.

Becka indicated 25 years ago he thought he had talked about everything, but today, he can't cover it all! He indicated not enough good gets covered, but it is the negative that gets people's attention. An example, he stated, is the good our Optimist Club is doing – "This is America!", but good doesn't get people's attention. That is not the media's fault, but the audience's fault and human nature. He pointed out a great example of "This is America" is our American flag – different colors and shapes all work together to be the design of our flag and provides a common bond. The same is true for the people of our country. He feels we all get along better than the media indicates.

Becka's points to ponder on various topics were:
Jobs- Republicans blame Mexico and China for lost jobs; Democrats blame Wall Street; it's actually technology.
Borders - How wonderful that we have people wanting to sneak in and not sneak out!
Schools - Parents are the key to having discipline in schools and having higher graduation rates.
Other- Be afraid of people selling you fear.
America - We're all a lot more alike than not.

Meeting Minutes

Keith Denton, President, conducted the meeting of the Treynor Optimist Club on January 13, 2018. There were 15 members present plus guest, Tom Becka. The meeting began with humor by Keith Denton and Chad Gutttau followed by the pledge of allegiance. Dee Gutttau offered the prayer.

Dee Gutttau, won the 50/50 drawing. Marsha Underwood won the attendance prize.

Kevin Underwood donated to the Youth Fund for the achievements of Bailey Anderson for breaking the St. Albert school record last year for points in basketball. Chad Gutttau contributed for his legislative trip to Des Moines for several days this week with Jon Jacobsen.

Community activities announced were the article in today's Nonpareil about the Manawa Dream Playground, which our speaker next week, Lynne Branigan, will discuss. Individual pickets for the fence are being sold for \$100 and need to be ordered on Monday. John Klein also announced that Kids Alive will be sponsoring a spring safety meeting for parents that will cover all types of safety. Gary Funkhouser gave members copy of the state wide Optimist newsletter. He announced the state speech contest is in Treynor Saturday, Jan. 20 and volunteers are needed to help with concessions. Lori Bolton can be contacted. On Feb. 10 is the Regional Optimist Meeting at the CB Public Library.

John Klein announced a gift of \$150 from TS Bank for two flags and assistance with the brain bowl, swim lessons, and hydrant party. Gary Funkhouser inquired about club sponsored activities: By consensus, the club approved medallions for the Essay and Oratory Contests and the group approved sponsoring a youth appreciation event in the spring.

A Board meeting will be held after the meeting next Saturday.

Come join us for fun, fellowship, and interesting programs! Optimist Club meetings run from 8-9 AM each Saturday morning at the Treynor Community Building (Legion Room). The coffee is always on and donuts are served.

Kingisms – Sayings of our friend, Duane King:

- Money is relative. The more money you have, the more relatives!
- Serve an atheist a fine dinner, then ask if there is a cook.
- Make a living by what we get; Make a life by what we give.

Calendar

Jan. 20 – Board Meeting after Meeting
Jan. 28 – JOI Club Food Drive Collection
Feb. 10 – Regional Optimist Meeting – CB Library

Birthdays

Jan 19 – Dennis White
Feb 13 – Gary Funkhouser

Anniversaries

Programs

January - John Klein
February - Chad Guttau

Speakers

Jan. 20 - Lynne Branigan, Manawa Dream Playground
Jan. 27 – Rocky & Beau Saar, Restoration Auto Business

Judy Guttau, Editor, 31107 Dogwood Rd, Treynor, IA 51575
402-670-4330 judy.guttau@tsbg.com

Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 51575