



May 27, 2023

Vol. 39, No.21



Major Brian Edick, Physician Assistant, USAF at Offutt spoke about Memorial Day and the Military. He is a health care provider and has been in the military 26 years and 1 month. He will retire with 28 years of service. Brian was born in Iron Mtn., Michigan. Brian and his wife have four children, ages of

26, 20, 17, and 6.

Brian has served in the United Kingdom, Germany, Colorado, Texas, and 3 times at OAFB. He came into the service as a Geospatial Intelligence Analyst and transitioned into the medical field, currently in Aerospace Medicine. He is an alumni of University of NE.

Brian deployed to Iraq a couple times working in Interrogation and his last deployment was to Abu Dhabi, Dubai. He flew 100 hours as an aerospace medical assistant and has flown in KC-10 refueling planes.

Memorial Day was a national holiday before Brian was even born. Memorial Day is meant to honor those fallen heroes that have served our country; a day on which those who died in active military service are remembered; traditionally observed on May 30th but now officially observed on the last Monday in May.

Brian stated that we should all take time to honor those men and women that have lost their lives, even though it's an official day to start summer. The real meaning of this national holiday is more somber. Originally called Decoration Day, it was declared a national holiday through an act of Congress in 1971, and its roots date back to the Civil War era. Unlike Veteran's Day, Memorial Day honors all military members who have died while serving in the US Forces. The number to date of service members who have paid the price is 1.43 Million.

The National Moment of Remembrance Act designates 3:00 p.m. 'local time' on Memorial Day each year to remember and honor the men and

women of the US who died in the pursuit of freedom and piece. Taps are played on many radio and television stations and Americans pause to remember those who have lost their lives in service to our country.

Brian compared similarities of the USS Arizona and the National Cemetery in Arlington. There is a somber atmosphere displaying a deep profound respect for our service members, remembering the sacrifices of those fallen, but for their families as well.

As citizens, we must ensure the younger generations are aware of the gravity of this. Brian takes his kids to a Memorial Cemetery every year to help them understand the sacrifices that men and women who serve in our country. It is not just an enjoyable day & weekend, but it is also to remember. Freedom is not free and is upon the backs of our servicemen and women. Brian stated the military are having a difficult time recruiting. There are 2.1 million service members that are combat ready, but doubt emerges as for readiness for another war.

Brian stated it meant a lot to him to speak of both serving in the military but also of Memorial Day. He thanked those that took the time to serve the great nation and is grateful to those that come out to support and mentor youth, such as the Optimists.

Thanks to Kathy Luedke for taking notes!

Next week's Speaker:

Alex Harrington, Treynor high school science teacher and one of his classes is robotics. (He is married to Danie Floerchinger.)

Famous Quote

“And I’m proud to be an American, where at least I know I’m free. And I won’t forget the men who died, who gave that right to me.”

Lee Greenwood

Meeting Minutes

Jordan Campbell, President, called the meeting to order and led the pledge. Seventeen members were present. Our guest was the speaker Brian Edick. Chad Guttau offered the prayer. Keith Denton, Jordan Campbell, and Dennis White shared jokes.

Day in History: On this day in 1995 Christopher Reeves became paralyzed.

50/50: Kevin Underwood won.

Attendance: Bill Vorthman's name was drawn, but he wasn't present last week so it went unclaimed.

Birthdays: None

Anniversaries: None

Bragging Rights: (Dollars are contributed to benefit local youth programs.)

- Keith Denton contributed because his granddaughter Lily, broke St. Albert's record for the mile and placed third at state. She also placed in the 800 and two other relays. Lily is only a freshman.
- Chad Guttau bragged on his nephew Chase Wells who will graduate from college in Seattle.
- Treynor's Soccer Team made it to state.
- Gary Guttau shared that he has been cow-less for ten years!
- Bill Vorthmann donated to announce that he had grandkids graduating from high school and pre-school.
- Dale Willenborg shared that he just returned from vacation with their grandkids in St. Louis. They had fun at the Children's Museum and the City Museum.
- Dee Guttau stated that the Master Gardener's Project is complete.
- Kathy Luedke shared that the Prairie Crossing Winery Event is Sat., June 3.

Community:

1. Jordan Campbell announced that Impact Summer Care starts up Tuesday and there are 33 kids registered for all day, every day, which is more than last year. It is available for children age 5 and up.

2. Treynor plays in the Boys State Soccer Tournament Tuesday in Des Moines at 10:30 AM against Western Christian – Hull.

Business:

1. Can Kennel sorting will take place Wednesday at 12:30 PM. This week's sorting was very quick.
2. Flags will be put up today after the meeting starting at 9:30 AM and will be taken down Tuesday, May 30 at 4 PM. St. Paul Youth are helping today.
3. Gary and Dee Guttau and Chad went to the Optimist Dinner on May 23 at Hoy Kilnowski. George Volz talked about the meaning of the Optimist Creed.
4. The Council Bluffs Optimist Club is hosting a fundraiser on Sun., July 9 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. "Classics on the Water" 6865 Gifford Road, CB. It will be a non-judged Show n' Shine of classic cars and the Pancake Man will begin serving at 10 AM. Free will donations will go to support the CB Optimist Club.

Auction:

Dee Guttau donated two beef steak tomato plants. Bill Vorthmann purchased for \$2.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned with the saying of the Creed.

HUMOR

"We must recognize that, as we grow older, we become like old cars –more and more repairs and replacements are necessary."

C.S. Lewis

Calendar

Events

May 31	Can Kennel sorting at 12:30 p.m.
May 27	Put up flags for Memorial Day, 9:30 a.m.
May 30	Take down flags, 4:00 p.m.

Birthdays

June 16	Dale Willenborg
June 20	Jeff Jorgensen

Anniversaries

June 5 Steve & Debra Irvin
June 15 Steve & Jeanie Chambers
June 28 Mick & Judy Guttau
June 29 Dave & Linda Danker

Programs:

June Steve Irvin (first 2)
Jeff Jorgensen (last 2)
July Chad Guttau

Speakers

June 3 Alex Harrington, high school science teacher and one of his classes is

robotics. (He is married to Danie Floerchinger.)

June 10 Steve Owens. Steve is a former teacher and coach at Treynor High School. He is currently on staff with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes for southwest Iowa and eastern Nebraska.

Last two weeks: (Not sure which date)

- Brian Shae, Chm. Pott Co. Board of Supervisors
- Brandon Garrett, Chief of Staff for CB Mayor Matt Walsh

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