



June 3, 2023

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Alex Herrington, Treynor High School science teacher since 2018, shared today. He attended Northwestern College for his B.S. and Masters, where he met his wife, Danie (Floerchinger) and they are expecting their third little girl this summer. Most recently he teaches computer science and

robotics and has coached Jr. High track the last four years. However, in 2020, they were only allowed two practices. He stated the team has won WIC the last two years.

Alex attended the Ft. Dodge public schools where he had awesome teachers who influenced him to become a teacher. He believes teaching should be hands on, interesting, and build curiosity. Alex stated that if you can apply knowledge and build something, it will stick with you. The students gain a physics perspective which ties in with math also.

Herrington shared slides/videos of some fun activities he has been using. Examples are: Hotze Tree Service to do a pumpkin drop to learn about impulse momentum theorem, launching pressurized two liter bottles, zooming with a famous science U-tuber, hearing a guest speaker from Engineer Tomorrow, building a collision lab utilizing an egg and cart, and having groups build Rube Goldberg machines. Harrington believes learning from failure is also very important. This helps a person progress and learn from that.

Alex has found that applying for grants in Iowa has helped him obtain some equipment. Junior Treynor Women and the administration made it possible to get new robotics equipment. He showed the Optimists some of the kits containing gears, brackets, nuts, bolts, brain wheels. They have five robot kits which cost \$750 each. The students build from scratch and develop code. Some kids have never used a screwdriver so this creates a new skill. There is a challenge with each lesson. There are 15 students in the

Robotics Class which is a one semester course. If a student will be a technician or work in manufacturing, these skills will help. Computer science is taught a full year and draws 12-13 students.

The last day of school Alex introduced small Finch Robots. The students programmed them and led them through a course they made.

When asked about teaching Artificial Intelligence (AI), he stated that he introduced to the students a computer program called Teachable Machine to give some exposure to this subject.

Thanks, Alex, you left us intrigued!

Next week's Speaker:

Steve Owens, on staff for Fellowship of Christian Athletes for SW Iowa and Eastern Nebraska. Steve is a former teacher and coach at Treynor.

Famous Quote

"Most people are about as happy as they make up their minds to be.

Abraham Lincoln

Meeting Minutes

Jordan Campbell, President, called the meeting to order and led the pledge. Twenty-one members were present. Our guests were speaker Alex Herrington, Korbin Horton, Kiralyn Horton,. Grace Alff, Kasey Lang, Whitley Tiarks, Kyle Moss, and Sydne Dotson.

Jordan Campbell offered the prayer.

Bill Vorthmann, Jeff Jorgensen, and Steve Chambers shared jokes.

Day in History: On this day in 1871 Jessie James and gang robbed the Corydon, Iowa Bank for \$15,000. In 1985 Larry King Live program started.

50/50: Dennis White won.

Attendance: Glenrose Meier's name was drawn, but she wasn't present last week so it went unclaimed.

Birthdays: None, but celebrity birthdays are Anderson Cooper, 55, and Jill Biden, 71.

Anniversaries: Steve and Deb Irvin on Monday, June 5 – 47 years. Ask Steve about how they celebrated last year.

Scholarships:



L-R: Sydne Dotson, Kyle Moss, Whitley Tiarks, Kasey Lang, Grace Alff, Kiralyn Horton, Korbin Horton

Sydne is working as a nanny and at Old Navy and will go to Metro for para medicine.

Kyle is helping his dad on the farm and will go to Neb. Wesleyan in biochemistry and play football.

Whitley is working at Rally House and Impact and will go to ISU in psychology.

Kasey is working as a lifeguard and at Impact and will take the Bryan program at a Hospital in Lincoln.

Grace is a nanny and works at Sam's Club and will go to the U of Iowa.

Kiralyn is working at Dick's and will go to NWMS in elementary education.

Korbin is working at Impact and will go to NWMS in acting.

They answered a barrage of interesting questions from members.

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

- Glenrose Meier donated to share that they had two grandkids graduate last weekend. Their grandson graduated from Scutt Catholic High School and their granddaughter graduated from UNL in Biochemistry.
- Jordan Campbell contributed because this past week was the first week of IMPACT and the 16 staff members survived! Daily attendance was 32, 35, 34, and 26 kids.
- Judy Gutttau bragged on the Treynor Boys Soccer team playing at the State Tournament last Tuesday. They lost 0-1. (late note: The team they lost to won the state championship!)
- Dick Fox announced there were 57 people who celebrated with him at his 80th birthday party last weekend.

Community:

1. 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.
2. August 1 will be a special election about changing the districts in Pott Co. for representation of county supervisors. There are three plans. Supervisor Jeff Jorgensen stated he supports continuing the way it is with Plan 1. Chad Gutttau stated that Susan Miller will speak in July and the topic will be discussed further.
3. Treynor Days is June 23-25. The Thursday before (June 22) from 4-6 PM and the Tuesday after (June 27) from 2-4 PM will be Kite Flying Days at The T. Elementary students were presented with free kites from the Treynor Optimists. Their art teacher had them decorate the kites and then sent home directions to assemble. Kids/parents, bring your kites and fly! All people who want to fly kites are invited!!

Business:

1. Can Kennel sorting will take place Wednesday at 12:15 PM. It is overflowing.
2. John Klein stated the \$5000 grant that was applied for from Community Foundation of

Western Iowa was not granted. The money was to help temporarily after the resource center in Glenwood discontinues. Jeff Jorgensen announced a memorial in honor of his wife will be contributed to help. He announced his appreciation of Richard Vorthmann getting him involved with our Club.

3. Flags will be put up next Saturday, June 10. They will be left up until July 8 to cover all holidays and Treynor Days. Studio 7 dance team will help put the flags up.
4. The Optimist Club again bought kites for elementary youth. Kite flying times at The T are listed above.
5. The Optimists have been asked to lead Bingo again during Treynor Days.

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

HUMOR



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

Calendar

Events

June 7	Can Kennel sorting at 12:15 p.m.
June 10	Put up flags after the meeting
June 22	Kids/Parents Fly Kites 6-8 PM at The T
June 23-25	Treynor Days
June 27	Kids/Parents Fly Kites 2-4 PM at The T
July 8	Take down flags.

Birthdays

June 16	Dale Willenborg
June 20	Jeff Jorgensen

Anniversaries

June 15	Steve & Jeanie Chambers
June 28	Mick & Judy Guttai
June 29	Dave & Linda Danker

Programs:

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

Speakers

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.
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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