



July 7, 2019

Vol. 35 No. 26

### Arlyn Norris Speaks to Optimists

Arlyn Norris spoke to the Treynor Optimist Club on July 6, 2019 at the Treynor Community Building. Pastor Norris retired in 2014 after serving at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Treynor. A former member of the Treynor Optimist Club, Arlyn updated the group on his life and read from memoirs he is writing.



Since retiring Pastor Norris' most recent mission trip was to Chile. He is affiliated with the Companion Synod Group. Over many years he has been on mission trips to Chile twice and Tanzania five times.

Arlyn reflected on the experiences he and his wife Wanda have had with her cancer since a lump was first found years ago. Treatment had been effective more than once and then a lump was found which would change their lives. Cancer had spread to her liver and then to the brain. Treatment helped at first, but then it was imminent that hospice care was needed. In those remaining weeks she was able to enjoy visits with her sisters, family, and one rainy Sunday was able to attend church in Treynor and see church family and friends. She also had visits from friends in AZ and from past parishes where they had served. She passed May 20, 2016 in Tucson.

Arlyn is passionate about writing and retired to care for his wife and to pursue writing. He has journaled for years and has attended writing clinics and festivals. He has almost completed his memoirs of his experiences and hopes to get a book published. His

memoirs are written in three parts: 1) care, 2) grief, 3) new life. Those attending today were moved by his style: the detail, the searching, the inspiration, and deep feelings expressed as Arlyn read excerpts from his memoirs.

In November, 2018, Pastor Norris married a lady, named Pilair, who is originally from Mexico. She has her BA in finance and economics and has a Masters in Spanish Education. She teaches Spanish at Pima College in Tucson, where they live. They each have three grown children. She visited Iowa for the first time this year.

### Meeting Minutes

Dale Willenborg, President, called the meeting to order. Fifteen members were present plus three guests, Kay White, Denise Wilson, and Arlyn Norris.

Jokes/stories were shared by Arlyn Norris and Kirk Vorthmann followed by the group saying the Pledge of Allegiance. Jordan Campbell gave the opening prayer.

The 50/50 Drawing was won by Bill Vorthmann and the Attendance Drawing will be announced next week!!

Gary Guttau's 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday to be on July 14 was observed. His wife, Dee, provided cinnamon rolls!

Denise Wilson announced the birthday of her son-in-law who is 33 and her 37<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this week.

**Bragging Rights** contributions to the Youth Fund: 1) Dennis White contributed for the birthday of his granddaughter, 2) Marsha Underwood announced she was selected Volunteer of the Month at Jennie Edmundson in May, 3) Bill Vorthmann donated because as being raised on a farm he saw something this week he had never seen before. His daughter and son-in-law had a cluck hen set on a nest and had 5 chicks, 4) Judy Guttau announced the arrival of their 1991-92 exchange son, Jan-Erik Kuenstler and his family from Germany for a visit through July 18. 5) Gary Funkhouser announced the visit from the Spanish family they have befriended. 6) Kirk Vorthmann contributed \$2 because he intended to set out flags, but got busy and forgot!

### Community News:

**Old Business:**

At Treynor Community Days the following helped with Bingo: Keith Denton, Kevin Underwood, Gary Funkhouser, Jim Clausen, Dee Gutttau, John Klein, and Bill Vorthmann. Gary Gutttau sold raffle tickets which raised \$180.

**New Business:**

Can Kennel helpers for the Silver Creek Club were John Klein, Ken Graham, Gary Funkhouser. There will be an additional sorting in two weeks.

Flag helpers today to take down flags were Ken Graham, Dale Willenborg, Keith Denton, Dennis and Kay White, (Thanks, Kay!) Gary, Dee, and Chad Gutttau, Bill Vorthmann, and Judy Gutttau. Jim Clausen reported a flag had been stolen, but replaced. A plan for storage of the flags was discussed.

Helpers are needed to watch gates at WestFair Thursday, July 25 from 12-6 PM.

The Can Kennel sorting will take place on Wednesday, July 10. The time will be announced.

Next week we will meet at 8 AM at the Dallas Johnson Greenhouses, 2802 Twin City, CB.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with the saying of the Optimist pledge.

**HUMOR**

**LEXOPHILIA - Ya Gotta Love It:...**

"Lexophile" describes those that have a love for words, such as "You can tune a piano, but you can't tuna fish" and "To write with a broken pencil is pointless."

An annual competition is held by the New York Times to see who can create the best original lexophile.

**This year's submissions:**

I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.

England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.

Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.

More to come....

**Calendar**

July 10 Can Kennel sorting

**Birthdays**

July 14 Gary Gutttau  
July 23 Jerry Hempel  
July 27 Jim Clausen

**Anniversaries**

July 14 Jeff & Mary Beth Jorgensen  
July 25 Chuck & Kathy Nielsen

**Programs**

July Dale Willenborg  
August Jordan Campbell  
Sept Gary Gutttau (first two)  
Jerry Hempel (last two)

**Speakers**

July 13: Tour of Dallas Johnson Greenhouses, 2802 Twin City Dr, CB.  
July 20: Amy McQueen, local artist  
July 27: Josemi Puncel, former Spanish teacher in Treynor.

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