



International Pres. Duane Sievers 608-423-4247

Governor Leon Wilkinsen, 641-664-3565

Club Officers for 2003-2004

Club Number 40-109

President	Jerry Hempel	566-9479
V. Pres., Pres. Elect	Jeff Jorgensen	487-3355
V. Pres.	Gary Gutttau	487-3248
Secretary	Teresa Fahrenkrug	487-3342
Treasurer	Mike Abbott	366-6256
Past President	Gary Funkhouser	487-3343

Board Members

2002-2003	2003-2004
Wes Nelson	Kathy Schmitt
Bill Vorthmann	John Schmitt
Larry Kramer	Gene Grell



May 25, 2004

Vol. 20 No. 30

FRIND OF YOU TH

NEXT CLUB MEETING

The next meeting of the Optimist Club of Treynor is planned Saturday morning May 22, 2004 at the Treynor Community Center. GARY FUNKHOUSER has arranged for Mike Nielsen to speak about TRA issues. The meeting starts at 7:20 a.m. Invite a guest.

REPORT OF CLUB MEETING

At the last Club meeting there were 23 members and three guests present. Pres. JERRY HEMPEL opened the meeting by leading the pledge. BOB HIBBARD led the devotion prayer. The attendance pot was awarded to THERESA FAHRENKRUG, but it was not claimed. The 50/50 was awarded to JUDY GUTTAU.

Birthday greetings were sung to STEVE IRVIN. He put a dollar in the Youth Fund for the performance. KELLY SUTHERLAND put in two dollars for not singing the birthday greeting to him. CHAD GUTTAU put in a dollar to announce his new nephew, born in St. Louis earlier in the morning. GEORGE SCHNEIDER put in a dollar in recognition of his grandson graduating from Doane College. THERESA put in a dollar for the graduation of her son from Treynor High. TIM GREINER added a couple of dollars to recognize his daughter's selection to Girl's State and receiving an outstanding vocalist award. MIKE ABBOTT contributed five dollars to recognize his daughter's selection to Girls State, receiving an academic letter, and being selected as Outstanding Junior from the class of 550 at Westside High School in Omaha.

Jeff and Josh Bintz were visitors representing the Silver-Keg 4-H Club. Pres. Jerry presented to Josh a check for \$481 for the effort of 4-Hers with the Can Kennel in March.

JOHN KLEIN stated that the 2004 Babysitting/Child Care Clinic would finish this coming Tuesday with a class of about 35. He also noted the last can and bottle sorting for Optimists Scholarships is this coming Wednesday. This is the last chance to clean out the garage of empties. JOHN noted the SW Iowa Honor Marching Band member selections are underway. This group should have the month of October for can and bottle collections.

The Bike Safety Day was highly successful with over sixty youth participating. CATHY and JOHN SCHMITT will give a report at the next Club meeting.

Pres. JERRY asked LARRY KRAMER to explain the new achievement patches attached to the Club Awards Banner by MILLI HARVEY. The patches were for accomplishments last Optimist year under the leadership of GARY FUNKHOUSER. The primary recognition was the qualification of Honor Club. Other patches recognized a \$10 per member contribution to Optimist International Foundation, participation in the Childhood Cancer Campaign, and member recruitment in the final quarter.

JOHN K. noted that an archeological survey of the Treynor East Park would be conducted as an outcome of receiving a grant from Iowa DNR for new playground equipment. The DNR grant will reimburse up to \$25,700 in matching funds for the playground development.

LARRY circulated a sign-up sheet for the upcoming horse show. Be sure to put it on your calendar.

P.S. Just as the elderly woman was turning her Mercedes into a parking space at the mall, she was edged out by a red Firebird. "You've got to be young and fast," jeered the teenaged driver as he jumped out from behind the wheel.

The woman reversed, revved her engine, and rammed the Firebird. As the Mercedes reversed and headed for his car again, the teenager turned and gaped, then ran over and banged on the woman's window. "What the &*%@#* do you think you are doing?" He screeched.

She smiled sweetly and explained, "You've got to be old and rich."

BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT

Pottawattamie County Attorney Matt Wilber spoke to Club members about operations in the county office. As a newly elected administrator of the County Attorney's office, he supervises twelve assistants. Matt said work moral and productivity has improved. The staff has doubled the number of cases taken to trial and is winning a higher percentage of trials. Matt explained he has nine prosecutors on his staff and over 7000 cases per year are processed. Council Bluffs has had the highest crime rate in Iowa the past four years, Matt noted. This has contributed to the high case number. Through increased training, critiquing, and mentoring of younger lawyers on the staff, the cases are getting processed more efficiently, Matt explained. Matt expressed that there is a greater trust between the law enforcement officers and the Co. Attorney's office. Matt indicated many cases are settled by 'out-of-court' agreements. For everyone who is sent to prison in Iowa, someone already in prison is released on early parole because of limited state prison space. Matt said he is working to have a greater presence of an U.S. Attorney in Pott. County. The prison time for committing a federal crime is usually longer before parole, so the penalty for conviction is a greater deterrent.

GOT RADON?

GARY FUNKHOUSER discussed with Club members the importance of checking for radon emissions in our homes. Radon is a radioactive gas from the natural decay of uranium in soil, rock, and water. It is a problem because it can cause lung cancer if the concentration is high in the air we breathe. Only smoking causes higher lung cancer deaths. Radon induced cancer is estimated to cause more deaths than drunk driving. GARY noted that we especially need to be aware of the radon concentrations in our homes as we spend a great deal of time there. Iowa happens to be in an area of the U.S. that has a high incidence on radon. A radon concentration test kit can be obtained from Air Quality Div., Linn Co. Health Dept., 501 13th St. N.W., Cedar Rapids, IA 52405-3700 at a cost of \$5. Their phone number is 319-892-6000. Gary stated this would answer the question if radon concentration is too high in your home.

CALENDAR

May Can Collections for Optimist Scholarships

- May 26 Can and bottle sorting, 6:30 p.m.
- May 29 Club meeting, program by Mike Nielsen.

June Can Collections for High Adventure Scouts

- Jun. 5 Club meeting, program by Iowa Senator Hubert Houser and Representative Gerald Jones.
- Jun. 9 Can and bottle sorting.
- Jun. 12 Club meeting, program TBA.
- Jun. 13 SISCO Horse Show, Malvern, 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.
- Jun. 19 Club meeting, program TBA.
- Jun. 19 Treynor Days, Bingo, TCC.
- Jun. 23 Can and bottle sorting.
- Jun. 26 Club meeting, program TBA.

Birthdays

- 5/11 KEITH DENTON#, 5/20 KELLY SUTHERLAND#
- 5/21 STEVE IRVIN#, 5/22 LINNEA WHITE

Anniversaries

- 5/29 BILL MATTHEW
- # recognized to date