



The Optimist Club of Treynor, IA NEWSLETTER

Iowa District, Zone 3, Club Number 40-109

Governor Jim Boyd Cell 515-707-3956

Optimist International President Michel Listenberger, 269-683-2020



Club Officers for 2005-2006

President	Gary Funkhouser	487-3343	Board Member	
V. Pres., Pres. Elect	Gary Guttau	487-3248	2004-2006	2005-2007
V. Pres.	Jon Jacobsen	487-3193	Steve Irvin	John Klein
Secretary	Teresa Fahrenkrug	487-3675	Arlyn Norris	Bob Hibbard
Treasurer	Richard Vorthmann	487-3342	Denny White	Larry Kramer
Past President	Jeff Jorgensen	487-3355		



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NEXT CLUB MEETING

The next meeting of the Optimist Club of Treynor is planned Saturday morning June 24, 2006 at the Treynor Community Center. JEFF JORGENSEN has invited Douglas County NE Attorney and former FBI Agent, Stu Dornan to speak. All members are encouraged to bring a guest.

REPORT OF PREVIOUS CLUB MEETING

At the Club meeting on 6/17 there were 23 members and 18 guests present. President GARY FUNKHOUSER opened the meeting by leading the pledge. LARRY KRAMER led the devotional prayer.

The 50/50 was awarded to GEORGE SCHNEIDER. The attendance pot was awarded to BOB HIBBARD.

Pres. FUNKHOUSER reminded club members about upcoming events at Carson where volunteers from Treynor are requested: the beard contest on the 23rd and the Soap Box Derby on the 24th. Also there is a call for dealers at their "Texas Hold-Em" fund raiser July 15.

Thanks to RICHARD VORTHMANN, LARRY KRAMER, LES HARVEY, and Pres. FUNKHOUSER for helping the high school baseball team with can and bottle sorting at the Can Kennel last week. KRAMER noted that he helped the Treynor maintenance crew move the Can Kennel away from the storage barn up to the Community Center parking lot. This is a temporary location for the Can Kennel until the ground surface near the barn can be graded to divert runoff away from barn.

KRAMER noted the vote for the Treynor Welcome Signs was Tuesday the 20th at the Community Center.

Pres. FUNKHOUSER reminded members of the need to arrange for Bingo prizes at the Treynor Days Celebration in August.

CONSEQUENCES OF WEATHER

Iowa State Climatologists Dr. Elwynn Taylor spoke to club members and guests about his interpretations of weather trends around the world that affect our daily activities. Taylor noted that there is always something notable happening on earth due to the weather as it is a dynamic interaction of solar energy, wind circulation, and ground surface conditions. Soybean rust is becoming more of a concern in the Midwest. The spores are moved by wind circulation patterns and it has spread from South America to the southern coastal states of the U.S. There is concern that it will spread to Texas and then to the Midwest through prevailing wind patterns. The invasive plant Kudzu is a host for the disease. Soybean rust originated in China, but they grow soybeans in a drier climate there than we do in the U.S., Taylor explained. Taylor stated there is a 30% chance that soybean rust is coming to this area and a 50% chance of infection.

P.S. A traveling salesman, caught in a torrential storm, stopped overnight at a farmhouse. In the morning, he looked out and saw a flood tearing through the front yard. He watched pieces of fence, chicken coops, branches, and an old straw hat floating past in the current. Then he saw the straw hat come back, this time moving upstream past the house! Then he saw it go down again. Pretty soon it came back upstream—and by now the salesman thought he was going crazy. Finally, he called the farmer's daughter over. "Oh," said the young girl as she looked out the window, "that must be Granddad. He said yesterday that in spite of hell or high water, he was going to mow the lawn today."

Our world contains a great amount of water that has a major influence on weather patterns Taylor explained. The heat change in the upper four inches of water can influence the air temperature fifty miles above, and deeper water has a longer lasting influence on air temperature. Taylor stated the Pacific Ocean temperature north of Hawaii and east of Peru and the Mid-Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico temperatures affect the seasonal weather of the U.S. The status of the Pacific waters has more influence on western Iowa, Taylor noted. The ocean water temperatures oscillate over multi-year cycles to result in wet and drought cycles on land. Taylor noted that we are in a trend towards more droughty conditions that could go for many years before there is a reversal. The current ocean observations suggest a 60% chance of drought in the corn belt this season, so Taylor is estimating a below average crop yield.

Taylor expects increasing hurricane activity consistent with the historic 33-yr trend. Hurricanes are expected to occur more in the western gulf areas of Louisiana, Texas and northern Mexico over the next several years before this trend reverses.

The world-wide concern of avian influenza or bird flu is spreading from eastern Asia and Indonesia. According to Taylor 20% of the chickens there have been destroyed to control bird flu. (That could result in a lower demand of feed grains for chicken feed there). But, it is the wild bird population that is of more concern, since they can spread the bird flu. It has been found in Africa, France, and North Alaska and may show up in our region through migrating birds this fall. Taylor noted every mammal can be infected. It is often fatal for cats. We can potentially get it from pigs.

Dr. Taylor can be contacted my Email at: setaylor@iastate.edu

CALENDAR

June Can Collections for Baseball Field Improvement

- June 20 City highway welcome sign design vote, Community Center, 7-9 p.m.
- June 23 Carson Beard Contest.
- June 24 Club meeting, program by Douglas County Attorney Stu Dornan.
- June 24 Carson Soap Box Derby, 12 noon.
- June 28 Can and bottle sorting, 3 p.m.

July Can Collections for Girl Scouts Birthdays

- 6/5 BOB ABBOTT# 6/9 LES HARVEY#
- 6/20 JEFF JORGENSEN, 6/22 KEVIN ELWOOD

Anniversaries

- 6/1 KEVIN ELWOOD, 6/3 ARLYN NORRIS#
- 6/5 STEVE IRVIN, 6/15 STEVE CHAMBERS
- 6/26 LARRY KRAMER, 6/28 MICK GUTTAU
- # recognized to date

