



# The Optimist Club of Treynor, IA NEWSLETTER

Iowa District, Zone 3, Club Number 40-109 [www.treynoroptimist.org](http://www.treynoroptimist.org)

Iowa District Governor Lyle Magnuson, 319-753-5968

Optimist International President Theodore "Theo" Golding, C 876-909-3613



## Club Officers for 2007-2008

President	Dale Willenborg	366-6815
V. Pres., Pres. Elect	Dick Baber	322-8074
Secretary		
Treasurer	Jeff Jorgensen	487-3355
Past President	Gary Guttau	487-3248

Board Members	
2006-2008	2007-2009
Steve Irvin	John Klein
Gerald Forristall	Bob Hibbard
Denny White	Larry Kramer

February 5, 2008

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### NEXT CLUB MEETING

The next meeting of the Optimist Club of Treynor is planned February 9, 2008, 7:30 a.m. at the Treynor Community Center. CHAD GUTTAU has arranged for Mark Tompkins to speak about the Army 5<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Historical Society. Club members are encouraged to bring a guest and the public is invited

### REPORT OF RECENT CLUB MEETINGS

The Optimist club met January 26 with 20 members present. Vice President DICK BABER opened the meeting by leading the pledge and offering the devotional prayer.

The 50/50 was awarded to BOB HIBBARD. The attendance pot was awarded to GARY FUNKHOUSER.

JEFF JORGENSEN put a dollar in the Youth Fund to remind everyone about the Cub Scout Pack Pine Wood Derby later in the morning. MICK GUTTAU also added a dollar to comment on the successful seminar on agriculture economics sponsored by TS Bank.

JUDY GUTTAU circulated a task sign up sheet for the Spaghetti Dinner on Friday the 1<sup>st</sup>. Set up is planned at 10 a.m.

STEVE IRVIN presented the Optimist International DVD on 'Being an Optimist', and a Power point presentation he developed describing our club activities. Members were very appreciative of IRVIN for the well done video.

At the club meeting on February 2 there were 24 members and 21 guests present. Present DALE WILLENBORG opened the meeting with the pledge and LARRY KRAMER offered the devotional prayer.

The 50/50 was awarded to DEE GUTTAU. The attendance pot was awarded to KEN GRAHAM, but it could not be awarded.

Special thanks to the Silver-Keg Feeders 4-H Club for providing a tasty breakfast.

DICK BABER contributed to the Youth Fund for his birthday and in appreciation for the success of the annual spaghetti dinner. JORGENSEN echoed BABER'S sentiments regarding the dinner and also offered a contribution.

JUDY GUTTAU reported about 200 were served at the spaghetti dinner and our club netted about one thousand dollars. Special thanks to GUTTAU for chairing the activity and to RICHARD VORTHMANN for his continuing efforts in the kitchen for the past 17 years. Thanks also to numerous members who worked setting up and serving and to contributors of pies. Members of the Junior Optimists also helped with serving and cleanup.

Thanks to JEFF JORGENSEN, BOB HIBBARD, and LARRY KRAMER for helping the cub scouts with the Pine Wood Derby last Saturday.

Thanks to a large number of junior students and parents plus GARY FUNKHOUSER, GARY and CHAD GUTTAU, JOHN KLEIN, LARRY KRAMER, and RICHARD VORTHMANN the cans and bottles were sorted in sacked in prompt order in cold temperatures.

KLEIN reported the Treynor Swim Day had to be canceled because of structural problems at the Lewis Central pool.

KRAMER reported that arrangements for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Zone meeting were set at Zion Church on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m. Our club will host this meeting of members of other area Optimist clubs.

Pres. WILLENBORG announced a Board meeting after the next club meeting.

### IOWA AGRICULTURE-IT'S IMPORTANT TO US

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey spoke to a crowd of over forty at the early Saturday meeting of the Optimist Club of Treynor. Northey, a farmer from Dickinson County, spoke about the state of Iowa agriculture. This meeting was

one of many planned during his tenure to visit all counties in Iowa. Northey noted that the Iowa Agriculture Department has about 400 employees and over half work at the Wallace Building in Des Moines. Other employees are located across the state. Iowa is a foremost agricultural state, and Northey noted Iowa is ranked number one in production of eggs, corn, soybeans, hogs, biodiesel, and ethanol. Iowa is about third in wind based energy production and is fourth in the number of farmers markets. Overall Iowa agriculture is in an exciting time with high commodity prices and high demand for products. Northey noted that agricultural exports are near record, demand is increasing, and we are operating in a world market where weather disasters elsewhere in the world affect local market prices.

Northey stated he wants to continue efforts of renewable energy development. The ethanol plants currently in operation produce more than the volume of gasoline used in Iowa. Better and more efficient technology is evolving to increase energy conversion efficiencies. Northey noted the positive secondary impacts of ethanol plants on local livestock production and community development. Northey said the department is always working to protect Iowa's soil resource and water quality through conservation programs. Cost share with farm owners to install conservation practices has increased, but more is needed. Practices to minimize adverse urban effects on water quality are increasing.

Another emphasis of the department, Northey stated, is education about Iowa agriculture to youth and adults. Most of Iowa agriculture production is done on family farms. But these farms have been increasing in size and decreasing in numbers for many years. Each generation there are fewer who experience or witness production of products consumed. But because of the current exciting agricultural climate there is increasing interest in young people to work in agriculture and related businesses. Northey noted the enrollment in university agriculture studies was increasing.

Environmental challenges remain with changes in methods of agricultural production, Northey noted. Treatments developed by university research studies to eliminate livestock emissions from confinement facilities are going to be tested on farms across Iowa to find effective practices before any rules are set.

### CALENDAR

#### February Can Kennel contributions for Junior Optimist Octagon Club.

- Feb. 9 Club meeting, program by Mark Tompkins, 5<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Historical Society.  
Board meeting after club meeting.
- Feb. 11 Zone meeting, Zion Church, 6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 13 Can and bottle sorting.
- Feb. 16 Club meeting, program by US Representative Steve King.
- Feb 23 Club meeting, program by Captain Joel Arthur, Salvation Army.
- Feb. 23 North-South Basketball Challenge, 4-8 p.m.
- Feb. 27 Can and bottle sorting.

#### March Can Kennel contributions for Honor Choir

##### Birthdays

- 2/1 DICK BABER#, 2/5 LARRY KRAMER
- 2/12 RICHARD VORTHMANN,
- 2/13 GARY FUNKHOUSER

##### Anniversaries

- 2/6 JON JACOBSEN, 2/23 RICHARD VORTHMANN
- # recognized to date

P.S. There are two kinds of taxpayers. First, the ones who hope the government does something for them, and the second, the ones who hope the government won't do anything to them.

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