



Club Officers for 2008-2009

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

Board Members

2007-2009	2008-2010
John Klein	Judy Gutttau
Bob Hibbard	John Schmitt
Denny White	

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Report of Recent Club Meeting

President Richard Baber opened the Optimist Club meeting on February and Jeff Jorgensen gave the opening prayer. There were 17 members and 4 guests in attendance. Gerald Forristall won the 50/50 drawing and Judy Gutttau won the attendance drawing, but did not collect.

Keith Denton and Jeff Jorgensen provided jokes for the meeting. Jim Clausen, Ken Graham, and Keith Denton contributed to the Youth Fund. Ken contributed because his son was married last week and his grandson nominated him with a grandfather award and a picture in the newspaper.

The Treynor Optimist Club held a dinner on Friday, February 27 at the Rose at 6:30 p.m. Janet Lloyd, the Iowa District Governor was the speaker. The club recognized John Klein, who recently moved to Carroll, Iowa, for his service to the club. past President Dale Willenborg also recognized Bob Hibbard and Richard Vorthmann for their continuing service to the club. The Iowa District also recognized Dale Willenborg and Larry Kramer with the Club Bulletin Award for last years newsletters.

Iowa Government in Action

Hubert Houser, Iowa State Senator for Senate District 49 and Greg Forristall, Iowa General Assembly representative for House District 98 both spoke at the Optimist Club meeting. They are both on the Economic Growth committees and spoke on issues in the Legislature.

As with most other states, Iowa has less revenue coming in. The Iowa Constitution does not allow for a deficit, like California does, so they must balance the budget.

The Legislature just passed a bill allowing for a 2% growth in school budgets for 2011. For 2010 the allowed growth is 4%.

The federal stimulus package will provide \$1.9 billion to Iowa over two years. The money is divided into 33 categories, with roads receiving one of the larger parts, \$380 million. The stimulus package leaves \$80 million for state discretionary spending. The danger in the stimulus package is in starting

new programs that will have to be funded by the state in two years when the stimulus money runs out, so the Legislature is being cautious on how the money is spent.

Houser and Forristall discussed a possible gas tax increase. The gas tax in Nebraska is about 5 cents higher than in Iowa. Both agreed that the tax probably will not increase this year or next, but probably will in two years.

The State owns 900 acres near the Glenwood Resource Center. There is interest in making it a State reserve. There is some progress in that area.

There is a lot of interest in Iowa, especially in the Western part of the state, to address property tax relief. For businesses, property taxes are much lower in Nebraska than in Iowa. Therefore, businesses will often locate in Nebraska instead of Iowa for the lower tax rate. With State revenues decreasing, this will be a difficult problem to address.

CALENDAR

The March Can Kennel contributions will be for the Jr. Optimist Octagon Club Club. Total collections are \$67,852 through November 2008.

- Mar 11, Wed, TBD p.m. – Can Kennel sorting
- Mar 25, Wed, TBD p.m. – Can Kennel sorting

Birthdays

- Mar 2 - Ward Chambers
- Mar 11 - Kenneth Graham
- Mar 20 - Jon Jacobsen

Anniversaries

- Mar 4 - Gene Seran
- Mar 8 - Keith Denton
- Mar 15 - Dick Baber
- Mar 15 - Jeff Nelson

Speakers

- Mar 7 – Lyle Ditmar, Ditmars Orchard

Programs

- March – Chad Gutttau
- April – Dale Willenborg
- May – Richard Vorthmann

PS: There once was a man who liked to drink and was using all of his family's income at the bars, leaving his wife and kids destitute. So a friend gave him this advice: On Monday morning, go out and buy a fifth of whiskey and give it to your wife. A fifth contains 40 shots. Pay your wife \$1.00 a shot and at the end of the week she will have enough money to buy your next fifth plus \$32.60 left over. If your wife puts this in the bank on compound interest, at the end of 10 years, she will have \$38,4646.50. Because of the excessive amount of liquor you drink, you will be dead in 10 years. Your wife will have enough money to bury you, put the kids through college, and move off the hog farm and marry a decent man that doesn't drink.