



**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**

<b>2007-2009</b>	<b>2008-2010</b>
John Klein	Judy Gutttau
Bob Hibbard	John Schmitt
Denny White	

January 3, 2009

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**Report of Recent Club Meeting**

President Richard Baber opened the Optimist Club meeting on January 3 and Dale Willenborg gave the opening prayer. There were 13 members and one visitor in attendance. Richard Vorthmann won the 50-50 drawing and the attendance drawing.

The club is planning a spaghetti dinner for Friday, January 16 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in conjunction with the Audubon basketball games. Proceeds will be used for scholarships.

Saturday, January 24, the Morning Club in Council Bluffs will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the MidAmerica Center. Everyone is invited. Social hour is 6:00-7:00. The dinner is 7:00-8:00 and costs \$25. Reservations are due January 14. The program begins at 8:00 p.m.

The Optimist Club board meeting will be held next Saturday after the meeting. The club is also planning their annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser on January 16, before the basketball games against Audubon. The dinner will be 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited.

**Farm Service Company**

Sharron Grabett from the Farm Service Company was the featured speaker this week. He grew up in Emerson and works in the Henderson area.

For optimum fertilizer placement, the COOP takes soil samples from three acre grids. Then they can determine the amount of fertilizer to apply to each grid. Soil samples cost about \$8 per acre for these grid samples. In one example, a farmer was able to save \$75,000 in fertilizer costs over 1200 acres.

Asked about nitrates in water, Mr. Grabett said that fall anhydrous application can let more nitrates leach into the water than spring application, depending on the weather. Warm winter weather

allows more leaching. However, there is not enough equipment in the country to allow everyone to apply anhydrous in the spring.

Anhydrous is expensive now and will probably not go down in price. There is too much high priced fertilizer in the supply chain. It also appears that P&K Mines are shutting down to limit the supply.

The COOP is an exclusive dealer of MicroEssentials (ME) SZ fertilizer in Southwest Iowa. Although ME SZ is more expensive than other fertilizers, test results show a 7.8% advantage over MAP on corn and 10.3% advantage over MAP on beans. It is used more in Eastern Iowa where it is shipped to by river. Here it is shipped from Florida on the railroad.

**CALENDAR**

The December and January Can Kennel contributions will be for the Post Prom Committee. Total collections are \$67,140 through October 2008.

**Speakers**

TBD

**Birthdays**

1/19 Dennis White  
 1/24 John Schmitt

**Anniversaries**

12/27 Gary & Dee Gutttau  
 12/31 Bob Hibbard

**Programs**

January - Keith Denton  
 February – Gary Gutttau  
 March – Chad Gutttau  
 April – Dale Willenborg  
 May – Richard Vorthmann

A farmer was driving along the road with a load of fertilizer. A little boy, playing in front of his house, saw him and called, "What've you got in your truck?"

"Fertilizer," the farmer replied.

"What are you going to do with it?" asked the little boy.

"Put it on strawberries," answered the farmer.

"You ought to live here," the little boy advised him. "We put sugar and cream on ours."