



SPY Mission Trip

On October 16 Denise Wilson and students Garrett Buzzell and Morgan Jacobsen shared their experiences during a SPY mission trip to Minnesota to the Red Lake Indian Reservation. A group of 16 youth and 4 adults made the week-long trip.

This was Morgan's second mission trip. She said that their day began with breakfast, then a devotion and reflection time. Much of the day was filled with community service. She helped a group of 15 youth paint a Day Care center one day. They cleaned some family yards one day, helped at a women's shelter, painted a classroom at a college, and rode the bus to take some children home from the Day Care. The reservation owns all the property, so many people don't have much pride in their home.

Garrett was on his first mission trip, but he wants to go on more. He helped at a Kid's Club with children in 4th through 6th grades. He said that their culture is very different from Treynor. Youth join gangs to be protected. They do a lot of cursing, swearing, and fighting. No visitors were allowed to go outside after dark. He also helped paint rooms at the college.

Denise, an adult leader, was on her third mission trip. She worked with the youth to prepare them for the trip and help with fundraising. These trips are open to any youth in the community and help them see different styles of life.

The SPY trips are organized through YouthWorks. YouthWorks (<http://www.youthworks.com/>) organizes mission trips to over 75 different locations each year. The cost of each week-long trip is about \$250 per student. They set up a balanced day, with service projects from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

On this mission trip, most youth worked with Kid's Club for two days and on service projects for two days. Kid's Club includes games, crafts, and Bible study. The youth plan the day for the Kid's Club activities. On Thursday there was a community picnic for the Kid's Club youth and their families.

The Red Lake Reservation in Northern Minnesota is one of only two "closed" reservations in the country. It is "closed" because the Dakota Indian tribal government has full sovereignty over the reservation. The Tribe has the right to limit who can visit or live on the reservation. It has never been subject to State law.

Garrett is a Sophomore and would like to go on more mission trips. Morgan is a Senior, so this was her last High School trip. The Optimist Club presented them a check for \$774 from the can kennel for the next mission trip.

Cardinal Connections

Lori Castle, Laurie Stogdill, and Tami King spoke at the Optimist Club on October 23 about a new program at Treynor Middle School called Cardinal Connections. The hold weekly meetings on Friday during the 8th period.

Cardinal Connections emphasizes a specific theme each month. In October it is Responsibility, in November it will be Respect, and in December the theme is Social Skills. The 6th through 8th graders work in groups of 15-20 students, working together on activities and participating in discussions. They normally meet with youth in their own grade, but about once a month they will have activities with the entire middle school.

Cardinal Connections is organized to engage everyone and make them feel involved

Meeting Minutes

Dennis White opened the meeting on October 16 and gave the opening prayer. Keith Denton provided some jokes. For

bragging rights, Gary Funkhouser recognized the volleyball team, Gerald Forristall recognized the marching band, and Jim Clausen recognized the first Treynor football team from 50 years ago.

Can kennel sorting went well for the High School dance team. Dale Willenborg won the 50/50 drawing and John Jacobsen won the attendance drawing. There were 16 members and 4 guests at the meeting.

The Optimist Club Board met after the club meeting. They approved a dues increase to \$75 to cover increased district dues. The club will pay new member registration fees. They also scheduled several groups for can kennel receipts, including the Treynor Cheerleaders for February 2011, Silver Creek 4-H for April, SPY for May, Mini 4-H for June, and Music Boosters for August 2011.

Dennis White opened the Optimist Club meeting on October 23 and Dale Willenborg gave the opening prayer. Chuck Nielsen and Keith Denton provided jokes.

The club celebrated birthdays for Bill Vorthmann and Marsha Underwood. Dennis White contributed to the Youth Fund to complement the football team. Steve Irvin recognized two youth going to State for Cross Country. Judy Gutttau recognized the Youth Rally.

There were 18 members and 5 guests at the meeting, including Lt Governor Phyllis Sponsler and her husband. Kevin Underwood won the 50/50 drawing and Rocky Saar won the attendance drawing but did not collect.

After the meeting some board members helped Phyllis Sponsler fill out the clubs yearly report.

CALENDAR

Next Can Kennel sorting on Wed, Oct 27, 3:30 p.m. for the Dance Team.

Birthdays

- Oct 17 – Marsha Underwood (recognized)
- Oct 29 – Bill Vorthmann (recognized)
- Nov 8 - Mick Gutttau
- Nov 18 – Dianne Willenborg

Anniversaries

- Oct 6 – Eric & Kelly Allen
- Oct 13 – Dale & Dianne Willenborg (recognized)
- Oct 17 – Dennis & Kay White (recognized)
- Nov 21 – Les & Milli Harvey
- Nov 22 – John & Carol Klein
- Nov 25 – Ward & Suzanne Chambers

Speakers

- Oct 30 — Treynor Jr. Optimists – Report on the activities for the year
- Nov 6 — Stacy Stanton and Joni Vallier, Hospice of Southwest Iowa
- Nov 13 — Keith Norris, Materials Engineer for the Iowa Department of Transportation
- Nov 20 — Pastor Harry Wahler, MOHM's Place in Council Bluffs
- Nov 27 — Arlyn Norris, featuring a video on our recent Pilgrimage to Tanzania

Programs

- Nov – Arlyn Norris
- Dec – Chuck Nielsen/Keith Denton