Iowa School for the Deaf History

Cynthia Angeroth

Cynthia Angeroth, Outreach Coordinator for Iowa School for the Deaf, spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on January 19. She is beginning her 15th year at the school.

The Iowa school for the Deaf started in 1855 in Iowa City. It was initially for ages 12-21 and had 21 students the first year. The superintendent would ride a horse through the country to find deaf students to attend the school. The school mainly did vocational training at that time.

In 1870 the school moved to 80 acres in Council Bluffs. Some of the land owned by the school today is rented for cash rent.

In 2015, Iowa will begin creating regional centers for the deaf, with three initially. Today, larger cities also hire teachers for the deaf.

Today there are 110 students on campus. In the 1970 they had about 400 students. Rubella throughout the country created a lot of deafness.

Some deaf are gifted readers. Many have difficulty reading. Many deaf don't think of themselves as disabled. They think of deafness as their culture.

Teachers used to live on campus. Today many of the students go home every weekend. They also do a lot of field trips during the week.

The Lied multipurpose complex was built in 2002. It is the first new building in 50 years. The garages were built in 1941 as a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project. The barn was built in 1935. The campus was self sustaining for milk. The milk was famous for its high fat content. It closed in the late 1980s.

The Tom L Anderson careers' building was built in 1950. It was remodeled in the early 1990s. Metals and woods are the only vocational classes today.

The infirmary was built in 1936-1938 as a WPA project. It is not used today. The elementary/lower school was built in 1957-1959. The gym was guilt in 1929 and is now a science center. Long Hall, built in 1929, is the High School.

Meeting Minutes

Ken Graham opened the meeting on January 19. Dale Willenborg and Ken Graham provided jokes before the Pledge of Allegiance. Steve Irvin offered the opening prayer.

Dennis White contributed to the Youth Fund for his 71st birthday. Dale Willenborg contributed in recognition of Treynor Vision having an article on the front page of the Nonpareil about having purchased land for their new sports park.

The Club voted to donate $50 to the YMCA for their fundraiser.

Saturday, Feb 9 is the Cub Scout Pinewood Derby. Judges are needed.

Gary Guttau won the 50/50. Jon Jacobsen won the attendance award, but did not collect. There were 15 members and one guest at the meeting.

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Calendar
Jan 30 – Can Kennel Sorting, Jr. Sr. Prom, 3:30 p.m.
Feb 9 – Pinewood Derby

Birthdays
Jan 19 – Dennis White (recognized)
Feb 12 – Richard Vorthmann
Feb 13 – Gary Funkhouser

Anniversaries
Feb 6 – Jon & Debra Jacobsen

Programs
Jan - Bill Matthew (2nd two weeks)
Feb - Bob Mantell (1st two weeks)
Feb - Jon Jacobsen (2nd two weeks)

Mar - Dale Willenborg
Apr - Chad Guttau
May - Gary Funkhouser
Jun - Gary Guttau

Speakers
Jan 26 - Eric Koch U.S. Constitution and his Campaign experiences.

Prayers
Jan 26—Dee Guttau
Feb 2—Mick Guttau
Feb 9—Judy Guttau

A man is talking to the family doctor. "Doc, I think my wife's going deaf." The doctor answers, "Well, here's something you can try on her to test her hearing. Stand some distance away from her and ask her a question. If she doesn't answer, move a little closer and ask again. Keep repeating this until she answers. Then you'll be able to tell just how hard of hearing she really is."

The man goes home and tries it out. He walks in the door and says, "Honey, what's for dinner?" He doesn't hear an answer, so he moves closer to her.

"Honey, what's for dinner?" Still no answer. He repeats this several times, until he's standing just a few feet away from her.

Finally, she answers, "For the eleventh time, I said we're having MEATLOAF!"