The Optimist Club of Treynor, IA lowa District, Zone 3, Club Number 40-109 lowa District Governor: Dave Mason International Pres: Jean Claude "J.C." St-Onge

March 29-April 5, 2014

# **Building Relationships**

Chris Greer was the speaker at the Treynor Optimist Club meeting on March 29. Chris grew up on a farm near Grettinger, Iowa. Chris soon learned that farm chores took precedence to sports. After high School graduation he attended and played basketball for Iowa Western Community College while also working at Hy Vee. He completed his education at Bellevue University.

Chris became a juvenile probation officer for the state of Iowa. For his first 131/2 years he was working throughout the entire state. The last few years he has been able to work in the local area. He decided if juvenile cases need to be heard by a judge. He stated that the whole picture of the person needs to be considered to warrant the degree of punishment after a crime has been committed. He mentors and works closely with his probation youth, trying to instill in them the importance of good decision making and life skills. His other passion is basketball and football officiating. He and friends started officiating at the YMCA. He soon found that this was not just a job, but an opportunity to mentor youth. He now officiates basketball at the college level and referees in the GPAC conference. The last three years he has refereed the NAIA Division 2 tournaments. He has referred up to and including the semi-final round. Chris commented that his probation officer job is similar to his officiating because it's all about building relationships.

## **Mission trip to Ukraine**

Jonathon Miller was the speaker at the Treynor Optimist Club meeting on April 5. He recently returned home after a mission trip to the Ukraine. His involvement with Campus Crusaders gave him this opportunity to go to Ukraine and teach English.

Jonathon gave a PowerPoint presentation and showed pictures of the many landmarks and people he worked with. He was in the city of Kiev, then in Donetsk.

When Jonathon was in Donetsk, it was shortly after the riots there. The economy of Ukraine is poor and this is a lot of Government corruption. He noted that the protests a first were winding down, then the pro-Russian President sent in police to disperse the

## Calendar

Apr 22, Sunday – Youth Appreciation 3:00 p.m. Apr 23 – 30 years for Treynor Optimist Club.

Birthdays

- Apr 6 Kevin Abbott
- Apr 20 Steve Chambers
- Apr 25 Rocky Saar
- Apr 28 Gene Seran

Anniversaries

Apr 7 – Jim & Diane Clausen

# NEWSLETTER www.treynoroptimist.org

Treynor Optimist Club President: Bill Vorthmann



Vol. 30 No. 13

remaining protestors. This caused the protest movement to escalate into a riot.

The main religion is Eastern Orthodox and most of the population considers themselves Christians, even though they never attend church.

One of the slides showed Jonathon and others enjoying a meal and fellowship at a McDonalds restaurant. His trip offered him the opportunity to both teach English to college students and to spread the Gospel to those who wanted to learn more about Christ.

# **Meeting Minutes**

Bill Vorthmann called the meeting to order on March 29 and led the Pledge of Allegiance after a few jokes. Judy Guttau voiced the opening prayer.

Richard Vorthmann and Judy Guttau both donated \$1 to the Youth Fund for bragging rights. Pres Vorthmann announced that because of the wind, the can kennel sorting for last Wednesday was postponed for a week. He has also been in contact with Boyd Blasi about having the 30<sup>th</sup> club anniversary party when the restaurant opens.

There will be a Zone meeting on April 19 in Griswold prior to the oratory contest.

The 50/50 and attendance drawings completed the club business.

Bill Vorthmann called the meeting to order on April 5 and led the Pledge of Allegiance after a few jokes. Gary Funkhouser voiced the opening prayer.

Business included a report on the Wednesday can kennel. Gary Funkhouser, Gary Guttau, Ken Graham, Dee Guttau, Chad Guttau, and Bill Vorthmann helped sort cans, along with the JOOI members. Sorting resulted in 16 bags of cans and 13 bags of plastic. St. Paul Youth will have the can kennel in April.

Gary Funkhouser reported that the local oratory contest would take place Friday at 2:00 p.m. in the ICN room at the school. A committee of volunteers agreed to look at the scholarship applications and meet on April 28 to pick the 17 winners. Each winner will receive \$300. All the money received from the flag project goes toward scholarships.

The 50/50 and attendance drawings completed the club business.

## Speakers

## Prayers

Apr 12 — Ken Graham Apr 19 —Gary Guttau Apr 26 — Dale Willenborg

Writeups for both weeks from Bill Vorthmann

Dale Willenborg, Editor, 14186 230<sup>th</sup> Street, Council Bluffs, IA 51503 712-366-6815 dalewill1@juno.com **CLUB BULLETIN COPYING COURTESY OF TS BANK of TREYNOR** 

As two basketball referees walked through the countryside, they noticed some tracks. First said, 'Deer tracks?' Second said 'No, bear tracks.' However, the conversation ended abruptly when a train hit them.