



June 30, 2018

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Treynor School Teachers Speak about STEM

Erin Mrsny and Becky Thompson, Treynor School Teachers, spoke to the Treynor Optimists on June 30 about the STEM program. Mrsny (spelled correctly) is a fifth grade teacher and Becky Thompson is a Talented and Gifted teacher.



Erin Mrsny and Becky Thompson

STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. Mrsny and Thompson expressed their passion for the program and helping kids to think deeply and well. STEM helps kids to think out of the box. STEM teaches students to become innovators, leaders, educators, and researchers solving the most pressing challenges facing our nation and world.

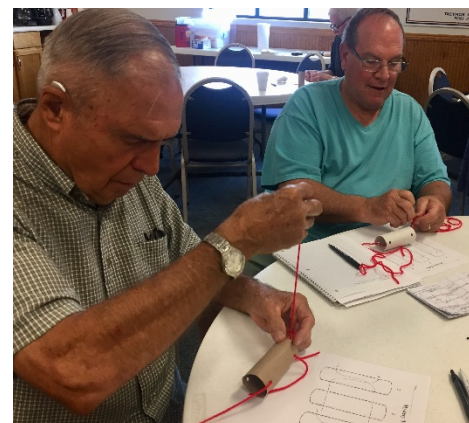
The presentation began with the Optimists observing a mystery tube, drawing what they thought the solution was individually, and then creating the same thing with materials provided by Mrsny and Thompson using a toilet paper tube as the base.

Mrsny stated some of the STEM groups in elementary include: STEM Builders, STEM Group, Makerspace, and Genius Hour. Some activities described were creating an in-class

winter Olympics sport, having a cardboard challenge, making a piece of trash useful again, and having each child pick and research a project. One student chose the project of fixing traffic problems in India and built a 3D model of the problem and the fix.

Thompson described some activities also done in the middle school. Students made scarves and donated to the Lydia House. Another group created cookbooks, sold them, and donated the money to charity.

Future ideas being considered to enhance the STEM program may involve evenings for parents to join kids in their projects, family challenges such as an egg drop, involve high school students or community members as mentors, a specific room or area designed for STEM, and more use of robotics.



Meeting Minutes

Keith Denton called the meeting to order. Fourteen members were present plus 2 guests, our speakers, Erin Mrsny and Becky Thompson. After the pledge of allegiance, Dee Gutttau said the prayer.

Lou Howell, Gary Gutttau, Chad Gutttau, and Keith Denton shared jokes.

Dennis White won the attendance drawing. Gary Funkhouser won the 50/50 raffle.

Mick and Judy Gutttau observed their 50th Wedding Anniversary. Mick paid \$2 for no singing and Judy paid \$1 for singing so the group sang to Judy!

Lou Howell contributed because it was her one year anniversary of being interim superintendent in Treynor.

Under old business, helpers with can kennel were Gary Gutttau, Gary Funkhouser, Keith Denton, Bill Vorthmann, and Dale Willenborg. Eight football players helped. Helpers with Bingo during Treynor Days were Bill Vorthmann, Lou Howell, Gary Gutttau, Keith Denton, and Gary Funkhouser. Gary stated there was a large group playing. Gary Funkhouser also was present for the Hydrant Party and 30-40 kids enjoyed the activity.

Under new business, the flags will be taken down July 5 starting at 10 AM. John Klein asked the group to think about the idea of asking for sponsors for the additional flags that were put up on Hwy 92 by the school and cemetery. This will be discussed further in the future.

The Treasurer also entertained discussion of what to invest \$5000 in from the Treasury. Next week, the group will also discuss more about possibly purchasing a coffeemaker for the Legion Room.

Keith Denton brought auction items and Dee Gutttau purchased raspberries for \$5 and Judy Gutttau purchased zucchini for \$1.

Famous Patriotic Quotes

“Better to fight for something than live for nothing.” George Patton

“The strength of the constitution lies in the will of the people to defend it.” Thomas Edison

“Liberty is always dangerous, but it is the safest thing we have.” Harry Emerson Fosdick

STEM Quote

“The future belongs to the curious. The ones who are not afraid to try it, explore it, poke at it, question it, and turn it inside out.”

Calendar

July 5 Flag Take Down – Meet at 10 AM
July 11 Can Kennel Sorting (Football Team)

Birthdays

July 14 Gary Gutttau
July 23 Jerry Hempel
July 27 Jim Clausen

Anniversaries

July 14 Jeff and Mary Beth Jorgensen
July 25 Chuck and Kathy Nielsen

Programs

July Ann Vorthmann (first 2 weeks)
 Chuck Nielsen (last 2 weeks)
August Judy Gutttau

Speakers

July 7 Travis Castle, President Vision Treynor,
 Update on organization and plans to begin
 construction
July 14 Julie Buckelew, Chest Pain Coordinator,
 Methodist Jennie Edmundson, Care of Cardiac
 Patient

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Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 51575