



Aug 17, 2019

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Tom “Blade” Hartigan Speaks to the Optimists

Tom “Blade” Hartigan, spoke to the Treynor Optimist Club on August 17, 2019. Blade is well known for his officiating skills and as the husband of Gail Hartigan and father of three grown children, Blair, Lee. And Kyle. Tom met his wife when he was a ref. The family joke is “She married me so I would not ref her games!”



Blade took an officiating class in college and part of that class was officiating intermural games. He has retired after 39 years of service. He stated that he has made many great friendships over the years.

Blade stated that officiating

basketball used to be a two-man job until approximately 2005 when a third man was added. Each ref has his area to watch.

Blade talked about many different games. He thinks the game has gotten much faster over the years and the floor is ten feet longer.

The first year Treynor girls played 5 on 5, they won the state championship. Blade’s personal belief is that girls 6 on 6 was better for the girls because it made them better shooters.

The Iowa Girls Athletic Union called Blade about wanting new refs evaluated. He reports to the state and the state reviews the information with the ref. They do encourage him to talk to the new refs while at games he is evaluating. The biggest problem is when you are not watching your assigned area, you miss things. When he refereed games, the pre-game meeting, Blade stated, is very important. The ref that makes the call is not the ref that talks to the coach.

One topic of discussion was how refs get picked for state tournament officiating. The state is divided into four sections by I-80 and I-29. Each section gets 16 refs. SW Iowa includes Des Moines.

Blade rated and ranked the twenty officials he watched. Local refs do ref a school only two times a season. He stated that women are getting into officiating.

Blade shared many stories and also did a true-false game with those attending to see how the group did with the rules!

Above all, Blade said it important for the players and the fans to have good sportsmanship. And it is important also to give the refs a little grace. Thanks, Blade!

Next week Dan Nielsen will speak to the Optimists. He has a new business dealing with pest control.

Meeting Minutes

Dale Willenborg, President, called the meeting to order. Thirteen members were present. Tom Hartigan was present as our guest speaker.

Jokes/stories were shared by Chad Gutttau, Gary Gutttau, Gary Funkhouser, Dale Willenborg, and Dennis White. The group said the Pledge of Allegiance. Jordan Campbell gave the opening prayer.

The 50/50 Drawing was won by Jim Clausen and the Attendance Drawing was won by John Klein, who was not present.

There were no birthdays or anniversaries observed.

Bragging Rights contributions to the Youth Fund included: 1) Keith Denton contributed because Kendall Vorthmann and family received a State Conservation Award at the State Fair and 2) because he hit a baby bird in the driveway... but it lived! 3) Bill Vorthmann donated because of Dale’s shirt “Awesome Grandpa”. 4) Dee Gutttau contributed because Gary got the bat out of their living room – caught him in his gloved hand and set him free. 5) Jerry Hempel contributed because he survived two weddings, graduation and surgery on his knee for a tendon repair!

Community News: John Klein announced the Neighborhood Assist grant is a program to vote on line up to 10 times/day to receive \$25,000. He suggested voting for Open Door Mission.

Old Business: Meet at 4 PM Wed., Aug. 21 to help with the Optimist Can Kennel. Also please donate cans. Optimists will use the funds to help support youth activities.

New Business:



L-R: Jordan Campbell, Dale Willenborg

Jordan Campbell received a check from the can kennel for \$964.10 which is being used for the Zion Day Care Impact. Some money may be used for a bench out by the bus stop.

There will be a board meeting Sept. 7 after the meeting.

Dee, Gary, and Chad Gutttau provided four bags of a dozen apples which were auctioned for \$2 each and purchased by Kevin Underwood, Jim Clausen, Keith Denton, and Jordan Campbell.

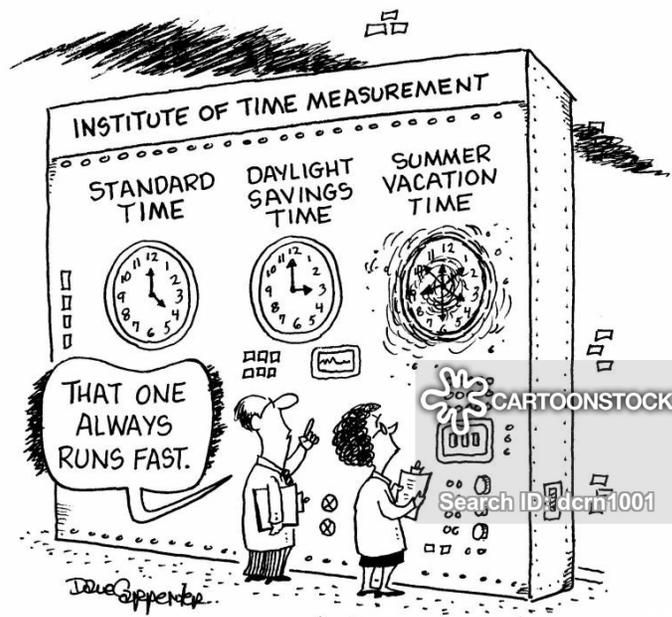
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned and concluded with the saying of the Optimist pledge.

Thanks to Dee Gutttau for taking notes.

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

HUMOR



Calendar

Aug. 21 Can Kennel Sorting @ 4:00 PM
Sept. 9 Joint Zone 2&3 Meeting – 6:30 PM
Hoy-Kilnoski in CB

Birthdays

Aug. 23 Judy Gutttau

Anniversaries

Aug. 25 Gary and Julia Funkhouser

Programs

August Jordan Campbell
Sept Gary Gutttau (first two)
Jerry Hempel (last two)
Oct Bill and Ann Vorthmann

Speakers

Aug. 24: Dan Nielsen (Pest Control)
Aug. 31: To Be Announced