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### Kevin Pingel Shares His Hobby

Kevin Pingel, Treynor, spoke about his woodworking hobby to the Treynor Optimist Club on October 5, 2019. He met Ann Dea last fall and they married June 1 and he moved to Treynor.



Kevin was born and raised on a farm in NW Iowa near Peterson. He started farming with a purebred Angus heifer in 4-H which continued to multiply. When he was a junior in High School, he and his dad lost all of their cattle in a barn fire.

He went to college on a baseball scholarship at Buena Vista, lived at home so he could farm and then married after college. He farmed 200 acres raising sheep, hogs, and cattle until he was 30.

Pingel took one year of industrial arts as a freshman in high school and after college started his hobby of woodworking which eventually became a business – Pingel's Quality Woodworking. He said his gift had to be in his genes as his two grandfathers had done woodworking. One grandfather died one year before he was born and said his jig saw would go to the first grandson. There was a string of 13 girls, then Kevin and two mos. later another boy was born! He inherited the jig saw.

When Kevin was 29, he moved to Audubon, farrowed sows and raised his three kids. He played fast pitch softball and for 51 years has pursued ball and has had 430 life time home runs. He played seven years on a national team sponsored by a Sioux City business.

He also was a welder for 18 years. He retired five years ago to Alta, Iowa and built a new home.

His business has now become a hobby and he works on it early or late in the day. His first main project was a hutch made out of walnut which he was asked to make. He shared pictures of various hutches, a dulcimer, even a beautiful urn for the ashes of a 6 year old girl, fashioned after her favorite toy, a castle,

a cross for a church, trophy cases for Tri-Center and Audubon schools, curio cabinets, 130 high school kids medals display boxes, beds and sleigh beds, and hundreds of benches he has made.

He's made cradles which he says he can make in 2-3 days if he can work steady. Now he is enjoying making bottle stoppers out of Zebra wood from Africa and olive wood from Jerusalem which he can make in 20 minutes with a turning lathe. The stoppers are sold in 15 retail stores.

Kevin is the father of Kami Houser, who lives near Treynor, and he has made most of her furniture, including beds, a sleigh child's bed, end tables, etc. for their house. What a lucky daughter! Welcome to Treynor, Kevin!

Next week Ann Vorthmann (not the wife of Bill or Roger) will speak to the Optimists about her trip to China. Join us from 8-9 AM at the Treynor Community Building. The coffee will be on!

### Meeting Minutes

Bill Vorthmann, our new President, called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Building. Fourteen members were present. Kevin and Ann Pingel were our guests.

Jokes/stories were shared by Chad Gutttau, Kirk Vorthmann and Bill Vorthmann. The group said the Pledge of Allegiance. Dee Gutttau gave the opening prayer.

The 50/50 Drawing was won by Bill Vorthmann and the Attendance Drawing was won by Dennis White, who was not present two weeks in a row, so the fund continues to grow.

John Klein won the college Football Contest.

**Bragging Rights** contributions to the Youth Fund included: 1) Kevin Underwood donated because Carter White started in the St. Albert game and they won. 2) Kevin Underwood, Kirk Vorthmann, Marsha Underwood, Gary Funkhouser and Judy Gutttau all contributed for the Treynor football win over Underwood. 3) Dee Gutttau, Kirk Vorthmann, and

Judy Gutttau donated because of the great half-time performance of the Treynor band.

### Community News:

It was announced that because of the rain the band was not traveling to Clarinda today, but instead were performing in the Treynor gym at 9 AM.

### Old Business:

The 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner of our club will be held at Silos October 21 at 6 PM. Spouses and members are invited. Bill suggested that he would like charter members who are current members to share memories. A trivia game was suggested as well. Dale and Bill were going to meet after the meeting to discuss the menu.

### New Business:

Can kennel workers for the cheerleaders included Chad Gutttau, Gary Gutttau, Gary Funkhouser, and John Klein.

It was announced that Matt Saar will become a new member.

Bill Vorthmann stated the district Optimist meeting will be October 26 in Des Moines.

John Klein suggested an idea of working with Russ Maguire to perhaps recognize the fire department and encourage younger citizens to become fire department members. Dee Gutttau stated that The Palace Event Center will be hosting a Heroes Event on Nov. 7 to honor the military, first responders, and others. More information is needed.

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

## HUMOR



### Calendar

Oct. 16	Can Kennel Sorting – 2:00 PM
Oct. 21	35 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner for Treynor Optimists, 6 PM, Silos
Oct. 26	Optimist District Meeting – Des Moines
Nov. 7	Heroes Event – Palace Event Center
Dec. 1	Deadline for Can Kennel Applications

### Birthdays

Oct. 17	Marsha Underwood
Oct. 29	Bill Vorthmann

### Anniversaries

Oct. 13	Dale and Diane Willenborg
Oct. 17	Dennis and Kay White

### Programs

Oct	Bill and Ann Vorthmann
Nov	Josh Gutttau (first two) Last three are open yet

### Speakers

Oct. 12	Trip to China talk- Ann Vorthmann
Oct. 19	Kara Huisman – Softball season
Oct. 26	To be announced

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