



Oct. 19, 2019

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Kara Huisman Speaks about Softball

Kara Huisman, Treynor Softball Coach, spoke to the Treynor Optimist Club on October 19, 2019. She was accompanied by her husband, Justin, who serves as the Assistant Treynor Softball Coach. They live in Treynor and have three children, Sydni, Jady and James.

Huisman stated they feel blessed to coach the great kids here and every day is fun. She feels the culture in Treynor is due to great parents.



Challenges with coaching softball are unique because there are three cross-over sports – softball, track, and soccer. There were only four days when she was able to have all of the players at one time. Rain was a major issue this season. They played games four days a week through June and then headed into conference

tournament and regional play in early July. Having a senior daughter and a team loaded with talent, it was a big relief to Huisman to win the regional final and the next two weeks became great fun. They “were smoked” in their first game at state, but beat Mt. Vernon in an extremely exciting game at Ft. Dodge.

This year Treynor had a softball sharing contract with Heartland Christian School which in turn put them into the 3A category. Bella Dingus was the only student from HCS to join them. They traveled to some far away schools and one of the favorite memories of the summer by the coach and players was the tournament played at Storm Lake, even though three games were played on the hottest day of the season.

Huisman shared her feelings about coaching her own child. Sydni Huisman received many awards and will be inducted next year into the Hall of Fame with 100 pitching wins. This summer she coached the All Star game with her daughter playing which was one of the highlights of summer. Huisman shared the annual booklet she prepares of memories after the season and stated the many, many awards players received.

There are two juniors who will return as seniors in '20. There were 28 freshmen girls out this past summer so they were able to have some freshman games as well as JV and Varsity games.

Interesting statements by Kara: “It takes 1000 swings to fix a bad habit in batting.” “The next five years will look different, but different is not always bad.” She is excited as it is like switching the guard. “When the culture is that you expect to win, you handle competition differently.”

Kara, a Glenwood native, graduated in '94 from Central College where she pitched and was named All American. She coached at a young age at Lewis Central and Plattsmouth, NE, went back to Central where she met Justin who was coaching basketball. Together they coached at Lynnville/Sully. She has given private pitching lessons since she was 19. It works well for the Huismans to work together as she needs an assistant 1) to maintain the fields which takes many hours, and 2) to tell her when she is wrong, to question, and push. Kara said Justin does that and is great with kids.

Next week Marlyns Lein will speak to the Optimists about the Council Bluffs Library. Join us from 8-9 AM at the Treynor Community Building. The coffee will be on!

Meeting Minutes

Bill Vorthmann, President, called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Building. Seventeen members were present. Justin and Kara Huisman were guests.

Jokes/stories were shared by Chad Guttai, Jordan Campbell, Keith Denton, and Bill Vorthmann. The group said the Pledge of Allegiance. Bill Vorthmann gave the opening prayer.

The 50/50 Drawing was won by Jordan Campbell and the Attendance Drawing had grown quite a bit and was won by Kevin Underwood.

Birthdays/Anniversaries:

There were no birthdays or anniversaries of members observed.

Bragging Rights contributions to the Youth Fund included: 1) Ken Graham shared a good story about his brother-in-law's birthday, 2) Kevin Underwood saluted Gary Funkhouser, who he saw painting his garage, 3) Judy Guttau announced that the band was performing at contest at Glenwood today at 11:15 am and then was invited for the first time to the Mid-Iowa Band Championships at Ankeny to perform at 5:45 PM. 4) Chad Guttau announced that Trunk or Treat was taking place on Sun., Oct. 20 at Living Hope Community Church, 5) Bill Vorthmann applauded Clausen's Trucking for working hard to get soybeans to market, and 6) for Keith Denton driving himself today. 7) John Klein, Keith Denton, and Judy Guttau saluted Gary, Dee, and Chad Guttau for all the gourds and pumpkins they grow and give away to groups such as the Master Gardeners. 8) Jeff Jorgensen stated that his wife Mary Beth was invited to attend a Christian Broadcasting event in Birmingham, AL because of her knowledge of underwriting. Next month she will travel to the Holy Lands. 9) Jeff Jorgensen also stated that a veteran from Omaha delivered to the local American Legion a manual for the helicopter in Treynor, which he had worked on as a mechanic in VietNam.

Community News:

Bill Vorthmann announced there will be a Trunk or Treat event in Treynor next weekend, Sunday, Oct. 27 from 1-3 PM near the Community Center. Bill volunteered his wife and him to arrange for this. A motion was made by Judy Guttau, seconded by Dennis White to have the club pay for the treats. All voted aye.

Old Business:

The 35th Anniversary Dinner of our club will be held at Silos October 21 at 6 PM.

New Business:

Gary Guttau announced that \$866 was collected for the Optimist Club for the can kennel.

Can kennel helpers this week were John Klein, Ken Graham, Chad Guttau, Gary Guttau, and Gary Funkhouser.

Those helping with flags this week were Bill Vorthmann, Jim Clausen, Dee Guttau, John Klein, Chad Guttau, and Gary Guttau.

The Pott Co. Shopping with a Sheriff program was announced and it was determined to pass the hat on Mon. night at the 35th Celebration.

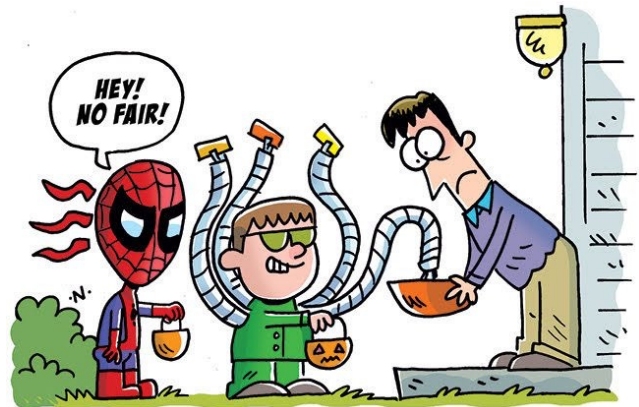
It was indicated that Jim Clausen found a reasonable place to order Optimist coffee cups to present to speakers. This will be considered at a later date.

Dee Guttau presented two green apple gourds for the auction. Bill Vorthmann and Keith Denton each bought one for \$3.

John Klein won the football contest.

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

Trick or Treat HUMOR



Calendar

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

Birthdays

- Oct. 29 Bill Vorthmann

Anniversaries

Programs

- Oct Bill and Ann Vorthmann
- Nov Josh Guttau (first two)
- Gary Funkhouser (third week)
- Judy Guttau (working on last two)

Speakers

- Oct. 26 Marlys Lein, CB Library
- Nov. 2 TBA
- Nov. 9 TBA
- Nov. 16 Duncan Clark, Card Tricks
- Nov. 23 TBA
- Nov. 30 TBA

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

