



June 6, 2020

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### Tom Becka, Fox 42 TV News Commentator

Tom Becka started his job 27-28 years ago and is still enjoying it. He came to speak two weeks before scheduled, so the club had him speak.



A week ago Tom drove around Dodge St. in Omaha to look at the damage. He likes to think of America as a land of diversity, like a chili. A lot of great ingredients come together to make a beautiful thing.

Speaking of D-Day, Tom said he was to Normandy 10-12 years ago. It was a very emotional place to be and everyone should visit it if possible.

Tom said that we don't talk about issues anymore, just talking points. We need to come together with the best ideas.

Tom was in Omaha and got hit with pepper balls. The police shot them at the walls and ground and some people got hit. He was trying to stay away from the trouble spots. He said, "People have a right to be heard and a right to participate." We've always tried to be better. His ancestors were from Czechoslovakia. "We have to remember what America is. We are a lot more alike than we want to admit. He said, "When you see something, you need to speak out."

When asked how to overcome some of these problems causing riots and looting, Tom said we can overcome them through education and travel. You can learn a lot about different people by just traveling around the country. "We need to speak out more often and to help each other."

When asked about kneeling for the pledge of Allegiance or burning the flag, Tom said his opinion is that the flag represents the freedom to do what you want.

In conclusion, Tom said "Try to be a little bit better, a little bit nicer. Smile, say Hello. Do the little things. Look for the positive."

By way of promotion, Tom Becka said that they are going to try something new on his Fox 42 show Monday at 7:00 a.m. Tune in to watch.

### Meeting Minutes

Bill Vorthmann, President, called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Building. Eleven members and one guest were present: Tom Becka.

Kirk Vorthmann, Gary Gutttau, Chad Gutttau, and Bill Vorthmann provided jokes and stories.

The group said the Pledge of Allegiance. Dee Gutttau gave the opening prayer.

Bill Vorthmann won the 50/50 drawing. Josh Gutttau won the attendance drawing, but was not present to collect.

The club recognized D-Day, 6 June 1944. Codenamed Operation Overlord, the battle began on June 6, 1944 when some 156,000 American, British, and Canadian forces landed on five beaches along a 50-mile stretch of the heavily fortified coast of France's Normandy region.

### Bragging Rights: (\$ to fund youth activities)

- 1) Gary Gutttau contributed to recognize the large number of cans contributed to the can kennel. St. Paul Youth is sorting them every week.
- 2) Jim Clausen contributed to recognize the chance to meet together again today.

### Optimist Scholarship Winners:

Clarissa Weitzel, Cainan Davidson  
Tyler Pollock, Luke Mieska  
Tori Castle, Kennedy Elwood  
Mitchell Lutz, William Halverson  
Jacob Lang

### JOI Club Scholarship Winners:

Clarissa Weitzel  
Tyler Pollock

## Old Business:

Gary Gutttau asked what to do with outstanding checks to scholarship winners from last year and to youth groups. It was decided to just send the checks to people. The following checks will be sent.

- 1) Faith Juelsgaard, scholarship, \$500.
- 2) Girl Scout Troup 408, \$608.60, can kennel
- 3) Boy Scout Troup 729, \$736.60, can kennel
- 4) Cub Scout Troup 729, \$730.30, can kennel
- 5) TCS Dance Team, \$329.95, can kennel

The St. Paul Youth provided a lot of help putting up flags on May 23 and taking them down on May 27. A big thanks for their help.

## Community News:

There will be a Treynor Drive-In Concert featuring the Polka Police at the Treynor Community Center parking lot on Sunday, June 28 4:00-5:00 p.m. The concert is free, but donation of food pantry items is suggested. Our speaker gave the Polka Police a rousing recommendation.

High School graduation will be June 21 at the football field.

Treynor Days has been postponed until Homecoming, September 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

It was reported that Ken Hummel of Council Bluffs has died. Ken helped start our Optimist Club of Treynor. He was an active member of the CB Optimist Club and served as Optimist Governor in 2000-2001.

**New Business:** We will put up flags on June 13 after the Optimist Meeting (9:00 a.m.) for Flag Day. The Boy Scouts are scheduled to help.

Dale Willenborg will serve as President of our Club next year. A Vice President will be asked.

## New Member:

Larry Olsen joined the club as a new member. Jim Clausen was his sponsor. Larry was one of the original members of the Treynor Optimist Club. Welcome, Larry!

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



## Calendar

- June 13 Flags put up for Flag Day, 9:00 a.m.
- June 15 Flags taken down, 4:00 p.m. weather permitting
- June 28 Treynor Drive-in Concert at Community Center parking lot, 4-5 PM
- Sept 11,12 Treynor Days and Homecoming

## Birthdays

- June 16 Dale Willenborg
- June 20 Jeff Jorgensen

## Anniversaries

- June 5 Steve and Debra Irvin
- June 15 Steve and Jeannie Chambers
- June 28 Mick and Judy Gutttau
- June 29 Dave and Linda Danker

## Programs

- June - John Klein
- July - Kirk Vorthmann
- August - Dale Willenborg
- September - Jordan Campbell
- October - Bill Vorthmann
- November - Jerry Hempel
- December 6, 13 -Ken Graham
- December 19, 26- Chad Gutttau

## Speakers

- June 13:** Treynor School Superintendent, Mark Hopkins will speak about the issues of the new school year
- June 20:** Short business meeting then tour of the new **Valkyrie Arms** engraving business in Treynor. Cory Damgaard is the owner.
- June 27:** New Treynor City Manager, Mike Holton will speak on the issues and opportunities facing Treynor, Iowa.

Dale Willenborg, contributor; Dee Gutttau provided picture  
Judy Gutttau, [judy.gutttau@tsbg.com](mailto:judy.gutttau@tsbg.com), 402-670-4330

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