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Jeff Casey Speaks



Jeff Casey, Treynor Grad, Treynor HS Football Coach, St. Louis Banker (who works from home), husband and father of four, and self-proclaimed “Godfather” of the Stephens Ridge, spoke at Optimists Club today.

2021 was a rebuilding year for the football program because of a strong 2020 class and all but two starters were replaced, Sid Schaff and Blake Sadr. Sid tore his ACL last season but had an extremely fast 5 month comeback. Blake was hurt in the second game and was out for a month.

The Treynor schedule was one of the most difficult in the state, but the team won the games they were expected to win. There was no in-person summer program to get ready plus this year’s team was new.

65 boys were out for football. Eleven are graduating, but a large 8th grade group will be joining the program. The current 6th grade class was champions in their Pott Co. school league. By 2023 Casey hopes to have 85 high school football players. During this current off season, there are 20 boys not involved in sports so extra workouts and speed training sessions are in place to keep them in shape.

The average cost of outfitting a player is \$1000. Because of Jeff’s experience with concussions, helmets are an integral part of this expense. (\$450 ea.) Knee pads are now a requirement of the state. It’s very important to Casey that he trust kids with coaches and it was especially important this year as the team was divided into groups.

Because of COVID-19, all group meetings were outside. The coaches were constantly sanitizing everything plus players had an assigned location on the field for practice and give assigned groups of 6-7. Hands were sanitized before and every session, At the end of the year, masks were required in practice and adding a mouthpiece presented a challenge, but it worked!

Post season awards went to Thomas Schwartz, Jr- kicker of the year for conference. 1st team all-conference - Noah James, Trevor Casey. All Dist. Caden Miller, Jaxson Schumacher. 2nd team all-conference – Blake Sadr (played only half season), Corey Coleman, Caleb Iliff. Academic all conference– 18 kids, 3.6 GPA – average.

Blake Sadr has received offers from three division two schools and has just received a call from ND State.

In spite of it everything this season, Casey said he was thankful they were allowed to play. He worried about what the mental state of some kids would have been if this hadn’t been allowed.

Meeting Minutes

Dale Willenborg, club president, called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Building. Present were thirteen members (including 2 virtually) plus Jeff Casey (speaker).

Dale led the Pledge of Allegiance and Dee Guttaw gave the opening prayer.

Kelsey Stupfell was present on Zoom to invite the Optimists and others to participate in Giving Tuesday, Dec. 1, which TS Bank is a sponsor for local giving. Optimists were invited to participate in stuffing the Kasasa car in the bank parking lot in Treynor on that day with diapers and gloves to be given to New Visions in CB for the homeless. Items can also be dropped off at TS Bank at HyVee or at the Boys & Girls Club. Collins Consulting and Castle Associates are

participating as well. Giving Tuesday is a national day for doing good, and is an opportunity to do something kind for a neighbor or others. TS Community Foundation is accepting donations that day to the SW Iowa Impact Fund which grants for needs for youth and economic development in SWI. All contributions will be matched 20% on Dec. 1.

Willenborg announced that at the Optimist Dinner at Silos, social distancing was discussed as a result of the Iowa situation. He indicated the consensus was to ask members to wear masks when coming in and walking around at meetings, but can take them off at their table.

Chad Gutttau, Gary Funkhouser, and Keith Denton provided humor.

Dale Willenborg won the 50/50 drawing and Diane Willenborg won the attendance drawing but was not present.

Birthday: None

Anniversary: None

Can Kennel: Gary Gutttau announced that Silver Keg Feeders raised \$815 for one sorting. Boy Scout sorting will be this Tuesday after school.

Other business:

Passing the hat last week for "Shop with a Sheriff" raised \$270+.

Gary Gutttau announced that all dues have been paid. Larry Olsen dropped his membership. We now have 31 members.

Gary Funkhouser announced that new member Shelly Bailey will take over the leadership of the JOI Club. Thank you, Shelly.

Thanks to those who contributed cookies to help the JOI club with their project. There are 60 members and 800 cookies were donated.

Bragging Rights: (\$ to fund youth activities)

Gary Gutttau delivered left over pumpkins and gourds to the zoo kitchen. Bill Vorthmann and

Keith Denton contributed because of all that Gary Funkhouser has done with the JOI Club. Ken Graham announced that in studying his genealogy he found records of his ancestors as being on the Mayflower and has joined the Mayflower Society!

Chad Gutttau donated a pumpkin for the auction which Jim Clausen bought for \$3.

There will be no program or business meeting next week; however, the group will meet to enjoy visiting about any topics the group wants to discuss.

HUMOR

"Many people can carry a tune, but some can't unload it!"

Calendar

Nov 24– Can Kennel Sorting after school.

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Nov 22 – John & Carol Klein

Programs

December 6, 13 - Ken Graham

December 19, 26 - Chad Gutttau

2021

January - Keith Denton

February - Gary Funkhouser

March - Chad Gutttau

April – Phil Waggoner/Matt Saar

May – Steve Irwin/

June -

July - Kirk Vorthmann / Doug Dillivan

August - Bill Vorthmann

September -

October - John Klein

November - Jerry Hempel

December – Linda Danker/Mick Gutttau

Speakers

Nov 21- Jeff Casey

Nov 28- Meeting, but no Speaker

Dec 5 - Travis Graham, Treynor HS Speech Improv

Coach

Dec 12 –

Dec 19 - Jeanette Pavkov, Perfectly Crafted

Dec 26 –

Dale Willenborg and Dee Gutttau contributors

Judy Gutttau, judy.gutttau@tsbg.com, 402-670-4330

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