



The Optimist Club of Treynor, IA

Iowa District, Zone 3, Club Number 40-109

Iowa District Governor: Sharon Nakato

Lt Governor: Don Dilts

**NEWSLETTER**

[www.treynoroptimist.org](http://www.treynoroptimist.org)

Treynor Optimist Club President:

**Dale Willenborg**



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### **Jeff Danker, Speaker**

Jeff Danker, newly retired Pottawattamie County Sheriff, spoke to the Treynor Optimists Saturday morning. Jeff served 43 years working in various capacities- in the jail, court bailiff, road patrol duty, federal task force, investigations, and then as sheriff since 1992.



Jeff stated when he started they had a 43-bed jail that was at full capacity within a few years. The new jail, which is now 20 years old, is a 288-bed facility. Reutilizing space has allowed them to add 52 beds to the women's

cell area. With added inmates, more money is needed to hire staff. This will most likely help the jail extend the need for five years for building another housing unit.

When Danker first became sheriff, there were 60 employees. Now there are over 200 with most being employed at the jail.

COVID fortunately has not been a huge issue. Arrested people are quarantined before being added to the jail population. Masks are worn by staff. There hasn't been a big uptick with crime.

Danker explained the process of Direct Supervision which is used in the jail. It took a mind shift with the staff to utilize, but it works well. Prisoners are classified through research of their history and then a cell/pod area is monitored by one in-person staff member which helps alleviate prisoner conflicts and makes for a safe environment. The staff member sits at a desk and is in constant contact with a supervisor electronically. Staff evaluation can result in an inmate going up/down in their classification. Violent people are not monitored in this way.

By law inmates are limited on the work they can do while in jail because the majority are there for pre-trial with a mixture of offenses.

Once there is a trial, inmates are convicted and go to prison OR are found not guilty. Inmates in prison actually have more personal freedoms than in jail and are assigned jobs.

Most in the jail are not convicted and are not to spend more than 1 year there, with some exceptions. He stated the average stay is one to two weeks. The initial appearance in court is done by video. Average weekend arrests can range from 5 to 35.

He spoke about the recent protests. Protesting is not a problem, but violence is. Jeff stated the group with firearms at the courthouse were there within their rights and had their permits. They were polite and there were no problems.

The protests in Omaha became violent. Danker said diverting traffic from Omaha to CB most likely reduced problems in CB. In addition to businesses and the courthouse being protected, there was significant protection of the life-size horse statue, which honors Officer Mark Burbridge, outside the Squirrel Cage Jail.

Danker expressed strong feelings about the push for anti-law enforcement, stating this area is very supportive of law enforcement. He said the police call Heartland Family Services to help with social worker issues when needed.

In his retirement he and his wife Gladys may travel and he will continue to enjoy his grandkids.

Thank you, Jeff Danker, for your many years of service to keep us all safe!

(Due to snowy roads, the scheduled speaker had to cancel.)

### **Meeting Minutes**

Dale Willenborg, club president, called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Building. Present were fifteen members (including 1 virtually) plus guest, Jeff Danker.

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

Keith Denton provided humor.

Gary Funkhouser won the 50/50 drawing and Kirk Vorthmann won the attendance drawing but was not present.

**Birthday:** None

**Anniversary:** None

**Can Kennel:** Gary Guttau reported \$182,000 total has been collected to date from can kennel sorting. Sorting will take place this Wed. after school with the After Prom Committee.

**Other business:**



Shelly Bailey was presented her pin and certificate by President Dale Willenborg and is now officially an Optimist.

Shelly Bailey reported the Jr. Optimists will conduct a Souper Bowl drive again on Feb. 6. The non-perishable food items will be contributed to the Treynor Food Bank.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to pay \$570 for the Junior Optimist dues from club funds.

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

Gary Guttau announced he had heard Martin Luther King speak when he was in college and also stated he was proud to be a graduate of ISU, which is where George Washington Carver also graduated. Shelly Bailey contributed to announce they are taking a vacation to Mexico. Dale Willenborg announced they are going to Hawaii. Phil Waggoner announced when his son wrestled, there were 7 wrestlers and this week he drove 30 wrestlers and they are having great

success. Judy Guttau announced they are happy that Mick is able to have his first COVID shot today at VA.

The meeting was closed with the Optimist Creed.

## HUMOR

Generation Gap! 😄



## Calendar

Jan. 20 Can Kennel Sorting

## Birthdays

Jan. 19 Dennis White

Jan. 23 Doug Dillivan

## Anniversaries

## Programs

January - Keith Denton

February - Gary Funkhouser

March - Chad Guttau

## Speakers

Jan. 23 Jeff Jorgensen

Jan. 30 To be Announced

## BOARD MEETING

Dale Willenborg, Ken Graham, Bill Vorthmann, Gary Guttau and Judy Guttau met to review Can Kennel applications. See below:

Jan. 21 Feb. 17 Music Boosters

Feb.18-Mar. 17 Silver Keg Feeders 4-H

Mar.18-Apr. 14 Jr. Optimist Club

Apr. 15-May 12 Zion Youth

May13-June 9 St. Paul Youth

June 10-July 7 Treynor Optimist Club

July 8-Aug. 4 Treynor Cub Scout Pack 729

Aug. 5-Aug. 18 Impact After School Care

Aug. 9-Sept.1

Sept. 2-Sept. 29 Silver Creek 4-H Club

Sept. 30-Oct. 27 Boy Scout Troup 729

Oct. 28- Nov. 24

Nov. 25-Dec. 22

Dec. 23-Jan. 19 Post Prom

Dale Willenborg and Dee Guttau contributors

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