



August 14, 2021

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Ken McClure, Policeman Speaks



Policeman Ken McClure, a policeman in Council Bluffs, spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on August 14. Ken grew up in Lewis and went to school in Griswold. Ken and his wife are both police officers. She just retired. He has another 7-8 years before he retires.

After high school, Ken moved in with friends in Omaha. A friend talked him into going to classes at IWCC, where he took a variety of classes. In one class about police work, he learned about being a reserve police officer. He attended IWCC in 1990-1991 and a PAL grant paid for his education.

While working in Atlantic, Ken trained once a week in Exira with a canine officer, which caused him to want to work with dogs.

Ken has been in law enforcement for 30 years with 22 years being in Council Bluffs. There he worked with the Drug Enforcement Agency for 3 years. That is considered a specialty area. In Council Bluffs you are only allowed to work in a specialty area for 7 years. Then you go back to a regular beat before going to another specialty area.

When an opening came available for a canine officer, Ken was not yet eligible for a new specialty area, but he applied anyway. While on a family vacation, he was called for an interview. He flew home for the interview and got the job.

Ken works with a Belgian Malinois named Ares. The dog came to the department when he was 1½ years old. Ken worked with him for 2½ years, which included 3 weeks at a training camp. The department now has three dogs and would like a fourth, but there is a hiring freeze now. A police dog will cost \$12,000-15,000, including shipping, plus training is needed.

Most police dogs come from Poland because they have a very pure bloodline. U.S.

breeding has not been as rigorous. Commands for the dog are taught in German, with a little Dutch. They are certified using the rigid Nebraska certification standards.

The new police station in CB is set up for caring for dogs. Ares goes home with Ken every day. When Ken goes on vacation now instead of Ares going to a dog kennel, he is able to be cared for at the new police station, which even includes a dog run and a place for storing training evidence.



Dogs are trained for a variety of purposes including narcotics, evidence recovery, and tracking. Ken and Ares demonstrated each of these. He found two pipes in the room hidden by Ken with a drug scent on them. He tracked a path in the grass that Ken had previously mapped out.

He also found John Klein's keys that Ken threw in the grass when Ares wasn't looking.

Next week's program will be a tour of the high school addition. Meet at the community building first.

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” Helen Keller

Meeting Minutes

Dale Willenborg, President, called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Building. Present were 13 members and two guests: Ken McClure and Malloy Helvie. Dale Willenborg led the Pledge of Allegiance and Bill Vorthmann gave the opening prayer.

Jokes were shared by Keith Denton.

Bill Vorthmann won the 50/50 drawing. Dennis White won the attendance drawing but was not present last week.

Chad Gutttau's birthday was observed with singing and Dee provided her great cinnamon rolls.

Bragging Rights: (\$ are used for youth activities)

- Gary Gutttau recognized Ken Graham's service in the Marines.
- Bill Vorthmann said his grandson James won a blue ribbon for his broiler chickens. He said that all the broilers for the fair come from the same breeder so it is a very fair competition.

BUSINESS:

Dale Willenborg ordered a new light bulb for the projector, at a cost of about \$100. It should arrive this week.

Can Kennel Sorting: The Impact Day Care will be the next organization to have the Can Kennel. Sorting will be Wednesday, August 18 at 6 PM.

Scholarship:



Malloy Helvie received her scholarship check. She is planning to attend the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. She wants to go into holistic medicine or chiropractic. She has 19 college credits from Treynor and 15 will transfer. her roommate is also from Treynor.

Community: Homecoming is Sept. 10.

Auction: Ken Graham donated cantaloupe which was purchased by Bill Vorthmann.

After Ares' demonstrations outside, the meeting was adjourned.

Next week meet at the Community Building before going on a tour of the Treynor High School new addition.

HUMOR

It's important to lock your car doors especially now. Your friends and neighbors and even strangers will put free Zucchini in your car!

Calendar

Events

- Aug 18 Can Kennel Sorting- 6 PM
- Aug 28 Treynor Athletic Cardinal Bash
- Sept 10 Homecoming
- Oct 4 Pot Luck sponsored by Riverside Club - Child Safety

Birthdays

- Aug 23 Judy Gutttau

Anniversaries

- Aug 13 Jerry & Barb Hempel
- Aug 25 Gary & Julia Funkhouser

Programs

- Aug Bill Vorthmann
- Sept Shelly Bailey (first two)
Josh Gutttau (last two)
- Oct John Klein

Speakers

- Aug 21 Tour of the Treynor High School New Addition
- Aug 28 Wendy Andersen, Splash Pad

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