



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

Treynor Optimist Club President:

Dale Willenborg



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Jeff Jorgensen and Gary Leffler, Speakers

Jeff Jorgensen introduced Gary Leffler, who presented most of the program. Also present was Jason Bliley, projectionist. Courtney Kreider, WOWTV reporter, attended as she had reported the story at the time. Gary and Jeff were part of a group of Iowans in Washington, DC January 6 for President Trump's Rally. They stated that what they observed and experienced was different than what has been on national news.



They expressed that over 1 million people were there and easily could have been 1.5 million. Pictures taken from the top of the stage were shown of the crowd. This was in contrast to the 30,000 reported by CBS, who said that info came from the FBI.

L-R: Leffler, Jorgensen, Bliley

Leffler prefaced his D.C. comments by sharing his experiences and pictures of participating in many national and state patriotic events the past few years with his "Patriotic Tractor". The tractor has the names of 15 of his family who have served in the military for generations and includes one who is a policeman in Minneapolis serving during the 2020 riots. The tractor also has other meaningful symbols including a hologram of an eagle. When asked why he does this, Leffler said he does it for the next generation.

He also explained that he has participated in numerous Trump rallies and there has never been a problem or violence.

Leffler stated that on that morning of the Rally on January 6, at no time was there any reference to not being patriotic in the speeches. If violence

was the intention, it would have been planned weeks in advance.

When the crowd left the Rally, they marched up Constitution Ave to the Capitol and there were people singing patriotic songs and chanting "USA". There were no bricks or torches. When they got to the entrance of the Capitol, the bicycle barricades/gates, which are always there, had been removed which was very unusual. Capitol Police had opened them up (video available). Gary said on the back side it was like a family reunion with people talking and having a good time. This is the side where the Supreme Court and Library of Congress are located. People on the back side were unaware of what was happening on the other side of the Capitol until later.

He says the 50-150 people who went into the building, causing destruction, and assaulting a police officer should be prosecuted to the letter of the law, but it is wrong to call the multitudes there as part of the Rally, 'terrorists and insurrectionists'.

Leffler was interviewed by CBS for three hours on that Tues and Wed, Jan. 6-7, but on Thurs he was told by CBS they wouldn't run the story. He saw unusual actions by the Capitol Police and asked that one picture be printed which he feels showed irrefutable evidence that people were allowed into the Capitol, but CBS didn't permit it.

Today Leffler was asked how we fix the problem. He feels Congress must pass voter ID or election laws so the American people feel the election is fair. Mail-in balloting is illegal in every industrial country in the world. Absentee balloting is totally separate and legal. He feels Paul Pate doesn't get enough credit because he runs a fair election in Iowa. He stated there are 73 million people who still feel the national election wasn't right. What went wrong must be addressed, or unrest will continue. He also spoke out in favor of making sure civics/government classes are put back in the schools.

Meeting Minutes

Bill Vorthmann called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Building. Present were sixteen members (including 2 virtually) plus five guests, Gary Leffler, Jason Bliley, Tom Pieper, Sara Hodgell, Courtney Kreider.



Meet Courtney Kreider WOVTV reporter, who moved to Omaha 1 mo. ago from CA. (Pictured with Gary Leffler, our speaker.)

Bill led the Pledge of Allegiance and Phil Waggoner gave the opening prayer.

Gary Guttau, Gary Leffler, Kirk

Vorthmann, Jason Bliley, and Bill Vorthmann provided humor. Ken Graham won the 50/50 drawing and Steve Irwin won the attendance drawing but was not present.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: None

Can Kennel: A check was received from the Glenwood recycling. Gary Guttau stated a trip will be made to Atlantic for recycling on Feb. 8. Can sorting will take place on Wed. at 2 PM.



Sara Hodgell received a check from Bill Vorthmann from the Optimists for the Silver Creek 4-H Club for \$1334 from can kennel proceeds.

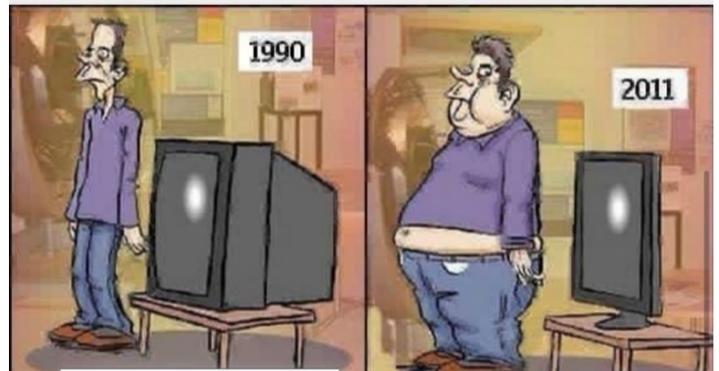
Reminder: The Jr. Optimists will conduct a "Souper Bowl" drive again on Feb. 6. The non-perishable food items will be contributed to the Treynor Food Bank. Optimists are encouraged to bring food items to the meeting Saturday.

Bragging Rights: (\$ to fund youth activities)

Jim Clausen bragged on the St. Louis Cardinals.

The meeting was closed with the Optimist Creed.

HUMOR



Calendar

Feb. 3 Can Kennel Sorting 2 PM

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Programs

February Gary Funkhouser
March Chad Guttau

Speakers

Feb. 6 Mike Holton, Treynor City Manager
Feb. 13 Lisa Fox, Fox Creek Fundraising
Feb. 20 TBA
Feb. 27 Mark Hopkins, Treynor Superintendent

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