



Nov. 20, 2021

Vol. 37, No.46

Kara Huisman, Softball Coach



Kara Huisman, Treynor Softball Coach, spoke today about this season's program. Her husband Justin accompanied her.

There were 24 girls out for softball this year. Treynor played in a very tough conference. Two

seniors, Stella Umphreys and Lucy Thiel, graduated. Stella was the catcher and is now playing 3rd base at Northwestern College. Lucy is at Midlands College and doing track.

The most improved player was Rachel Kinsela coming out for softball her sophomore year, who hadn't played since 4th grade. She ended up All Conference and batted over .400.

Huisman described softball as being a different situation with every single ball that is thrown. To learn the game, you must just play, play, play!

This was a rebuilding year for Treynor. A talented class of 8th graders are coming in. The biggest concern is finding a new catcher.

In the conference Underwood won and went to state. They've graduated 8 seniors. Logan is tough and didn't graduate anyone and they have a freshman pitcher. Mo Valley has a strong 8th grade pitcher. AvoHa will be very strong as well and are very well coached.

Sara Duysen has been a valued assistant coach, but won't be back as she has a great new position at High Point University in NC working as Assistant Director of Athletic Communications, while she will finish her Master's Degree online

Huisman updated the group on her children: Sydney is a junior at Central and has a double major in actuarial science and computer science. She is playing softball there. James is a high school senior and is visiting colleges. He played football and does track at Treynor. Jayden is a sophomore and is the pitcher on the softball team. Last year she had surgery on both of her feet and has plates and 5 screws in both feet.

She qualified for state track in the shot put last spring. She chose to go out for swimming at Lewis Central this fall to increase her skills and have less stress on her feet. She became a competitor in meets and plans to continue swimming again this fall.

Cara discussed the possible changes to the softball season that are being discussed at the state level. Spring sports causes lots of overlap. A fall season for softball is not on the table. State softball and baseball tournaments will be the same week next year. The last week in July will be dead week.

Huisman concluded by saying that she was truly amazed this year how excited the girls were to play and just to be together. Even though they had a losing season, they had so much fun together. The experience, she said, is way bigger than the wins and losses.

Next week's speaker will be Brad Bailey, 2012 Treynor grad, who is a PGA professional.

The public is invited to attend all meetings. The coffee is always on. Gary Funkhouser coins our club as "The best informed club in Treynor!"

"Never criticize someone else until you've walked a mile in his moccasins."

Native American Saying

Meeting Minutes

Dale Willenborg, President, called the meeting to order. Present were 15 members plus two guests, Kara and Justin Huisman.

Dale Willenborg led the Pledge of Allegiance and Dee Gutttau gave the opening prayer. Dee Gutttau, Gary Gutttau, Phil Waggoner, and Keith Denton provided humor. Jerry Hempel won the football contest.

50/50 was won by Jim Clausen and Linda Danker won the Attendance Drawing, but was not present.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: Ken and Linda Graham's 50th Anniversary was observed. Ken shared a good story about being on time. John and Carol Klein's 46th Anniversary was observed. John shared a good story about how he met Carol. Keith Denton quipped that "If love is blind, marriage is an eye opener!"

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

- Kevin Underwood paid to announce that Bailey White is doing well playing basketball at St. Mary's College. Marsha Underwood also contributed.

COMMUNITY:

Judy Guttau announced a German food tasting event at PACE in CB this afternoon and evening.

Dale Willenborg announced that Nov. 30 is Giving Tuesday. You can give online. There are many ways to give. You can even give to our Optimist Club on that day.

BUSINESS:

The Can Kennel sorting for the cheerleaders has been delayed a week and will be done on Wed., Dec. 1 at 2 PM and the following week, Wed., Dec. 8 at 2 PM.

We will pass the hat the next two weeks for the Shop with the Sheriff Christmas project.

A board meeting will be held in two weeks on December 4. The Board will discuss a community event and the can kennel schedule.

Dale Willenborg reported that he and John Klein attended the Optimist Zone meeting at Underwood. The project of flying kites was demonstrated at the Zone meeting and is a possible project for the Treynor Optimists to interact with students. 25 kites cost \$60 and come with all the parts to assemble, which can be done in 5 mins. A big draw for the Underwood club was to invite the Omaha Kite Flying Club to demonstrate flying huge kites to the Middle School.

Gary Guttau announced that a \$45 check was received by our club as a memorial for Ken Koehler to be used for flags.

Chad and Dee Guttau donated gourds and pumpkins for members to take free today for Thanksgiving decorations.

The meeting was adjourned with members reciting the Optimist Creed.

HUMOR



**"The Best Way to Eat Pumpkin Pie!"
(or with real whipping cream)**

Calendar

Events

Nov 30	Giving Tuesday – consider giving a gift to the Treynor Optimist Club
Dec 1	Can Kennel Sorting – 2 PM
Dec 4	Treynor Optimist Board Meeting
Dec 8	Can Kennel Sorting – 2 PM
Feb 2	Optimist Day. District Conference – Cedar Rapids
Feb 28	Club Youth essays due

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Programs

Nov	Jerry Hempel
Dec	Linda Danker (first two) Mick Guttau (last two)
Jan	Kirk Vorthmann and Doug Dillivan

Speakers

Nov 27	Brad Bailey PGA Professional, 2012 Grad
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Contributor: Dee Guttau,

Editor: Judy Guttau, judy.guttau@tsbg.com, 402-670-4330,

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