,,The Optimist Club of Treynor, Treynor, IA
Iowa District, Zone 2 Club Number 40-109
Iowa District Governor: Sue Wunsch

Lt Governor: Susan Enewold, CB

NEWSLETTER

Treynor Optimist Club President:
Dale Willenborg

July 19, 2025 Vol. 41, No.29

Gary Guttau, Treynor School Building History



Gary Guttau shared drawings, a commemorative plate, and tile which depicted the Treynor School Building in earlier years.

Prior to 1921, town children attended one or another country schools in the area. Then there was a building used for school in Treynor, which was converted later into a corn crib on Dr. Stephens' farm. Later, school was in a leased building which eventually became the old Treynor city hall.

The first Treynor Consolidated School building was built in 1921. Another new building was built in 1950, which included the gymnasium auditorium, home economics room, shop, lunchroom, kitchen, and four athletic locker rooms plus a bus garage.

All high school students started the day In the Assembly Hall and then went to their classrooms. Jim Clausen said when he was a senior, there was no more Assembly, but Home Rooms. Cloak rooms were the predecessor of hall lockers.

Gary recalled playing basketball in the gym when he was in elementary. He recalled the backboard being so close to the wall that Bernie Mann could run up the wall and dunk it.

Coal fueled the furnace. The coal would be scooped in the door on the south side or the coal room, later there was a slide.

Obie Mann was a legend. He came in 1930 and was Superintendent and a teacher until about 1959. The tradition was that Supt. Obie Mann would take the Seniors to Colorado for senior trips. One time the Seniors stopped in Western NE so Mann could interview Mr. Wilcox, who then became the 6-7th grade teacher.

Gary recalls Hank Moore as Janitor, cleaning the blackboards with a long rag that went from the hand to the elbow who with one big sweep would clean the boards, then make a weird face that caused the kids to laugh and the teacher to scowl. Hank really cleaned. He even crawled inside the furnace to clean it out.

Gary remembers when the Alumni Banquet was held in the Auditorium, which also had a stage. The church youth group and junior class would serve the food. There were roll up doors in the back used to divide the space into two classrooms. The Auditorium was used for study hall. The stage was also the typing room. Memories of Miss Etta Neunaber were shared. She was very strict. She said to always hit the typewriter return hard, and more than once one return went out the open window.

Remember the tube Fire Escape? Gary remembers staying at his grandparents close by and using it as a slippery slide. Others remembered doing the same too. Gary said one time the door at the top opened and Hank Moore, Janitor, was there and scared the daylights out of them.

Gary remembers handing out programs for a band concert and Earl Schnepel stated that he was attending because he had 17 grandchildren and one daughter (Jeannie Schnepel Chamber) playing in the band!

Jim Clausen recalled a laundry room at the school and towels being washed and dried for the athletes.

In 1957 Gary's dad and Jim Davie went to Des Moines to discuss the restructuring of the Treynor Community School District. That area included the Bent Tree development by Jim's farm. Gary says we can thank Jim Davie for the increased valuations that are now part of our school district. The school division lines are said to "meander around a lot like it was made by a drunken snake." At the time families could decide whic school district to go into rather than fight it.

Next Week's Program

No Meeting July 26

Aug. 2: Crypto by Dale Willenborg

Famous Quote:

"The biggest adventure you can ever take is to live the life of your dreams."

Oprah Winfrey

Meeting Minutes

Dale Willenborg, President, called the meeting to order. 14 members were present. Guests were Bailey Roberts and Lulu LaScala.

Prayer: Bill Vorthmann

Jokes: Steve Chambers

50/50: Judy Guttau

Attendance: Steve Chambers

Birthdays/Anniversaries: None

Bragging Rights: (Dollars are contributed to benefit local youth programs.)

- Chad Guttau shared they had great steaks Tuesday night, which had been purchased from the new butcher shop, Jarvis Quality Meats.
- Dale Willenborg had grandkids at their place. They enjoyed touring a 3-story car museum in Lincoln that had over 1000 different vehicles.
- John Klein bragged on the Beautification & Signage Committee (including Optimists, Kathy Luedke, Dee Guttau, Chad Guttau, and Judy Guttau) for getting the new mural going.
- Gary Guttau stated he buried his phone while tilling pumpkins. A metal detector found the position but still no phone.
- He also stated he bought a tiller which was received last Saturday and it's not working right. So he mowed the weeds instead.
- Bill Vorthmann stated that he and Ann nominated John Klein last year for Iowan for the Day at the Iowa State Fair and he won. This year they nominated Norm and Donna Collins. They didn't win, but the paperwork will be saved for three years.

BUSINESS:

- WestFair helpers at the gates are needed from our club on Thursday, July 24. Dee Guttau and Kirk Vorthmann will take the 2:30-5:00 shift. Gary Guttau and Dale Willenborg will take the noon to 2:30 shift. **However, since the meeting, Dale has shared that he has a conflict and needs someone to replace him at Fair.**
- Can Kennel sorting was done this week for TeamMates. Optimist helpers were John Klein, Jordan Campbell, and Steve Chambers. It wasn't a huge second sorting. Dale will haul the bottles to the trailer after the meeting and asked for other volunteers.
- The Boy Scouts have the next Can Kennel.
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L-R: Bailey Roberts and Lulu LaScala

- Bailey and Lulu were present to receive their $500 scholarships from the Optimist Club.Bailey is planning to attend Iowa State University to study graphic design. She plays the piccolo and is planning to try out for the marching band.
  Lulu will attend the University of Iowa to study speech and hearing sciences. Both girls received a large number of credits free from IWCC. Both girls will be involved at WestFair this week.
- There will be no Optimist meeting next Saturday as there will be so many gone – Opt. District Convention, WestFair, etc.
- John Klein said he will request more bags for the Can Kennel as we are low.

Community News:

- Bailey Roberts shared that the girls softball team had a fantastic season winning 20-5 games, won the Western Iowa Conference, and were ranked 6th in the state plus had a new coach this year.
- Chad Guttau shared that the Treynor's Tomorrow Beautification & Signage Committee met this week and talked about fall activities and the mural.

Events this week in Treynor:

- **Sat. July 19:** Stand-up Comedian, Tyler Walsh, at Silo's 5:30.
- **Sun. July 20:** Zion Ice Cream Social 5-7 PM

Other:

- **July 23-27:** Westfair
- **July 25-Aug. 3:** Cass Co. Fair
- **July 25-27**: Optimist District Convention, Council Bluffs, IA
- **July 31-Aug. 2:** Carson Rodeo

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

HUMOR

"People who ask me what I'm doing tomorrow probably assume that I even know what day of the week it is."

CALENDAR

Events:

July 26	**NO MEETING**
Aug 2	Meeting 8:00-9:00 AM Treynor Community Building

Birthdays:

July 23	Jerry Hempel
July 27	Jim Clausen

Anniversaries: None

Programs:

August	Dale Willenborg
September	Jim Clausen (1st/2nd Sat.)
	Bill Vorthmann (3rd/4th Sat.)

Speakers

Aug 2	Dale Willenborg, Crypto
Aug 9	Sherrie and Jay Johnson – TREK, A youth Pioneer experience.

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