



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



Aug 2, 2025

Vol. 41, No.30

Dale Willenborg, Cryptocurrency



Dale, regarding cryptocurrency, said he wasn't an expert but has a little knowledge to share.

Three Components – Crypto Coins (digital), Blockchain, and Algorithm:

Cryptocurrency is a digital currency designed to work

through a computer network that is not reliant on any central authority, such as a government or bank, to uphold or maintain it. Individual coin ownership records are stored in a digital ledger or blockchain, which is a computerized database that uses a consensus mechanism to secure transaction records, control the creation of additional coins, and verify the transfer of coin ownership.

Blockchain is a distributed ledger with growing lists of records that are securely linked together via cryptographic hashes. Each block contains a cryptographic hash of the previous block, a timestamp and transaction data and they form a chain, Blockchain transactions are resistant to alteration because once recorded, the data in any given block cannot be changed retroactively without altering all subsequent blocks and obtaining network consensus to accept change.

Algorithms. There is some math in the crypto world and it isn't just coding skills that provide robust digital security. Cryptographic hash can transform an input of any size into a unique fixed-length output. It's an action based on logic and computation.

The different types of cryptographic algorithms are called hash functions. The main ones are:

SHA-2 generates larger hash values. Bitcoin is a network example. Its level of security and speed makes it suitable for verifying blockchain transactions and mining new blocks.

SHA-3 is a SHA-2 successor. Because there is an ever-increasing demand for higher security levels, more blockchain systems might begin adopting this.

There are 18.8 million cryptos right now. A couple of hundred to a thousand cryptos are made each day. 3.95 million dollars are invested in crypto, and it is

growing rapidly. Anyone can make a new crypto and they are being made all over the world. Some are worthless. The value is determined by what you want to pay for it and fluctuates continuously. When people feel good, they tend to buy more crypto.

Use cases for blockchain spread out far beyond finance. From healthcare to education to entertainment, blockchain is changing how we do business. With the ability to create smart contracts and decentralized applications, blockchain technology opens up new opportunities for innovation and efficiency.

How do you get cash out? Crypto can be converted into cash or to buy things such as a Tesla. Companies need to decide if they will accept crypto and what crypto "coins" they will accept. Bitcoin is 60% of the market right now but a year ago it was 50% so the value has been up since last year. Bitcoin is worth \$119,742 as of last night but this changes daily. All forms of crypto vary in value hourly.

In the U.S. cryptocurrency is taxed similarly to stocks and other capital assets, meaning you may owe capital gains tax when you sell or trade it. Additionally, if you receive crypto as income, such as payment for services or mining, it is subject to income tax based on its fair market value at the time you receive it.

You can buy crypto or you can "mine" it with high end graphic computers that will count how many encryptions you can make per second. A crypto machine is a small computer box but uses a lot of electricity, like 3,000-5,000 kilowatts. Newer ones will use 11,000 kilowatts of electricity. Some computers are oil-cooled but that generates a lot of heat. The machines are very loud and generate a lot of heat.

For more information about crypto, see:

Current Crypto Prices: <https://coinmarketcap.com/>

Top Blockchains: <https://www.coingecko.com/en/chains>

Crypto Profitability Miners(predicted): May be profitable for a short period of time. <https://whattomine.com/asics>

10 Best Bitcoin Miners in 2025:

<https://coincodex.com/article/33302/bitcoin-miners/>

Thanks to Kathy Luedke for taking notes! And Dale for adding info he wasn't able to share since the power point wasn't working.

Next Week's Program

Trek Pioneer Enactment- video and comments

Sherri and Jay Johnson

Famous Quote:

**"Courage is going from failure to failure
without losing enthusiasm."**

Winston Churchill

Meeting Minutes

Special Treats

Diane Clausen thoughtfully prepared and Jim brought cinnamon rolls for everyone to enjoy for his birthday.

Announcements and Celebrations

- Dale Willenborg presided with 16 members in attendance and no guests.
- Jim's birthday was celebrated with a song from the group.
- Dee Guttau led the group in prayer.

Humor and Stories

The meeting featured a lively exchange of jokes, including:

- Ken Graham sharing a humorous story about the Kardashians.
- Bill Vorthmann amused the group with a tale involving a weathered sheep.
- Jerry Hempel shared Gary Funkhouser's humorous joke about oral and rectal thermometers.
- Keith Denton told an attorney joke.
- Dale Willenborg shared a potato and chef joke.

Bragging rights:

- Kevin Underwood - Texas Roadhouse managers' assistance
- Bill Vorthmann – Grandchildren had successful Westfair.
- Dale Willenborg spent two days cleaning his parent's house to sell in Manning, IA
- Chad Guttau spoke about the Impressionist at Silos.
- Dick Fox spoke about his long green beans, having had his last colonoscopy in life, had over 8 inches of rain last month;

and planted an entire package of sunflowers with one that came up and was over 12 ft tall with 8 blooms.

- Gary Guttau paid tribute to Gary Funkhouser for his service as an Optimist.
- Keith Denton also paid tribute to Gary F and said funeral would be at 2 today with cookies and coffee served at reception in new auditorium.
- Gary Guttau said this was a year of growing. His pumpkin patch has had so many weeds.

Business

- Can Kennel sorting: Sunday August 17 - Boy Scouts at 6 pm

Other

50/50: Steve Chambers won

Attendance: Jordan Campbell, not present

For Sale: Keith Denton– bought green beans \$1 from Dick Fox and mini me cucumbers for \$1 from Dale Willenborg.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

HUMOR on a T Shirt

"4 Out of 3 People Struggle with Math."

CALENDAR

Events:

Aug 9 Meeting 8:00-9:00 AM Treynor
Community Building
Aug 17 Can Kennel Sorting – 6:00 PM Boy Scouts

Birthdays:

Aug 11 Chad Guttau
Aug 23 Judy Guttau

Anniversaries:

Aug 5 Josh and Shelly Guttau
Aug 13 Jerry and Barb Hempel

Programs:

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

Speakers

Aug 9 Sherrie and Jay Johnson – TREK,
A youth Pioneer experience.
Aug 16 TBA
Aug 23 Owner of Jarvis Quality Meats
Aug 30 TBA

Editor: Judy Guttai, judy.guttai@tsbg.com, 402-670-4330. Contributors: Dee Guttai, John Klein, Kathy Luedke
Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 51575