,,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

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Derrick Steeve, Treynor Math Teacher



Derrick Steeve shared today about their family's recent life experiences and wanted to share through us to the community a thank you for helping them through their daughter Ava's health experience, and being hit by a tornado. He stated that everyone lent a hand, sent donations, and provided fuel money for driving Ava to Minnesota. He said they tried to send thank you notes but may have missed people. He said they couldn't have made it except for the grace of God and the support of the community.

Ava was diagnosed with aplastic anemia on January 29, 2024. It's a rare condition in which the body stops producing enough new blood cells. Derrick said, "It was heart breaking – this four-year-old kid and they would be up all night trying to stop the bleeding." It requires bone marrow replacement. He said they were so busy trying to keep Ava alive, they couldn't be angry with God.

Derrick said they aren't in church a lot but have tremendous faith. He said he watched Ava with an IV stand next to her and ten separate IV modules and she would be vomiting with chemo, but she would ask the nurses if she could pray with them. Derrick wondered, "Was I blessed with an angel? It was almost unreal to see." He wondered why the family went through that, but maybe people needed God to see that – Ava touching others. Derrick said he learned you can't control everything in life; look for opportunities to be grateful.

On May 26, 2024, they had just found a blood marrow donor in NC, and a tornado hit their property as he just pulled into the driveway of their 15-acre hobby farm. He hit the ground, wondering if this was it, but when he got up to the house, his family was still alive. Derrick and his wife have six children. Derrick stated they have one child with Downs Syndrome. The van was destroyed and repairs around their acreage are still being made.

Derrick said Ava is doing great now. They brought her home a year ago. It required massive blood transfusions until they finally found a blood marrow donor. Ava is in first grade, fighting with her siblings and living normally.

He said this all changes your outlook about things. He knew they would make it and are still here today. He said he felt God was saying, "Hey, Derrick, quit trying to control everything. Have faith in me." He knew many people were praying for them. He said he was always self-reliant; he likes to show up to do the job. Asking for help was not comfortable, but he said it was a big change in his life and he feels God allowed him to go through that to see how many people share.

Derrick said he is still upset with God for losing his mom. She died while he was in college and he loved her so much. However, he says if she survived, he may not have come to Iowa, stating certain people are put in your lives at the right time. Life is temporary and full of blessings if you keep your eyes open.

At school Derrick said he has been able to have the administration carve out a 5th period study hall so he can provide extended help to kids. His philosophy is that developing relationships with the kids is important and then he can work with them in academics. It's important to help them learn math early.

Next Week's Program
Denise Wilson, St Paul Youth Leader
Meet at St. Paul Lutheran in Treynor
Breakfast will be served.

Famous Quote:

"We are products of our past, but we don't have to be prisoners of it."

Rick Warren

Meeting Minutes

Bill Vorthmann called the meeting to order. 12 members were present. Our guest was our speaker, Derrick Steeve.

Bill shared that on this day in 1806, Lewis & Clark, explored the first white settlement since they started on their trip – La Charette. It is no longer there as it was wiped out with a flood.

Prayer: Steve Irvin

Jokes: Steve Chambers, Bill Vorthmann

50/50: Bill Vorthmann

Attendance: Gary Guttau

Football Pool: Kathy Luedke won.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: Dee Guttau's birthday is Monday and she is celebrating with family this weekend.

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

- Judy Guttau bragged on all of Treynor's Homecoming - the parade, activities prior to the game, and the great game.
- Gary Guttau was proud to be a part of the class of 55's parade float. There were six members riding on the float.
- John Klein said the Cardinal Combine was successful with about 100 kids participating. He also bragged on Jordan Campbell for doing an amazing job putting it on.
- Steve Irvin shared that his granddaughter Hope ran at Moville and finished 5th. Her Siouxland Christian School has 650 PK-12 students and as a team they came in second. He shared that the very young football team dropped football this year but will have it next year. The boy's team instead, without training, ran cross country and came in third!
- Kirk Vorthmann bragged on the Treynor band looking very good!

Community News:

- It was shared that Norma Storm, 103, has passed. She was a long-time employee of Treynor State Bank. On Friday, Sept. 26 services will take place at St. Paul Lutheran in Treynor. Visitation will be from 9-10 a.m. with the funeral following at 10 a.m.

BUSINESS:

- Can Kennel sorting with St. Paul Youth will be **Wed., Sept. 24 at 6:15 p.m**. Their next sorting will be Wed., Oct. 8 at 6:15 p.m.
- Flags will be taken down today after the meeting.
- Thanks to Kirk Vorthmann for preparing the Optimist Homecoming float.
- Thanks to Jordan Campbell for leading the Cardinal Combine. The Optimists sponsored by providing refreshments.
- Thanks to all who helped last Saturday with can kennel sorting: Chad Guttau, John Klein, Steve Irvin, Dale Willenborg, Gary Guttau, Judy Guttau.
- John Klein presented orange safety vests to the club which Julie Funkhouser said Gary still had. Bill Vorthmann suggested these could be used when putting up flags.

Events this week:

- **Mon. Sept. 22 –** Fr/JV VB @ Atlantic
- **Mon. Sept. 22 –** JV FB @ Tri-Center
- **Tues. Sept. 23 –** Girls VB vs. Und @ Treynor
- **Tues. Sept. 23 –** 7th/8th FB vs L-M @7 Treynor
- **Tues. Sept. 23 –** B/G CC @ Tri-Center
- **Treynor Fall Farmers Market** – Tuesday, Sept.23 - 5:30-7:00 PM, Community Chili Cook-Off, PIMS Thai Food Truck
- **Thurs. Sept. 25-**Girls VB @ Mo Valley
- **Fri. Sept. 26 –** FB vs Underwood @ Underwood
- **Sat. Sept. 27 –** B/G CC @ Harlan

Coming Events:

- **Sat., Oct. 4 –** Treynor City Wide Garage Sale
- **Sun., Oct. 12 –** 8 AM – 12:30 PM. Legion Pancake Breakfast

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

HUMOR for Coke Lovers! (like me)

Me: I'd like a Coke please.
Waitress: Is Pepsi okay?
Me: Is Monopoly money okay?



CALENDAR

Events:

Sept. 27	Meeting 8:00-9:00 AM, St. Paul Lutheran Church

Birthdays:

Sept 22	Dee Guttau

Anniversaries:

Sept 24	Phil & Jan Waggoner
Sept 26	Bill & Ann Vorthmann

Programs:

September	Bill Vorthmann (3rd/4th Sat.)
October	Jordan Campbell (1st/2nd Sat.)
	Judy Guttau (3rd Sat.)
	Dee Guttau (4th Sat.)
November	Jerry Hempel (1st/2nd Sat.)
	Linda Danker (3rd/4th Sat.)
	Judy Guttau (5th Sat.)
December	Mick and Judy Guttau

Speakers

Sept. 27	SPY – St. Paul Youth about their Mission Trip to N. Carolina. Meet at St. Paul and breakfast will be served to the Optimists.
Oct. 4	TBA
Oct. 11	TBA
Oct. 18	Dr. Dan Kinney, Pres. IWCC

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Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 5157