



The Optimist Club of Treynor, Treynor, IA
Iowa District, Zone 2 Club Number 40-109
Iowa District Governor: Jane Schmidt
Lt Governor: George Volz

NEWSLETTER

Treynor Optimist Club President:
Dale Willenborg



Feb. 7, 2026

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Rosie Rucker, Community Engagement Committee



Rosie Rucker is married to Mike and is the mother of our Treynor High School boys coach, Scott Rucker. They have two other children which they raised all in Shenandoah.

Rosie is the Chairman of the Community Engagement Committee, which is one of four committees that came out of

the Treynor's Tomorrow focus groups in the summer of 2024. Their mission is to explore opportunities to inform and encourage people in our Treynor community to become involved. And to show them how wonderful our little town is!

Rosie's committee is under the guidance of Michael Holton and Kelsey Stupfell, both co-leaders of Treynor's Tomorrow. Her committee consists of Vicki Bauer, Moriah Bees, Keith & Carla Christensen, Lisa Hadfield, Lindsey Haffke, Meagan Stange, Jordan Stumbo and herself. Rosie stated that five of the members are pretty new to Treynor so it is good for their committee to see what is needed more than someone who has lived here all their life. The main task was to bring back the Welcome Basket, now a Welcome Bag, which Millie/Les Harvey organized years ago.

Their first to-do was to gather community data, about what is available in Treynor and the school district. Did you know that there are over 50 businesses in this area?

Each business was contacted about putting a gift/information in the Welcome Bag. Rosie displayed the items. A loaf of homemade bread or cookies is always given. In 2025 Rosie and Lisa Hadfield delivered ten welcome bags. The new residents are very welcoming and appreciative.

Finding new residents is a challenge. If they live in Treynor, the city is able to provide the info,

but if in the country, it is more difficult. They asked for anyone who knows of someone new, to contact the city or a committee member.

The new residents come from area communities. When asked why they pick Treynor, the most common answer is the school district. Rosie stated rating services indicate we are one of the top-rated schools in the area.

The second project the Community Engagement Committee decided to do was to hold an "End of Summer Bash". It was held the Sunday evening before the first day of school. They targeted families with elementary students by giving out flyers to families at Teacher Night. A notable comment when handing out flyers was "Where is the community building?"

Over 300 people showed up and the Committee didn't spend a dime. Everything was volunteered or donated. The fire station-free rides on fire trucks, Zion Church-yard games, St. Paul - bubbles and sidewalk chalk, Shirley Chambers dressed up as a story book character and shared stories, TS Bank- face painting, Mike Holton -stick horse rodeo, Brett McVey-DJ, lawnmower train rides and the last thing was the fire hydrants were opened up for spraying water. Alan and Lisa Hadfield donated free popular root beer floats A food truck served over 300 brisket sandwiches and Tweets sold out of drinks.

The committee's third project will be on Sat. Feb. 21, from 9-10:30 AM. All new residents are being invited to a welcome gathering at Tweets for free coffee and there will be muffins.

Rosie concluded by giving cookies to the first person to ask a question – John Klein, and she stated they are open for other people to join the group. Currently they are working on updating the information they have about businesses, organizations, etc. in the Welcome Bag. This same information is put on the city's website.

Next Week's Program:
Matthew Hansmann, Speech Coach
assisted by Music Teacher Jill Davis
Treynor Community School

Inspirational Quote:

"Never let success go to your head, never let failure get to your heart." Beyonce

Meeting Minutes

President Dale Willenborg called the meeting to order. 15 members were present. Guests: Rosie Rucker, Cindy Beiderman plus one other

Prayer: Judy Guttau

Jokes: Keith Denton, Steve Chambers

50/50: Keith Denton

Attendance: Marsha Underwood, but she was not present.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: None

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

- Dick Fox: Sherry and he have put together 10 puzzles since Christmas and now have a big one that will take them till spring to finish.
- Judy Guttau: Big wins for the girls and boys basketball teams last night vs. Tri-Center
- Gary Guttau: KMA showed that top basketball scorers for boys and girls have been from Treynor.
- Jerry Hempel: Treynor's Brady Wallace, SD State Freshman, ran in a Lincoln track meet and received 2nd place in the 60 meter hurdles.
- Judy Guttau: Molly Coffman, President of JOI Club said they have 100 members, all paid, and are the largest club in Iowa. The second largest has 50 members.

Business

- Zion Youth Group will have the Can Kennel next from Feb. 1- March 4. JOI Club will then have it starting March 5 for 5.5 weeks.
- Optimist Can Kennel sorters last Sunday for the Silver Keg Feeders were Bill Vorthmann,

John Klein, Steve Chambers and Dale Willenborg. There was a large group of 4-Hers helping.

- Dale Willenborg participated in the Optimist Zoom meeting for leaders last week.- Some project ideas he heard about were: Law enforcement dinner, monthly youth appreciation at the school, dress like storybook character and read to kids at school, give away books, and holiday baskets for those in need.



- Our Optimist Club is the sponsor of the local Cub Scouts, Pack 729. The Legion is the sponsor of the local Boy Scouts.

Cindy Beiderman, 8-year local Cub Scouts leader plus Ryan, a representative from the Mid-America Scouting America region were present to share sad news. Even with many recruiting efforts for new members and a new leader, the Cub Scout, Pack 729 club has not met the requirements to continue being a club and are not able to renew the 67-year old charter. There was discussion on how to handle the \$4500 in the account which has come mostly from selling popcorn and the can kennel. The money is used for recharter fees, camping and supplies, pins and badges. Two officers indicated they felt it should go to the other group – the Boy Scouts. Cindy indicated the pinewood derby track and computer system would be donated to the Boy Scouts.

- Dale Willenborg shared that he went to the school's advisory board meeting and received the new annual report from the school. He was impressed with the many opportunities the students have. Approximately 50 seniors have internships. Juniors go on college visits. And many students are able to get associates degrees through Iowa Western Community College before graduating. Judy Guttau reminded members that the Superintendent sent an email to members with the link with the Treynor Community School Annual Report. Judy said she would

resend it this week to the members as well as our Optimist Friends mailing list.

Community:

- Chad Gutttau thanked all for coming to his Mom's funeral/visitation.
- Judy Gutttau shared that the JOI club gathered 756 items this week for the Food Bank and the JOI Club's Souper Bowl survey indicated the Seahawks will win.

Community Events:

- **Sat. Feb. 14:** Remember Valentine's Day
- **Sun. Feb. 15:** Legion Bingo 6:30 PM
- **Sun. Feb. 22:** Treynor Winter Market 10-2
- **Sat. Apr. 25:** Citywide Garage Sale
- **Fri. May 1:** Citywide Spring Cleanup

Events this week in Treynor and some away if indicated:

- **Mon. Feb.9:** JH Boys Wrest.@ Audubon
- **Mon. Feb. 9:** 7-8 G BB vs Logan-Mag
- **Tues. Feb.10:** Band Jazz Festival @ LC
- **Tues. Feb. 10:** JV/V B/G BB vs Riverside
- **Th. Feb.12:** JH B Wrest
- **Th. Feb.12:** 7-8 G BB vs. Mo Valley
- **Th. Feb. 12:** Winter Concert
- **Fri. Feb.13:** JV/V G/B BB @ Blair

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

HUMOR

**I'M SO OLD
I REMEMBER
MULTIPLICATION
WAS CALLED
"TIMES TABLES"**

CALENDAR

Events:

Feb. 14 Optimist Meeting 8:00-9:00 AM,
Treynor Community Center

Birthdays: None

Anniversaries: None

Programs:

February Linda Danker (2nd Sat)
Kirk Vorthmann (3rd, 4th Sat.)
March John Klein
April Chad Gutttau
May Ken Graham (1st,2nd Sat)
Jeff Jorgensen (3rd,4th Sat)

Speakers:

Feb. 7 Feb. 14 Matthew Hansmann, Speech
Coach at Treynor Community School
Feb. 21 Jeff Hazelwood, Trip to Vietnam, S. Korea
Feb. 28 Garry Clark- He grew up in the D.C.
Projects and how sports changed his life.
Mar. 7 Cody Abbott, Manager of Home Depot
store and Optimist/School/Treynor
supporter
Mar. 14 Andy Mayer- Droppitt Can Kennel recycling
process
Mar. 20 **Friday** – Channel 7 KETV Studio tour at
7 Burlington Station. Car pool: 9:15 AM.
Mar. 21 TBA
Mar. 28 D.J. Walton & Dan Kinsella – Treynor boys
and girls wrestling program

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