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,,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

Apr. 25, 2026 Vol. 42, No.17

Are You Smarter Than A 5th Grader?

Our speaker scheduled for today had a work conflict arise but is willing to speak at a future time.

This year is the 250th Anniversary of the U.S.A. Since we had no speaker, I (Judy Guttau) used a game quiz to test the knowledge of the Optimists about our U.S. government.

Our granddaughter, who is in the 5th grade at Treynor Community Schools, was visiting today and was willing to play along.

Some easy questions were: How many stars are there in our flag? (50) How many stripes are on the flag? (13) What do the stripes on the flag represent? (the 13 colonies) What country did we fight during the Revolutionary War? (The British, England) How many senators are there in Congress? (100) How long do we elect each senator? (6 years) Why are there 100 Senators in the Senate? (2 from each state)

Some other questions included were: What are the three branches of our government? (Legislative, Executive, and Judiciary) What are the duties of the Supreme Court? (To interpret laws) What is Patrick Henry's famous saying? ("Give me liberty or give me death.") Which three countries were our enemies during World War II? (Germany, Italy, and Japan)

And more: When was the Declaration of Independence adopted? (July 4, 1776) In what year was the Constitution written? (1787) What are the first 10 amendments to the Constitution called? (The Bill of Rights) What is the introduction to the Constitution called? (The Preamble) What is the most important right granted to U.S. citizens? (The right to vote)

In total over 50 questions were asked which also led to discussion and comments by members. Steve Irvin recommends seeing a movie that is or will be out: The Great Awakening. And, of course, I must tell you that our 5th grade granddaughter did quite well. Afterwards she told me that she learned most answers that she could answer at school, but also this past Wednesday she was outside at our house with Opa Mick looking at the American flag, and he taught her about the 13 stripes and also what POW meant on the other flag.

We would love to have YOU consider joining our local Optimist Club if you are not a member. Call Dale Willenborg or text 402-651-1634 for more information. www.treynoroptimist.org

Next week's speaker:
Wild Hearts & Horses
Bob & Carol Weilage, Glenwood

Inspirational Quote:

"Before anything else, preparation is the key to success."

Alexander Graham Bell

Meeting Minutes

Vice President Kirk Vorthmann called the meeting to order at the Treynor Recreation Area. Fifteen members were present. Our guest was Tessa Guttau.

We thank the manager of the TRA for making coffee. Kirk provided donuts.

Prayer: Kirk Vorthmann

Jokes: Keith Denton and Steve Chambers

50/50: Jim Clausen

Attendance: Dianne Willenborg, but she was not present.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: The group celebrated Steve Chambers' birthday today.

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

- Judy Guttau: Last weekend she and Mick attended the Iowa State University Weight Lifting Competition that their second grandson, Blake Fox participated in. He had personal records in squat, bench, and dead lift.
- Steve Irvin: His oldest granddaughter, Grace is not an athlete, but she is good at reading and art. She is always reading and doesn't like to be in the limelight, but she did run the lighting for the school play recently.
- Keith Denton: At Drake granddaughter Lili Denton got 7th in the 3000, 15th in the 800. Granddaughter Sophie Denton was mentioned in the media this week for soccer.
- Keith Denton: Bragged on Couy Konz, Treynor senior, who won the Drake Relays 100 meter race and set a record. He is now included in the top 10 times in history!
- Jim Clausen: He described his grandson's baseball game at Ankeny last Saturday when he made all three outs in one inning.
- Ken Graham: His son could bench press 200 lbs. but couldn't carry a trash can to the curb. Lol
- Dick Fox: He bragged on Blake Fox too.
- Dick Fox: They went to Gothenburg, NE last weekend. Their daughter's farm due to the fires lost all of their grass except for one section, lost all their fences, but saved all cows which were near the Platt River. Helicopters dropped water on their roof. They keep four sprinklers going for fire protection and to keep the rattle snakes away.
- Glenrose Meier: She praised Kirk Vorthmann for doing a nice job presiding in Dale's absence.
- Kirk Vorthmann: His brother Aaron bought an old AC baler and found a hardware store in New Market, IA that sold the baler twine needed for this older machine.

Business:

- Our next Optimist Meeting will be back at the Treynor Community Center next week, but we will meet in the big room.
- Judy Guttau passed a list of the 12 students, selected by the teachers, being honored at the Youth Appreciation Event Sunday, April 27.
- Judy Guttau passed a sign-up sheet for a 45 min. tour with a guide for **The Wall That Heals** that will be at Lewis Central in their soccer field. The display is open to the public Friday, May 22 through Monday, May 25. There were two options for our group to tour. The final one has been selected because of the sign-up interest shown. It will be on **Saturday, May 23 at 10:30**. Meet at the Treynor Community Center at 10:00 to car pool.The group will return to Treynor at approximately 11:45 AM. The tour will be of 1) the Mobile Education Center to learn about the history of the wall and see pictures of local veterans and 2) the Wall to learn about the artist, the design, the purpose and what you are seeing at the Wall. The sign-up sheet will be passed next week.
- In John Klein's absence, Kirk Vorthmann read an email from John regarding upcoming activities:
  1. **Mulch Madness**: Are there any Optimists or community members that could help oversee mulch unloading by the 5th graders at **12 noon on Friday, May 8** in the Visitors Parking Lot of the football field?? No actual work is needed. Kirk and Keith will be bringing their trailers with mulch.
  2. A dozen round shovels and spades are needed for the 5 groups of 9 kids who will dig holes for planting trees.
     (Kirk said he should be able to round these up.)
     Also steel post pounders are needed for putting 3 steel posts around each tree.
     (Kirk said he may be able to help round these up.)
  3. A water tank on wheels (no herbicide residuals) is needed. (Kirk said he should be able to round this up.)

4. John will pick up 5 gallon buckets from Gary Guttau's barn the week of May 4-7.
5. **Swim Lesson Bus:** An adult female volunteer is needed to ride on the bus along with Bret McVey to help chaperone. The female will supervise the girls' locker room after the lessons. Different volunteers could take a day or more instead of every day for all 8 lessons. Lessons are M-Th, June 15-18 and June 22-25. (It was suggested that an option could be mothers of the swimmers. There was a mother that went each day last year. Also Jordan Campbell sends high school youth from Zion Impact so perhaps a teen girl could assist with this.)

   Call John at 712-309-5992 if you can help with any of the above needs.

   IMPORTANT: 31 of the 35 spaces have been filled for the swim lessons. The spaces are almost full, so parents are encouraged to get their child's application in to the Elementary Secretary right away.

Community Events:

- **Mon. Apr. 27: "Treynor Pick-Up Trash" led by Beautification Committee.** Meet at 10 AM at Zion parking lot. Good chance for exercise. Bring gloves, trash bag. If raining, it will be postponed.
- **Thurs. April 30: Pott Co. Veterans Mobile Service Office** @ Treynor Community Center parking lot, started at 9 am.
- **Fri. May 1: City-wide Spring Cleanup** Set things out on curb for pick-up April 30
- **Fri. May 1: Mouse Derby** by Treynor Parks & Trails at Silos.
- **Fri. May 1: First Friday Food Truck:** Teeny Weeny Weiner Wagon. 11 AM – 1 PM Treynor Fit parking lot. Sponsored by Jarvis Quality Meats and TS Bank.
- **Sat. May 2: Shred Day** at TS Bank parking lot, sponsored by Collins Consulting. 9-11 am.

School Events in Treynor:

- **Mon. Apr. 27**: V B Soccer vs Creston
  Mon. Apr. 27: JH Spring Concert – Theater
- **Wed. Apr. 29**: Mid School Lg Group Contest @ LC
- **Thurs. Apr. 30:** V G/B Golf TRA vs Mo Valley
- **Fri. May 1:** Mid School Activity Night
  Fri. May 1: JV G Soccer vs St. Albert
  Fri. May 1: V B/B Golf TRA vs Underwood
- **Sat. May 2:** V/JV Boys Soccer vs Van Meter

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

HUMOR

"All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism."

CALENDAR

Events:

May 2	Optimist Meeting 8:00-9:00 AM, Treynor Community Center- Big Room
TBA	Can Kennel Sorting and flag info distributed

Birthdays:

April 28	Gene Seran
May 11	Keith Denton
May 16	Dick Fox
May 21	Steve Irvin
May 27	Kirk Vorthmann

Anniversaries: None

Programs:

May	Ken Graham (1st,2nd Sat) Jeff Jorgensen (3rd,4th Sat) John Klein (5th Sat.)
June	Steve Irvin (1st,2nd Sat) Judy Guttau (3rd.4th Sat)

Speakers:

May 2	Wild Hearts & Horses, Bob & Carol Weilage, Glenwood
May 9	Pastor Emily Dalen, Treynor St. Paul Lutheran Church
May 16	Andy Wicks, Pott. Co. Engineer
May 23	Keith Jones, Pott. Co. Board of Supervisors, Candidate for Iowa Legislature
May 30	Cody Abbott, Manager of Home Depot (to be honored)

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