,,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

June 13, 2026 Vol. 42, No.24

Steve Irvin, SWIEF



Our Optimist Steve Irvin is the Secretary/Treasurer of Southwest Iowa Education Foundation (SWIEF). SWIEF is a non-profit 501c3 founded in 1984 which administers scholarships.

Cara Cool-Trede serves as President and Mary Beth Runge, Vice President. Half of the 17-member board are required to come from an education background – either active or retired. A former past board member is Gary Funkhouser who served for approximately 15 years. Treynor's Jane Leick and Jeff Schoening both serve currently, along with Steve.

All members come from various SWI cities who pay $100 to be members of the board. There is no member compensation. All contributions are tax deductible.

Students apply online with one application along with an essay. Student names and schools are hidden and assigned a long number. A software has been developed that matches students with criteria. SWIEF scores the applications and makes the selections. SWIEF makes sure the money is sent to the college. SWIEF also arranges for an Award Breakfast.

The organization involves board members on one of five committees. They also have orientation conducted by two members of the Board for new board members.

SWIEF works hand in hand with the Community Foundation of Western Iowa (CFWI) who assist with correspondence, award processing, storing fund agreements and internal documents, marketing support, meeting space, and software. SWIEF has an administrative fund (not from donor money) to pay a little fee to CFWI for their assistance. Steve, as Treasurer, manages this fund.

Donor funds are deposited with CFWI and CFWI tracks it. Money earns interest and an investment advisor is hired to invest.

2026 Scholarship Funds of $585,800 were awarded to 138 students. There were 325 total applicants. SWIEF Funds equal $2,072,024.46 which is mostly endowed money. The Rick Wenninghoff scholarship awarded $20,000 to cover four years to nine Treynor students and nine Underwood students this year.

Students are eligible to apply for the SWIEF scholarships from the following counties: Cass, Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie, and Shelby plus the following schools: Boyer Valley Exira-ElkHorn, IKM-Manning, and SW Valley. Applications are available January 15 and must be submitted by March 15.

CFWI emails students who are recipients, notifies donors and emails school counselors. Recipients, family members, counselors, administrators, and donors are invited to a free breakfast sponsored by Iowa Western Community College at the Student Center.

Steve said one of his favorite things is seeing the joy of donors and student recipients as they meet and interact at the Scholarship Breakfast. He loves seeing the older generation passing it on.

To contact SWIEF:
swiowaedfoundation@gmail.com
To contact CFWI: 536 East Broadway, Council Bluffs, IA 51503. Website:
www.swiowaeducationalfoundation.org

Next week's speaker:
Kelsey Stupfell, Treynor Teacher Grants recipients and Treynor Tomorrows Update

Quote:

"Nothing is impossible. The word itself says, "I'm possible."

Audrey Hepburn

Meeting Minutes

Vice President Kirk Vorthmann called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Center. Seventeen members were present. Our guest was Michael Holton:

Prayer: Kirk Vorthmann

Jokes: Keith Denton, Steve Chambers, Jeff Jorgensen

50/50: Steve Irvin

Attendance: Diane Willenborg was unable to claim.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: Steve Chambers announced his and Jeannie's 57th Anniversary this Monday. It cost him $2 to not have us sing!

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

- Chad Guttau: The Master Gardener's are memorializing his mother, Dee, with a bench at the Treynor Eagle Monument next Saturday at 10 AM. All are invited to attend.
- Keith Denton: His granddaughters played Denver in the semi-finals State Soccer and lost in a triple overtime.
- Kirk Vorthmann: The Treynor boys baseball game last night was won 11 – 1.
- John Klein: He bragged on Glenrose Meier, along with himself, helping with the huge mailing (6000 +) this week of the IWCC Art Center program for this coming season.
- Gary Guttau: Praise for Kirk Vorthmann's son Kelby and wife and Kirk's thgrandkids helping with the Optimist can sorting last week. Others helping were Bill Vorthmann, Kirk Vorthmann, Dennis White, Gary Guttau, Chad Guttau, John Klein, Bret McVey, Judy Guttau.
- Kathy Luedke: Her youngest granddaughter graduated from high school in Pennsylvaia with straight A's and honors.
- Judy Guttau: USA beat Paraguay in an exciting World Cup soccer game Friday night 4-1.
- Bret McVey: St. Paul's and Zion's VBS were super fun this week. On June 21 Zion Church will celebrate 125 years. Bret is reviewing lots of video of when the church was built to use in the program.
- Gary Guttau: Showed a Lucky Strike Green package of cigarettes which he found in the rafters of his old machine shed. He knew one package had been lost when his parents' house had burned down years ago. After WW II the Greens became Lucky Strike Whites.



Business:

- Due to the storm during the meeting, it was decided to meet at 4 PM Sunday to put out flags and leave out for Flag Day- June 14, Juneteeth – June 19, Treynor Days – June 26-28, and Independence Day - July 4th.
- A mailing from Metro Youth Foundation Inc. was circulated.
- John Klein stated the Red Cross gave us a supply of gloves for the Can Kennel.

Community:

- Gary Guttau inquired about how to make a donation for the Westfair building project. Kirk said to contact Connie Casson or a board member. He said it's a $10MM campaign and $6-7MM has been raised.
- Mike Holton was asked to give an update on city happenings.
  - A professional study was done on stop lights. The city is hoping for a grant of

$30,000 for each of two lights known as Zion-Zion – one at the Zion Church and one at the new Zion road.
  - Splash Pad – It's phenomenal and complex. Concrete is to be poured this week. It will be somewhat finished by June 24, and the plan is to open for Treynor Days.
  - There was a robbery of not a huge amount of copper at "The T" – a Vision Treynor and developer issue.
  - Green Space Jam – 150 plus attended and it went very well. The stage was rented at a discount. Tweets and Jarvis sold out.
  - Stephens Road – a patch issue repair job has been a nuisance, but should be open Monday.
  - Fireworks sponsored by Treynor on July 4 will be as big or bigger than anything in SWI, except perhaps CB. To watch the fireworks, park at "The T". The whole town will be able to see. They will be launched from Zion Drive.
  - Jeff Jorgensen mentioned WattaWay, a website that likes to list community events in Pottawattamie County, sponsored by the CB Visitors and Convention Bureau.

- **Community Events:**
  - **Mon.-Fri. June 15-18:** Optimist sponsored swim lessons begin.
  - **Tues. June 16:** Farmers Market begins 5:30-7:30 Food Trucks: TIKKA TALK, Tastee Treat

School Events in Treynor

- **Mon. June 15 :** JV Reserve BB vs Omaha Benson
- **Tues. June 16:** JV/V G/B BB/SB vs Logan Mag
- **Wed. June 17:** JV/V BB vs. Creston
- **Thurs. June 18:** JV Reserve BB vs Omaha NW
- **Fri. June 19:** JV/V SB vs Exira, Elk, Aud
- **Fri. June 19:** JV/V BB vs Audubon

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

HUMOR

"If I'm not back in five minutes, just wait longer!"

CALENDAR

Events:

June 20	Optimist Meeting 8:00-9:00 AM

Birthdays:

June 16	Dale Willenborg
June 20	Jeff Jorgensen

Anniversaries:

June 28	Mick & Judy Guttau
June 29	Dave & Linda Danker

Programs:

June	Judy Guttau (3rd.4th Sat)
July	July 4 – no meeting
	July 11 – Jeff Jorgensen
	Phil Waggoner (3rd, 4th Sat)
August	Dale Willenborg

Speakers:

June 20	Kelsey Stupfell, Treynor Teacher Grants recipients and Treynor Tomorrows Update
June 27	4th Grade Invention Convention – State Participants
July 4	Holiday - No Meeting
July 11	Andy Moats, Pott. Co. Recorder

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