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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

Aug 8, 2026 Vol. 42, No.31

Rachel Chappel, Home Schooling



Rachel Chappell has home schooled her children for approximately 20 years. She and her husband live near Glenwood and have seven children, the oldest is 23, four have graduated, and they have a 3-month old grandchild. They own low-income property (approximately 50 HUD foreclosures) in North Omaha which her husband manages.

Rachel stated that home schooling isn’t for everyone; it works for some, but not others. She mentors other mothers. It’s important for the parent to be at home for the children to do their work and be willing to commit time and effort.

Curriculums can be expensive. Curriculums are based on what she feels the kids need as nothing is required. Her children serve on missions, go abroad, perform physical activities and have the flexibility to choose a conservative influence in higher education.

A person can go on Amazon to get curriculums or join other groups for different subjects. Math is easier and more regimented. Children can enroll at Iowa Western for other math classes or there are online resources. Some colleges don’t require ACT or even transcripts.

People will choose home schooling for different reasons and for personal values. Rachel shared that it can be challenging to be with kids all the time as you don’t get a break. Being invested in home schooling builds relationships, and you can see if your kids are responding and learning.

For children to participate in school sports, Rachel’s children must be dually enrolled at the Glenwood School. If they go to Iowa Western, they also need to be dually enrolled. Her children participate in the Learning Center in Omaha on Wednesdays that teach a la carte classes.

Rachel started a Co-op in her home and has invited various families to help teach subjects to the children in her basement. You can find home-school groups on Face Book.

Home school children don’t have free access at public schools. They don’t get access to state funds as they are not state accredited to cover travel expenses, etc.

Rachel’s goals with home schooling are about the relationship with family, relationship with GOD, and the ability to work hard. She teaches her children how to understand GOD’S plan and why they are here.

Thanks to Kathy Luedke for taking notes!

Next week’s speaker:
Pat Thomas, Just Serve

Quote:

“Be not afraid of growing slowly; be afraid only of standing still.”

Chinese Proverb

Meeting Minutes

President Dale Willenborg called the meeting to order at the Treynor Recreation Area. Nighteen members were present. Guests were George Volz, Gabrielle Blanchard, Clare Keiner, Delaney Jorgenson, Leonard Wright.

Prayer: Ken Graham

Jokes: Steve Chambers, Phil Waggoner, Dick Fox, Dale Willenborg, Keith Chambers

50/50: Steve Chambers (again!)

Attendance: Jerry Hempel

Birthdays/Anniversaries: Chad Guttau – Aug. 11. He brought cake and cookies to celebrate. Jerry Hempel met his wife Barb at the University of Nebraska, and they have been married 43 years.

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

- Dick Fox: In 1964 he came back from the National Guard in South Carolina sitting in the back seat of a Mustang. It was rough and he's never ridden in a Mustang since.
- Dick Fox: He had over 4 inches of rain.
- John Klein: The new mural west of the bank looks beautiful. It's made of wallpaper and not paint. Another mural will be painted and is coming on the west side of the city maintenance building where the can kennel is.
- Gary Guttau: He spent two hours on the phone with Isaac Clausen who got his computer working.
- George Volz: He introduced the new Optimist Lt. Governor Leonard Wright.
- Kirk Vorthmann: He's recuperating from illness. He has been working on an old John Deere 60 tractor and is happy it now runs like a top.
- Dale Willenborg: They spent two weeks with grandkids in Milwaukee touring murseums, etc.
- Keith Denton: He had charges on his Discover card which are now corrected.

Business:

- Can Kennel dollars collected = $282,000
- The Optimist Club of Underwood is inviting us to their 43rd annual Installation & Awards Banquet on Sunday, Oct. 11 at Twisted Tail in Beebeetown with a social at 5 and meal at 5:30. RSVP Oct. 1



L-R. Leonard Wright, George Volz

- George Volz, our Optimist Lt. Governor, stated the State Optimist Convention is in Dubuque this year. One project is to focus on getting people to eat healthy Iowa farmers' grown foods. Another is a contest to help youth to become more kindhearted. There is also a goal for Optimists to make 31,000 meals to give.
- George also shared a program called 'Club within a Club' to get 15 people (non-members) to work on a project. They would count as members and pay dues. The project could be seasonal.
- Leonard Wright, our incoming Opt. Lt. Governor is from Council Bluffs. He will visit once a quarter. Contact 210-943-8672, leonardandjoyce@cox.net



L-R: Dale W., Gabrielle Blanchard, Clare Keiner, Delaney Jorgenson

Gabrielle will go to UNO to study pre-med and specialize in pathology and cancer research.
Clare will go to the University and Minnesota. She will soon travel to France.
Delaney will attend UNL to study criminal justice to become an attorney. Gabrielle and Clare were in JOI Club.

Community:

- Dale will send out info regarding dates and times for the Metro Area Youth Golden Birthday Bash. The purpose is to raise money for cancer research.

Community Events:

- **Tues. Aug. 11**: Treynor Farmers Market 5:30-7:30 PM Customer Appreciation Night. Free Will donation for meal. Food Truck: Tastee Treet, Legion Beer Garden; Steve & Hannah – acoustic live music. Free face painting.
- **Thurs. Aug 13:** GreenSpace Jam, 7-9 PM. Country Music – Western Sky. Food, Fun. Bring

lawn chair, blanket. Green Space west of TS Bank

- **Thurs. Aug. 13:** Iowa State Fair begins.

School Events: None on Calendar

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

HUMOR

"I accidentally handed my wife a glue stick instead of chapstick. She still isn't talking to me."

CALENDAR

Events:

Aug 15	Meeting 8:00-9:00 AM Treynor Community Center

Birthdays:

Aug 23	Judy Guttau

Anniversaries:

Programs:

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

Speakers:

Aug 15	Pat Thomas, Just Serve
Aug 22	TBA
Aug 29	TBA

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