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,,The Optimist Club of Treynor, Treynor, IA
Iowa District, Zone 2 Club Number 40-109
Iowa District Governor: Joleen Jorgensen

Lt Governor: George Volz

NEWSLETTER

Treynor Optimist Club President:
Kirk Vorthmann

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Getting to Know Dennis White



Today’s Optimist program featured fellow member **Dennis White**, who reflected on his lifetime. The presentation came on a special day as Dennis and his wife, Kay, celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary. Together they have raised three sons, Jason, Matt, and Darrin, and enjoy six grandchildren ranging in age from 8 to 24.

Born in 1942, Dennis grew up around the restaurant business. His parents operated a short-order restaurant in South Omaha near the bomber plant during World War II, serving workers day and night. At age two, Dennis suffered a life-changing accident when he lost a hand in a meat grinder. Fortunately, his five-year-old brother quickly pulled the plug, preventing even more serious injuries.

His childhood included family moves to Minnesota to farm, back to Omaha to buy a restaurant where the old Union Pacific building was. Clientele were UP workers lined up around the corner. His mother worked there too so he would go also, and there was no meat grinder there!

At age 10, tragedy struck when his father was killed in a head-on collision while the family was traveling from Oklahoma where they lived two years, to Omaha for Thanksgiving during a blizzard. Dennis praised his mother, who raised three boys on her own through hard work, doing sewing alterations and other jobs to support the family.

Dennis began working at age 15 at Wergler Co., delivering baby photos taken at hospitals and later learning graphic arts and photographic retouching of negatives for offset printing.

His career included time with General Dynamics during the Atlas missile era before spending 37 years with Northwestern Bell, where he worked in planning, supply operations, and graphic advertising. He witnessed firsthand the transition from film photography to disk processes used in producing telephone directories in five states. It would take six months to produce the yellow pages of a phone directory. On the side Dennis said he dabbled in photography.

Seeking a strong family environment, Dennis and Kay moved to Treynor when two sons were approaching school age. Omaha was talking about busing which would have caused the oldest son to be on a bus at 5 AM and home at 5 PM. They checked out nearby communities to move to and someone suggested Treynor, Iowa. He hadn’t heard of it, but they liked what they saw and found and bought a house.They quickly became involved in community activities during the 1976 Bicentennial celebration. Dennis served 15 years on the Treynor school board, was recognized as an All-City Little League Assistant Coach, joined the Jaycees, and later became an Optimist. Since 2000, he has also helped maintain the local golf course.

Dennis’ story was a reminder that perseverance, service, family and community involvement can leave a lasting impact.

Next week’s speaker:
John Klein, Personal Story

Positive Quote:
“Even the darkest night will end and the sun will rise.” Victor Hugo.

Meeting Minutes

President Kirk Vorthmann called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Center. Eighteen members were present.

Prayer: Kirk Vorthmann

Jokes: Keith Denton, Dale Willenborg, Steve Chambers

50/50: Judy Guttau

Attendance: Shelly Bailey, but she wasn't present to claim.

Football Contest: Marsha Underwood, Judy Guttau

Thanks to Kevin Underwood for coordinating this.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: Marsha Underwood's birthday was today, and she provided breakfast for her birthday. Dale and Dianne Willenborg celebrated their 47th anniversary this past week and today is Dennis and Kay White's 56th anniversary.

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

- Chad Guttau: He attended a big political event at the Community Center last night and spent time with Brenda Bird, Attorney General, a long-time friend..
- Gary Guttau:A complaint "Brag" He spent lots of hours yesterday at the VA and UNMC determining what his leg pain was. All clear. Today he's walking fine. A good hot tub bath helped!
- Glenrose Meier: A complaint "Brag". She said an episode with a drill while planting alium bulbs led to hurting her hand when it spun. But everyday it's better and she's thankful her sewing hand will be okay.
- Kathy Luedke: A complaint "Brag". Her granddaughter is sharing Kathy's car.The dashboard is not lit up now, the headlights aren'r working, the mirrors always need adjusting, etc.
- Gary Guttau: Yesterday when he was at UNMC, he couldn't walk very well, and he forgot what level of parking he was on. A helpful lady drove him around until he found it.
- Dale Willenborg: His driveway was asphalted this week over a period of three days and it's nice. It was recommended to redo every five years.
- Keith Denton: He has experimented with drinking a shot of olive oil to help with sleeping. He says it's helping and he noticed it in less than a week. Later he said you are to take it with an orange slice. Later as he held up his wrapped finger, he said, "But don't use too sharp a knife!"

Business:

- **After the meeting I was notified the Can Kennel sorting for St. Paul Pre-school will be this Friday at 5 PM. This is a new time!**
- Flags will be taken down along Hwy 92 Monday about 4 PM. Dale Willenborg and John Klein will do this
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  Bret McVey received a check for Teammates from the Can Kennel amounting to $1432.05. He stated more female and male volunteers are desired as there are many students who want a mentor. It is done only for an hour a week and only during the school year. You can specify if you want an older child. It starts with 3rd graders. He finds it rewarding!
- There was flag discussion regarding volunteers, length of times to be displayed and prices. Kirk Vorthmann moved that we put the flags up for Mothers' Day Sun., May 9 and leave them up for Armed Forces Day Sat., May 15. We then will put up flags two weeks later for Memorial Day. Glenrose Meier seconded. All approved.
  The Optimists agreed to keep the flag price at $40.
- John Klein reported that he received a call from Andy Myer from Droppitt about his request for monies for our club to help other communities start up a Can Kennel program. Andy said the request was too large, but he wanted more information about this subject.

Community:

- Steve Chambers: The football team will know this morning who they play in the Playoffs: *It's West Central Valley at Treynor in the first round of the Class 1A playoffs – 7:00 PM.*
- John Klein reported on the excellent results of the Treynor band at recent Band Festivals.

Community Events:

- **Sun. Oct. 25**: 1-3 PM, **Treynor Spooktacular**, Treynor Community Center, Games, prizes, treats, free Halloweenies, costume contest.

School Events in Treynor + Big Events

- **Tues. Oct. 20:** 7/8th grade Football vs Underwood
- **Tues. Oct. 20:** V Girls Volleyball vs Creston
- **Wed. Oct. 21:** School out at 2 PM.
- **Thur. Oct. 22**: V B/G Cross Country – TRA
- **Fri.**, **Oct. 23**: School out at 2 PM – end of Q1.
- **Fri**., **Oct. 23**: 1st FB Playoff vs. West Central Valley @ Treynor 7 PM
- **Sat., Oct. 24:** All State Music Auditions @ Atlantic

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

HUMOR



OPTIMIST CALENDAR

Events:

Oct. 23	Can Kennel Sorting – 5 PM
Oct. 24	Meeting 8-9 AM, Treynor Community Center

Birthdays:

Oct. 29	Bill Vorthmann

Anniversaries:

Programs:

October	Judy Guttau
November	Jerry Hempel (1st, 2nd Sat)
	Josh Guttau (3rd, 4th Sat)
December	Mick & Judy Guttau

Speakers:

October	A series of talks this month by members to get to know them better:
Oct. 24	John Klein, personal story
Oct. 31	Judy Guttau, personal story
Nov. 7	Chaley Hempel, Cross Country Coach
Nov. 14	Jeff Casey, Football Coach
Nov. 21	Ashleigh Croushorn, Chief Technology Officer, TS Bank – topic: learn about AI
Nov. 28	Joel Beyenhof, Treynor Superintendent, (school related topic)
Dec. 5	Cody Forbush – A tale of an airplane owned by a local group
Dec. 12	Bob Andersen – His story
Dec. 19	Emmersen Fox – Horticulture (her major) trip to the Netherlands
Dec. 26	To be determined if we will have a meeting.

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

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