



THE OPTIMIST CLUB OF UPTOWN GREAT FALLS  
P.O. Box 462 / Great Falls, Montana 59403

# the OPTIMIST

AMS & NW DISTRICT



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<http://www.uptownoptimistclub.com/default.asp>

**MEETING DATE/LOCATION:** February 26 at the Pit Stop at 6:30 pm

**CONDUCTED BY:** President John Huotari

PRAYER & PLEDGE: Travis Harp

SERGEANT AT ARMS: John Gregory

SECRET GREETER: Loralie Schroedel

SECRET GREETER REPORT: **Dallas Lopez**

President's Toast: FOO Lucero & George PC (Roger Lesofski)

**GUESTS:** George Lucero Leo Samonya (Joann Gogo) John Abarr (John Gregory) also new member. Grew up in Jordan. Has a daughter who is a Sparkette and a son in high school Mandy Campbell & Jason Koppany (Matt Merry) Kirk Friede

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** 6

**NEW MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** 1

## **MEETING NOTES:**

**DUES NEED TO BE IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAILS AND MAIL. THANK YOU**

Dana Audet will chair Junior Golf.

2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr District Meeting - Jodi Merry reported, her 1<sup>st</sup> time at a meeting and 1<sup>st</sup> time in Canada. Lots of fun, learned lots. Banquet was really nice. Dance was fun. Entertainment was really good. Past Pres. Sue received the Honor Club award.

Girl Scout cookies are available. See Jennifer or Becka Rutledge.

Hank Seeman had an ankle fusion surgery. Keep him in your thots and prayers

Octagon Club is doing a food drive at both IGA's. Jennifer Rutledge can also accept donations at the Uptown meetings for convenience

**SKI TRIP:** March 7, Saturday, Showdown, gates open at 9 am. Be there earlier to collect your tickets from Matt or Jodi Merry. Let Jodi or Matt know if you're going in able to get a group discount (need 15 people without season passes). Deadline is March 5. All monies will be collected at that time. Jodi email [jodimerry@benefis.org](mailto:jodimerry@benefis.org) or 599-1689

**WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL:** Dallas Lopez announced that it will be on Saturday, February 28, Saturday at 6 pm. There will be one shift in the afternoon for set up and another shift that evening for running the silent auction and providing security. \$60 before the event, \$65 the day of. Be working on donations - baskets, single items, etc. Call Dallas at 868-1250 or [Dallas.a.lopez@outlook.com](mailto:Dallas.a.lopez@outlook.com). **Need things for the auction ASAP, leave at Boys and Girls Club for Sonja or call Dallas for pick up**

**P.R.:** John Gregory is working with Stacey Murray on thank you's for the cleansing of Kyler Strieb house. John is also working on publicizing the 501c3 status

**CASCADE OF TALENT:** The venue has been changed to GFHS for the show March 1, starting at 2pm (if you are selling tickets, be there at 12:30pm ). **The dress rehearsal will be February 28, 8-noonish for the junior high - 3:30 for the high school.** There is a huge cost savings attached with this. Besides that the Club will have a much more active role in the event, many volunteers will be needed. One ticket will get the audience in for both shows. Tickets will be sold at Kaufman's and the Credit Union. The loading/unloading of equipment went well on Thursday. Took 3 hours to get it all in the school.

**CCC FAMILIES:** Big news - Jordan Kleinhans is the student of the week at North! Big congrats to Jordan!

**PGI -** Jeff Barnhardt

**PROGRAM:** Great Falls Fury, Youth Lacrosse, founder Kirk Friede spoke on the beginnings of lacrosse. A sport that was invented by the Iroquis Indians. This is North America's largest, oldest and fastest growing sport. Boys teams have 10 players and full contact. Girls teams have 12 players and limited contact. A very physical, fast paced game that tests endurance and stamina while promoting teamwork and values. The club is a 501C3. [greatfallslacrosse@gmail.com](mailto:greatfallslacrosse@gmail.com), 781-9274 or see Facebook page.

**JOKE OF THE WEEK:** Travis Harp

**OPTIMIST OF THE WEEK:** Joann Gogo works for the Chamber of Commerce in Membership. She is also the chair for the Military Affairs Committee and on the board for the Great Falls Food Bank. (March 5 Quality Life Concepts will be the Chamber Event). She is married to Leo and they have 3 boys and 3 girls. Joann has family members in every branch of the Armed Forces, including active, reserve and guard.

Upcoming - Pat Goodover

## Upcoming - Mary Gregory

### UPCOMING:

*Thursday - Saturday, February 26-28 - Cascade of Talent Rehearsals*

*Saturday, February 28 - Wine and Food Festival, 6 pm*

*Sunday, March 1 - Cascade of Talent show, be there at 12:30pm if you are helping sell tickets*

*Friday, March 6 - State JAAM Competition by the Cascade FFA. Judges are needed and will meet at 3 pm at the Cascade School. Contact Eric Tilleman 799-3969 or Jo Ann Eisenzimer 468-2338*

*Saturday, March 7 - Ski Trip, Showdown, contact Jodi or Matt for carpooling. Gates open at 9 am*

*March 14 - Charter party for the Octagon Club at the Holiday Inn at 5 pm. \$15 per person for dinner. Club will cover Octagon members and their parents. One and all are welcome.*

*March 28 - Presidential Roast for Butch Ingebrigtsen, Heritage Inn*

*April 9 - Club Oratorical Contest, Holiday Inn*

*May 15-16 - 3<sup>d</sup> Quarter District Convention, Holiday Inn, Great Falls. Octagon Club will run the Children's activities. Liz Drahos will run the Companion activities. Friday is a Western theme. Jody Merry is Committee Chair. Saturday will be the banquet. Saturday day will be the workshops. Lots of entertainment is lined up.*

**BIRTHDAY CLUB:** Eric Christian 3/12

**SIDE POT:** Denny Hanenburg

**Optimist gift:**



**Officers & Board Members:**

**PRESIDENT:** John Huotari/ **1ST VP:** Eric Christian / **2<sup>ND</sup> VP:** Travis Harp

**SECRETARY: Rachel Huotari / TREASURER: Herb Waltermire**

**BOARD MEMBERS: Sue Bridgeford, Herb Waltermire, Eric Christian, Travis Harp, John Huotari, Rachel Huotari, Stacey Murray, Shane Neuman, Loralie Schroedel, Ike Kaufman, Matt Ott and Denny Hanenburg**

Board Meetings are the first Tuesday of each month at the Great Falls Transition Center 6:00 PM

Octagon Club meets Tuesday night at 6 pm at the 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist. Teenagers and Uptown are all welcome

FOO Members: Bargas Brigade Randy Bogden James Carpenter Stephen Hagan  
Montana Federal Credit Union Smoot Honey Co., Inc State Farm Insurance  
Stewart Title True Brew Espresso Eugene Tynes, DDSPC  
Sommerfeld & Sons Land & Livestock Advanced Agency Alliance

Loralie – mail newsletters to Hank Seeman, Gary Wallace and Mike Peet

\*\*\*\*\*I really don't think that I am as old as I am. I use as evidence not the activities that I engage in, though there are some that others as old as me have ceased. Rather, I use as evidence the dumb things I say and do. For confirmation of that thought, I look to essayist and journalist H.L. Mencken who said, "*The older I grow the more I distrust the familiar doctrine that age brings wisdom.*" Now there is a refreshing thought. Just when I thought that I was nearing the top of the hill or perhaps on a quick slide down the other side, I find that being a bit befuddled and mistake prone is a sign of youth. Celebrate the mistakes. They keep you young.

Ev Hall ☺

[Csabasthoughts.blogspot.com](http://Csabasthoughts.blogspot.com)