



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

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

# the OPTIMIST

AMS & NW DISTRICT



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**MEETING DATE/LOCATION:** May 28 at the Pit Stop at 6:30 pm

**CONDUCTED BY:** President John Huotari

PRAYER & PLEDGE: Brett Howell

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Scott Radford

SECRET GREETER: Corb Browne

SECRET GREETER REPORT: **all shook**

President's Toast: Jeff Barnhardt (FOO Walmart)

**GUESTS:** Cassie Longfellow and Becky Timmons, directors from the Boys and Girls Club. Becka Rutledge is no longer a guest; she is now our newest member.

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** 6

**NEW MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** 1

## **MEETING NOTES:**

Bonnie Pancich was in the hospital for a bowel obstruction. She is home now. Thots and prayers for her and Bob

Hank Seeman is pain free and doing very well. He is currently in Aiero House at the Grand View. His daughter is here for a while to help with his care

Rhoda Bargas 8 yr old niece, Morgan, is doing great.

**P.R.:**

**STRIPING:** Fellow Optimists: Here's the striping schedule for the weekend. Hopefully this will help us get caught up. Keep in mind that Corb Browne is not available this weekend.

Saturday, 5/30/2015, Need: 6 Optimists About: 4 hours

- 7:00 AM Montana Fed Credit Union, 540 Smelter Ave NE ~ repaint existing
- Then ADF, 401 U.S.Highway 87 ~ layout & paint one handicap with aisle
- Then Montana Fed Credit Union, 901 8th Ave South ~ repaint existing

- Then Hartelius, Durocher & Winter, 118 6th Street South ~ Layout & paint about 10 spaces
  - Then Ferguson Plumbing Supp, 905 River Drive South ~ Some layout will be done in advance  
Sunday, 5/31/2015, Need: 8 Optimists About: 3 1/2 hours Hopefully we can use three machines.
  - 6:30 AM Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center, ~ repaint existing including the trail to North
  - Then Dick Palmer complex, 13th street So & 9th Ave South ~ repaint existing.
- Please let me know ASAP that you will work. Yours in Optimism, Bob

**HIGHWAY CLEANUP:** Scott Radford will chair this year for Jesse Cameron. The date will be Saturday, June 6, at 9 am at the Fort Shaw post office. Scott recommends having \$5 per person for the kitty, no pun intended. The Schroedels and Jodi Merry to cook

**CCC GOLF TOURNAMENT:** July 25. Forms will be available via the website and email soon.

**JUNIOR GOLF:** Dana Audet reported that the date is July 7 at Eagle Falls. Check the website or golf courses for more info. Volunteers will be needed closer to the date

**CCC FAMILIES:** Stacey Murray via Brett Howell, no news is good news

**PGI/BIKES -** Jeff Barnhardt

**PROGRAM:** PROGRAM: Becky and Cassie, directors at the Boys and Girls Club. They thanked us repeatedly for the support we've given them over the years and pointed out that they were recently able to add another van route to bring more kids to the Clubs. They have 3 locations in Cascade County - one in Belt and two in Great Falls. There's a common misperception that they are only for low-income children; while they do offer scholarships for families that cannot afford their very low rates (\$25 for the whole summer), membership in their programs is open to everyone.

The Club offers many experiences - \* Art Education \* Summer Safari - Summer camp for kids in the community \* Computer Literacy (specifically use and safety) \* STEM - science, technology, engineering and math \* TRAIL - Together Raising Awareness for Indian Lives \* Smart Moves - Skills Mastery and Resistance Training \* Red Ribbon celebration \* Healthy Lifestyle, Cooking and Nutrition classes \* Mentorship \* Power Hour \* Food programs

Their Summer Safari program operates Monday through Friday throughout the summer months. Campers receive a multitude of engaging and fun activities to keep them busy and continuously learning. Some numbers from their 2014 Summer Safari: \* 179 scholarships totaling \$137,500 dollars. \$27,000 came from grants and designated donations \* Served 4,043 breakfasts, 1,192 more than 2013 \* Served 6,653 lunches, 1,453 more than 2013

Their Power Hour program is an after school program for kids to work on homework and life skills one on one with Club mentors. Imparts importance and worth and teaches good character and leadership.

Their 406 Color Blitz fundraiser is coming up June 13th. It is a color run that will be held at the University of Great Falls Campus. There will be a 5K walk/jog (as well as a 1 mile course for young ones and others for which 5K is too much of a challenge). Participants will be covered in colorful corn starch at different stations throughout the event. Uptown needs about 8 volunteers to man our station where we will be throwing purple. The run starts at 9:00 am, but volunteers should plan on showing up about 8:15 to get prepared. For being a sponsor Uptown has several free passes to run in the Blitz; Travis suggested that the Boys and Girls Club give our tickets to people who have kids who would like to run in the race but who cannot afford to run with them. All in attendance agreed that was a good idea - that Uptown members should either man our station or if wanting to run, purchase their own ticket for \$25.00. There will be vendors and music to create a fun atmosphere.

**JOKE OF THE WEEK:** Becka Rutledge and Rodger McConnell

**OPTIMIST OF THE WEEK:** Jeff Heimel - not present

Upcoming - Kyle Herda

Upcoming - Cody Hocter

### **UPCOMING:**

*May 30 - Sacajawea School is having a track meet for 5 & 6 graders, volunteers needed at 9 am. Ev Hall will be the javelin catcher*

*June 6 - Highway Cleanup*

*June 13 - Boys & Girls Club 406 Color Blitz - the Club has purple*

*June 19 - Governor's Gala in Blackfalds, Alberta*

*June 27 - Relay for Life, contact Ike Kaufman to be part of the team, walk is noon to midnight*

*June 27 - Jennifer Walter (Paulette) is getting married at the Chapel Theatre*

*July 7 - Junior Golf*

*July 24 - Big Brothers and Sisters will have the Deegan Wills Memorial Golf tournie, shot gun start at 8:30 am at Hickory Swing Golf Course*

*July 25 - CCC Golf Tournament, Anaconda Hills*

*July 30 - Night at the Voyagers*

*August 8 - Float Trip*

*August 13-15 - Annual District Convention, Calgary*

**BIRTHDAY CLUB:** Erica Harp 6/15 Sue Bridgeford 6/17

**SIDE POT:** Jennifer Rutledge

*Optimist gift:*



***Officers & Board Members:***

***PRESIDENT: John Huotari / 1ST VP: Eric Christian / 2ND 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:** Advanced Agency Alliance, Randy Bogden, Lucero & George LLP, Montana Federal Credit Union, Smoot Honey Co., Inc., Somerfeld & Sons Land & Livestock, State Farm Insurance, Stewart Title, True Brew Espresso, Eugene Tynes DDSPC, Walmart

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

\*\*\*\*\*The school year draws to a close for me. Next year, like those in the past, will welcome new faces. Of course we see new students but we must remember that we also greet new colleagues. These replace those that have left. In truth, those that leave cannot be replaced. We can fill their jobs but the memories we shared will continue on. This year is one where we have had to say goodbye to colleagues that have been friends for decades. How does one say goodbye or does one? Actor and writer Trey Parker put it this way, "Saying goodbye doesn't mean anything. It's the time we spent together that matters." That for most of us is accurate. As we recall good times and sad, good decisions and bad, and the experiences as a mom or dad, it's the sharing that we will always have. So there is no "goodbye." It's just, "until we meet again." Now, it's time to get to know those new faces.

Ev Hall ☺

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

