



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: October 15 at the Pit Stop at 6:30 pm

CHRISTMAS TREE KICKOFF NEXT MEETING, OCTOBER 22

CONDUCTED BY: President Eric Christian

PRAYER & PLEDGE: John Huotari

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Ev Hall

SECRET GREETER: Brett Howell

SECRET GREETER REPORT: **Roger Lesofski and President Eric Christian**

Past Secretary/Treasurer: Scott Radford, 2010, Secretary

GUESTS: Stephanie (Whitney Graef) Randy Knowles and Greg Tilton (Scott Radford)
Ben (John Huotari) Josh Bargas - FOO Ed (Sue Warren)

Farm in the Dell, Denny Hanenburg reported that it was a good time. Nice turn out!!

New Members inducted by Roger Lesofski: Rob Durham, Erick Christian, Alex Christian, AJ Blankenship, Whitney Graef...all sponsored by Pres. Eric FYI, for every 5 members a person brings in, a Dream Team jersey will be earned

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 5

NEW MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 5

MEETING NOTES:

Bob Pancich should be home soon, reported by Pres. Eric and Sue Warren. Needs our love and support.

Treasurer Jodi Merry reported that there is a reimbursement form available on the website. Please use this to get your money back. It will keep cleaner bookkeeping.

P.R.:

CHRISTMAS TREE LOT: October 22 is Tree Kick Off. Travis Harp and Lane Little are Chairmen. Please attend this meeting to get your tickets from the captains.

STRIPING: Denny Hanenburg, John Huotari and Brett Howell reported that it is wound down. Bids are going out for next year already!!

CCC FAMILIES: Stacey Murray reported that Kyler is doing well, has a cold... Calvin Diekhans is doing well. His parents are more laid back than the usual. He's out in the public and have good test results. Benefit went very well!!! Family is very thankful about support and funds.

PGI/BIKES - Jeff Barnhart awarded a Level 2 to Stacey Murray. There are about 10 bikes available Pres. Eric presented Jeff Barnhart with a copy of "Deeds and Dreams"

PROGRAM: Whitney Graef and Stephanie spoke on Sweet Pea's Princess Rental and More. You can rent out any character - mascots, princesses, superheroes, etc. They cover all over town. Started in December, business has boomed and Whitney brought on Stephanie and some other employees. Making children happy is the goal. Any kind of event is up for characters that will come to entertain the kids. Whitney started the company to fulfill a niche here and is able to work out of her home. She is planning on expanding to the schools local drama departments for people looking to volunteer to be characters.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: Scott Radford Fun Fact Jeff, Humpty Dumpty was not an egg, he was cannon.

OPTIMIST OF THE WEEK: Whitney Graef grew up next to a Catholic Church in Lewistown. Used to follow the priests around singing Little Mermaid's songs. At age 10, her dad was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma, he is now free of that but has epilepsy. With no health insurance, friends helped the family out. At 16, Whitney met Ryan, the love of her life. They married when she was 18, and have 3 living children. She is a stay at home mom and proud owner of Sweet Pea's Princess Rental. She keeps low prices and works with those less fortunate. She loves her job and her family. Found Uptown and Pres. Eric on Facebook. Really enjoying how wonderfully friendly and welcoming everyone is.

UPCOMING:

October 17 - Ben's swim team has a fundraiser, Wine & Whiskey at the Meadowlark Country Club, \$50/head

October 22 - Tree Kickoff, Travis Harp and Lane Little will be heading this. Be sure to attend this important meeting

October 23 - Dueling Pianos, Meadowlark Country Club

October 31 - Halloween Party at the City Bar. Sarah Robbins needs a head count. Sarah will be manning a Safe table downtown. Decorations are prepared. Costumes are optional. Zombie Gore is the theme

BIRTHDAY CLUB: Cody Hactor 10/16 Bev Christian 10/31 Bill Quast 11/3
Rhoda Bargas 11/13 Paulette Walter 11/18 Jon Boutilier 11/21

SIDE POT: Alex Christian

Optimist gift: David Robbins, donated back to CCC, \$25 gift certificate for Sweet Pea's Princess Rental



Officers & Board Members:

PRESIDENT: Eric Christian / **1ST VP:** Travis Harp / **2ND VP:** Lane Little

SECRETARY: Rachel Huotari / **TREASURER:** Jodi Merry

BOARD MEMBERS: Eric Christian, Travis Harp, Lane Little, John Huotari, Rachel Huotari, Jodi Merry, Stacey Murray, Ike Kaufman, Greg Franczyk, Ev Hall, Denny Hanenburg and Dallas Lopez

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 1st United Methodist. Teenagers and Uptown are all welcome

All newsletter info approved by President Eric Christian