



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

the OPTIMIST

AMS & NW DISTRICT



Join the Uptown Facebook page

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

MEETING DATE/LOCATION: November 5 at the Pit Stop at 6:30 pm

CONDUCTED BY: President Eric Christian

PRAYER & PLEDGE: Jodi Merry

SERGEANT AT ARMS: James Rehm

SECRET GREETER: AJ Blankenship

SECRET GREETER REPORT: **all shook**

Youngest Past President John Huotari 2014-15, favorite thing - striping

Oldest Past President Hank Seeman 1996-97, favorite thing - tree lot

GUESTS: Connie Walter (Rodger McConnell) Ben (John Huotari) Violet (James Rehm)

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 6

NEW MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 2

Reimbursement form on the website, then give to Jodi Merry.

Board Meeting, John Huotari reported Chocolate Noir 2 tables February 13 - Whittier Elementary 1st Grade Christmas backpacks tabled - Bisonettes \$250 - GF Volleyball Club \$500 - Tavern Association swap for \$1000 table for 6 trees

Safe Trick or Treat went very well. Sarah Robbin ran out of candy quickly and gave out some brochures

Halloween party was fun. Got to wish Bev a Happy Birthday!! Sarah looked cute as a zombie.

MEETING NOTES: "IF EVERYONE DOES A LITTLE, A LOT GETS DONE"

P.R.:

STRIPING: John Huotari rattled canned a cross hatch at Sam's Club. Made \$200 for the kitty. Way to go!!!

CHRISTMAS TREE LOT: Chairs Travis Harp and Lane Little kicked off ticket sales with teams and incentives. If "everybody does a little" we will sell tons of tickets. Team Captains need to encourage teams to sell. Please remember to contact Travis and Lane if you need help. Remember that 30% of ticket sales are never actually used for purchase of

a tree/products. Team Captains are Stephanie Schnider, Roger Lesofski, Matt Merry, James Rehm, Loralie Schroedel, John Gregory, Shane Neumann, Jody Merry, Gavin McCluey, Matt Ott, Ronny Grina & Ev Hall.

Denny Hanenburg will let everyone know when the Lot needs to be set up. Will need lots of help. Sign up for shifts.

CCC FAMILIES: Trayson Harrell's bone marrow transplant is going as smoothly as hoping. They are waiting to see if the new immunosuppressive anti-rejection medication (Rapamune) is working. They will be drawing blood for another chimerism (checking on percentage of donor cells) on Tuesday or Wednesday of next week after being on the new medicine for two weeks. We are extremely anxious to see the results and praying for a turnaround...meaning the percentage is going up instead of where it has been going... They are asking for prayer for this new medication to work, so they aren't headed for another transplant. (The talk of returning home has ceased for the time being.) :(The Sting Sports Bar has graciously offered to sponsor a fundraiser to help put a dent in both medical bills and travel expenses. They will be donating a dollar for every beer that is sold on November 13th from 6pm-10pm. We will also have a silent auction and a 50/50 raffle.

Calvin Diekhans - He was able to start this 2nd half of chemo with good blood counts. Another step closer to coming home!

Have a great meeting....see you guys in a couple weeks!!! Stacey Murray

PGI/BIKES - Jeff Barnhart

PROGRAM: Connie Walter, Angels in Camo, is a holiday gift program for veterans. Started in 2010 by KRTV. It's meant for veterans that don't have a support group. Non profit, seeks veterans and families that are in need. They get a wish list, then get a sponsor. A holiday party is held at the KRTV studio and veterans get their gifts. Applications are put in and vetted for approval. 86 children have benefited in the past. This year it has grown to 60 children. Wish lists tend to be for necessary items versus Xbox and Barbies. Sponsors are needed in active form and monetary form. KRTV takes care of printing and postage. angelsincamo@krtv.com 791-5485 or 590-0386

JOKE OF THE WEEK: Pres. Eric, Rodger McConnell, Violet Rehm

OPTIMIST OF THE WEEK: Jodi Merry is from Dodge City, KS. In 1991 moved to Montana. Her parents wanted to be near the mountains. Jodi grew up in Belgrade. Worked at Valley Bank for 6 years as a manager. A good friend introduced her to Matt. They have been together since. They moved to Great Falls 5 yrs ago. She works in payroll accounting at Benefis. They joined the Club because they knew no one up here. Her mom, dad, sister, brother, niece and nephew in Belgrade.

Next Week: Bob Dompier

UPCOMING:

November 14 - Work at tree lot at 10 am, Fairgrounds

November 16 - Trayson, fundraiser at the Sting, raise a pint, silent auction

November 19 6 pm - Field Trip to the second operation of the Front to see the canning process at 600 3 St S (old Sperry market), then to the Front on the NW Bypass for libations and goodies

December 2 - Tavern Assoc Annual Dinner, Civic Center 6 pm, table of 8 available

December 7, Monday - Mighty Mo for a CCC event to raise money, come one come all

BIRTHDAY CLUB: Rhoda Bargas 11/13 Paulette Walter 11/18 Jon Boutilier
11/21 Izaak Ready 11/22 Matt Ott 11/23 Rudy Robinson 11/23
Jeff Barnhart 11/24 Jessica Malek 11/26 Will Fuller 11/29

SIDE POT: Dirk Larsen

Optimist gift: Jack Lawson



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

Here is the of organizations that Montanans can join to support the fight for public access to public lands.

Russell Country Sportsmen's Association Annual dues \$15 or Life membership \$200

PO Box 282 Great Falls, MT 59403 Facebook page 406-750-6415 text and voice

MT Wildlife Federation Annual dues \$35

5530 North Montana Ave, Helena MT 59602 406-458-0227 mwf@mtwf.org montanawildlife.org

Public Land & Water Association annual membership \$20

PO Box 80987 Billings, MT 59108 plwa.org 406-698-6021

MT Trail Vehicle Riders Association annual dues \$22

PO Box 2884 Great Falls MT 59403 406-781-0967 mtvra.com infomtvra@bresnan.net

Ponderosa Snow Warriors annual dues about \$35 includes membership in MT Snowmobile Association

PO Box 933 Lincoln, MT 59639 ponderosasnowwarriors@gmail.com 406-362-3334

There are many more outdoor sports organizations but these attend the meetings and fight for access..

Randy Knowles knowlesmontana@juno.com 406-799-1547 text and voice