



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: January 28 at the Pit Stop at 6:30 pm

CONDUCTED BY: President Eric Christian

PRAYER & PLEDGE: Bev Christian

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Eric Schroedel - Impromptu Safety Briefing

SECRET GREETER: Loralie Schroedel

SECRET GREETER REPORT: **all shook**

GUESTS: Ben (John Huotari) Leon Green (Dave Robbin) April (MANG Yellow Ribbon Program) Paige (MANG Family Programs) Jodi and Matt Merry are having a girl!!!

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 8

NEW MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 3

District Board Meeting: Roger Lesofski reminds old members as well as new to attend. Lots of education and fun!!!! Early registration is \$95, need to know by January 28. To attend just the dinner, \$35, need to know by January 28. Need a couple of volunteers for Friday night for decorating for the Hawaiian theme. Jana Rehm reminds everyone that they need to be well lei'd. Mai Tais will be aflowin'.

Decorating will start at noon on Friday at the Holiday Inn.

Sara Robbin reminded members that there is a Spouse's program on Saturday. Companion cost is \$75, includes banquets and Friday Night events.

Roger Lesofski reminded all that final count has to be in by Wednesday!! Be here at the regular meeting on Thursday for the pre-festivities. Loads of fun will be had starting on Friday night, the start of the District Meeting. Past President John Huotari will be receiving his Honor Club award on Saturday night.

Registration is from 4-8pm on Friday. Dinner Fun at 7 pm on Friday. 8:30 am Saturday for the start of the day.

Reimbursement form on the website, then give to Jodi Merry. FYI no form required for the District Meeting reimbursement.

Uptown Foundation - a position will be coming available for those interested

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

P.R./ MEMBERSHIP: Pres. Eric would like to see everyone bring in at least one member before the District Board meeting in February. If you need help, get with Eric or any senior member, they will help you. Dues for new members right now are \$67.50 for the

rest of the year. Pres. Eric is doing bios on Facebook for FOO's and other members. He has gotten several hits already. Keep working on new members.

Check out January 9 Tribune letter written by Bob Pancich and Denny Hanenburg. Talks about Striping and the Tree Lot.

Shane Neuman and Ike Kaufman are working on Uptown's 60th Birthday on April 2. Pictures are needed. Getting together next weekend to go thru photos.

Pres. Eric is posting on Facebook a FOO report every week. Watch for these very interesting postings.

CASCADE OF TALENT: Shane Neuman - Rehearsals will be March 5, with one show on March 6 at 4 pm at GFHS. Jan Mader has posters available for tickets. Will need help with rehearsals and the show. Also chaperones for the dressing rooms and backstage.

STRIPING: Bob Pancich reported that the weather is warm. Calls are coming in. Get the correct contact, the decision maker, when you are referring lots. What condition is the lot in - clean, broken, dirty, covered in things. We need to get the bids out quickly to be ahead of the game. All of last years lot money is in. Bob Pancich 453-2472 for contact information.

CHRISTMAS TREE LOT: Roger Lesofski reported that February 25 will be Steak Night. Heritage Inn at 6 pm. Look for emails from Lane Little for the Steak winners.

CCC FAMILIES: Stacey Murray reported via Pres. Eric via Loralie Schroedel Calvin Diekhans is doing great!! He's at the maintenance stage. A Lot Less trips to Seattle for treatments. Don't forget the Crosstown Basketball Games and the T-shirts for Trayson!!!

PGI/BIKES - Jeff Barnhart reported that he has lots of bikes available. Bikes are vetted thru My Neighbor in Need and another reputable non-profit.

Eric Schroedel gave his talk on "How Optimism Can Make A Better World". Eric reminds everyone to be Safe, just in case. Simple things can go wrong, even tho everything is done correctly. Recommends that there is a head count at the meetings to make sure everyone were to get out of the building in case of a problem. Optimistically nothing should ever go bad, but let's face it - things go south quickly.

WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL: Dallas Lopez announced 35th Annual on February 27 at the Heritage Inn. Will have more info closer to the date. Will need volunteers and sponsors for the auction. Volunteers will be needed for set up, for the doors, in the auction room and check out. Jessica Malek is co-chair. Will need items for auction.

PROGRAM: Paige Held (MANG Family Program). This program is for family support for those at home while the active duty member is out on deployment or TDY. Help run camps and events for military children. The program is working at building Wing morale and keeping families whole.

April Ruckdashel (MANG Yellow Ribbon Program). Work with service members and families to bring them in prior to deployment to make sure the families know what services are available to help them with the transition. The transition is not just when the member leaves, but the re-adjustment when the member comes back home. This program connects with the Community to let families be aware of health benefits and what's available in the Community for re-intergration. Mental health services are available for members and families alike.

Both programs are geared to help MANG members realize all the benefits available.

JOKE OF THE WEEK: Bob Pancich and Dave Robbin

OPTIMIST OF THE WEEK:

Next Week:

UPCOMING:

February 4 - Governor Edie will be at tonight's meeting. Goals without plans are just dreams. Bring a friend, potential new member

February 5-6 - 2nd Quarter District Board Meeting, register before January 28 to get discounted rate, Holiday Inn

February 13 - Chocolat Noir, 2 tables are available

February 25 - Steak Night, Heritage Inn, 6 pm. There is Red Snapper for non-steak dinners, \$22. Will start a list next meeting for the dinner

February 27 - Wine and Food Festival, Heritage Inn

March 5 - Tech rehearsal and dress rehearsal, GFHS

March 6 - Cascade of Talent, 4 pm, one show, GFHS

April 2 - 60th Uptown Birthday, get out of state member info to Shane Neuman

BIRTHDAY CLUB: Eric Schroedel 1/24 Anitra Hall 1/30 Dirk Larsen 1/31
Mary Gregory 02/03 Dottie Sullivan 2/9 Kali Jean Tuckerman 2/14
Arlene Wilson 2/18 George Campanella 2/27

SIDE POT: Dave Robbin

Optimist gift:



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