



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: February 11 at the Pit Stop at 6:30 pm

CONDUCTED BY: President Eric Christian

PRAYER & PLEDGE: Shane Newman

SERGEANT AT ARMS: James Rehm

SECRET GREETER: Shane Newman

SECRET GREETER REPORT: **all shook**

GUESTS: Mindy (Jana Rehm) Kathy (Greg Tilleman) Heather Palermo Ben (John Huotari)

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 4

NEW MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 2

Jim Cummings passed on yesterday. Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers. Will be a great loss for the Club. He was a great man. He was at the beginning of the Striping program.

Denny Hanenburg is in Texas, his mother is not doing well. Thots and prayers

District Board Meeting: 27 Club members and spouses attended. John Gregory reported that it was very successful. 102 optimists in total. Highlight was Saturday night when the JOOI kids from Downtown came in. Quite a feel good moment. Each one received a participation award and personal greeting from Gov. Edie. Presentation by Helena's Club was outstanding, great attendance. Food by Holiday Inn was fantastic. Great Energy!! Jana Rehm's decorations were excellent. GFHS actually sent some of their kids over to view the setup for some projects of their own. Pres. Eric reminds us that 5 members gets a jersey, 10 a bronze medal, 15 a silver medal.

Pres. Eric spoke on starting a college club. The Club would keep the dues low by supplementing to get the members involved. The goal is to have a club that would be sustaining for more than one year. Meaning at least 15 members.

Pres. Eric is very proud of Uptown for all the work they do and how together the members are in comparison.

John Gregory spoke on the Companions Program for the District Meeting. Mary Gregory and Sara Robbin put together quite the event lists for the companions, from bracelets, drinks, program, Country Club visit. Sadly, there were only three companions.

Past President John Huotari received Honor Club Award!!!

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

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: 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.

\$67.50 for new members, it's 3rd quarter

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

Optimist Oratorical, reported by Ev Hall, is going quite well. Travis Harp has joined Ev in mentoring the 25 students with their presentations. Plans to get the Deaf and Blind school involved. Ev has been doing the oratorical for 38 years. Phase 2 is complete. Phase 3 is the dramatic interpretation that starts Thursday. The kids are working hard.

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. Jan Mader has tickets for the show. Bring non perishable foods for the food banks on the day of the show. More info coming. Will definitely need a spot lighter. Remember since the show is at the high school, the Club is now the labor. The school provides custodial care.

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. Looking at May for a start?? Going to need to do a work party to get the trailer ready for the season.

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. Denny Hanenburg has had a meeting with leaders for next year, little bit of fine tuning.

CCC FAMILIES: Stacey Murray reported Jordan Kleinhans has been taking back into the hospital today for fluid on the brain. Drains are in place in his abdomen. A battery of tests are being run. Pray for no cancer.

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.

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. Any empty baskets that are available need to be gotten to Jessica or Dallas asap.

PROGRAM: Heather Palermo, director of LifeLong Learning. Great Falls College MSU. Offering non traditional classes for community enrichment and professional development classes. It is important to continue learning throughout your life. 1500 students are handled by 2.5 staff members. The staff finds instructors, class times, pay scales, etc. Age 5-?? are welcome. Instructors are of all walks of life. This summer will have a kids college that will be a day camp involving learning about the world. There will also be $\frac{1}{2}$ day camps for non traditional classes for kids. Not accredited, however some classes do cross over into the accredited college. Classes could be gem hunting, rock climbing, web design, Quickbooks, fly tying, fly fishing, cooking, woodshop, etc. LifeLong is partnered with several companies in town and the area for learning and opportunities. Find them on Facebook, thru the College website or lifelonglearning.gfcmsu.edu. Always need new ideas for classes and instructors. Classes are spring, summer and fall. Get out and expand your mind by learning!!

JOKE OF THE WEEK: Bob Pancich

OPTIMIST OF THE WEEK:

Next Week:

UPCOMING:

February 13 - Chocolat Noir, 2 tables are available. Benefits the Children's Museum. 8 families will be able to go to the museum for a year due to our donation

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. Chicken will be available for non-fish eaters, price to be determined

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 and Past President's books and memorabilia to Shane Neuman

BIRTHDAY CLUB: Kali Jean Tuckerman 2/14 Arlene Wilson 2/18 George Campanella 2/27

SIDE POT: Pres. Eric Christian

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