

Meridian Optimist Club Bulletin

PO Box 681 ★ Meridian, Idaho 83680

Meets Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m. – Kal's Big Breakfast, 39 E. State Street, Meridian

Sue Thompson named Optimist of the Year



Shortly after presiding after her first meeting as Meridian Optimist Club president, Sue was recognized at the 2008 Installation Banquet as the Optimist of the Year for 2007-2008. According to Immediate Past President Bill Garcia, Sue was always ready to take on a new project and always there to make sure the project was completed. Congratulations Sue and best wishes for the great year ahead!

As president, Sue says

that she wants to “Switch it up!” In addition to the great projects that the club already performs, she hopes to start a golf tournament for kids that will advance them to the District tournament. She also hopes to build the club membership so that we have the ability to consider new activities. What a great start – five new members joined the MOC in October!

Welcome new members!

Linda Jackson
Cassie Lynch
Kevin Orth
Donna Petersen
Bob Thompson

First project of the year is complete

Thanks to everyone who came out to work at the concession stands for the Meridian Optimist Club at the Boise Optimist Football Complex. The fall football program serves more than five thousand kids. This fundraising effort is a great partnering opportunity that allows the Boise and Meridian Clubs to support each other.

The Flintstones visit first quarter district meeting

Yes, it's true! Fred, Wilma, Betty and Barney are all Optimists. They share d their unique brand of inspiration when they gathered with the representatives from twenty-six different Optimist Clubs in the PNW District during the First Quarter Meeting in Gig Harbor, WA. They learned about the topics and deadlines for district and international programs for 2008-2009 and shared experiences about adding new members and new projects to a club's busy agenda. Club presidents and secretary-treasurers were also



invited to learn about budgeting during a mock board of directors meeting and to role-play during a model club meeting. According to leadership development co-chair Ed Murphy, this allows the participants to learn from each other so they may take back fresh ideas to help run their clubs more smoothly. It also allows the newly elected presidents to experience the agenda that is promoted by Optimist International for helping members be engaged.



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Officers

President	
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Secretary/Treasurer	
Bill Garcia	208.870.7975
Past President	
Dr. Tom Hammond	208.888.4370
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Kimberly Bowers	208.888.2663
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Ron Petersen	208.866.3706
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Committee Chairs

Membership	
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Dream Makers



District Officers

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Secretary-Treasurer	
Gerry Morrison	604.852.2860
Governor-elect	
Linda Jackson	208.861.2310
Lt. Governor Zone 10	
Kirk Farnsworth	208.375.2639

International President

Don Sievers
Optimist Club of Jackson, Missouri

First Tee and the OIJGC

Anne Williamson, Executive Director with the First Tee of Idaho visited the club to discuss this fabulous life skills and character development program for kids that sets its curriculum around golf. Anne told us that the program was started in 1997 by the World Golf Foundation and while Tiger Woods is a contributor to the program it is not his foundation. First Tee came to Idaho in 2005. It operates out of Pierce Park Greens and Foxtail Golf Course. More than 2,500 students in the Boise and Meridian School Districts have learned about the positive learning opportunities offered by First Tee through their school outreach program.

It was first thought that the Meridian Optimist Club might join together with the First Tee to sponsor a qualifying tournament for the Optimist International Junior Golf Championships (OIJGC). Since the mission of the First Tee is character development and not competition, the Meridian Optimist Club will most likely support the First Tee program, but proceed with a golf tournament on our own. New members Kevin Orth and Bob Thompson are anxious to get a golf project started!

Speaking of character development

The Meridian Optimist Junior Air Rifle Club has started the fall season with sixty-five young shooters. The participants learn discipline, character development, self-motivation and endurance through this NRA sanctioned program. Way to go MOC!

What's happening next?

Board Meeting!

November 20 – 7:00 pm at Rick's Press Room, 130 E. Idaho. Find out what projects are being planned and how you can help by joining the Board of Directors at the monthly Board Meeting. Unless notice is given, the Board meets on the third Wednesday of every month and all members are welcome.

Food baskets!

November 21-22— time to be announced at the Meridian School District, 1303 E. Central Drive. The club is once again gathering canned goods and non-perishable items from the schools. Join us on as we put together and deliver 30 baskets to families in the Meridian community.

Christmas tree delivery and sales!

November 29 – time to be announced at Meridian Ford, 250 E. Overland Road. The trees usually arrive before noon and all hands are welcome to assist. Sign-up sheets will be circulating for working at the Christmas Tree lot for our biggest fund raiser of the year. Sign up early and often!

Rise and Shine with Larry Gebert!

December 5—O'dark thirty at the Meridian Optimist Club Christmas Tree Lot, 250 E. Overland Road. Channel 7 weatherman Larry Gebert will again help the club by announcing the Christmas Tree Lot during the morning report. Come down for fun, coffee and hot chocolate. Rumor has it that there may even be breakfast served. All elves are requested to be there early!

Club meetings!

November 2-9-16-23-30 – We hope to see you every Wednesday morning at 7:00 a.m. Join us at Kal's Big Breakfast, 39 E. State Street, Meridian.



The Optimist Creed

Promise yourself

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make your Optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

by Christian D. Larson

Happy November Birthdays!

Trenna Garcia	11/3
Al Borden	11/18
Mark Sullivan	11/23

In Memory

Wayne Crookston, Jr., a charter member of the Meridian Optimist Club passed away on November 8. A viewing will be held from 7 to 8 PM at the Cloverdale Funeral Home. A Funeral Service will be held at 1 PM November 12 at the Church of the Holy Nativity.