

# 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

## It's the most wonderful time of the year!

'Tis the busy season for the Meridian Optimist Club. The Meridian Optimist Christmas Tree Lot opened on November 29. We send a special thanks to the burly elves that showed up early on Saturday morning to unload the truck and set up the lot. The truck was unloaded in record time and by 10:00 a.m. they had begun to set up trees and put the decorative touches on the fence and trailer. Customers were arriving and purchasing well before 2:00 p.m. **Great job!**

Chairman **Kirk Farnsworth** is looking for workers for all days and times. Please give him a call at 850-6729 and let him know you'll be there to help. The tree lot hours are:

- Weekdays – 2:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday – 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Sunday – 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.



## Tree Lot Promotion

Larry Gebert will broadcast live from the Tree Lot on Friday, December 5. Be an early riser and help us promote the great things that Optimists do throughout the year.

## Holiday Food baskets delivered

Kudos to Chairpersons **Jim Correia** and **Kim Bowers** and everyone who came out to help with collecting and sorting food and delivering

food baskets to thirty-two families on behalf of the Meridian Optimist Club. Every family received more than 100 lbs. of food. The crew began the project at 12:30 p.m. on Friday and was done sorting by 7:00 p.m. Many came back out on Saturday morning to make the home deliveries. Rick Valenzuela from Rick's Press Room added a very personal and caring touch to the gifts this year. As a special treat, he made homemade pies for every family. **Well done everyone!**



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## Officers

<b>President</b>	208.409.0972
Sue Thompson	
<b>President-elect</b>	208.887.6404
Mark Sullivan	
<b>Vice President</b>	208.888.1977
Bob Nelson	
<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>	208.870.7975
Bill Garcia	
<b>Past President</b>	208.888.4370
Dr. Tom Hammond	
<b>Board of Directors</b>	208.888.2663
Kimberly Bowers	
Kirk Farnsworth	208.375.2639
Terry Farnsworth	208.375.2639
Tom McKinstry	208.884.8823
Ron Petersen	208.866.3706
Travis Walthall	208.898.0667

## Committee Chairs

<b>Membership</b>	
Ron Petersen	208.866.3706
<b>Youth Activities</b>	
Sue Thompson	208.409.0972
Kim Bowers	208.888.2663

## Bulletin Editor

Linda Jackson 208.861.2310  
Email: linda@newoptimistclub.com

## Dream Makers



## District Officers

<b>Governor</b>	
Peter Smith	604.469.1514
<b>Secretary-Treasurer</b>	
Gerry Morrison	604.852.2860
<b>Governor-elect</b>	
Linda Jackson	208.861.2310
<b>Lt. Governor Zone 10</b>	
Kirk Farnsworth	208.375.2639

## International President

**Don Sievers**  
Optimist Club of Jackson, Missouri

## We've had the pleasure of welcoming guests to our recent meetings:

- **Cindy Wall**, President, Boise Noon Optimist Club visited to present a check for \$2,400 to the Meridian Optimist Concessionaires for their hard work at the Boise Optimist Football Complex. Special thanks to Sue Thompson, Bill Holstein, Trena Garcia and Bill Garcia for working every Saturday at this event.
- **Buster Bronco** has abdicated his place of honor at the Boise Noon Optimist Club meetings to take a tour of the Treasure Valley. Word is he plans to spend the holidays with President Sue.
- **Michele Larson**, Development Manager, Idaho Make-A-Wish Foundation, stopped by to tell us about the inspirational wishes that are granted for children with life-threatening illnesses. There were 86 wishes granted in 2007 in Idaho; 52% of those wishes were for children in the Treasure Valley. Wishes cost about \$6,500 each.
- **Pam Orr**, Firefighter and Community Outreach Representative, Meridian Fire Department stopped by to give us some fire safety tips. Find her brochure at the Christmas Tree lot for full information. She also invited individuals to participate in the Public Safety Academy conducted each year to teach residents about public services in Meridian. Log on to [www.meridiancity.org/fire](http://www.meridiancity.org/fire) to learn more.



## Coming this month

December 3 – Tracy Shaw, Wishing Star Foundation

December 17 – Melissa Delaney, Meridian Police Department

## What's happening next?

### **Christmas Tree Extravaganza!**

November 29 until they are gone – Join us for a little holiday retail fun! The Tree Lot is open every day: Weekdays – 2 to 8; Saturday 9 to 8; and Sunday 10 to 6. Sign-up sheets are circulating for our biggest fund raiser of the year. Sign up early and often! *Call Kirk at 850-6729 to let him know you'll be there.*

### **Rise and Shine with Larry Gebert!**

December 5—4:30 a.m. 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!

### **Meridian Winterland Parade**

December 6 – 11:30 to 2:00, downtown Meridian. MOC will help the Meridian Chamber direct traffic for this fun, family event. Call Dr. Tom at 631-6637 for details.

### **Board Meeting!**

No Board Meeting this month – If urgent matters arise, a new date will be determined.

### **Casino Night Fund Raisers!**

December 17 and December 19 – Groups that are leasing our casino tables are looking for dealers. Ron Petersen has the details on this easy fund raiser for the club. Give him a call at 866-3706 if you are available to assist.



### **Club meetings!**

December 3-10-17-24-31 – 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 Birthday!

Donna Petersen 12/18

Happy Holidays



From the  
Meridian Optimist Club