

Meridian Optimist Club Bulletin

PO Box 681 ★ Meridian, Idaho 83680
Meets Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m. – Rick's Press Room, 130 E. Idaho, Meridian

We're on the move...

Your Optimist Club keeps growing! That's a good problem to have; but with the unexpected closing of Kal's Big Breakfast, the MOC had to go out in search of a new meeting location to accommodate our usual number of attendees. Thanks to MOC Member Rick Valenzuela, Rick's Press Room stepped up to the challenge and has graciously offered his restaurant for a private Meridian Optimist Club breakfast every Wednesday. **It's a special party every week – and you have a standing invitation!** The first breakfast was terrific. Thanks Rick! We look forward to many more.

Meet new member Doug Mason

Doug joined the MOC in January and has already pitched in on a really big move in town. With equipment from his employer, Sanitary Services Co. (SSC), Doug helped make short work of the Meridian Food Bank's relocation to Bower Street. Thanks to Doug, the job was accomplished in hours instead of days.

Flintstones are no match for the Pirates at the Annual Chili Cook-off

Staying with tradition, MOC members dressed up for their themed chili for the 1st Annual Meridian Fireman's Chili Cook-off. This is the first year for the firemen to coordinate the event that they inherited from the Meridian Chamber. Always a favorite of our members who like to pretend they are someone else for a day, this year they pretended to be the loveable characters from Bedrock – a place right out of history! According to the story in the Valley Times, the Eagle Fire Department entered Pirates in the contest and no one was a match for the pirate calendar. Or was it a Firemen Calendar? Aye, matey! Need I say more?

Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 11

The candy has been ordered! Prizes have been purchased! According to Chairman Trenna Bowman Garcia, the rest is all fun. Plan to join us on April 11 and before for preparations. Details to be provided soon.

Casino Night Fund Raisers

The casino tables have found a renewed energy with Chairman Ron Petersen. He's marketing them to the community along with volunteer Optimist dealers to help. Be sure to step up to this fun and fund raising opportunity. *Watch for details coming soon on a combined fundraising event for the Meridian Fire Department and the MOC.*

**Now meeting at
Rick's Press Room
130 E Idaho, Meridian
7:00 AM
Every Wednesday!**



Above, Doug & sponsor Dr. Tom Hammond.



Left, Doug helping with the Meridian Food Bank.

Below, can you identify Fred Flintstone and friends?

Thanks to the *Valley Times* for the pictures.



Vol. 32 Issue 4
February 22, 2009

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Optimist Club of Jackson, Missouri

Recent visitors and activities include:

President **Sue Thompson**, **Bill Garcia** and **Linda Jackson** attended the Boise Noon Optimist Club Meeting at the request of Nooners Ken Wall, Larry Highley and Michael Bouton. The purpose of the meeting was a ransom demand! Buster Bronco was returned to the rightful owners for the mere price of one Meridian gavel. As a bonus, Sue received two gavels instead of one.



Jessica Galloway, executive director, Idaho Peace Officers Memorial visited to confirm MOC's participation in the Fun Run scheduled for May 9.



Due to the favorable weather we've been enjoying, **Bill Holstein** found his way to town to enjoy a meeting recently. We were hiding at JB's restaurant for the day, but thanks to his investigative skills as a super insurance sleuth, he found us anyway. You can see why he has a hard time getting here in the snow. *Good to see you Bill!*



The Meridian Optimist Junior Air Rifle Club has been competing! Junior Olympic trials were held and twenty-one shooters participated. **Ross Hadfield** and **Bob Nelson** shared the news at a recent meeting.

What's happening next?

Regional Meeting in Twin Falls

March 7 – Join the MOC usual suspects for a Regional District Meeting at Bridgeview Estates in Twin Falls. It's a great opportunity to meet other Idaho Optimists, plus District Governor Peter Smith will be there to welcome you and Immediate Past Governor Steve Andersen will be presenting awards for the 2007-2008 administrative year. Can you guess which Idaho club will be honored?

Casino Nights

March 7 and 21 – Dealers needed. Call Ron Petersen at 866-3706 or Rod Shaul at 888-4699 to volunteer.

New Member Induction

March 11 – 7:00 a.m. Help us welcome our newest members to the Club! Each new member will learn about the purposes of Optimist International and get the opportunity to tell us about themselves! New member inductions will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. Sponsor a member today!

Board Meeting at LOCATION TBA!

March 18—7:00 p.m. The Board meets on the third Thursday of every month unless otherwise noticed. Meetings are always open to all!

Optimist Oratorical Contest

April 8 – 6:30 pm Hear what the kids have to say at the Club contest about "For me, optimism is..." at Meridian City Hall.

April 25 – 11:00 am Come back for the Zone Contest at the old Boys & Girls Club.

Club meetings!

Every Wednesday –7:00 a.m. Join us at Rick's Press Room, 130 E. Idaho, Meridian.

Looking Forward

April 11- Easter Egg Hunt

May 15-16 - District Meeting in Hood River

May 21 -National Historical Month Meridian Bus Tour with Lila Hill



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 TO:



Mark Freeman	March 4
John Brodrick	March 12
Sue Thompson	March 12
Tom Hammond	March 16
Steve Wallace	March 16
Bill Pahl	March 19
Bill Garcia	March 21
Travis Walthall	March 22