



“Friends of Youth – Bringing out the Best in Kids

www.boiseoptimist.org

Please take a look at our updated website. If you have any suggestions or corrections, please contact Ben Peterson at blpeter@gmail.com

BOISE NOON OPTIMIST CLUB MEETING SCHEDULE

1st Tuesday of the month, noon at the Twin Dragon Restaurant.

2nd Tuesday of the month, noon at the Twin Dragon Restaurant. Board Meeting

3rd Tuesday of the month, noon at the Twin Dragon Restaurant.

4th Tuesday of the month, evening meeting at the Casa Mexico 6:30 PM.

5th Tuesday of the month (When it happens) PARTY!!

Dyan Graybeal gavelled the meeting to order at 12:05. Brett Gallagher led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, and Steve Oliver said the Invocation.

Sunshine Dollars: Ken Wall for his "bad hair day." Cindi Wall's daughter was given an engagement ring Christmas. Harvey Dixon for getting a new Wii game on Christmas. Gary Arbaugh talked about the Polar Bear Challenge at Lucky Peak on New Year's Day for the Make A Wish program. Very successful!

We need people to help sell programs at the Boise State basketball games. Next games are on Jan. 13 & 15. "Bear Care" night is on March 2nd. People bring plain non commercial teddy bears to the game to give to the police who then give them to kids in distress.

Dyan asked for new ideas for the 2011 Christmas Party. She also asked that we bring food stuffs for the Food Bank next week.

Our speaker was retired Boise Police Dept Detective Sergeant LeRoy Graham. He talked on the need for "Drug Free Workplace Program." "In the 10 years I've been in this drug enforcement program, things have gotten much worse." He brought with him a suitcase showing the various drugs available. He said that by far America has the biggest drug problem in the world ... "More people have been killed in Mexico trying to get drugs to America than have been killed in Iraq and Afghanistan combined!"



Retired Detective LeRoy Graham



Gary Arbaugh looking at the display of samples of types of drugs.



Co-President Dyan Graybeal.



Larry Highley showing off his lovely granddaughters Alisse and Jayme.



Cindi & Ken Wall



Gary talking about how cold it was this year at the Polar Bear Challenge. He was Chairman of the event, and the Make A Wish Foundation did well because of him.



Harvey Dixon with a Sunshine Dollar taken by Steve Oliver.



LeRoy talking about the need for a drug free workplace program."



"Drugs in the workplace affect us all."



"Idaho gives a 5% rebate on the taxes to companies who have a drug free workplace program."



I think Scott Muir wins the pot every other week! This time for \$10.

Yours in Optimism, Walt & Barbara Callahan

Activities of the Boise Noon Optimist Club

Optimist Youth Football and Cheer Program



A nationally recognized, premier, youth sports program, begun in 1949 by the Boise Noon Optimist Club. This Flag and Tackle football program encompasses teams from throughout the Treasure Valley, including Boise, Meridian, Eagle, Nampa, Emmett, Mtn. Home, McCall, Wood River, it'sKuna, Glens Ferry, Marsing, Horseshoe Bend, and Garden Valley. In 2004, we expanded to include Cheerleading. In 2006, we anticipate over 4000 kids, ages 7-12, participating in this outstanding youth sports program.

The Boise Optimist Youth Football & Cheer Program steadfastly adheres to a rather “unique” philosophy. There is no goal of sending a team to any Little League World Series. There are no traveling teams with paid coaching staffs. There are no All-Star Teams. Participants do not “try out” and they are not categorized as “major” and “minor.”

Instead, Optimist teams and cheer squads are formed by neighborhoods according to where the participant lives. Teams are composed of players of different skill levels and abilities. They learn how to combine all these different abilities to form a team.

In football, once a player is on a tackle team (usually age 9), they will stay with that team for the entire four years they are in the program. They not only grow up together, but they also form lifelong friendships. When a coach starts with a team, he also moves up with the same team for the full four years.

A lot of youth programs talk about teaching teamwork, sportsmanship, commitment, and developing relationships. Optimist Youth Football & Cheer actually does it. It is truly a “unique experience.”

Optimist Youth Sports Complex



The Boise Noon Optimist Club, in collaboration with the City of Boise, has established a permanent home for the Optimist Youth Football and Cheer Program. With generous donations from corporate sponsors, Phase I of the Optimist Youth Sports Complex, located on Hill Road, was completed. Phase II of the park is currently under construction and we are actively seeking funds to complete this outstanding youth sports park. Other youth sports groups benefit from this city park, including recreational soccer and lacrosse teams. When complete, the 52 acre park will have 16 football fields, 950+ parking spaces, 2 catch-and-release ponds, 2 tennis courts, 2 covered patios, and a playground. For more information contact Jerron Moore at jerronm@msn.com.

Childhood Cancer Campaign



In December 2001, the Optimist International Board of Directors established the CCC as the organization's primary focus program for the next five years. We also give financial support to the St. Luke's Hospital school for children undergoing extensive and prolonged treatments. The benefits of this school can best be summed up in the words of one of its students, *“I figured if they were going to go to the trouble to teach me math, that must mean that I wasn't going to die.”*

Operation Bear Care

In partnership with Boise State University; we collect hundreds of new teddy bears and other stuffed animals during a home basketball game. These cuddly toys find their way to the Victim-Witness Units of the Boise Police Department and the Ada County Sheriff's Office.

Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) Picnic

During the month of June, Boise hosts the annual Hugh O'Brian Leadership Conference. Every high school in Idaho selects one sophomore student to attend this dynamic and life-changing event. The Boise Noon Optimist Club puts together a great bar-b-que in the park and feeds lunch to all of these young people and the HOBY staff. These future leaders are motivated, enthusiastic, appreciative, and hungry! To learn more about the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Foundation, go to <http://www.hoby.org/About/>.

Rake-Up Boise

Each year the Boise Noon Optimist club participates in "Rake-Up Boise," a city-wide effort to rake the leaves of the elderly, handicapped, or feeble members of our community.

Santa Letters



The BNOC has been answering Santa's letters for over 35 years. Gary

Arbaugh organizes the Santa Letters sessions.

Annual Holiday Auction & Dinner

This has become a highly anticipated holiday event for Boise Noon Optimist club members. Our dinner and silent and live auctions net thousands of dollars which are then distributed to needy kids and their families. Each year we purchase gifts for kids at the Hays Shelter Home and the Emancipation House. Other groups who have benefited from our auctions include the Ronald McDonald House, Fairmont Junior High School Holiday gift-giving and individual families in Boise.

Essay Contest

This is a new program for our club. It is designed to give young people the opportunity to write about their own opinions regarding the world in which they live. This year's club winner was Kathryn Boren, a senior at Boise High School. She received a \$250 scholarship from the Boise Noon Club and her essay will be competing in our Pacific Northwest District contest in May 2006.

Quilting

This group of ladies and gents get together to promote personal quilting skills and produce quilts for the Linus Program. "Linus" blankets are distributed to children's hospitals, fire departments and family service organizations.

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Treasurer:

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Immediate Past president:
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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 that 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.