



The S O C - K E T



The weekly publication of the Optimist Club of Salem
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 Ye Olde Editor — Wes Alderson

The Club meets every Thursday noon at -
GREAT WALL BUFFET

2006-07 Club Officers

President:	Bruce Gilbertson
President-Elect:	(position open)
Immediate Past-President	Maur Horton
Vice-Presidents:	Frank Milton & Dave Sevall
Secretary/Treasurer:	Arlen Hollinshead
Directors:	Marian Guertin Bob Bjurstrom
	Vern Tabery Bob MacArthur
	Frank Masser Flora Butts

For some of us at least, at the beginning of the school year we sometimes wonder what it is that sets some students apart from their classmates. Then they attend an Optimist luncheon and, after being called upon to say a few words, it becomes readily apparent why these particular young people were selected. While the numbers of honorees for this week were somewhat less than anticipated, their qualities stood out just the same.



Most everyone has seen this picture a time or two in prior issues of The Socket, but the project, while lacking immediate results, still remains on the back burner. This is just to keep everyone aware that it is not a dead issue.



Here is something else you have seen recently. By wearing a "Just Ask" button, you are encouraging potential Optimists to ask you about the organization. More importantly, there is a pamphlet that President Bruce has available, that provides guidance on what sorts of questions one might expect and how to respond to them. See Bruce for more information. We can always use more members exhibiting interest in youth work.



The first student to be introduced is Sierra Durfee of McKay High School. Early on in high school she transferred from Aloha, and that had to be a difficult transition. However, her accomplishments since arriving at McKay have been outstanding in every sense of the word. A cellist and an accomplished actress as well, Sierra plans on continuing her theatrical endeavors beyond high school, having mentioned Western Oregon as a distinct possibility.

Our second honoree, Tony Tunzat, is from West Salem High School. His forte is the trumpet. He participated in the All-City Band, and currently utilizes his expertise in the pit-orchestra that accompanies drama presentations. In describing his accomplishments, when he first entered high school it was said that he was a good musician, but has advanced to the extent that he is now classified as a "gifted" musician. He currently plays with a church group that consists of musicians of varying ages. His future plans are centered around music, and several different opportunities await him at the collegiate level.



The third honoree whom we were privileged to welcome this day is Donovan Traer, Oregon School for the Deaf. Here is one young man who has not let deafness deny him a place in the limelight. There is just one significant difference that sets him apart from the music world, and that is his talent in the kitchen. Not only was his presentation



full of vigor and life, but he exuded the delight he finds in preparing a gourmet meal. One might describe him as being a "natural" in the kitchen. From the moment he entered OSD his skills became apparent. On this occasion, using facial expressions and movement of shoulders and arms, one could tell that the mere thought of cooking a multi-course meal is this young man's forte. It just goes to prove that one does not necessarily have to play a musical instrument to make music of a kind.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Jan 25 Carlene Lodeski
 Involved with Native American children
 Feb 1 Brad Garret OSAA



As you probably already realize, this message hasn't changed much from last week, and is likely to remain quite similar for the next several weeks. The State Wrestling Tournament is almost upon us and there are many vacancies to fill. Rumors are being circulated that the Armory is going to put to use as well as the Pavilion. While North Salem ROTC

is going to be helping out this year, as they did before, there will always be room for more bodies. Make sure yours is one of them!

So, sign up early and often to help the club's big fund drive of the winter (and spring). There are three shifts daily for the February 15—17 event. If you are unable to sign up in person at a Thursday luncheon, please call Dave Sevall evenings or weekends at (503) 391-1820.

P.S. There is reasonable certainty that any time that is convenient for you will be available.

It is with sincere regrets that it has become necessary to announce the resignation of John Chamberlain from the club. As you may recall, he expressed an interest in the Presidency two successive years, and even went so far as accept nomination as President-Elect. Obviously, this creates a vacancy that will need to be filled, and the sooner the better.

Politics seems to have captured the limelight recently, especially in regard to the war in Iraq. Not necessarily to be critical of those in office, the following comments are by noted personalities.

"The good news is last night President Bush finally admitted he's made mistakes in Iraq. The bad news is he's planning to make the same mistakes again." Jay Leno

"After hearing the president's speech, Democrats in the Senate are seeking bi-partisan support for a non-binding resolution opposing President Bush's deployment of his military escalation. In response, President Bush said, "Huh?" Conan O'Brien

"Ted Kennedy attacked the President. He said Iraq is George Bush's Vietnam. Which is very unfair. There is a huge difference. Bush knew how to get out of Vietnam." Jay Leno