



The SOC-KET

Bringing
Out
The Best
In
Children

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 Willson House
(check out our website at www.optimistclubofsalemor.org)

2007-08 Club Officers

President:	John Chamberlain
President-Designate	TBA
Immediate Past-President	Bruce Gilberson
Secretary/Treasurer:	Arlen Hollinshead
Directors:	John Day, Paul Negstad, Frank Masser, Dave Sevall, Vern Tabery, Dave Wiley



The honoree from West Salem High School in the field of Vocational Technology is Jose Arechiga. In her student introduction, Kirstin Jorgenson, Asst. Principal, read from a whole list of his achievements, and one can only comment "Wow!" Aside from earning an A in just about everything from business management to DECA. His achievements

also include being in charge of the Val O Gram promotion. While there are those of us who are unfamiliar with some of this terminology, his accomplishments are spectacular to say the least.

In one way or another Vern Tabery manages to gain a lot of recognition, but this time he has to hand it to Greg Cruise of McKay High School. We were told that Greg has been involved in all vocational projects, and this includes automotive shop and welding. He said his cousins told him about these things beforehand, so he decided to give them a try, and hasn't regretted a moment of it. He even sports a GPA of 3.5+, and that ain't hay. His plans include Chemeketa CC for a couple of years, and then on to achieve a more advance degree.



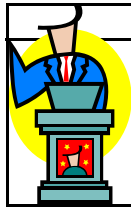
This young lady is Che'ne Thompson. Paul Negstad is presenting her certificate of recognition. Che'ne is from Arizona, Gila River to be exact. She said she is one of seven offspring; 4 older sisters and 2 younger brothers. While she admits to playing a lot of softball, even in the Arizona heat, her achievements at Chemawa Indian School has been in wood shop, where she evidently has been quite a whiz.

Her future plans include attending University of Arizona. No doubt she will be as much of a success there as she has been here. Carol John, faculty representative, read from a note she received from David Dodge in which he holds this student in the highest regard.



The visitor that Bruce is chatting with is Boyd Yaden, Lt. Governor, Zone 3. Boyd is a member of the Northeast Portland Optimist Club, and came to Salem to promote; No. 1 The Regional Conference to be held February 21, at Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum, McMinnville. In addition to the

normal agenda, there is to be two special presentations: A luncheon address by Kenneth Till, Director of Operations, Evergreen Space Museum, and a program on McMinnville School District's Engineering and Aerospace Sciences Academy. This is a very special opportunity to learn a great deal about a program that is only one of a kind in this State.



THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

If I can make the difference in one young person's life, and if I can make that youth say to him(her) self, "Wow! Look what I can do. I guess I can make a difference." Then I guess I have succeeded in living up to my goal as an Optimist!

As I am in the process of laying the carpet for some of the upcoming events of the Spring season for the youth of Salem, Oregon. I'm starting to notice something I've gained. I have a surprising lift of my own personal spirits. What is great about this is, I'm not the only one who notices it. The employees that I work with, my neighbors, and even my customers wonder what is going on. The thing that makes me happiest is I just tell them a thing or two that our club is working on and then just go on doing what I'm doing.

The simple action is not asking them to "join our club." It is simply showing them what it means "to bring out the best in kids." It really is fun! When I said I was in the process of laying the carpet earlier, I guess that's what I'm doing also for our desire to enlarge membership.

Most of you members are really doing a lot to help us now in "preparing for the season of toil." For that I say thank you. A lot of you probably are half-scared because possibly in the past you've had an experience that didn't quite turn out the way that you expected. If that did happen...for that I'm sorry.

If you have a little curiosity about the Optimist Club of Salem, and if you want to know what is happening today in Salem, Oregon, please give me a call. My name is John Chamberlain; my phone # is 503-949-2744. To me the greatest thing I can do is to make a difference in the life of today's youth!



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Feb. 19 Youth Appreciation
Most Involved in Vocational Technology
Feb. 26 TBA

Salem Kids' Relay Races



There is something special about this girl and others just like her. One can sense the pride she feels when crossing the finish line, even though it may not have been in first place. Saturday, May 9, is the date for the upcoming relays, and we need just about all the help we can get.

Application forms must be completed beforehand, so if you intend to add your talents to this festive occasion, be certain to contact Vern Tabery. Should you need his phone number, it is: (503) 588-8539.



The Optimist Club can also use a lot of publicity, so get the word out to family, friends, and even casual acquaintances.



It is very questionable whether any of the kids you see here will be participating in the Essay Contest, but Vern states that he has twelve (12) contestants who submitted their entries. Now, that's pretty darn good in anybody's language, and Vern deserves a big round of applause for the effort he put into this year's program.