



The SOC-KET



The weekly publication of the Optimist Club of Salem
Volume 58 Issue 19 February 22, 2007
Ye Olde Editor — Wes Alderson

The Club meets every Thursday noon at the Great Wall Buffet
(check out our website at www.optimistclubofsalemor.org)

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



Did you really think you had seen the last of these pictures? Well, think again. Given the right kind of push (namely, the bucks), this or something quite similar will appear on the grounds at Cascade Gateway Park. So don't give up hope.

This is still a viable project that is on hold for the time being, and our club may yet get some desired publicity from this.

Yep! You guessed correctly. Ye Olde Editor forgot the camera again. Something will have to be done about that fellow who suffers from occasional memory lapses.

Just the same, our guest speaker today was Todd Sheldon representing Marion County's Fresh Start, an alternative program which provides training opportunities for youth in trade skills, customer service and business. Todd said he has been involved with the alternative program for 15 years, on half as long as the program has been in existence.

In reality, the kids who are a part of this program have run afoul of the law in one way or another. Most fall in the 14—16 year age group, but the program includes those up to the age of 19. Customarily there are 50 to 90 individuals in this program, but certain times of the year seem to have a bearing on the number involved.

What do the kids do under this program? There are variety of tasks that they may be required to do, ranging from carpentry to marketing. The whole idea is to provide training, both physical and mental, toward rehabilitation; a return to a normal life style.

There is a shop on site that provides an opportunity to use recycled metal and wood to create unique handcrafted goods which are then offered for sale in their market. There is even a garden (greenhouse) where an assortment of vegetables and other plants are grown, and are later sold.

There is a coffee shop on site where people can come in for a bite to eat and a cup of coffee (what else?) This means that some their charges get involved in the culinary arts as well.

Some of these kids have not been in school for as long as four years, so education and employment are treated as equal goals.

Reconciliation between victims and those who have "crossed the line" is also a priority.

It has been determined that "hands on" training further enhances learning skills. Some of their charges are exposed to furthering their formal education by means of G. E. D., in addition to online schooling.

How successful is this program? There were no exact figures quoted, but 8% recidivism was mentioned. A ninety-two favorable percentage is quite impressive, wouldn't you say?

Latest word from the Powells is that they have changed addresses, from Greenwood Drive to Willamette Lutheran Home, located at 7693 Wheatland Road N, Room 117. Should you have occasion to send a card or a letter, their mail is delivered to P.O. Box 169, Room 117, Salem 97308.



When it isn't even March yet, it may seem a tad early to be thinking about April. However, Arlen, et al, will be stuffing eggs for the annual Easter Egg hunt on Tuesday, April 3, at his home. The hunt is scheduled for Saturday, April 7 on the grounds of Morningside Methodist Church.

Marian Guertin has found it necessary to submit her resignation from the Board. This creates another vacancy along with that of President-elect that is in need of a candidate. Here is a golden opportunity for some ambitious member to get further involved in running the club.



Some of us are old enough to remember Willie and Joe. The caption under this picture states "Just gimme an aspirin. I already got a Purple Heart." At least a couple of Optimists, or family members, have been under the weather lately for one reason or another. All they may need is an aspirin and little time to recover, along with some TLC.

Jack Cartwright (Nora Lee), Dave Andrieu, and Patti Burnley are a few names that come to mind. Whatever it is, hopefully you will get well soon.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- Mar. 1 Burt Adams
Sand in the City (building sand castles)
- Mar. 8 Youth Appreciation
Most Involved in Community Affairs
- Mar. 15 Ditto



UPDATE ON CLUB'S SERVICES AT THE TOURNAMENT

Kudos —not takedowns—to all those who volunteered at the OSAA Wrestling Tournament last weekend.

A special wave of the red coatsleeve to Vern Tabery. Vern coordinated shifts at the Armory venue. He put in two days there and also helped at the

Pavilion.

For the third consecutive year, Dave and Linda Wiley anchored the morning shift all three days. Those who smelled the coffee were Dennis Patke, Flora Butts, John Day, Linc Watson, Derek Telford, Wes Alderson, and Jerry Sheetz.

In the afternoons, help came from Ray Thomas, Joe Miller, Cliff Lawrence, Karen Heuberger, Maur Horton, Shelley Hansen, Arlen Hollinshead, and Phil Frey.

Who came out at night? Paul Negstad, Frank Masser, Dan & Laine Porth, Arlen Hollinshead, Bruce & Judy Gilbertson, Cliff Lawrence, Phil Frey, Billy Powers, and Wes Alderson.

In all, 24 Optimists gave of their time. Help also came from Coach Billy Powers and his soccer parents as well as from Lt. Colonel Dwight Morse and his North Salem High School Junior R.O.T.C. cadets. Both groups will be provided funding for activities.

If you were one of the 21 Optimists who missed out, we'll see you in 2008.

Dave Sevall

P.S. Did you know Phil Frey was a wrestling tiger at Oregon State University for Coach Dale Thomas?

Political humor seems in vogue these days, so why be any different?

President Bush wants to send 20,000 more troops to Iraq because he believes we can stop the fighting. Stop the fighting in Iraq? We can't even stop the fighting between Rosie O'Donnell and Donald Trump. Jay Leno