



The SOC-KET

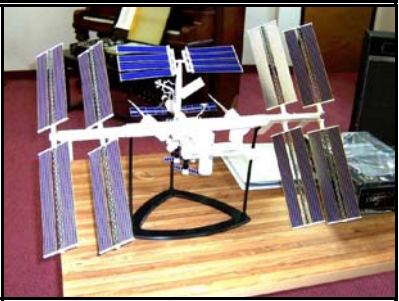
Bringing
Out
The Best
In
Children

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 gentleman you are looking at is David Shuit, and he had a hand

in developing the real thing, not just the sample shown on the right. What is it you might ask? The real thing, which is 360' long and 240' tall, is an *International Space Station* that soars some 220 miles above the earth. And, as you have probably discerned by now, all those blue colored items you see are solar panels. It rotates around the earth at 17,500 miles per hour, somewhat speedier than earth bound race cars. It takes all of 92 minutes to complete each orbit. Now, you may ask what this piece of complex machinery is used for; it is described as a science and research vehicle that is taken out there in pieces and assembled on site.

David is retired now, but he worked for Rocketdyne for a period of six years. Now, this gentlemen used technical terminology that is far too advanced for someone who never progressed beyond the sling-shot, so forgive me if I skip over some of the details that he spoke of.

Just the same, he distributed a sheet that contains some pertinent data; i.e., *the ISS effort involves more than 100,000 people in space agencies, at 500 contractor facilities, and in 37 states. That's almost half the entire population of the U. S. State of North Dakota. As of June 2006, the number of crewmembers and visitors who have traveled to the ISS included 116 people representing 10 countries.*

There is really far too much data for a person to include in the limited space of a club bulletin. The technical details such as the amount of space available except to say that it is larger than a five bedroom home.

Crews have eaten about 23,000 meals & 20,000 snacks, equivalent to 40,000 lbs. of food.

Because there is no air available, except that which is generated on board, it must be created and distributed by fans, otherwise one would end up breathing his own air repeatedly, and used air is something a person would not want to do.

If you are interested in observing the space station in flight, there are several means available. One is at <http://spaceflight1.nasa.gov/realdatasightings/> One must have JAVA to use this website. Another website is <http://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/nasatv/index.html> There are three other sites that one might access. Should you encounter difficulty with these, check with members who were present at the last meeting and they can cite some alternates.

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.



THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Finally after 4 months of anticipation, concern and application, I can tell the Optimist Club of Salem that we have succeeded in finding something new for the youth. The concern of always doing the same old thing and not promoting Salem's awareness of the Optimist Club to the degree we would like has finally come to an end.

My first meeting as President, in October last year, was a challenging one. I brought up an idea for another fund-raiser that was well received. An anonymous (to you) member brought up the concern that she thought the Optimist Club was bringing out the best in kids, not just raising money. With that in mind I had to change my song. We are now doing new things just for middle school kids.

On Saturday, April 18th, Leslie Middle School honor students are going to make an impact on Salem, Oregon. The choice is a combination of 2 different activities that were selected by them to address the issues of hunger and poverty. I will be making an outline to identify all of the areas that need to be pre-arranged so that it goes smoothly, and will be asking some of you to share your skills as I can't do it alone.

The response and support of teachers and the principal is already in place. The next step is going to be utilizing parents to strengthen the plan as this event is likely to take only 5 hours or so. With this new thing we are allowing non-members to get involved and hopefully this will open the door for new members. As I have said before, "actions speak louder than words." If people see what kind of wonderful change can come upon our youth — who knows, they might consider being a part of the healthy life as an Optimist!



March 5 TBA



Does anyone know who this girl is? She might like to know her picture is being used to promote the Salem Kids' Relay Races. All we know about her now is that she is quite young and pretty, and she appears to be running as rapidly as her legs will carry her.

Remember, these races are going to require many bodies to help stage this event, so don't hesitate to approach someone you think may be willing to help. The date will be repeated time and time again. It is Saturday, May 9.



President John announced that there is plan for the students at Leslie Middle School. There is to be a car wash. In addition, ten students will be going to grocery stores on Saturday, April 18, and asking for food donations. Parents, teachers or club members will be encouraged to accompany these kids. As a reward for their efforts, there is to be a hot dog stand for the kids afterward. The hot dogs will be free to the participants, but all others must bring canned food, or the equivalent in funds, to purchase a hot dog. It has been suggested that the kids who participate should wear a plastic wrist band as a means of identification. The food is destined for Marion-Polk food share.