



# The S O C - K E T

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](http://www.optimistclubofsalemor.org) )

## 2007-08 Club Officers

President: Bruce Gilbertson  
President-Elect: John Chamberlain  
Immediate Past-President: Maur Horton  
Secretary/Treasurer: Arlen Hollinshead  
Directors: Maur Horton, Ray Thomas, Frank Masser,  
Dave Sevall, Vern Tabery, Frank Milton



Although Treven Upkes may not be dressed as one might picture a detective, that is his job with the City of Salem, and his casual attire most certainly is no reflection on his capabilities.

Treven spent his early years in Seaside, Oregon. Later on he had occasion to move to Sacramento, CA. There he was a member of law enforcement.

Believing that Salem (and Oregon) was a far better place to raise a family, he returned.

His message on this occasion was to tell us about identity theft. As a part of his presentation, Treven made use of a slide projector. He began by defining I.D. theft. There were fifteen separate items on this one display that explained the varieties, but it all boils down to something called deception and/or fraud.

Nationally, in 2004 Salem had the 9th highest rate of I.D. theft. In 2005 and 06 the rate dropped to 13th.

In 2004 Salem also ranked 9th highest in consumer fraud, and continued the same ranking in 2005-06.

During the same period 379 cities were ranked per populations levels of 100,000 and above for these types of infractions. Believe it or not, Albany & Lebanon ranked #8, Roseburg was #44, Salem #81, Portland #148, and Eugene-Springfield #255.

There are a multitude of ways that a person can have his/her identity compromised, and the following list is not necessarily complete. Theft of one kind or another is usually the culprit and may include any one of the following: Drivers License, Social Security Number (or card), mail theft, car theft, something stolen from a vehicle, a residence or business burglary. It may involve a dishonest employee, discarded receipts with credit card number displayed, the internet, or the home computer.

Some methods involve ATMs with the use of a "card reader."

Another method is referred to as phishing. This involves unsolicited e-mails from entities that are, or claim to be, established legitimate businesses. You are strongly urged not to respond to these internet messages. Scammers used various ploys to get the user to reveal their bank account numbers, and other confidential data.

There are instances of IRS scams. Here they may ask for an I. D. number, D.O.B., SSN, and Bank Acct. no's.

There is one bit of information that is generally very good advice: If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Be wary.

If you believe your identity has been stolen, it is recommended that you do the following:

1. Contact any one of three credit bureaus and establish a "fraud alert" on the credit history.
2. Once a year order a free credit report.

One can access credit information online by accessing the following internet URL. [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) It is the only FTC approved website.



## Salem Kids' Relays

Well, you did it!! According to Vern Tabery almost everything went quite well. That is not to say there wasn't a minor glitch here and there, but overall it was a job well done. Vern said he heard some comments from others and they were generally favorable, and if anyone can think of an issue that needs to be addressed, please let him know so that proper preparation can be made for next year.

While there is a bill or two that still needs to be paid, it appears that the net result monetarily will be somewhere in between \$900 and \$1000. While that is less than anticipated, the performance of a public service to the community far outweighed the need for a large dollar return.



**UPCOMING PROGRAMS**  
May 29 Diane Bodtker, President  
League of Women Voters  
June 5 Kent Sturgeon — Mission Mill



## A REPEAT!

While there are several weeks before we need to concern ourselves with participation in this fund-raising event, it is never too early to be thinking about it. Set-up is scheduled for **Thursday, July 17**. Every member of the club, and any interested recruits, should be noting this event on their calendars.

**Maur Horton began circulating a signup sheet at Thursday's meeting (May 15). There are shifts to be filled for Thursday's setup as well as three separate shifts for Friday, Saturday, & Sunday.** In case there should be someone out there who has not sampled the cookies, they are scrumptious.



Oh yes, there is another fund-raising event which will be coming up in the not too distant future. The logo should be enough to tell you what it is. The dates are to be September 11 - 14. More information will be forthcoming as this event gets closer.



Paul Negstad very graciously invited his wife Doreen to join him for lunch today, and to thank all the participants who helped out at the Awesome 3000. All went well, and our contribution has been duly noted.

Having no further critical items of interest, it is once again —  
**PUN TIME!**

A thief fell and broke his leg in wet cement. He became a hardened criminal.

We'll never run out of math teachers because they always multiply.

When the smog lifts in Los Angeles, U C L A.

What instrument plays a footnote? A shoe horn!