



The SOC-KET

Bringing
Out
The Best
In
Children

The weekly publication of the Optimist Club of Salem
Volume 59 Issue 34 June 12, 2008
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:	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



First of all, apologies are made to our guest speaker, Diane Childs. The flash on the camera did not go off as expected, so the picture is not as complimentary as it might otherwise have been.

If you happen to be involved in the business world, holding down one job can be intimidating, but what if you should

own two titles as Diane does. One is Financial Information Outreach Coordinator and the other is Identity Theft Program Outreach for the Department of Consumer & Business Services. Today's talk dealt with identity theft. According to the latest records nationally, Oregon ranks 20th in identity theft, and this has been traced to the use of meth and the efforts to steal money to support the habit. However, it is not simply individuals that are targeted, but businesses as well. For example: the annual cost to business has been tagged at 20 to 50 billion dollars, and individuals at 5 billion. Thus, everyone needs to be aware of what they can do to reduce the risk. Incidentally, home break-ins are not always to steal property or dollars, but to gain personal information about the occupants. The impact usually affects a person's time, credibility, and emotions.

What are some of the more common sources of this information? They can be Social Security #, drivers license, passport number, or financial account number. Even computers, home or business, can sometimes provide critical information. So, what steps can be taken to provide greater security, if you believe this to be a concern? There is something called a "Security Freeze." A brochure suggests that before you decide to apply a freeze, consider whether you intend to make a purchase that would require a look at your credit history. There are three credit agencies that supply a "freeze", and they are: TransUnion, Fullerton, California; Equifax, Atlanta, Georgia; and Experian, Allen, Texas. A \$10.00 fee is required to list with each of them (\$30.00). To determine whether this is something you should consider, it is recommended that contact the Department of Consumer & Business Service beforehand because it something that is not necessary for everyone. Once the "freeze" is established it is possible to institute a "thaw." Each agency will charge \$10.00 to lift the freeze.

There are more details to all this that is not included here, so please don't rely on this bulletin for all that you need to or should know about identity protection. Leave it up to the professionals.

Should you have access to a computer, there is a method of obtaining your personal credit report free of charge. Simply log onto www.annualcreditreport.com and follow instructions. Do not confuse this with the website www.freecreditreport.com. It is not free!!

Should you choose to write for a report, address it to Credit Report, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281.

CANDIDATES

The following members have announced their desire (willingness) to run for two-year director positions beginning in October. They are: John Day, Paul Negstad, & Dave Wiley. The election is to be held at the June 19th meeting.

At this time no one has submitted his/her name for the office of President-Elect. Any interested parties are encouraged to make their desires known.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

June 19 TBA



A MONTH AWAY!!



The time is drawing ever nearer, but it isn't as though the festival is to be held the day after tomorrow.

Nevertheless, it doesn't hurt to keep the event and the date foremost in one's mind. Just so you're aware of the time-table, 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.



You are probably growing tired of seeing this reference to Oktoberfest, but you might as well get use to it. It is just another reminder that will be included in the bulletin until such time as it is no longer necessary. This fund raiser will be coming up in the not too distant future (September, if you recall). The dates are to be September 11 - 14. More information will be forthcoming as this event gets closer.

You may recall that not long ago Vern Tabery's grandson, Brandon Hulse, was a member of a championship soccer team. Well, as a part of that championship, Vern is taking his grandsons to Hawaii, where Brandon will test his skills once again. Vern wishes to thank everyone for their support. Oh yes, he is regretting the trip to the islands, but somebody has to go.

The Pacific Northwest District convention is being held at Chilliwack, B. C., on August 14-15-16. Aside from the fact that this is the convention site, Chilliwack is very nice place to visit. No doubt you will be quite welcome should you elect to attend the event.

No doubt you have been waiting impatiently for the next pun, so here goes —

A photo in the paper showed many lines of cabs at the Dallas-Ft. Worth Airport. They were "yellow rows of taxis."

A bicycle can't stand alone; it is two tired.

A backward poet writes inverse.

If you don't pay your exorcist, you can get repossessed.