

Noon Line



Official Publication of the Downtown Exchange Club of Billings

October 2009

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

Every Month in this column you will hear from one of your board members. This month, I asked Trina Besel to tell you why she joined the Exchange Club and agreed to serve on the Board of Directors.

“I would like to give something back to the community that I grew up in. I have always had a passion for children and feel my time and efforts in an organization such as Downtown Exchange can make a difference in world where funds seem to be running short and the need seems to be growing. I am excited to serve on the Board and look forward to working with all the members in the years to come.”

Trina Besel, Board Member

You're happiest while you're making the greatest contribution.

Robert F. Kennedy

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Coming soon... We are starting a formal orientation program for new members. In the weeks ahead, we will have an orientation for anyone that has joined recently and would like to come. That will become a formalized process and take place on a quarterly basis going forward. Look for the first orientation at the end of November during a Tuesday meeting.

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YOUTH PROGRAMS

The National Exchange Club sponsors several youth programs designed to benefit and encourage our nations youth. For many years the Downtown Club sponsored the Youth of the Month/Year program, but several years ago, it was decided to implement the ACE Award program.

The Downtown Billings Club has sponsored the ACE Award (Accepting the Challenge of Excellence) for the past several years. This program recognizes high school students who have had to overcome great physical, emotional, or social obstacles and will graduate from high school. This positive program encourages students to overcome hardships, get back on track and graduate from high school. It also recognizes students who are often overlooked for their accomplishments. This year we have budgeted two \$1000 scholarships to be awarded to qualifying students. These scholarships can be used to apply toward tuition for college, technical or trade school.

This year the Downtown Board of Directors decided to reinstitute the Youth of the Month/Year program. This program allows us to hear a positive message from youth who are doing great things in their schools and communities. With all of the negative news we are bombarded with on a daily basis, it's nice to hear about some of the good that is happening. We will select one of these students as our Youth of the Year, who will have the opportunity to compete for the Districts Youth of the Year award, the winner who would then compete for the National Award. The District awards a \$1000 scholarship and the National Award is \$10,000.

Jim Davies



MYSTERY TUESDAY

Plan on attending our Tuesday meeting on November 24th. This will be the first in a series of Mystery programs that you will have to be there to find out about.

~ ~ Future Programs ~ ~

- Nov 3, 2009** **David Schaer**
Computers Unlimited
- Nov 10, 2009** **Aaron Flint**
Deployment in Afghanistan
- Nov 17, 2009** **Ian Blair, FBI Secret Service**
Counterfeit Money
- Nov 24, 2009** **MYSTERY TUESDAY**
(Not to be missed)

GRANDSTAND CLEANUP AND SOCIAL

On October 29, the club held their annual grandstands cleanup and social. Since most of the cleaning had already been done, this was essentially a social event to try to consume the rest of our "inventory". About 25 members, spouses and guests attended the gathering and the food was provided from Famous Dave's BBQ. Everyone agreed that it surpassed the usual pizza. New members were given a tour of the facilities to help them see how we raise money. The social committee is working on more of these types of events. Please let us know if you have any ideas for a get-together.

Social Committee



FUNDRAISING

Thank you all for a great fundraising season!! Your volunteer efforts have led to over 14% sales growth from last year and have put our club in a position to continue to support all of our great organizations this year. This is especially important this year as we have seen increases in many of our operating costs, such as lunches.



As you all may know, we are very excited to have locked in another great fundraising opportunity for the end of this year. Our Gift Wrapping fundraiser at Rimrock Mall will begin Friday Nov 27th and run through the Christmas season. We will be running the kiosk at the Rimrock Mall customer service desk. We will be open daily until Christmas with 2 shifts per day. There will be a day shift (mostly 11:00 am to 4:00 pm), and a night shift (4:00 pm to 9:00 pm). Several of the great organizations we support (EagleMount, Family Support Network, Yellowstone CASA) have signed on to help us with this great cause. Please begin to check your calendars to sign up for this fun and unique opportunity to raise money for our great community. We are very excited to have another fundraiser to help grow our coffers for future endeavors.

Tyler Nose, Fundraising Chair

~ ~ MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES ~ ~

The following members are celebrating anniversaries with the Downtown Exchange Club in July.

Burt Hoffman	55 years
Jim Davies	34 years
Jeff Mrachek	13 years
Shirley Folkwein	5 years
Tyler Nose	5 years
Mike Dockery	4 years
Brandon Berger	3 years
Jeff Gruizenga	3 years
Jeff Winkler	3 years

*If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.
Then quit. There's no use being a damn fool
about it.*

W.C. Fields

DISTRICT PRESIDENT

The Downtown Exchange Club was honored to have District President, Quentin Eggert attend our recent board meeting. Quentin gave us a report about what is happening in the district as well as the plans for our club hosting the Yellowstone District Convention next Summer. Thanks Quentin.



COMMITTEES

The following are the committee chairs for the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

Fundraising	Tyler Nose
Public Relations	Dale Brown
Membership	Phil Hammond
Community Service	Trina Besel
Youth Programs	Jim Davies
Child Abuse Prevention	Brandon Berger

Committee chairs are appointed at the beginning of the new fiscal year. If you are interested in service on one or more of the committees, please contact a board member and let them know your interest. You are encouraged to participate in one or more committees and your input is invaluable to the strength of our club.



Homecoming is an American tradition - autumn leaves, sporting events and celebrations filled with memories and traditions to welcome back former residents and alumni. People come to reconnect with one another and develop a sense of belonging as well as make new friendships, too. Homecomings link the past with the present and inspire great hope for the future. This fall, the National Exchange Club will hold our own Homecoming from October through November 2009.

What is it? Come Home to Exchange is a membership recruiting drive with a Homecoming theme welcoming back former members and potential new members.

What should I do? Talk to friends, coworkers and business associates about Exchange and what we do in the community. Ask them to attend a weekly meeting as your guest or attend another organized event such as the Freedom Shrine Installation.

I'm a new member myself and don't know what to tell them. Exchange is a national service club with four national areas of service; child abuse prevention, Americanism, youth services and community service. We provide grants and help for local organizations such as CASA, Family Service, the Food Bank and many others.

What's in it for me? Besides helping to grow our club, for every new member you recruit during the time frame, your name will be entered into a drawing for 2 tickets to a bowl game of your choice* for this year's college football season.

Whether you are a Griz, Bobcat, Yellowjacket, Bear or one of many other mascots throughout the country, you are encouraged to help grow our club and we are happy to provide a little incentive to help you along. Please bring a guest to a meeting soon.

*Do not wait to strike till the iron is hot; but
make it hot by striking.*
William B. Sprague

~~ Upcoming Events ~~

BREAKFAST EXCHANGE WINE TASTING

METRAPARK GRANDSTANDS, BILLINGS, MONTANA

NOV 13TH

This is free to attendees and you can buy the wine if you like.

WRAPPING PARTY

BRIARWOOD CLUBHOUSE, BILLINGS, MT

DEC 15TH

This is our annual holiday party. We wrap gifts to be given away at the Santa in the Schools program

FREEDOM SHRINE

LOCKWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL, LOCKWOOD, MT

TIME TBD

We install this shrine with the other clubs in Billings.

SANTA IN THE SCHOOLS

METRAPARK GRANDSTANDS, BILLINGS, MT

DEC 22ND

We will gift presents out to elementary students at Orchard, Ponderosa and Newman schools

The Exchange Club Covenant of Service

Accepting the divine privilege of single and collective responsibility as life's noblest gift, I covenant with my fellow Exchangites:

To consecrate my best energies to the uplifting of Social, Religious, Political, and Business ideals;

To discharge the debt I owe to those of high and low estate who have served and sacrificed that the heritage of American citizenship might be mine;

To honor and respect law, to serve my fellowmen, and to uphold the ideals and institutions of my Country;

To implant the life-giving, society-building spirit of Service and comradeship in my social and business relationships;

To serve in Unity with those seeking better conditions, better understandings, and greater opportunities for all.



EXCHANGE
THE NATIONAL EXCHANGE CLUB