BECON

It's Youth of the Year time!!

For those new members that don't know what Youth of the Year is, it's pretty simple. Each year, our club brings in seniors from Central High and give them a topic to speak about. They speak on this topic and then are given as essay to write. This essay is graded by a committee in our club along with their extracurricular activities, GPA and any college classes. Our club then grants a scholarship to one of these seniors and passes them on to the district where they can go up against candidates submitted by other clubs around Montana and Idaho. A winner is picked from these submissions and then sent off to National where they will compete with 27 other students for a chance to win a \$15,000 scholarship.

Guests: Noah Brooks of Payne West was brought to breakfast today by Nate Allie and he seemed excited to be there, he even won the raffle at the end of breakfast. He better join now! We also had our youth of the year candidates and their families. Speaking today were Noelle Gradzinski, Brenda McGovern, Allison Early, Quentin McAvoy, Alexa Williams and Olivia Tortlatt. (Please forgive any spelling errors, it's hard to read Leif's handwriting!)

Announcements

Shannon announced that she just received a couple of patches from National for Service awards in the Americanism category. She says she has lots more to do, but she is on the job this year. If anyone knows where the banners are and can get them, we can update them and show off what we do!

For those that didn't see on Facebook, Noah and his wife had their baby. Congratulations to them!

There will be a grants meeting February 7th at 4pm at the USUAL meeting site. (It seemed pretty cloak and dagger when Ken was talking about it – Top secret stuff I guess)

Bill Kennedy announced that 3 veterans will be honored at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery next Thursday. If you are interested in attending, please contact Bill.

February 7th, from 10-2 at the United Way, Veterans Navigation will have 20 tables set up for Veterans to come in gain mentoring and resource training. Once again, if you know of anyone or have any questions, please contact Bill Kennedy.

The esteemed President Elect gave a huge shout out to everyone on the social committee that made the holiday party an amazing event. It seems as though there were some goings on that were not talked about due to the ages of some of our guests this am. All in all, everything was awesome. Tanner and crew do good work!

Craig also wants to send a reminder to one and all that April is election time for our club. We will be looking for three board members, a president elect, and a position on the foundation board. If you have an interest in any of these positions or have questions, please let someone on the board know. It is a big responsibility but the parking space you get at the Legion for breakfast makes it all worthwhile.

So our YOY speakers are given many different topics to choose from for their speeches. We had three speak this morning about Leadership and what it means to them, and we had three this morning speak about Obstacles they have overcome in their lives to be who they are. It takes a lot of courage to stand up in front of a group of people you don't know and open yourself to them, and these students did an amazing job. Here is what I learned this morning:

<u>Upcoming Volunteer</u> <u>Opportunities</u>

1-21 MSU-B BBall 5:45PM

2-2 MSU-B BBall 4:00PM

2-4 MSU-B BBall 4:00PM

2-18 MSU-B BBall 5:45PM

2-18 Monster Trucks 5:30PM

2-23 MSU-B BBall 4:00PM

2-25 MSU-B BBall 4:00PM



Leadership Leadership is like being an artist, you take a little bit from everyone that you come in contact with and make relate it to yourself and grow from there.

Obstacles Determination, no matter what. If there is something that you believe in, you keep working at it until you succeed. Setbacks are a part of life but should not be the finish line.

Obstacles Bumps will happen on the road, on trails, in the air or even in your head, but all of this adversity will only make you a stronger person if you keep going.

Leadership Once again, learn leadership where it comes to you, even if it is by fighting with your younger siblings.

Obstacles We all need to take a step back in our lives sometimes and reflect on the paths we have chosen and see if they will get us to where we want to be. Being truthful to oneself is the only way to get where you want to go.

Leadership Forming good habits is key to being a good leader, but sometimes following is even more important when trying to lead your group.

I probably didn't do justice to the speakers today but believe me when I say they were inspiring. Next week we have five more students coming to breakfast. Come and see what the YOY is all about!

