

# BECON

“The Best Way to Find Yourself is to Lose Yourself in the Service to Others.”



## What’s on the Horizon...

- ✦ March 3—Board and Officer Nominations begin (3 rounds)
- ✦ March 17—St. Patrick’s Day
- ✦ March 20 & 27—Outlaws Football
- ✦ April 1—My 90’s Playlist
- ✦ April 14-16—PBR
- ✦ April 22 & 29—Outlaws
- ✦ May 4—Ian Munswick Concert
- ✦ May 5 & 6—District Convention; Anaconda
- ✦ May 7—Aaron Lewis Concert
- ✦ May 6—Downtown Exchange Club Poker Tourn.
- ✦ May 13—Outlaws FB (5pm show up)
- ✦ May 20—Kane Brown Concert
- ✦ July 12-15—National Convention; Phoenix
- ✦ July 28—Whiskey Myers Concert
- ✦ August 2—REO Speedwagon Concert
- ✦ August 26—Food Truck Battle
- ✦ September 15—Goo Goo Dolls Concert

## Welcome / Introductions / Announcements:

Guests joining us today included our speaker; John Rife with the MT Job Service. Also joining us was Don’s guest, Matt Brossard.

Cavin sent around a few thank you notes. One from The Family Tree for the Food Truck Battle donation and one from Jr. League for the \$5k donation for their laundry project.

Tony announced there will be a fundraiser/ membership drive at Meadowlark Brewery on April 17th for The Family Tree Nurturing Center for April Child Abuse Prevention month. It’s a Monday so make sure you wear blue. If you can donate a basket or item for the silent auction that would be great and Tony will be your BFF. Also bring a friend/colleague that might be interested in Exchange.

Craig announced the Outlaws games will be starting up on March 20th and 16 people will be needed for each game. He also announced how excited he is for the My 90’s Playlist concert. He’s hoping to get Vanilla Ice’s autograph so if anyone has any connections to help him out.

Craig brought the check from the Albertson’s grand opening. Apparently, he could not fit it through the drive-thru at US Bank. He thanked Albertson’s and Chris Harmon for being an Exchange partner.

Cavin brought up new members Mike Songer and Shawn Callihan to receive their new member certificates and pins.

Cavin went to the second round of nominations for next years board and officers. We will be voting on the following positions; 3 board members, Club Secretary, President Elect and a Foundation board member. For today’s nominations: For board members: Stacy Dreessen was nominated by Sheila. She was not in attendance to accept. Teal Kaufman was nominated by Rob Romsa. She seemed very excited to accept. Stephanie Romsa nominated Jessie McKee. Nomination accepted. Club Secretary: Bruce J. nominated Shannon Johnson. Nomination accepted. Wiley nominated Dina Harmon for President Elect. Nomination accepted. Foundation Board: Kim Lewis nominated herself. Brynn Schwarz was nominated and accepted. (I didn’t write down who nominated Brynn and now I don’t remember who it was. Hope I don’t get fired!)

It would be fabulous to get another nomination or two for both secretary and president-elect, as well as board members. It’s fun to have an actual election with choices. Nominations again next week!!

Lastly, but most importantly, please keep Arnie Bejot and his family (Ed & Teal) in your thoughts and prayers. Arnie just recently received a cancer diagnosis.

Why did the leprechaun go outside?

To sit on his paddy-o.



#ExchangeStrong  
#GrowExchange



## Speaker: John Rife, State of MT Job Service

John Rife with MT Job Service talked about or employment environment.

Our current state unemployment rate is 2.6% and Yellowstone Counties rate is 2.1% person. The ideal rate is 5%. He gave a very interesting explanation of the unemployment rate using a candy bowl analogy to explain that what’s left (the 2.6%) aren’t necessarily the best quality. It’s roughly 10,000 people in this category.

Unemployed is defined as able, available and looking for employment. The expected participating labor force are those ages 18 - 55.

Other pools are not counted in the rate that could be working include:

Retired. People who were fired and denied unemployment benefits. Full-time students not working. The 6k in prison. Discouraged workers who have run out of benefits and have given up looking. Parents who would like to work, but cannot afford childcare. Those living in outlying communities, such as the reservations, who cannot afford to move here.

Another issue contributing to the continued shortage of workers is the quality of the young people coming into the work force. A nation wide study done by the Army found that 77% of people ready to enter a career are not qualified to get into the Army. They cannot pass the physical test, intelligence test or maybe neither.

A low birth rate will be a contributing factor in the future. The current birth rate is 1.3 children per woman. The ideal birth rate is 2.1 children per woman. I made my contribution plus some with my four!

It appears remote work is decreasing some.

Lastly, if you know anyone job hunting, there is a Job Jamboree at Metra on 3/15/23. Doors open at 11 for Veterans and 11:30 for everyone else.

Well Crap! I forgot to get a picture of our speaker. I’m definitely going to get fired for this BECON!!

