

# BECON

8-4-2023

**Guests:** We had several guests in the house this morning. Ryan (didn't get his last name) from Par Montana, Leif had two guests, Hillary Lee and Dave Austin. This was the second meeting for both. Our guest speaker this morning was Drew MacLeod, director of CASA.

## Announcements:

Craig announced this morning that the club received Distinguished Secretary, Distinguished Treasurer and Distinguished Club President last year. Congrats to Shannon, Ed and Cavin, they put in the time and effort to help make our club what it is.

Bruce spoke a little about the air show next weekend. Since parking will be limited, he recommends car pooling to the show. We will be working in a tent, but keep in mind it will be hot. There will be four beer pouring stations, each station will have someone to ID, a cashier and four beer pourers. We will also have floating beer captains to help out where needed. The shifts are already assigned and so check your email for those events as well as for the concerts at the fair as well.

Tony mentioned that we will also have flags to pass out to kids at the air show. The Patriotism Committee will have flags at each station and also at the water stations.

The Food Truck Battle is fast approaching. The committee had flyers to pass out to businesses around town as well as some tickets. If you would like to hang a flyer at your business, please let Tanner or Rene know. They will be looking for volunteers the Friday before the event to help set things up, info will be coming later. There are 50+ food trucks this year, so look out, this will be the biggest event yet!!

At the start of Drew's presentation this morning, he thanked our club and foundation for the money that we have donated to CASA in the past, explaining how the money helps CASA with training and programs.

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) was explained this morning like a big brother/big sister. Advocates are asked to donate between 15-20 hours a month to their child. They can't transport the child so usually meet the child in their foster care or arrange to meet up with the child somewhere. Advocates are appointed a child and can be a voice for that child for up to 24 months. Advocates are basically a representative who has the best interests of the child in mind at all times and provides stability while in the foster program.

Drew mentioned they have over 400 cases in Yellowstone County that do not have an advocate and are always looking for volunteers. He did mention that male advocates are in particular demand simply because most of these children don't have a male role model.

- There are 700 children currently in foster care in Yellowstone County.
- Children in foster care have been removed for abuse and neglect.
- CASA serves children from ages 0-18.
- On average children spend between 18-24 months in the program.
- Of the 700 children in foster care in Yellowstone County, only 211 have an advocate.
- Per capita, Montana has one of the highest numbers of children in foster care.

## Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

Chevelle

8-11 @5:30

Carly Pearce

8-12 @5:30

Ludicrous

8-13 @5:30

Air Show 8-12

1 <sup>st</sup> shift	9:00
2 <sup>nd</sup> shift	12:15

Air Show 8-13

1 <sup>st</sup> shift	9:00
2 <sup>nd</sup> shift	12:15

Big Air Bash

8-15 @5:30

Rodeo

8-17 @5:30

Rodeo

8-18 @5:30

Rodeo

8-19 @5:30

Food Truck Battle 8-26

1 <sup>st</sup> shift	12:00
2 <sup>nd</sup> shift	3:30



#ExchangeStrong  
#GrowExchange

[Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children | CASA of Yellowstone County | Billings, Montana - CASA of Yellowstone County | Serving kids in Foster Care | Court Appointed Special Advocates \(yellowstonecasa.org\)](#)

CASA will be hosting a fundraiser on September 16<sup>th</sup>. It will be a .5k “run” at Thirsty Street Brewing (that’s right up our alley). You did read that right, it is a .5 k run. Drew even mentioned there might be donuts present to keep up your strength! Below is the link to sign up.

[0.5K "Run" - CASA of Yellowstone County | Serving kids in Foster Care | Court Appointed Special Advocates \(yellowstonecasa.org\)](#)

