Madeline Donfro visited the Club to explain CATCH of Ada County {Charitable Assistance to Community's Homeless}. It was officially launched in January 2012 by founder and director, Greg Morris. He developed and implemented the original CATCH pilot program in 2006 while working for the City of Boise. Under his leadership from 2006-2011 the program grew and received national recognition. CATCH covers both the Ada and Canyon County Programs. They are located at 503 Americana in Boise with over 2000 sq. ft. of warehouse the staff and volunteers are able to manage (onsite) all furniture and household donations. CATCH,Inc. separated from the City of Boise and remains an independent re-housing agency. In Nampa 1 in 10 children are homeless. They try to meet housing needs first then focus on other needs. Their Path Home designs a single streamlined access point for all families experiencing a housing crises. 80% of families are financially independent in their homes one year after placement. All local emergency homeless shelters refer families to CATCH, including the Salvation Army, WCA, Interfaith Sanctuary, Boise Rescue Mission, and the City Light Home for Women and Children. Additionally the joint {Meridian} School District and the Boise School District refer families they have identified as homeless.

Thirty four members attended this week with Gayle Chaney winning the attendance drawing two weeks in a row, and Joyce Schram had the winning card. There were 75 at the Christmas Party on the 8th at the Riverside Hotel.

Patty Frison took photos of nearly all 75 and today auctioned off “fun” photos for $1.00 each. If you didn't buy your photo who knows where or when they will appear. Larry Locklear, Aarda Justin and Shirley Brooks did a great job with the homemade centerpieces and had gifts for everyone and they received a giant Lions Roar at the meeting. Guess who will be doing parties in the future.

Channel Fox 9 is presenting the Jefferson Awards to exceptional people in our community with one chosen each month. The winner will go to Washington, D.C. Happy Olsen submitted Lion Ken Marchetti and he was chosen for the month of December and appeared on TV the night of December 12th. Ken is a very deserving recipient who is involved with so many organizations providing services throughout our community. Ken cannot say NO. The Bench Lions Club is so lucky to have him back as a member.
At the Board Meeting it was decided to look into a pill dispenser for 1st Choice Health to provide patients that cannot remember when to take pills or what pills to take. Aarda Justin will meet with them to determine the type and the cost and will present it at the next board meeting. The Board is looking to purchase two and they will be loaned to various patients by 1st Choice Health.

Dan Frison will be delivering beds on Tuesday the 19th and needs volunteers. Address will be given shortly. On the 11th Curt Kelley, Tom Caperon, & the D’Orazios screened 152 kids at St. Joseph’s School with the plusoptix. Henry Cardinale collected 200 glasses this week.

Darlene Storck said December the 19th is our next date at the food bank from 12:30 to 2:30. Liz Cardinale said December 20th is Feed the Veterans day starting at 4:30pm. She can always use more help.

**BIRTHDAYS:** Richard Mwamba 12/16, 12/18 Dave Chaney, 12/21 Dwaine Hibbs, 12/22 Bob Anno, 12/25 Santa Claus.

**PROGRAMS:**

- **Dec. 19** - **Volunteer** at Idaho Food Bank 12:30-2:30
- **Dec. 20** – **Entertainment** - Centennial High School Choir plus **feed the Veterans** at 4:30pm at the VA
- **Dec. 27** – **NO MEETING TODAY**
- **Feb.3rd-2018-Idaho E.Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation Board Meeting 9 am at the Foundation Office**

Club Secretary......Jan Brady  janbrady1920@gmail.com  Don’t forget to check out the Bench Lions website------it changes weekly. Check out the website for 39W..........Some great stuff & well done...... http://www.lions39W.org (under “quick links” be sure to check out “blogger”)  “Now on twitter@boise