



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

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Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 39 Years
Recognized as Outstanding Service Organization in Colorado in 2012



www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Pat Bush sitting in for Robert Wardlaw

Good Morning

Another cold and snowy day for this first of the new year meeting. However, more members were expected to show than the last meeting of 2014.

Kurt Boell and **Joe Marci** welcomed us to the second day and first meeting of the New Year. Joe has just returned from a month long trip to visit family in Georgia. He picked up a new grandson along the way so his smile was extra wide.

Invocation & Pledge

Tom Hoch delivered the invocation and led us with the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

Guests

Bob Avery introduced his guest **Mark Figley**. Mark and Bob are long time skiing buddies and mentioned they were headed for the hills again after the meeting. Bob also informed us that his MSOC Annual Ski Day would be held on Monday, January 26th at Copper Mountain. This is when Bob will host a breakfast for Monaco South members then spend the day on the slopes. If interested, please talk with Bob to get the details.

MSOC Supporters

President **John Oss** thanked all the companies that have given the Monaco South Optimist Club support us throughout the year. These includes Hensel Phelps Construction donating the generator and the diesel fuel to run it at the tree lot. Warning Lites Inc. and Colorado Barricade for signage. Tuff Shed for the Santa Haus. Kids Choice Dental and All About Braces for putting up with our traffic for the month of December. Additionally, the DTC Hyatt Regency that prepares the Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner and the Safeway on Yale that assists with and packages our Thanksgiving and

Thank You!

Happy New Year Optimist Club of Monaco South

2015

*Moving Into Our 39th Year!
Promise Yourself to be So Strong ...*

Christmas food baskets among others. In fact John would like to gather a list of all of the companies that have given us support. If you know of a company that either donated financially or provided goods and services to any of our projects, let John know who they are and what they have done.

Announcements

Greeters Needed: Past President, **Jon Wachter** announced that if we want to continue to be greeted as well as we were at today's meeting, we need volunteers. All one needs to do to be a greeter is have a broad smile and an enthusiastic handshake,



staring at about 20 minutes before we start at 7 a.m. This is a particularly good way for newer members to learn the names of all of the club members. Nothing starts your day like being a greeter. To get on this list, see Jon at our next meeting.

Super Citizen Presenters: As you will see on page 3, we also need Super Citizen presenters for our upcoming SC school presentations. Although **Rob Gardner** has been away during the holiday season, you still can signup by giving him a call, at 720-263-6203 or sending him an email at gardnerrb@gmail.org.



A SC presenter assists the SC school coordinator and makes a short presentation, about five-minutes in length, about the deeds and behaviors of a "super citizen." Topics can be taken from the tenets of the Optimist Creed, citizenship, service to others, scholarship, personal attitude, behavior, and leadership, etc. Presentations can include questions and answers, personal stories or the sharing of a story about a well-known super citizen, for example a political leader or

Continued on the next page

Meeting Place
American Legion Hall Post 1
5400 East Yale Avenue (Yale & I-25), Denver, Colorado
Every Friday Morning, 7:00 – 8:00 am
******INVITE A FRIEND TO JOIN******

Announcements Continued

sports figure, or just share a personal experience where you were assisted or helped. Just keep the story short and simple so the students can understand your message, and the relationship to themes of integrity, respect, confidence, responsibility, courtesy, judgment, etc. *Again, see Rob and just sign up!*

Tree Lot Chili Cookoff: **Ron Cisco** announced the winner of the Chili Cook-off held on Sunday, December 21st at the tree lot trailer. There were six different entries. **Greg Young's** chilly emerged victorious. Ron also announced that the cook-off will have a new chairman next year because he wants to get back into the game. Congratulations to Greg!



Christmas Basket Delivery: **Michael Chavez**

thanked the members that helped with the Christmas Food Basket delivery on Saturday, December 20th. They delivered food baskets to 40 needy families so that they may enjoy a good Christmas dinner.



Auto Sales Kickbacks: **Nick Newey** announced that he was getting back into the automobile sales business again. He will be donating a Benjamin (that's \$100 dollars) to the club for every automobile purchased by a member or a customer referred by a member. If you need wheels or someone you know needs wheels, this is a good way help Nick and support the club.

Super Citizen Presentation: Hamilton Middle School presented Super Citizen awards on Thursday, December 18th. **Tom Mauro** reports that **Casey Funk** did the honors. Casey gave a nice talk by taking a couple of lines from the Optimist Creed and relating them to the qualities of a super citizen. **Don Thomson** also thanked **Dick Nicoloff** for presenting the awards at McMeen Elementary School on the same day. *Once again, if you want to be a presenter talk to anyone of them for ideas, but please signup.*

Counting Blessings: **John Young** reported that he and Clair were counting their blessings over this holiday season and wanted us to know the he ranks his Optimist friends a close second behind Clair as his biggest blessing. It was with a heavy heart that the Club had to inform John that he also finished a close second to Clair as our biggest blessing.



John Young
Photo Gary Miller

Holiday Party Report: A good time was had by all at the annual Holiday Party held at the Glenmoor Country Club on Saturday, December 20th. **Tom Hoch** and **Karl Geil** gave the best Korokke performance. A big thank you has to go to **Frank Middleton** and his wife Sandy, for organizing this social gathering.

**HOLIDAY
DINNER PARTY**

Christmas Tree Lot Finale: Now that all the heavy lifting is done, tree lot chairman, **Joe Marci**, made it back to Denver. He gave us a preliminary report on the overall sales. A total of 1,065 of the 1,087 trees inventoried were sold (most for a profit). The 22 trees not sold were donated to Dolls for Daughters, Denver Public Schools, or given to companies that had supported the tree lot with donations of goods and services. We also sold out of wreaths and set a record for food consumed. The membership participation goal was met with 101 different members working the lot. Joe reports that 204 Noble Fir, 203 Douglas Fir, 169 Nordman, 175 Fraser, 85 Canaan, 78 Balsam, 76 Scotch Pine, 62 White Pine, and 45 forest cut Douglas Fir were sold. *"Wait a minute; that adds up to 1,097 trees. Maybe we did better than we thought."* Joe gave special thanks to **Greg Young, Mike Miller, Gary Miller** and all the other Millers (does that include Miller Lite) that helped with administrative duties while he was out of town. Other members handling special duties included **Craig Eley** on the Santa Haus, **Steve Kady** with signage, **Ron Cisco** food inventory, **Ralph Pedersen** banker and the entire Board of Directors, Day Managers who handled manpower.



Joe Marci
Photo Gary Miller

Lost Pot: Now hold on; I know what you're thinking. That's a chili pot. The truth is **Kathryn Birdwell**, our breakfast provider, entered our aforementioned Chili Cookoff contest and never got her chili pot returned. If you know about an extra pot left at the chili cookoff, please let her or **Prez John** know.



Weekly Drawing

After the big win last week by **Allen Pierce**, the big pot was at \$20, so most went after the cups. They were **Tom Hoch, Bob Avery, Greg Young, Jack Kleinheksel, Don Thomson, Karl Geil**, with **John Green, Harry Arkin** and again **Allen Pierce**, with the wearing of his name tag, trying their luck with the cards for the "big pot," but no luck.

A Bit of Humor



Brain Bowl Overview

Karl Geil

The *Brain Bowl is coming!* Nope, the *Brain Bowl is here!* Our own **Karl Geil** was our speaker this week. He presented



a talk on the history of the Brain Bowl and the need for manpower to make this year's event successful.

The Brain Bowl is an academic competition for sixth, seventh, and eighth graders. Teams of up to six students compete against each other by answering questions on a variety of subjects. The morning sessions is a round robin style of competition with total point accumulation determining team advancement to the elimination rounds. Those rounds are played in the afternoon culminating with awards for first, second, and third place teams. There are three regional competitions with the placing teams advancing to a final championship tournament.

The Brain Bowl was started in 1983 by the Buckingham Square (now Gateway) Optimist Club. After ten years, the tournament was languishing primarily because of lack of manpower. Monaco South then took the tournament and made it a CO/WY District effort with up to 30 clubs providing manpower and financial resources to support the competition. The Brain Bowl project won an Optimist International award for multi-club educational project of the year in 2006. Last year nearly 200 teams competed in the three regional tournaments.

This year we expect more teams with 104 teams registered for the North Regional Tournament alone. We will need approximately 175 volunteers for each tournament. Volunteers will be needed as readers, runners, scorekeepers, timers, proctors and various other administrative activi-

ties. The readers must attend a special independent training session while all others will be trained on the day of the tournaments. Volunteers must show up at the competition venues between 6:30 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. Volunteers need not be Optimist members to help on this project. They can be family members, friends or, better yet, potential new members. To learn more about the Optimist Brain Bowl you can go to www.optimistbrainbowl.org. The competition and reader training dates are as follows:



Karl Geil
Photo Gary Miller

Reader Training

- ⇒ Saturday, January 3rd, Valmont Presbyterian Church, 3262 61st Street, Boulder @ 9:00 a.m. to noon.
- ⇒ Tuesday, January 6th, Hamilton Middle School, 8600 E. Dartmouth Avenue @ 6:00 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- ⇒ Saturday, January 24th, Euclid Middle School, 777 W. Euclid Avenue @ 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Tournaments

- ◇ Saturday, January 10th, North Regional, Stanley Lake High School, 9300 W. 104th Avenue, Westminster, CO
- ◇ Saturday, January 31st, Central Regional, Heritage High School, Littleton, CO
- ◇ Saturday, February 7th, South Regional, Horizon Middle School, Colorado Springs, CO
- ◇ Saturday, February 21st, Championship, Hamilton Middle School, 8600 E. Dartmouth Avenue, Denver, CO

Weekly Greeters

1/9/15	Craig Eley & Harry Arkin
1/16/15	Robert Wardlaw & Michael Chavez
1/23/15	Bob Avery & Keith Galloway
1/30/15	Nick Newey & Steve Kady
2/6/15	Gary Strowbridge & Jon Wachter
2/13/15	Jack Kleinheksel & George Buzick
Need Friday morning greeters, see Jon Wachter, 303-204-5645 or jon_wachter@msn.com	

Super Citizen Presenters Jan.

Jan 14 @ 8:00	Highline	?
Jan 19 @ 1:30	McMeen	?
Jan 21 @ 2:30	MPB	Jim VanderKamp
Jan 30 @ 1:40	Univ. Park	?
Jan 30 @ 3:00	Bradley	?
Be a Super Citizen Presenter See Rob Gardner, 720-263-6203 gardnerrb@gmail.com		

Jan 9	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Kendra Black, City Council Candidate
Jan 10	Sat	7:00 am	Brain Bowl North Regional Tournament, Standley Lake High School, Westminster, CO
Jan 15	Thur	6:30 pm	Meeting, Legion Hall - Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
Jan 16	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Jan 23	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Mark Hardcastle, Doing More with Your Life
Jan 30	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - David Walcher, Arapahoe County Sheriff
Jan 31	Sat	7:00 am	Brain Bowl Central Regional Tournament, Heritage High School, Littleton, CO

**Past Presidents of the
Optimist Club of Monaco South**

Bob Rhue	1976-77	Bob Safe	1995-96
Jerry Whitlow	1977-78	Tom Overton	1996-97
Bill Kosena	1978-79	Peter Dimond	1997-98
Duane Wehrer	1979-80	Ralph Symalla	1998-99
Curt Jefferies	1980-81	Cy Regan	1999-00
Frank Middleton	1981-82	Stan Cohen	2000-01
John Young	1982-83	Don St. John	2001-02
Pat Bush	1983-84	Jack Rife	2002-03
Bob Hugo	1984-85	Karl Geil	2003-04
Tom Mauro	1985-86	Bryce Slaby	2004-05
Curt Lorenzen	1986-87	Donlie Smith	2005-06
Oscar Sorensen	1987-88	Paul Bernard	2006-07
Lupe Salinas	1988-89	Greg Young	2007-08
Bob Avery	1989-90	Phil Perington	2008-09
Bill Litchfield	1990-91	Ron Cisco	2009-10
Bill Walters	1991-92	Ed Collins	2010-11
Kent Gloor	1992-93	Randy Marcove	2011-12
Gary Strowbridge	1993-94	Paul Simon	2012-13
Mark Metevia	1994-95	Jon Wachter	2013-14

2014 - 2015 Officers

President	John Oss	720-210-8056
Vice President	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Vice President	Don Iley	303-840-7706
Secretary	Curt Boell	303-980-1893
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

Barry Barker	813-545-4533
Pat Bush	303-750-9409
J. R. Gieck	949-636-7614
Tom Glazier	303-522-5214
Cap Hermann	303-587-5575
Jack Kleinheksel	720-938-1760
Fred Pasternack	303-758-3754
Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384
Jon Wachter (Past Pres.)	303-204-5645

Newsletter Committee

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Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rz6267@gmail.com	Paul Stratton	303-366-6375	pcstratton@comcast.net
George Buzick	303-803-2268	gtbuzick@comcast.net	Pat Bush	720-254-3741	pbush@bushreese.com
Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	rlawardlaw@gmail.com	Craig Eley	720-771-0866	craigceley@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Jan **Robert Wardlaw**, Feb **Pat Bush**, Mar **Paul Stratton**, Apr **Phil Perington**

THE OPTIMIST CREED — Promise Yourself . . .

- To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.
- To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.
- To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.
- To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.
- To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best.
- To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.
- To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.
- To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.
- To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.
- To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.