

Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

December 27, 2013 – Vol. 39, Issue 13

Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 36 Years

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton



Good Morning Optimist Welcome!

Bryce Slaby and Dave Peck welcomed the men of Monaco South for the final meeting of 2013! Another year for the history books, and now it's on to 2014. What will the new year bring? Stay tuned....

First Bell

President Jon asked us to share Optimistic Greetings! Your editor received multiple hearty handshakes, plus a high five from **Phil Perington**.

Invocation & Pledge

Past president (1982-83) **John Young** with delivered an end-of-the-year message, including encouraging us to *"be our own best friend instead of our own worst enemy"*, and wishing the club and our endeavors great success in 2014. He then lead us in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.



Our December Birthday's

To start this mornings meeting, **Prez Jon** calls out the names of **Aaron Beery, Curt Boell, Ron Cisco, Robert DeSpain, Rob Fries, Doc Gardner, Rob Gardner, Jeff Johnson, Mike Mauro, Shawn Me-haffey, Frank Rowe,** and new member **Kurt Siebold**, our December birthday boys. They were honored with a serenade, the likes of which have not been experienced before, and that needs to be heard to be truly appreciated. Editor, *I think we are getting better!*

Guests

Bob and Carolyn Hartwig visited today. Bob is the Governor for the Colorado/Wyoming District. The Hartwig's came down from Loveland for a visit and to help at the Christmas tree lot clean up. Thanks for

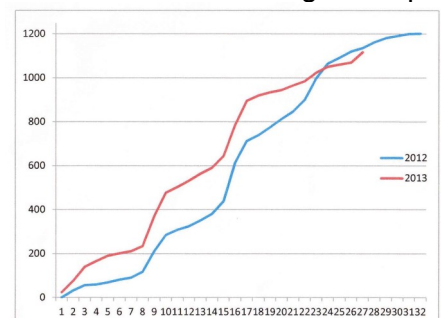


your help! Bob reports that the district is plus eight in membership for the year. He also shared an invitation for all to attend the upcoming second quarter district conference on the weekend of February 14-16, 2014 to be held at the Stanley Hotel in Estes Park.

Announcements

Since today was a Camaraderie Day, the Prez called for announcements.

Christmas Tree Lot Update: **Joe Marci** first thanked **Greg Young** and **Russ Paul** for cleaning up the trailer on Thursday, with the remainder of the lot cleanup to be done today post-breakfast. Over 1,117 trees were sold this season, which is 85 fewer than last year, though we had five fewer selling days to work with. Joe mentioned that 90 different members worked helping our many customers. The sales generated over \$70,000 in revenues, including tip money. Thanks to **Bob Finkelmeier** for sending an email to previous customers and to all the schools we work with informing them of our new location. He also sent out a number of "need help" notifications to keep the day managers (**Pat Bush, Greg Young, Barry Barker, Jon Watcher, Michael Chavez,** and **John Oss**) content with all 3-hour shifts. We received great support from the **Tamarac Optimist Club** and the **George Washington H.S. girls soccer team,** and a few other volunteers. Thanks for another successful year of selling trees and thanks for the support of the club's members!



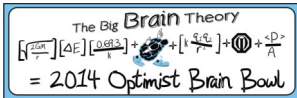
Sales by day. A detailed version of this data is attached to the GUMS distribution email.

Cont. 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

Brain Bowl is Coming: Karl Geil and Paul Simon



called for help! Paul stated that we are less than two weeks away from the North event, and we need significant help with volunteers on January 11 in Westminster. This is usually the largest of the Brain Bowl events. Optimists are of course welcome, but friends and families are encouraged to help also. Brain Bowl figures to be a record number of teams and kids. Details and signups at www.optimistbrainbowl.com.

Volunteers for the North Brain Bowl need to be inside Standley Lake High School, 9300 W. 104th Ave., Westminster, by 7 a.m. on Saturday, January 11. Morning coffee and donuts and also lunch are on us.

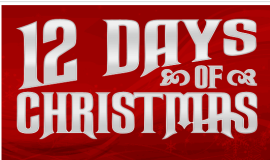
OCMS Play Ground @ Schlessman YMCA: Greg



Signage Example: Optimist Club of Monaco South Playground

Young shared that he has received two additional pledges today, and would like to get all by Monday please. Over \$72,000 has been pledged by our members, which is fantastic support from the club for this worthy project. So get your pledges in.

The Twelve Days of Christmas: Bob Avery gave



a report on the 12 days of Christmas and its history, citing the difference between western and eastern Christianity's views on the days between December 25th and January 6th. Boxing

Day, December 26th, was also discussed, and despite **Phil Perington's** pugilistic view of the holiday due to its name, Bob correctly informed him of the following: *Boxing Day is traditionally the day following Christmas Day, when servants and tradesmen would receive gifts, known as a "Christmas box," from their bosses or employers. Today, Boxing Day is the bank holiday that generally takes place on 26 December. It is observed in the United Kingdom, Canada, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand, Kenya, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago and other Commonwealth nations.*

December Perfect Attendance: **Bob Avery** also noted those with perfect attendance in the month of December: **Avery, Chavez, Cisco, Eley, Finkelmeier, Geil, Kady, Kleinheksel, Marci, Mauro, McMahon, Gary Miller, Oss, Paul, Peck, Pedersen, Perington, Regan, Ross, Slaby, Sorensen, St.John, Stoffel, Stratton, Thomson, Wachter, Yockey, Greg Young and John Young.**

Ugly Sweater: Fred Pasternack would like to



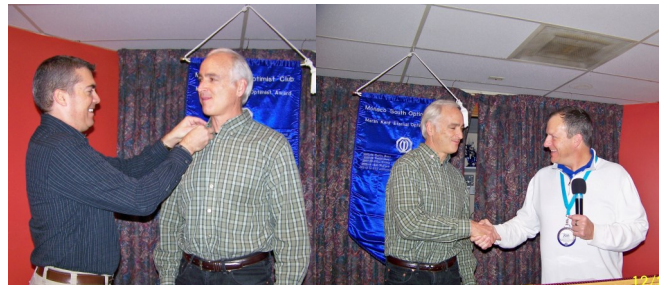
know has anyone seen his sweater? And it was not because he was running in Denver's Ugliest Sweaters run. Which by the way was over. Was it's easy to

spot, since it is very ugly. Editor, Fred's sweater was found. It was borrowed by **J.R. Gieck** for an ugly Christmas sweater contest and he was to embarrassed to wear it in this morning, so he left it in his truck. No report to learn if J.R. won or not.

Dime-A-Day: Fred Pasternack also reported that he received one more Dime-A-Day checks today, making our club #1 in Optimist International for Dime-A-Day participation. Way to go!

New Member Induction

Kurt Siebold, principal at Slavens Elementary School, has joined the fold. Pat president **Randy Marcove** sponsored him and joined him on the stage as **President Jon** handled the induction duties. Welcome to Kurt!



On the left, Randy Marcove (L) presents Kurt Siebold with his new member pin and on the right, president Jon Wachter welcomes Kurt into Monaco South.
Photos Don StJohn

Camaraderie Day Happy Bucks

Today's proceeds this go-around will be tips for our new chef **Heather** - \$75 was the total, which **Greg Young** presented to a grateful Heather.



President Jon Wachter (L) and Greg Young present our new breakfast chef a Christmas gift.

Photos Don StJohn

Karl Geil is happy for times with family, and happy that the family members have moved on to other travels.

Paul Simon is happy to see **Bob and Carolyn Hartwig** this morning.

Jack Kleinheksel is ecstatic that he survived a cold tree lot shift.

John Swick is happy that he spent Christmas with his boys, and for their safety and health.

Greg Young is happy that Mondays at the tree lot are over.

Dick Nickoloff is happy that he visited Casper, WY and his wife's parents, and for having that driving

Happy Bucks Continued

time to spend quality time with his daughter.

Phil Perington happy for **Joe Marci** and all he does for the club, especially the tree lot. This was a sentiment echoed by many!

Dave Peck is happy to be a new member of "this fine club."

Tom Hoch is happy he did not drive to Casper this year.

Bob Avery is happy that **Bob Finkelmeier** works so hard on the newsletter each and every week. He is also happy for time with family and to visit with his son's friend back from Afghanistan and service time there.

Joe Marci is happy for those who worked as Santa, including those who took pictures with his grandkids.

Gary Miller is happy he gets to sit next to **Joe Marci** on Friday mornings.

Oscar Sorensen is happy not to drive behind Tom Hoch.

Don StJohn is happy for his wife, two daughters, five grandkids and four great-grandkids.

John Oss is happy to spend time with his friend Jessica Shue, an optimist in practice and a future Optimist club member.

Gary Strowbridge is happy that **Don Thomson** was Santa for his grandkids when they visited the lot.

JR Gieck is happy to be in the club with his grandfather, **Don StJohn**.

Tom Mauro is happy that his daughter Andrea is a video producer and editor at DaVita, division of DaVita HealthCare Partners Inc.

Kent Gloor is happy for his wife Abigail Nicholas, four daughters, four sons-in-law and fifteen grand-

children. By the way, Abigail is the CO-WY District Governor Elect.

Craig Ely is happy to have family home, even though they haven't left yet.

Don Iley is happy his in-laws were here for Christmas, and happy they are now gone.

Ron Cisco is happy that family was together for the holidays, and happy that his daughter-in-law made his son pick up the tab at dinner last night.

John Young is happy he was able to celebrate the 20th Christmas for the Tamarac club (originally sponsored by this club).

John Stoffel is happy to spend Christmas with grandkids, and happy that he got up this morning.

Fred Pasternack is happy for what he predicts to be a Super Bowl victory for the Broncos.

Jon Wachter is happy for spending Christmas with his fiancée and to see his nieces and nephews open gifts on Christmas morning.

Weekly Drawing

There was \$140 in the big pot, and the Five of Hearts was the one to find. **Phil Perington** and **George Buzick** had no luck looking for the right card, nor did **Steve Kady** when he was identified for having his name tag on. Cups went to **John Oss**, **Dick Nickoloff**, **Jack Kleinheksel**, **Mike McMahon**, **JR Gieck**, and **Fred Pasternack**.



Closing Bell

Our meeting concluded when the creed was led by **Russ Paul** - "Promise Yourself...."

Super Citizen Presenters for January

Jan 8 @ 2:30	MPB	Les Larson
Jan 22 @ 8:00	Highline	?
Jan 31 @ 9:30	Holm	?
Jan 31 @ 12:45	McMeen	Joe Marci
Jan 31 @ 3:00	Bradley	Aaron Beery

Be a Super Citizen Presenter
See Rob Gardner, 720-263-6203
gardnerrb@gmail.com

Weekly Greeters

HAPPY NEW YEAR

1/3/14	Ralph Pederson & Dave Owens
1/10/14	Allen Malask & Tom Glazier
1/17/14	Robert Wardlaw & ?

Need Friday morning greeters,
see O.C Larson, 303-797-7432 or
larrison1942@comcast.net

Monaco South Calendar

Jan 1	Wed	Happy New Year!	
Jan 3	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Karl Geil, Brain Bowl
Jan 7	Tue	6:30 pm	Brain Bowl Reader Training, Heritage High School, Littleton
Jan 10	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Chris Bray, Private Investigator Licensing
Jan 11	Sat	7:00 am	North Region Brain Bowl, Standley Lake High School, 9300 W. 104 th Ave. Westminster
Jan 17	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day

**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 Stowbridge	1993-94	Paul Simon	2012-13
Mark Metevia	1994-95		

2013 - 2014 Officers

President	Jon Wachter	303-204-5645
Vice President	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Vice President	John Oss	720-210-8056
Secretary	Pat Bush	720-747-5482
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

Michael Chavez	303-960-5304
J. R. Gieck	949-636-7614
Jack Kleinheksel	720-938-1760
Mike McMahon	303-514-5175
Fred Pasternack	303-758-3754
Ralph Petersen	303-759-3384
Michael Short	970-261-6012
Scott Walker	303-803-3338
Paul Simon (Past Pres.)	303-300-9940

Newsletter Committee

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Ralph Petersen	303-759-3384	r.pedersen2658@comcast.net
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net	John Oss	720-210-8056	john.oss4us@gmail.com
Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rzolman691@aol.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: Dec **Paul Stratton**, Jan **John Oss**, Feb **George Buzick**, Mar **Robert Wardlaw**

T H E O P T I M I S T C R E E D — 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.