



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)



December 4, 2015 – Vol. 40, Issue 10

Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 39 Years
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012
www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Robert Wardlaw



Good Morning Optimist

On a crisp December morning we are greeted warmly by **Bob Avery** and **Paul Gibson**. A topic of conversation, was on this date in 1954, the first Burger King opened in Miami, Florida. Who knew that?

Opening Bell

President Michael Chavez rings the bell promptly at 7 a.m. and asks everyone to welcome his immediate table partners.

Invocation & Pledge

John Young delivers our prayer this morning, which deals with the tenant of talking *Health, Happiness and Prosperity* to every person we meet. Even though there are many that we deal with who are not healthy, happy, or prosperous. It is our words and deeds that can demonstrate these ideals and give hope to those not enjoying those same blessings. All things are possible. John then leads us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

From the Prez

President Michael tells us we have received membership applications from Ricardo Ortiz and Bob Trout. Ricardo and Bob joined us in November as guests and we welcome their intention to join our club. *Welcome to Bob and Ricardo!*

New Members

Speaking of New Members, OI President **Dave Bruns** wishes all Optimists a very Happy Holidays and announces the Season of Giving membership incentive for Optimist Clubs. See his message on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mqv6H9JP7il>. He states, "It is our hope that by waiving the New Member Fee for all new Members added between December 1, 2015 and January 31, 2016, it will be easier for Opti-



mists and Optimist Clubs to give the gift of Optimism to others who share our passion for helping children."

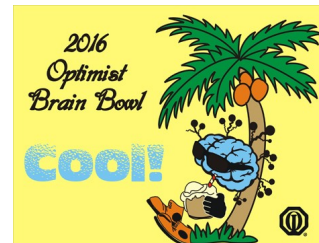
So bring new member and introduce them to brings out the VERY BEST in youth and in our local communities.
Just Ask!



Announcements

Christmas Baskets: Prez Michael Chavez asks us to save the Saturday morning, December 19, for delivering Christmas food baskets. I have the details at next meeting.

Brain Bowl is Coming: Karl Geil shouts, *The Brain Bowl is coming; the Brain Bowl is coming!* It is almost time, once again, for the Optimist Brain Bowl competition. Think of it as Jeopardy with teams for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students. This year, over 1,000 students will again compete, and we need to make sure we have enough volunteers to make the event work. There are three regional competitions: in the North Region at Standley Lake High School in Westminster January 9, in the Central Region on January 30 at Heritage High School in Littleton, in the South Region at Horizon Middle School on February 6, and the Championship Tournament will be held February 20 at Hamilton Middle School in Denver.



We need about 135 volunteers for each tournament, and closer to 150 for the North Regional. Most volunteers will be done at lunchtime, but we need to staff 12 competition rooms in the afternoon. If you would like to be a Reader at any of the tournaments, you need to attend a training in advance of the event. Dates, times, locations and a link to sign up for Reader Training can be found at <http://www.optimistbrainbowl.org/readers.html>. Contact **Michael Chavez** or **Karl Geil** for more information.

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******

Continued on the next page

Announcements Continued

Whole Foods Donation to Schools: Mike

McMahon tells us that this coming Tuesday December 8, the Whole Foods Store, Tiffany Plaza Mall, on Hampden at Tamarac will donate 5 percent of sales from that day to Bradley International, Holm Elementary, and Highline Academy. Despite the recent decision by Whole Foods not to purchase goat cheese and tilapia from CCI, this could be a way to support our local schools and in turn the kids in our community. We have also been made aware that this short sided and ill-advised decision has been taken under reconsideration. Let's hope that clear thought can prevail.

Super Citizen Programs: Robert Wardlaw



touts the upcoming assemblies for Super Citizen at Slavens, December 11; Most Precious Blood and Samuels, December 16; Bradley International, December 18; and McMeen, December 17. This is a great chance for members to become involved in the program that recognizes kids who are acting and doing the right things in school. Now, more than ever is the time for Super Citizens and the kids need you. See Dr. **Rob Gardner**, for those who wish to be presenters at these upcoming assemblies. Or contact Robert Wardlaw (303-525-2532) if you are interested in attending an assembly near you, to get an idea of what these pep rallies are all about.

Rocky Mountain Train Show: Greg Hurd



tells us about the Rocky Mountain Train Show will be next weekend, December 12 and 13th, at the Merchandise Mart. On Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Train Show is celebrating its 38th year and encompasses 2½ acres of sales, kid's activities, exhibits, and displays at the largest Train Show west of the Mississippi. The show is intended for experienced modelers as well as beginners, and families.

Support for Urban Peak: Ron Gustas mentioned that the Type 1 Diabetes Optimist Club-T1DOC is conducting a drive to benefit the Urban Peak non-profit which helps at risk Denver homeless and near homeless age 15 to 24 youth. This past summer Preston Dickey, of Urban Peak spoke to both T1DOC and OCMS about programs helping these kids and young adults.

The T1DOC welcomes support from OCMS members by joining in to donate the following type items: clothes (new underwear, winter socks, hats, gloves), men's and woman's winter boots, rain ponchos, umbrellas, deodorant, gift cards, bus tickets, bike locks, hand/foot warmers and snacks (High protein, trail mix, beef jerky).

A collection box will be at OCMS meetings thru De-

cember 11. Checks payable to the T1DOC are also welcome which will be used to purchase the above type items. For more info please contact Ron.

Save the Monarch Butterfly: Craig Eley



to do something to help save the Monarch butterfly, which entails growing and distributing milkweed plants. He asked that members bring their empty 2 liter plastic soda bottles to the meetings in December so he can repurpose them as mini-greenhouses.



TAJ ArtFest: Craig Eley also mentioned the TAJ Art Fest is Saturday, December 12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Our Club will be there, helping crafters with parking and then assisting **Tom Glazier** with running the used book sale. Please see Tom if you are able to give him a hand.

Additionally, Craig, the Beekeeper will be selling is honey. Stop by for a chat and check out some great gifts and stocking stuffers and help the school at the same time.

MSOC Annual White Elephant Gift Exchange: **Oscar Sorenson** calls to attention a recent positive article in the *Denver Post Neighborhood Hub*, regarding our Christmas Tree Lot. In addition, he mentioned, Santa will be making an appearance for the White Elephant Christmas gift exchange at our meeting on December 18. He claims this is your opportunity to recycle those chrome plated nose hair clippers you been hanging onto for the past year.



Christmas Tree Sales: Joe Marci tells us that Tree Lot sales are up 10 percent and we are primed for a HUGE weekend for Tree Sales so please help out. A new factor to consider this year with regard to our sales and getting the word out to the buying public is the factor that social media is playing in our sales. YELP, a social media site, offers reviews and ratings people can enter for dining, businesses, etc. Currently, our lot is receiving a FIVE START Rating from this platform and is another way to reach people. Which leads us to know we as individual members can help with tree sales, being #1 is pretty clear, but by working at the lot and being helpful, cheerful, and giving the best service you can when helping a customer select a Tree, can also be rewarding. Further, you can also help by discovering ways to get the word out, whether it is to family and friends, to coworkers, or places you go during your day. There are still a large number of people who do not know that the South Monaco Optimist Club sells Christmas Trees. If you have an idea about how to do this, bring it up to day manager, or to Joe Marci himself. BTW, a FLYER is attached to the GUMS distribution email.

TREE LOT SIGN UP

Go to <http://www.monacosouth.org/>
Log in at the Members Only Page

Announcements Continued

Dime-A-Day: Phil Perington stands in for **Perry Allen**, who took over the Dime-A-Day program. With just one dime a day, you can become part of the movement of "Helping Optimists Help Kids" and become part of a large group of Foundation supporters who realize what a difference they make every day in the lives of children. The Dime-A-Day level is reached by a contribution of \$36.50 to the Foundation within one Optimist year and is recognized by the presentation of a pin. The unrestricted gift helps fund all programs of Optimist International. Your money could help one

child further their education with a scholarship or educate a child about internet safety. Your donation can help a child, in more ways than one. Would you consider making a gift of just a dime a day to assist the charitable work of Optimist International?

No Extra Heat in Santa Haus: **Pat Bush** announces that he and **Gary Miller** attempted to locate the source for some electrical issues at the Tree Lot, and found that the second heater used in the Santa house is overloading the system. Please keep usage to ONE HEATER for those Santa Claus shift workers.

OI Foundation Pass Through Program

Frank Middleton

Frank Middleton tells us about the OI Foundation Pass Through Program that is available for members to donate to specific activities that our club sponsors. The Pass Through program is offered by the Optimist International Foundation. For example, when you give \$100 to OI Foundation and specify it to one of our programs, it comes back to Monaco South for that purpose.

Likewise, if a member gives a check to the Club earmarked for a specific programs, you can still do that but you will not receive a tax deduction for this gift. Our Club does not have 501c3 status from the IRS. OI has applied to the IRS for this status but was not approved. This is why OI started the Pass Through Program, which has the potential to be a large source of funds for our club. Using this method a member who wishes to make contributions can now make a tax deductible donation to our club to specifically support our programs.

The donation has to be \$100 or more and can be used for any Charitable, Literary or Educational project. So the Brain Bowl, Junior Golf, Super Citizen, Christmas baskets, Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner, Sullivan Scholarship, and

JOOI Clubs, would work. There is a short form to fill out, see our Treasurer, **Greg Young**. Life insurance, stocks, bonds, charitable remainder trust are examples of donations that are not eligible for this program. Make your check payable to Optimist International Foundation. Once that money has been sent to OI by our club it is deposited in the Foundation, then a check is made to our club and available for the project you designated.

OI will send you a Thank You Note and a tax form at the end of the year for your records. Members of our club who pass away are able to do the same thing by directing any donations be made to the OI Foundation and support the specific OCMS program he has designated. Businesses can also participate in this program by giving a check made out to OI Foundation.

When you give Greg Young a check made out to OI Foundation, you can be sure that your money is going to support the program you have designated and receive a tax deduction at the same time. For further information see Frank Middleton or Greg Young.

Thank you Frank for an insightful overview!

December Super Citizen Presenters

Dec 11 @ 8:30	Slavens	Bob Avery
Dec 16 @ 1:00	Samuels	Gary Strowbridge
Dec 16 @ 2:30	MBP	Don Roth
Dec 17 @ 1:00	McMeen	Mike White
Dec 17 @ 5:30	Hamilton	?

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

Weekly Greeters

12/11/15	Bryce Slaby & Tom Kramis
12/18/15	Ron Cisco & John Young
12/25/15	Merry Christmas — No Meeting
1/1/2016	Happy New Year — No Meeting

Help, Help, Help — we need
Friday morning greeters,
see Jon Wachter, 303-204-5645 or
jon_wachter@msn.com

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2015-2016 40th Birthday Year — Chartered in 1976

Dec 11 Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Karl Geil, The Brain Bowl is Coming!
Dec 12 Sat	9:00 am	TAJ Craft Fair Set-up - see Craig Eley & Tom Glazier
Dec 17 Thu	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
Dec 18 Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Santa Gift Exchange
Dec 19 Sat	8:00 am	Christmas Food Basket Delivery
Dec 25 Fri	-----	Merry Christmas! — No meeting — eat breakfast at home —
Jan 1 Fri	-----	Happy New Year — No meeting — eat breakfast at home —
Jan 2 Sat	9:00 am	Brain Bowl Reader Training, Valmont Presbyterian Church, 3262 61 st St, Boulder
Jan 5 Tue	6:00 pm	Brain Bowl Reader Training, Heritage High School, 1401 W. Gaddes Ave., Littleton
Jan 8 Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Jan 9 Sat	6:45 am	Brain Bowl, North Regional, Standley High School, 9300 W. 104 th Ave., Westminster



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

Bob Rhue	1976-77	Tom Overton	1996-97
Jerry Whitlow	1977-78	Peter Dimond	1997-98
Bill Kosena	1978-79	Ralph Symalla	1998-99
Duane Wehrer	1979-80	Cy Regan	1999-00
Curt Jefferies	1980-81	Stan Cohen	2000-01
Frank Middleton	1981-82	Don St. John	2001-02
John Young	1982-83	Jack Rife	2002-03
Pat Bush	1983-84	Karl Geil	2003-04
Bob Hugo	1984-85	Bryce Slaby	2004-05
Tom Mauro	1985-86	Donlie Smith	2005-06
Curt Lorenzen	1986-87	Paul Bernard	2006-07
Oscar Sorensen	1987-88	Greg Young	2007-08
Lupe Salinas	1988-89	Phil Perington	2008-09
Bob Avery	1989-90	Ron Cisco	2009-10
Bill Litchfield	1990-91	Ed Collins	2010-11
Bill Walters	1991-92	Randy Marcove	2011-12
Kent Gloor	1992-93	Paul Simon	2012-13
Gary Strowbridge	1993-94	Jon Wachter	2013-14
Mark Metevia	1994-95	John Oss	2014-15
Bob Safe	1995-96		

2015 - 2016 Officers

President	Michael Chavez	303-960-5304
Vice President	Open	
Vice President	Randy Marcove	303-840-7706
Secretary	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

Barry Barker	813-545-4533
Pat Bush	720-254-3741
Jim Easton	720-987-7684
Tom Glazier	303-522-5214
Cap Hermann	303-587-5575
Allen Malask	303-726-3700
Bill Morgan	303-868-4384
Allen Pierce	303-883-8506
John Oss (Past Pres.)	720-210-8056

Newsletter Committee

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	r.pedersen2658@comcast.net
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net	Phil Perington	303-832-4578	perington@msn.com
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	rlwardlaw@gmail.com	Craig Eley	720-771-0866	craigceley@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Nov **Robert Wardlaw**, Dec **Pat Bush**, Jan **Paul Stratton**, Feb **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.