



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

November 27, 2009

Vol. 34, Issue 9

The Optimist Club of Monaco South

Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado

Serving Youth and the Community for 34 Years

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Phil Perington



Good Morning Optimists!

This morning our smiling greeters were **Harry Johnson** and **Nick Newey**. The crowd was a little below normal, but full of camaraderie and laughter. There was lots of conversation about turkey and trees. **Mike Snipes** was showing a DVD of the Thanksgiving Dinner at the Boys and Girls Club and everyone was getting into the spirit of the season, minus the eggnog.

President Ron's Utterings

President Ron gaveled at 7:00 and **Randy Marcove** read our Invocation: *Giving of One's Self in Service to Others*. We all joined in the Pledge and dived back into our French toast, scrambled eggs, plump little sausages, fruit, juice, coffee & rolls. Yum!

We had four Father and Son duos in attendance today: **Ron & Greg Carlson** (Greg visiting from the Windy City), youngster **Don & David Iley**, **Eldon & Ryan Strong** (both of Nebraska, but still our Optimist brothers) and new FOO member **A.L. Perington & former prez Phil**. We also had three more guests: **Fred Pasternak** sat with his visiting nephew **Craig Rosenberg** from San Diego, proudly wearing his Charger Jersey and bulging with cash from his winnings. **John Young** introduced, **Al Lotman**, retired orthopedic surgeon, fellow choir member of John's church, and recovering Rotarian who was urged by all to quickly join and bring his singing talents to the Club. **Randy Marcove** then introduced **Paul Glevich**, a long time associate, and founder of a new non-profit organization providing

musical instruments to elementary school kids. Sounds like a winner!

President Ron honored **Donlie Smith** for his fantastic job in managing the Thanksgiving Dinner at the Boys and Girls Club. He also noted that John Aragone, Executive Director of all the Boys and Girls Clubs was extremely pleased with our performance and operational expertise. The leftovers consisted of 6-trays of green beans, 1-tray of turkey, 1-tray of mashed potatoes and gravy, all of which stayed at the Club. (See related story, page 2). Ron went on to explain that he had delivered a Thanksgiving Basket to the Cope Club and the Manager Julio Flores had tears in his eyes because he would be able to provide the basket to a family that was suffering greatly. A big hurrah goes out to everyone who helped out on Saturday delivering baskets across town.



Two of the many posters that decorated the walls at the Thanksgiving Dinner at the Boys and Girls Club dining area on Tuesday, November 24th.

Photo by Don StJohn

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

Thanksgiving Dinner: Another very successful Thanksgiving Dinner was held at the Boy's and Girl's Club, Owens Branch, on Tuesday evening. 38 members and 22 family members and friends took part. The food was delicious and we received many thanks from the kids and their parents. John Arigoni was most appreciative, said **President Ron**.

Special kudos to **Donlie Smith** for heading up the project and many thanks to those who helped. Those who participated were: **Bill Anderson, Sewell Black, Ed Collins, Jim Easton, David Erickson, Keith Gallaway, Al Gapuzan, Karl Geil, Kent Gloor, Marc Goodbody, John Greene, Greg Hurd, Don Iley, Harry Johnson, Jack Kitchell, Les Larson, OC Larson, Tom Mauro, Nick Newey, Fred Pasternack, Russ Paul, Ralph Pedersen, Phil Perington, Ron Roth, Terry Shroyer, Paul Simon, Bryce Slaby, Donlie Smith, Mike Snipes, Oscar Sorensen, Don StJohn, Eldon Strong, Gary Strowbridge, Jason Sunahara, Woody Thibodeau, Bill Walters, and John Young.** Guests included Don Kim, Joe Carque, former member Terri Stier and his entire family of wife KIm and 5 children, Stephanie Simon, Andrew & Jack Thibodaux, Andrew Hurd, Molly & Amy Grace & Emily Iley, Leslie Meyer, Emily & Evan Easton, Chris & Amber & Briana Spelic, Natalie Gloor, Matthew & Jennifer Nelson, and Tyler Sunahara.

Bronco Report from **Fred Pasternak** included the usual over the top kudos and that he took **Russ Paul** to the game instead of his wife, who was too disappointed to go. Looks like the Broncos have a new lucky charm. Better keep taking Russ to those games Fred.

Thanksgiving Baskets: **Greg Young** reported that 42 baskets were delivered on Saturday, November 21st, and that Safeway with the help of **Assistant Manager, Greg Burke** everything came off perfectly. He also noted that thank you's from Slavens, Holm, Lowry, and Samuels Elementary schools have been received. Good job everyone! In a related story from **Bob Avery:** *"Many thanks to **Eldon Strong, Greg Hurd** and **Kent Gloor** for coming early to help pick up the food and helping me arrange the boxes and turkeys. Once again Greg Burke and his staff at Safeway went above and beyond in helping us. Not only did they give us a great price on the turkeys, they also put the food together in individual boxes, gave us a \$100 gift certificate, PLUS gave us the donuts and coffee (Starbucks) on the house. I strongly urge you, if you are doing any grocery shopping in the Yale and Monaco area that you give that Safeway the business! It's hard to keep a good manager around and Greg has been there a couple of years so he may be moving on as is Safeway's way of doing things. Thank you Greg!*

Thanks to the guys (and a few gals) for delivering the

*baskets. Those helping with deliveries, (in no particular order) **Russ Paul, Gary Strowbridge, Tom Mauro, Oscar Sorensen, Jim Leuschner's** family including, wife Kathy, daughter Shannon, and son-in-law Brett (need to get him to join), **Kent Gloor's** daughter Jennifer and son-in-law Matt (need to get him to join also, beginning to see a pattern here), **John Greene, Les Larson, Karl Geil, Joe Marci, Scott Walker, Fred Pasternack** (with a friend who I forgot his name), **Terry Shroyer, Greg Young, Bob Finkelmeier, John Young, President Cisco, Ron Gustas, Phil Perington** (and Checkers the wonder dog), **Jim Easton, Woody Thibodeau, Allen Pierce, and Bill Litchfield.***

Here are a couple of the quotes from the school social workers and staff... "Thank you for your help with families in our community." Holm Elementary. "Thank you so much for all you do." Southmoor Elementary. "Thank you so much for your offer to include Slavens families in the Optimist Thanksgiving contributions. They are very grateful for the help at this time." Slavens Elementary. "Please thank everyone from the Optimist Club for doing this—it means a lot!" Bradley Elementary. "Thank you so much Bob. This has really helped us to pull off Thanksgiving for our families who are less fortunate. One of our staff has managed to put together about 16 more and we are still reaching out to the community at this point. Yours and the Optimist Club's giving spirit is so appreciated." Samuels Elementary. "Thanks so much for all your club does to make a difference in other people lives..." Lowry Elementary.

Tree Lot Update: **Oscar Sorensen** has approved the layout submitted for the Tree Lot by **OC Larson**, now for the hard work. Turn out on Saturday is important!

White Elephant Gift Exchange: December 18th is White Elephant Gift Day, as reported by Santa's little helper, **Oscar Sorensen**. Please bring a wrapped gift and keep the women and children away.

TJ Crafts Fair: **Craig Eley** thanked everyone for their help at the TJ Crafts Fair and updated us on the affairs of **Santa Claus at the Tree Lot**. There will be 35 shifts so please sign up for a shift or two. **Bryce Slaby** has built a custom made Chair for Santa and got **Tuff Shed** to provide a large Tuff Shed for "Santa's House." Great job Bryce! Santa has a surprise for you! Wonder what kind of a sense of humor Santa has? And a big thanks to **Bill Litchfield** for donating the Santa suit!

Super Citizen Presenters for December

Day	School	Presenter
9 @ 2:30 pm	MPB	Don Iley
10 @ 5:30 pm	Hamilton	Harry Fegley
14 @ 8:00 am	Highline	Jim Easton
15 @ 9:30 & 10:30 am	Samuels	Gary Strowbridge
16 @ 1:20 & 2:05 pm	McMeen	Steve Kady
18 @ 8:30 am	Slavens	Bill Walters
18 @ 3:00 pm	Bradley	John Young

Announcements Continued

Christmas Basket: Don StJohn reminded everyone the Christmas Basket distribution is on December 19th. Please sign up and meet at the MSOC by 8:30 am. Secret Santa, Fred will provide stuffed animals and other treats.

Drawing: \$110 for the 7 of Diamonds: Ron Gustas and Fred Pasternak managed to keep the pot growing. Sorry guys, better luck next time.

Poker Chips: Bill Culbertson is wearing his nametag and wins the final try at the pot. The pot wins... \$120 next week.

Grocery Sales: Cy Regan reports King Sopers - \$525.00, Safeway - \$100.00 for a total of \$625. That's another \$31.25 for the General Fund.

Creed: The Creed was led by Ron Gustas, "To wear a cheerful countenance at all times...."

The Tree Lot is Here, The Tree Lot is Here! Please everyone, sign-up for shifts on the tree lot. We all need to help out with our biggest fundraiser of the year. The kids are counting on us.

Assist for Gerald Davis

I'm writing because I need a favor. It's a long story, but we spent Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday with Dad at St. Joseph hospital. Dad fell and there is a hairline fracture in his right femur. Currently, he is in a really awful "rehab" place and he is very scared and unhappy. I have decided to move him out of that place tomorrow and back into his apartment at St. Andrews but he is still a fall risk so I need to find a bunch of people who could just be with him for a few hours every day for the next week. In other words, we just need to make sure he does not fall again. Thanks much!

Call, Jackie Dobrovolny, daughter (303-368-7290)

See Peggy Lehmann's Newsletter with an announcement about our Tree Lot and some pictures of the Boy's and Girl's Club Thanksgiving Dinner attached to the email version.

Our Speaker

Our speaker today was Mr. Optimist, John Young. The Fabulous Love Notes, lead by John Young, Al Lotman, Al Gapuzan, Craig Eley, Marc Goodbody, Keith Gallaway and Cy Regan sang a stirring rendition of "Thank-God I'm an Optimist," lyrics by Craig Eley, to the amazement of all in attendance. A rousing applause followed.



Photo Don StJohn

John then went on to propose an exciting program for the upcoming International Convention. As the largest Club in the CO-WY District it is incumbent that we produce a Program for other Clubs that will help them grow and become more successful. He would like to assemble a "Gospel of Optimism," by using a custom-made three-ring binder for distribution at the Convention. It would include instructions and experienced documentation on programs that have proved successful with MSOC. Included in that list would be The Brain Bowl, Super Citizen Awards, Eagle Scout Awards, Tree Lot Sales, Second Honeymoon, Baskets, etc. It was positively received by members and hopefully will manifest into fruition. The Club was grateful for the excellent presentation and initiative.

John then spent time walking us through some interesting facts. There are now only three major Clubs in Colorado, MSOC, Tamarac, and Buena Vista. Overall International membership has dramatically declined over the past 7 years, with the average length of individual club members capping at 11 years. He stated that "the kindest thing an Optimist can do is sponsor or invite someone into a Club." It is vital that we reach out to other Clubs and offer support and assist in their growth whenever possible. He also proudly announced that out of the 34 MSOC Presidents, 24 are still with us. To that came a somewhat humorous question of "what does 'still with us' mean?" John eloquently and happily replied it means, "that once we getcha, we keep ya." Touche. Keep bringing in those new members gentlemen. John is right!

Monaco South Calendar

Dec 4	Fri	7:00am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Jeff Coyne, Lockheed Martin: <i>Mars Lander</i>
Dec 11	Fri	7:00am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Charlie Brown, Denver City Councilman on Medical Marijuana
Dec 16	Wed	6:30pm	Board Meeting, 3540 S. Poplar, Suite 102 NOTE: Board Meetings have changed to the 3 rd Wednesday of each month
Dec 18	Fri	7:00am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Santa Gift Exchange
Dec 19	Sat	8:00am	Christmas Baskets Delivery
Dec 25	Fri		Christmas Day, no meeting
Jan 1	Fri		New Year's Day, no meeting

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

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

2009 - 2010 Officers

President	Ron Cisco	303-794-0749
Vice President	Howard Fry	303-601-5088
Vice President	Frank Ross	303-713-1008
Secretary	Robert Wardlaw	303-759-0360
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

George Buzick	303-803-2268
Michael Chavez	303-960-5304
Jim Easton	303-300-2431
Don Iley	303-840-7706
O.C. Larson	303-755-1213
Randy Marcove	303-667-3663
Gary Miller	303-751-0838
Terry Shroyer	303-757-7944
Kale Smith	720-207-4363
Phil Perington (Past Pres.)	303-832-4578

Newsletter Committee

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net
Marc Goodbody	303-202-1610	mlgoodbody@gmail.com	Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rzolman691@aol.com
Marlin Kent	303-779-0778		Phil Perington	303-832-4578	perington@msn.com
Jim Leuschner	720-851-7102	flyleusch@aol.com	George Buzick	303-803-2268	gtbuzick@comcast.net
Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	pedersen.ralph@q.com	Brian Williams	720-253-5731	bdw6688@yahoo.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS, Nov: PHIL PERINGTON, Dec: GEORGE BUZICK, Jan. BRIAN WILLIAMS, Feb: OC LARSON

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.

**PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID
AT DENVER, COLORADO AND**

Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (USPS 401730)
Is published weekly for \$2.00 per year by the
Optimist Club of Monaco South at
4173 S. Rosemary Way, Denver, CO 80237
Postmaster: Send address changes to:
Marc Goodbody
3235 YARROW CT
WHEAT RIDGE, CO 80033-5980