



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)



December 2, 2016 – Vol. 41, Issue 9

Optimist Club of Monaco South



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 40 Years
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012
www.monacosouth.org



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Editor for this Issue—Phil Perington

Good Morning Optimist

“Good Morning December Optimists! Have you been naughty or nice?”

We were greeted this morning by the happy and energetic duo of **Ed Leuty** and **George Buzick** who were in full Holiday and Christmas spirit.

The sumptuous breakfast buffet offered fluffy scrambled eggs, hash brown potato patties, sausage, banana halves, orange juice, toast, Danish treats and fresh coffee. It was noted that there was a three-way tie for highest piled plate between **Lynn Jones**, Uncle **Bob Avery** and **Russ Paul**.



Ed Leuty, left, and George Buzick try to figure out who the white-bearded quest was in the red suite.
Photo Noel Hasselgren

Morning Events

OC Larsen and **Donlie Smith** were decked out in CU attire and led a Buffalo cheer among a group of fellow fans.



Those wearing festive shirts of the season included **Gary Strowbridge**, Optimist mentor **John Young**, **Harry Fegley**, **Greg “Choo-Choo” Hurd**, Mr. Baseball **Tom Mauro**, **Al Gapuzan**, **Bill Morgan** and Ed “Funhouse” **Collins**. Bronco maniacs **Jon Wachter** and **Scottie Walker** were in their usual Friday orange. The camaraderie was loud and jovial across the room this morning. Resident Santa, **Oscar Sorensen** sat in the corner beaming with delight. It was a wonderful way to begin the weekend.

First Bell

President **Craig Eley** gave the morning bell a sharp 7 a.m. whack, followed by a hearty *Good Morning Optimists!*

Invocation & Pledge

The Invocation was presented by **Jack Kleinheksel**. *Giving Grace to Joy, Good Cheer and Deeds to all those in need of Optimism and random acts of kindness.* Followed by the Pelage to our flag.

Guests

Eldon “Studebaker” Strong introduce his friend **Mike Guertner**, visiting from Grand Lake and they exchanged good natured buddy barbs with one another. We all thanked Mike for joining us this morning.

December Birthday Recognition

Prez Craig asked us to share a MSOC birthday greeting to our December BD Members: **Harry Arkin**, **Aaron Beery**, **Curt Boell**, **Ron Cisco**, **Robert DeSpain**, **Dr. Rod Gardner**, **Noel “Shutterbug” Hasselgren**, **Dr. Jeff Johnson**, **Shawn Mefaffey**, **Bob Meyer**, **Frank Rowe**, and **Kurt Siebold** were treated to a resounding and tender *Happy Birthday Serenade*, followed by an imaginary cupcake with a candle.

From the Prez

Prez Craig sent out a call for Tree Lot volunteers and urged any and every one who can to monitor the online Tree Lot Schedule and signup for duty. We need to keep the lot staffed. A truck load of trees will be coming on Monday at 9 a.m. We need help!

The TJ’s ArtFest and book sale is just around the corner on Saturday, December 12th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson High, 3950 S Holly St.

The Tree Lot Chili Cookoff is scheduled for Sunday the 18th at high noon. So far we have five entries and need a few more.

Prez Craig unveiled a one-size-fits-all Tree Lot vest with the Club name embroidered in white, for volunteers to wear. This will help Tree Lot customers tell the Optimists from the other customers. They also sport pockets in front as a place to stash box cutters, twine and gloves while putting trees on cars. When you are on the lot, be sure to wear one. They hang on pegs in the back of the trailer.



Tamarac Club Visit: Twenty members visited the Tamarac Club on Thursday morning that included, **Dave Peck**, **Karl Geil**, **Frank Middleton**, **Gary Strowbridge**, **Terry Shroyer**, **Scott Walker**, **Tom Hoch**,

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******

From the Prez Continued

Pat Bush, Dick Nickoloff, Michael Chavez, Bob Avery, Ken Duffy, Allen Pierce, John Young, Peter Dimond, Kent Gloor, Ed Collins, Tom Overton, Don St. John and Craig Eley. *Way to go guys! No reports of misbehavior or man cave conduct was reported.*

Santa Fe Opera: In connection with the Optimist International Convention in Albuquerque in July 2017, Craig is arranging a July 5, 2017, visit to tour and see the opera *Die Fledermaus* (The Bat), by Johann Strauss Jr. This opera returns to Santa Fe after a 25 year absence. See all of the details attached to GUMS distribution email.



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Announcements

White Elephant Gift Exchange: At our December 23rd meeting we will hold the annual White Elephant Gift Exchange. For those who have never experienced this fun-loving event, this is your opportunity to recycle those chrome plated nose hair clippers you been hanging onto for the past year. The unofficial rules are for each member to bring one wrapped gift to contribute to a common pool; Santa calls member's names to determine who receives what; and then everyone has an opportunity to share their special gift. What makes the best White Elephant gift? Funny gifts make the biggest splash, but are not always the most desirable items. Weird or slightly used artwork, gadgets or trinkets are also popular; as well as a genuinely nice gift. More details to follow.



Keep Marc Goodbody in your thoughts: John Oss asked everyone to keep Marc Goodbody in their thoughts and prayers, since on December 6th he will have surgery @ 7:30 a.m. Marc is getting a much-needed stent. Best wishes and good fortune to Marc who does such a great job as a photographer for the Super Citizen program.

Christmas Basket Distribution: Michael Chavez shared that 40 Christmas food baskets are planned for delivery on Saturday, December 17th. So, please sign up if you are interested in helping. Baskets will be ready to go and teams of two are recommended.

Meeting Greeter Signup: Jon Wachter, Greeter Coordinator, passed around the signup sheet and is looking for new members to partner with our current members. Email Jon at jon_wachter@msn.com, or see him at the next meeting.

The Brain Bowl Coming: Karl Geil reminds us the Brain Bowl will be here sooner than you realize and 135 volunteers are needed for each tournament. All information can be accessed at the website: optimistbrainbowl.com or by emailing him at karl_geil@prodigy.net. See other details included in the GUMS distribution email.

Reflection on CU Football: Donlie Smith announced if CU had won the Friday Night PAC-12

Championship game he believes his hair would have started to grow again. Turns out he will not be getting any extra haircuts in the future. It was a great season for CU and they represented Colorado with great voracity and determination with a 10-3, 8-1, Pac-12 record.

Poinsettia Orders: Jim Easton reported that his son Evan's Poinsettia orders has arrived and needs to be delivered. Plants will be dropped off at the tree lot or arrangements for delivery/pickup can be made by calling him at 720-987-7684. He also shared, the 50 Thanksgiving baskets we delivered came in \$450 over budget. If anyone is interested in helping cover the shortage, please give a check to **Greg Young** or Jim. He has personally donated \$250.

ArtFest and Book Sale: Tom Glazier reminded us that on December 10th the ArtFest and Book Sale takes place and we will be handling the parking, starting at 7 a.m. and that he will need assistance with moving in the books. Let Tom know if you can assist.

MSOC Shirts: Greg Young still is taking orders for the long or short sleeved shirts at the next meeting. Bring a check of \$25 to pre-pay for shirts with no name, \$30 for shirts with name embroidered.

King Sooper's & Safeway Cards: Greg Young

also reminded us that King Soopers and Safeway Gift Cards make ideal gifts for holiday's. **Cy "Sooperman" Regan** or Greg can help members purchase these cards in several denominations. The cards can be used for groceries and gas, plus the club receives a percentage back from purchases made. Please see either of them to purchase.



Stories From the Tree Lot

Joe Marci: **ALERT!! Monday @ 9am new trees coming in and we need all hands-on deck.**

To date we have had 61 members work 494 hours through Dec. 1st and sales are 22 trees ahead of last year. This was our 2nd best showing in several years. The Tamarac Ladies contributed 61 hours in pricing and attaching sales tickets to over 700 trees. He went on to point out that last year on this same Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, weekend we sold 367 trees and need all the help we can get.

Don Thomson proudly shared the experience of a lady tree lot customer who presented him with a \$50 check in honor and memory of past member **Bill Turman**. What a nice thought and Christmas donation to our Club.

Dick Zolman reported that a "missing-sales tag" on the tree a lady wanted to buy just pulled out a \$100 bill for what turned out to be a \$75 tree and then proceeded to leave another \$80 for a future lucky buyer who may need some financial assistance. Another Santa moment on the tree lot.

Drawing

The magic card this morning was the 9 of Hearts if your number was called for a chance at a \$70 pot, or a cup worth \$7. Cup Winners: **Ed Collins, Jack Kleinhessel, Noel Hasselgren, Terry Shroyer, Karl Geil and Don St. John**. The unlucky card drawers were **Terry Shroyer and Bob Rhue**. **Wyatt McCallie** missed the badge draw as well.

Bob Rhue

Former member & MSOC Charter President
Speaking on Animal Rescue and Welfare

Bob Rhue was Charter President for Monaco South in 1976 and is now returning as our Guest Speaker this morning, talking about the Animal Rescue programs he is closely associated with. He noted that it has been 30 years since his last Monaco South meeting. After spending a short career in the practice of law he discovered 1979, the joy of earning a living collecting and dealing coins. He also made his first contact with the Dumb Friends League and thereafter became immersed in the activities of animal rescue.

"Transporting" is a rescue program conducted on Indian Reservations to recover thousands of free roaming dogs, to perform neutering services, and to then transport them to Denver for adoption. The Transporting is also involved with horses and mustangs. He also visits Mexico twice a year for the same purpose. The most recent trip rescued and neutered over 500 dogs and 1000 cats, preventing 1000's of unwanted animals from being born. Humanitarian acts of kindness also occur in the oceans and seas as well.

One of the most endangered species are sharks, who are cruelly subjected to poachers cutting fins off and leaving them to die a slow and painful death. In Thailand elephants are in need of special attention and protection as well.

Animal Rescue Services worldwide promulgate respect for animals and their lives. Over 10 billion animals are slaughtered for food in the USA each year. One program Bob encourages is Meatless Monday. If everyone observed this effort a 14% drop in animal deaths would occur. Factory farming is a problem for human consumption of animals, especially where the use growth hormones and cages are involved. There is an incredible amount of inhumane treatment processes used in factory farming. Some examples are pigs in gestation cages and chickens in stacking cages. [The Humane Society of the United States](#), magazine, "All

Bob Rhue continued —

Bob closed by pointing out many school lunch programs are now trending to meatless, or at the minimum a Meatless Monday. Also, there has been an uptick in the use of "undercover workers" embedding the industry to expose some of the horrendous and cruel methods used in slaughtering practices. He also said some of the most optimistic animals he has observed are goats.

President Craig thanked Bob for his fascinating and eye-opening presentation and urged him to visit again soon. It was a pleasure to hear from our Club's 1st President and we are all proud of the humanitarian and noble work he has been immersed in and supporting.



Bob Rhue
Photos Noel Hasselgren

Animals, Nov/Dec issue" provides this type of data and solutions. (Explore this issue by [CLICKING HERE.](#)) It should be noted, the Humane Society has over 100 Animal Rescue and Protection Initiatives in force at this time. One of their main issues is concentrated on pulling back on the industry of dog and race horse meat for pet food. "Kill Buyers," purchase animals at auction and then ship them to Mexico or Canada for pet food slaughtering. Horses get a top dollar of \$25 at auction. Food for pets programs focus on animal owners who "hoard" pets they cannot feed. In situations where there is no means to feed animals they step in and rescue the abused and hungry animals. Some 800 horses were saved recently and all were adopted.

Compassion fatigue. is a side effect for many volunteers. A need to talk about successes among themselves and support for their efforts is crucial. Animal Rescue can be emotionally draining and optimism is a key ingredient to keeping a good attitude and internal strength.

Questions asked were:

- ◇ *What about squirrels and Canadian Geese?* Sorry but there is no answer other than they are free to roam and America is a great place to be alive.
- ◇ *What about John Robbins book on Animal welfare and rights?* Bob affirmed it is a great book and everyone interested in animal rescue should read it.
- ◇ *What are "Free range" chickens?* Nine billion factory-caged chickens are slaughtered each year, however the number is dropping because of the public cry for chickens not caged and treated more humanely. There is a terrific amount of growth hormones, antibiotics and chemicals used to grow and process animals for slaughtering. This includes the adrenaline secreted just before slaughter. Let the buyer beware.

Continued below

Weekly Greeters

12/9/16	Don Roth & Terry Shroyer
12/16/16	Don Thomson & Chris Dunphy

December Super Citizen Presenters

Dec 9 @ 8:30	Slavens	Michael Chavez
Dec 9 @ 1:00	Samuels	Dick Nickoloff
Dec 15 @ 5:30	Hamilton	Casey Funk
Dec 16 @ 9:00 & 2:00	Holm	?
Dec 16 @ 3:00	Bradly	Joe Marci
Dec 21 @ 2:30	MPB	Don Roth

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2016-2017 40th Year — Chartered in 1976

Dec 9 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: Karl Geil, Brain Bowl is coming, Brain Bowl is coming!
 Dec 16 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
 Dec 17 Sat 8:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: Delivery of Christmas Food Baskets
 Dec 17 Sat 9:00 am Brain Bowl Training, Valmont Presbyterian Church, 3262 61st St., Boulder
 Dec 23 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: Santa Claus is Coming!
 Dec 25 Sun MERRY CHRISTMAS

**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	Michael Chavez	2015-16

2015 - 2016 Officers

President	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Vice President	Chris Dunphy	720-297-3111
Vice President	Mike McMahon	303-514-5175
Secretary	Randy Marcove	303-667-3663
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

Jim Easton	720-987-7684
Allen Pierce	303-883-8506
Allen Malask	303-726-3700
Bill Morgan	303-868-4384
Rob Gardner	720-263-6203
Wyatt McCallie	303-759-2275
Paul Stratton	303-474-4358
John Swick	720-422-2733
Michael Chavez (Past Pres.)	303-960-5304

Newsletter Committee

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	r.pedersen2658@comcast.net
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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 **Paul Stratton**, Feb **Robert Wardlaw**, Mar **Pat Bush**, Apr **Paul Stratton**

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.