



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

www.monacosouth.org

The Optimist Club of Monaco South --
Founded in 1976



MSOC Tree Lott

It's time for our biggest fundraiser of the year. The Christmas Tree Lot provides the major portion of our funding for the projects we do. The lot, started in 1978, was a joint effort between the Jay Cees and Monaco South. In 1980 Monaco South assumed total responsibility for the lot at it's current site near K-Mart. This year we will mail approximately 1300 post cards to customers from previous years. The lot is open between the hours of 9:00am to 9:00pm requiring four shifts of at least 2 volunteers each day. Weekends are the busiest time and additional volunteers are needed to deal with customers in a timely manner. The busiest weekends will probably be Dec 9-10 and Dec 16-17. It's likely that as many as 150 trees will be sold each of those weekends. We will get some help from students at Thomas Jefferson High School but we still need members to do their part. Working four 3 hour shifts will allow you to purchase a tree at cost. We can't compete with the grocery chains so we need to emphasize that all the money we earn goes back to the community through our projects and this year \$1 per tree will go to a children's cancer project. Here are a few things to remember:

- ⇒ each tree has a 2 letter code indicating the type of tree
- ⇒ sales tax must be collected on all sales
- ⇒ cash and checks are acceptable
- ⇒ charge cards are not acceptable (ATM @ Sears Essential)
- ⇒ tips go into the till not your pocket
- ⇒ trees can be delivered free of charge in the S.E. Denver area
- ⇒ small trees can be given to needy families
- ⇒ trees are not to be discounted until Dec 23
- ⇒ A special order flocked tree costs about \$10 per foot

New trees are delivered on Tuesday and Wednesday and extra volunteers are needed for drilling and pricing on those days. Let's make it another great year for the tree lot.

Meeting Place
American Legion Hall Post No. 1
5400 E. Yale Avenue (Yale & I-25), Denver, CO.
Every Friday Morning, at 7 - 8 AM

The News



Invocation

Frank Middleton gave the invocation and members gave the pledge to the flag. We had a guest, Norm Gibson, attending this morning.

King Sooper Certificates

It was a slow day for attendance and a slow day for sales. Guess everyone was still stuffed from the Thanksgiving dinner. And Karl wasn't present so sales lagged to \$550.

New Year's Eve

If you're planning to attend the New Years Party at the Colorado Symphony and you haven't yet notified Donlie, you need to do so by the end of next week. You can contact Donlie at (303) 759-0380.

JR Golf

The Optimist International Tournament of Champions was played November 17-19 in Palm Beach Gardens Florida at the PGA National Golf Club. Two players from Colorado participated in the tournament.

Don't forget, proceeds from the purchase of your Entertainment Book go to JR Golf.

Super Citizens Presentations

Dec 1	Holm	9:00 am	Bill Litchfield
	McMeen	1:30 pm	Mike Dellere
		2:15 pm	Mike Dellere
Dec 14	MPB	2:30 pm	Don Iley
	Hamilton	5:30 pm	Paul Bernard
Dec 15	Bradley	3:00 pm	Jim Brown

New Member Induction

President Paul Bernard, assisted by John Young, inducted Tom Hoch and Mike Snipes into Optimists this morning. Tom was sponsored by Ed Collins and Mike was sponsored by Jim Brown. Welcome to Monaco South.

Christmas Tree Folklore & History

- 1510 1st decorated real tree in Riga, Latvia
- 1531 1st retail tree lots started in Germany
- 18th century first recorded real tree decorated with lit candles
- 1777 tradition brought to Colonial America by Hessian troops
- 1842 custom of decorated tree introduced in Williamsburg, VA
- 1851 1st retail lot opened in New York City
- 1856 1st real tree at the White House
- 1923 National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony started
- 1966 National Christmas Tree Association start tradition of presenting a real tree to the President and First Family

Christmas Party

The Canyon Club Apartments Club House is the location for this year's party. It starts at 6:30 on December 9. Entertainment will be provided by Frank Ross. Ham and drinks will be provided and attendees are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. The Canyon Club is located at 6495 Canyon Club Road.

Funeral Announcement

Jim Brown announced that Sherman Phillips' sister has died. Sherm is a member of the Lakewood club and District Governor. Jim thought the funeral would be held Tuesday.

BLACK FRIDAY

Black Friday is a name used for any Friday which falls on the 13th of a month, the day after Thanksgiving in the United States, the name given to the last Friday before Christmas in the United Kingdom, and those on which disasters occur. A few notable Black Fridays are:

- ◆ Black Friday (1881) in which 189 Scottish fishermen lost their lives
- ◆ Black Friday (1889), the day of the Johnstown Flood
- ◆ Black Friday (1939), a day of devastating fires in Australia
- ◆ Black Friday (1945), largest air battle over Norway, over Sunnfjord
- ◆ Hollywood Black Friday, the day the six-month-old Confederation of Studio Unions (CSU) strike boiled over into a bloody riot at the Warner Bros. studios leading to the eventual breakup of the CSU
- ◆ Black Friday (1959), Occurred Feb. 20, 1958. On this day the Canadian CF-105 Avro Arrow project was cancelled by Prime Minister Diefenbaker. In all a total of 30,000 workers at the Avro plants were laid off
- ◆ Black Friday (1978), a massacre of protesters in Iran
- ◆ Black Friday (1982), known in Britain after Argentina invaded the Falkland Islands, sparking the Falklands War
- ◆ Black Friday (1987), the day an hour-long F4 category tornado ran through the city of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

The first use of this term to describe the day after Thanksgiving is not exactly known. But there are three popular theories as to its origin. One theory is that retailers traditionally operated at a financial loss for most of the year (January through November) and made their profit during the holiday season. When this would be recorded in the financial records, common accounting practices use red ink to show negative amounts and black ink would show positive amounts. Black Friday is the beginning of the period where they would no longer have losses (the red) and instead take in the year's profits (the black). Another theory comes from the fact that shopping experience on this day can be extremely stressful. The term is used as a comparison to the extremely stressful and chaotic experience of other black days. The third theory comes from the darkness that surrounds the early riser on the Friday after Thanksgiving Day. The sky on the first day of Christmas shopping is completely dark for the morning bird looking for bargains and low prices presented by his/her favorite store on Black Friday.

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER CALENDAR

Dec 1	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Lee Thomas, Serial Entrepreneur
Dec 8	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Denver Fire, Station 22
Dec 15	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Joe Temple, "Dinosaurs in Your Backyard"
Dec 21	Thur	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, Craig Eley's Office
Dec 22	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - White Elephant Gift Exchange
Dec 23	Sat	8:00 am	Christmas Baskets Delivery
Dec 25	Mon	-----	Christmas Day
Dec 29	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Kids to Breakfast
Dec 31	Sun	-----	New Year's Eve

Past Presidents

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

Newsletter

Jim Piccinelli	721-1470	jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net
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Craig Eley	758-9499	craig@eley.net
Marc Goodbody	202-1610	
Marlin Kent	745-9188	

2005 - 2006 Officers

President	Paul Bernard	303-721-0811
Vice President	Phil Perington	303-937-0702
Vice President	Greg Young	303-759-3921
Sec:	Nick Newey	720-981-9552
Treas:	George Buzick	303-985-0655

Board of Directors

Al Gapuzan	303-770-0499
Russ Paul	303-750-0554
Frank Ross	303-713-1008
Scott Walker	303-517-1862
Bill Litchfield	303-782-0465
Todd Olson	303-759-4228
Carl Brown	303-758-8355
John Young	303-692-8202
Donlie Smith (Past Pres.)	303-759-0380

**E-MAIL OR WRITE NEWSLETTER
ITEMS
TO THE WEEKLY EDITOR**

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 successes 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.

Friend of
Youth

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID
AT DENVER, COLORADO

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