



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

December 18, 2015 – Vol. 40, Issue 12



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—Pat Bush



Good Morning Optimist

Our greeters this morning were **John Young** and **Ron Cisco** fulfilling their Christmas tradition (Editor, or so I am told) of handling this chore the Friday before Christmas. They were looking like twins in their matching red plaid shirts and handing out miniature candy canes.

First Bell, Invocation & Pledge

At the ring of the first bell we had our invocation followed by the Pledge Allegiance to our Flag. It seemed like everyone was going at full speed to get into the traditional *White Elephant Christmas* activates facilitated by Santa himself, **Oscar Sorensen**.



Guests

Kent Gloor brought a guest this morning; **Bill Castor**, who is an office mate at Siemens Energy. Bill also completed an application as well.

OC Larson brought his son **Jeff**, who has been helping at the Tree Lot.

Announcements

Christmas Tree Lot Update: **Joe Marci** shared that we are into the last week of the Christmas Tree Lot, our biggest fundraising project of the year. To date, we have sold over 1,100 trees, have put in over 1,400 man hours and have had over 85 members work the lot.

We have about 150 trees left to sell and need people to sign up for Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday. Every tree sold



A happy Customer.
Photo Paul Simon

from here on out will be pure profit and only gives us more money to support our youth projects throughout the year. On Wednesday, December 23rd we will be cleaning up the lot and taking equipment back to the storage unit. The more men we

get out there, the shorter amount of time will be spent on Wednesday. **PLEASE SIGN UP FOR THESE REMAINING DAYS** and let's finish strong.

TJ Book Sale at the ArtFest: **Tom Glazier** reported that the book sale at the T.J. Arts and Crafts show raised about \$520.00 for the Parent Teacher Organization. Over 75 boxes of books had been donated to the book sale. He

thanked **Gary, Scott, Don**, and the rest of the gang that helped with the sale.

Tree Lot Chili Cookoff: **Ron Cisco** announced that the Cookoff that was scheduled for this Sunday at the Tree Lot has been called off due to the lack of committed entries. Ron only had two entries which is not nearly enough to feed us all. So if you show up expecting chili on Sunday, you will go hungry. Come back next year!

No Meetings for the Next Two Weeks

This is a reminder that there will not be any meetings next week or the week after due to the holidays. If you show up at the Legion Hall over the next two weeks, you'll be lonely not to mention that you will disappoint the family.

For those who that have announcements *GUMS* will be published on both Sunday, December 27, 2015 and January 3, 2016. So send them your announcement to **Bob Finkelmeier** @ rfinkelmeier@comcast.net.

CO-WY Brain Bowl: **Karl Geil** reminded us that the Brain Bowl is fast approaching and we need volunteers. Since we will not be meeting for the next two weeks, you will have to go to the website @ www.optimistbrainbowl.org to sign up. If you want to be a reader, you will need to attend one of the reader trainings on January 2nd at the Valmont Church in Boulder or at Heritage High School on Tuesday, January 5th. The first Brain Bowl will be held on Saturday, January 9th at Stanley Lake High School. By the way, the Central Region Brain Bowl that was scheduled to be at Heritage High School will be moved to Arapahoe High School due to a conflict with another event. It will still be held on January 30th.

TJ ArtFest: Speaking of the ArtFest, **Craig Eley** shared that fifteen MSOCers braved a change in the weather from warm to storm to show up at 7 a.m. on Saturday, December 12 to help with the TJ Art Fest. We got the crafters parked, unloaded and tucked into their booths and were out of there by 8:15. Those helping were **Kent Gloor, Oscar Sorensen, Michael Chavez, Gray Strowbridge, Harry Fegley, Don Roth, Tom Hoch, Joe Marci, Tom Mauro, George Buzick, Steve Kady, Scott Walker, Allen Yockey, Russ Paul**, and **Craig Eley**.

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*****

Announcements Continued



Left: Steve Kady & Harry Fegley point the way at the TJ ArtFest.

Below: George Buzick, Scott Walker, Joe Marci, Kent Gloor & Tom Hoch serve as unloaders & take the crafts to their respective booth.

Photos Craig Eley



Christmas Toy Drive: New member Chris Dunphy



played Santa Clause last Wednesday as he, **Michael Chavez** and **Steve Kady** presented toys to the **CBS Channel 4 Toy Drive** for the Denver area Boys and Girls Clubs. They presented the



toys at 6 a.m. at the King Soopers store at Colorado Blvd. and Yale to **Alan Gionet** and they were on TV. Tom Hoch caught the presentation on television, see it by [CLICKING](#)

[HERE.](#)

Girls Inc. at Tree Lot: Joe Marci invited the Girls Inc.,

Melina Bixler, Director of Program Development, to the tree lot when we were at the Thanksgiving dinner at their club. Joe asked her to bring 4 or 5 girls to help pick out a couple trees for them and along with wreaths. At the lot we



feed the girls some cookies and made hot chocolate for them. They enjoyed looking at the trees, were treated as special guests by **Phil Perington**, and had pictures taken by **Don Thomson** with their trees. It was a very special time for them and they looked carefully over the wreaths to decide which to select.



Photos Don Thomson

Christmas Food Baskets: Prez **Michael Chavez** reports that there was a good turnout for the delivery of Christmas Food Baskets this year. He shared that 45 Christmas Dinners were delivered to families. Michael writes, "I would like to thank the following for coming out and delivering the baskets **Joe Marci** and his son, **Tom Mauro** and his daughter, **Oscar Sorenson**, **Don StJohn**, **Karl Geil**, **Tom Hoch**, **Greg Young**, **Scott Walker**, **Ron Cisco**, **Paul Stratton** and

his family, **Phil Perington**, **Don Roth**, **Donlie Smith**, **Tom Overton** and his grandchildren, **Mike McMahon** and his family, **Cap Hermann**, **John Oss**, **Terry Shroyer**, **Jim Easton** and his friend, and **Chris Dunphy**. Special thanks to: **Allen Yockey**, **Mark Metevia**, and **Kent Gloor** for the use of their vehicles to pick up of the baskets — your



Photos Allen Yockey

time and efforts are greatly appreciated.

From the pictures shared by **Allen Yockey** it appears no one showed up as Michael reported. However, a picture from **John Oss**, shown below tells you where everyone was hanging out. Yes at the coffee and doughnut service.



Photo John Oss

Michael sends, "I would like to Wish all Members and there families a Wonderful Holiday Season! We

see you in the new Year, 2016!"

Oscar Sorensen: **John Oss** reported that an unfortunate event happened when Oscar was delivering baskets, he slipped on some ice on a slope and hit his head on the ground. **Tom Mauro** took him to get an MRI but that showed nothing and Oscar was allowed to return home. (Editor, Oscar, I wonder what "nothing" means. We hope you are doing well Oscar!)

Ed Collins: **Tom Hoch** let us know that **Ed Collins** was admitted into the hospital with a serious intestinal infection. He was put on heavy antibiotics and he has responded well and is feeling better. He is unable to receive visitors as the infection is highly contagious. A "Get Well Soon" card was signed by members at the meeting for delivery to him. We wish the best for Ed during the holiday season.

Assistance for Melissa & Arturo Family:



Photo Paul Simon

Rose Segura, a secretary at McMeen, shared that the father of a McMeen Elementary Family has suffered a work related injury that has left him unable to work and he may be blind in one eye. His employer has released him without any income replacement and workers compensation is not yet available. They are currently staying with relatives. The mother has been very active in doing volunteer work at McMeen and two of the children have been Super Citizens. The McMeen staff have raised around \$500 in donations from their staff and are asking for help from Monaco South. One of the Christmas Food Baskets and a Christmas Tree have been donated to the family by the club and members **Don Thomson** and **Pat Bush**, McMeen Super Citizen coordinators, have donated some cash. Any other members that wish to donate to help this family should contact **Don Thomson**.

Continued on the next page

Announcements Continued

Gratuity for Heather: A hat was passed around to collect a Christmas gratuity for our breakfast caterer, Heather. While an amount was not announced, it appeared to be a rather large roll of cash. Thanks to all members who donated to the cause. Pictured are **Heather**, **Greg Young** and President **Michael Chaves**, who presented the gift.

White Elephant Christmas

Members were surprised by a totally unexpected visit from **Santa Clause**, aka **Oscar Sorensen**, at the meeting this morning. Santa passed out gifts to the naughty and nice.

Some of the nice members got bottles of wine, coffee mugs, coolers, and such. A few of the naughty members received less desirable gifts. Some of the noteworthy were a fake turd for **Frank Middleton**; a box of Christmas tree stumps and mismatched gloves to **Joe Marci**; Barak O'bama toilet paper to **John Stoffel** and **Tom Hoch**; a can of Bullsh... Repellent for new member **Matt Spampinato** and a hat that looked like a visor around a thick head of hair for Dr. **Bob Finkelmeier**. Fun and laughter were had by all.



Photos Don StJohn & Craig Eley

Drawing Winners



Michael Chavez with Allen Malask
Photo Don StJohn

The lucky drawing winners were **Allen Malask**, **Bob Avery**, **Peter Dimond** (twice), **Nick Newey**, and **Karl Geil** won small cash. **John Oss** and **Jeff Larson** tried their luck with the cards and came up empty. **Allen Malask's** name was pulled from the jar and he came up with the lucky card worth \$130. Congratulations to Allen!

Happy Holidays to all!

Weekly Greeters

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 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
Jan 15	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Jan 21	Thu	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way



**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.