



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

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Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 38 Years
Recognized as Outstanding Service Organization in Colorado in 2012

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—George Buzick



Good Morning Optimist Our Starters

From the Prez

Kevin Koalenz, one of our newer members, and his sponsor, Jack Kleinheksel were our greeters for this morning. Might be good to get to know Kevin. If he cannot do your taxes, he can fix your car, since he is both a tax accountant and a master auto tech. We already know Jack. He is the one who wins something at every Friday morning's drawing.



Kevin Koalenz



Jack Kleinheksel
Photos
Craig Eley

President John asked that we remember both Vince Gonzales' father and Russ Paul's brother-in-law in our prayers. John also asked everyone to consider visiting other Optimist clubs, stating that, because of the size of our club, it could be overwhelming for them to visit our club; therefore, we might consider getting six to eight members together for a visitation to theirs. To find another club or to arrange a visitation, talk to one of the Lt. Governors in our club, Michael Chavez, Paul Simon, or yours truly, George Buzick. You can find a list of all the clubs and the day and time the meet in the CO/WY Directory or on the CO/WY website @ <https://www.optimistcowy.org/>.

Invocation & Pledge

The invocation by Ed Collins touched on the subject of fear and how, if we let it, can control your life, since there are so many potential causes of fear in the world in which we live. However, as the *Optimist Creed* states, we must be "...too strong for fear."

Guests

John Swick introduced Abel Valdez, who lives in the neighborhood and decided to take advantage of a free breakfast. Before the day was over, Abel had volunteered to be Santa at our Christmas tree lot. Although he is not officially a club member, Craig Eley, aka the Santa Recruiter, said that "since Abel was able, we would gladly accept him." Sounds like a great prospective member.

Speaking of Santa

Look at the fun you can have — below is Santa, aka Don Thomson, enjoying the moment.



Announcements



TJHS Art Fest: Craig Eley announced that he is still in need of a "few good men" to assist in parking cars and helping people unload their wares for the Thomas Jefferson High School "Art fest." It used to be just a craft show, but apparently, the caliber of the arts and crafts has improved significantly. Be there by 6:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 13 and you will be done by 9:00 a.m. Free coffee and donuts too!

Tom Glazier said that he will be selling donated books at the Art Fest. Bring your unwanted books to TJHS front office by Friday, December 12. Additionally, he could use a couple of people to help set up the booth and help him staff it for the day. Check with Tom on details at 303-522-5214.

Holiday Party: Frank Middleton, ever the Christmas Elf, reminded us of the Holiday Party, to be held on Saturday, December 20, at 5:30 p.m. The party will be at the Glenmoor Country Club, which is about ½ mile east of University on Belleview, and will be a catered affair with a cash bar. Tickets are only \$26. This is the social event of the year, so don't miss it if you can!

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

Brain Bowl: Tom Hoch mentioned that the CO/WY Optimist Brain Bowl had been mentioned on a recent national "Jeopardy" show featuring kids as the reason that one of the young contestants became interested in learning a lot of miscellaneous stuff. **Karl Geil** took this as a lead in to announce that the Brain Bowl was, indeed, coming.



Tom Hoch



Karl Geil
Photos Don StJohn

First Brain Bowl will be held at Standley Lake High School, 9300 W 104th Ave., Westminster, on January 10. Karl said that a record 109 teams have been entered and they need all the help they can get. Those who desire to be readers must attend Reader Training. Please visit the website www.optimistbrainbowl.org for more details.

Holiday Food Baskets: Michael Chavez announced that the annual Holiday Basket delivery would be held on Saturday, January 20. Schools who participate in our Super Citizen program are being asked to submit names of families who could benefit from a little sharing within the community. We will meet at the Legion parking lot around 8:30 a.m. and should be done by noon.

White Elephants on Parade: Oscar "Santa" Sorensen is gearing up to MSOC *White Elephant Gift Exchange* at our regular meeting on December 19. This meeting is geared toward fun and frivolity. Please bring a gift for which you have no use, or which you think someone else might be able to get more use out of than you might. Tastefulness is optional. If there is a particular member whom you would like to "gift," that can be arranged with "Santa." It is a great time to share the holiday spirit and have some fun. Even if you do not have a gift, you should show up, as there are usually extras to be had, complements of Santa.



Tree Lot Trivia: In the absence of Joe Marci, Greg Young gave the report on the tree lot. Greg said that 53 members have worked the lot and our goal is still 100 different members by the time we are done. Because of the change in location and diminished visibility from the street, sales are down some from last year, but Greg is optimistic that we will bounce back. Hopefully, we will sell 200 trees this weekend. There is some concern as to the number of people signed up to work, especially in the evenings on the weekends so, please, please, if you have time, do sign up, (and do show up). You can sign up on line by going to the Monaco South website www.monacosouth.org. Click on "Members Only" > "Christmas Tree Lot Schedule." User ID is "msoc76" and password is "xmas2014." Once you get to the calendar, click on "edit" on the date and time you want to work, type in your name and do not forget to "save." Any problems, call Paul Bernard or Greg Young.

Santa Haus: Craig Eley made a plea for people to sign up during the weekends to be Santa at the tree lot, especially on the evening shifts. Santa suit is furnished, as is beard. Hair and Santa cap. All you need to bring is a HO! HO! HO! To sign-up go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e4ea4a6283-santa2>.



TREE LOT HELP IS NEEDED

Sign-up to work the tree lot. Members are needed each day, on all shifts throughout the month of December to sell trees, etc. Bring gloves and wear warm work clothes.

One more time, do to <http://www.monacosouth.org/>, click on "members only"

**Click on the word "HERE" in the Tree Lot area
Sign in User Name = mosc76**

Password = xmas2014

**Select your day and click on the pencil icon
Add or edit your name in selected shift
Be sure to not wipe out other entries & be sure to
SAVE your entries.**

Thank you for your support!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
J.R. Gieck (949) 636-7614	Greg Young (303) 886-1110	Jon Wachter (303) 204-5645	Don Iley (303) 840-7706
Cap Hermann (303) 695-7769	Russ Paul (720) 431-0449	Jack Kleinheksel (720) 938-1760	Ron Gustas (720) 934-3566

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Tom Glazier (303) 522-5214	Cut Boell (303) 980-1893	John Oss (720) 210-8056
Jon Wachter (303) 204-5645	Steve Kady (303) 931-1470	Pat Bush (720) 254-3741

Tree Lot Set-up: Thanks to Joe Marci, Mike Miller, Gary Miller, Greg Young, Steve Kady and others for their efforts in getting the tree lot ready to go. *Let's all support their yeoman efforts by ensuring that the lot is fully staffed at all times!*

Annual Tree Lot Chili Cook-Off Contest: Ron Cisco



is trying to put together a chili cook-off for Sunday, December 21, but needs to ensure that he has enough participants to make it worthwhile. If you (or someone you know well enough to ask) have a prize winning chili (and who doesn't), check in with Ron and be ready to show up at the tree lot on Saturday the 20th around lunch time — there are no restrictions, you can have beans, no beans, meat, no meat, green, red, or whatever color you want. After many years of consistently winning, Ron has retired, so you do not need to worry about him. By the way, there is no Broncos game that day since they play on Monday night. Overall, no excuse for not showing up!

Drawing

"Many are called, but few are chosen." In spite of eight different members, having a chance to win big bucks, the best anyone could do was a cup of money. With Christmas coming soon, there are some high hopes that the next couple of weeks will result in a winner of the big pot. Keep in mind, if you do not play, you cannot win.



Continued on the next

Paul Simon
New CO/WY District Website

Our speaker today was our own **Paul Simon**, who is not only a Past President of this club, but is currently the Lt. Governor for Zone 8, of which this club is a part. Nevertheless, Paul was here today to talk about another of his many jobs within the Colorado/Wyoming District, as Webmaster Extraordinaire. In collaboration with **Nicole Powell**, from the Colorado Springs Academy Club and a website designer from Colorado Springs, Paul has developed a brand new, wonderful CO/WY District website. Paul promises that the website, which can be accessed at www.optimistcowy.org is extremely user friendly and urged us to use it, especially by using the blog section to communicate with the webmaster on what we would like to see on the website.



Paul Simon

the top of the home page, you can find a list of all district clubs, explanations of district programs and their leads, lots of photos, district conferences, and even a list of Frequently Asked Questions (and answers) that should be very helpful as you speak with prospective members. Clicking on the About tab will give you options to go to the Blog, Our Missions, Our Leadership, Our Newsletters and Optimist International links.

He demonstrated the calendar, which currently includes district wide events, but can include individual club events, as well. Paul mentioned that a website is only as good as the information it contains and that without input from various users, the website will not be all that we would like it to be.

Paul showed that contained within the website is a directory of all district and local officers, including Presidents and Secretary/Treasurers of all clubs in the district, as well as meeting places and times of meetings for all clubs. Since there are phone numbers and addresses listed for club officers, use of the directory (found under "Members" on, right side very top of the Home Page is password restricted. Additionally, a variety of forms can also be found. The password "oratorical25" is needed. Go to "latest stuff" in the middle of the homepage and click. This will take you to the "blog" or comment section, where you can communicate with the webmaster and make this truly "our webpage." Please feel free to comment on any blog item by going to the bottom of that items where you will find Submit fields. Blog candidates and updates to the site should be sent to paul.simon@optimistmail.org.



Paul mentioned, you can move around the site and find everything from clubs to programs to the new blog by using the tabs at the top of the screen or items on the right side of every page. The home page features a message from Head Coach/Gov. **Abigail Nicholas**. At the right side is a signup for the district quarterly newsletter, a video of the Optimist Creed,

latest news from the Optimist Blog and a calendar of events. Clicking on the Calendar link will take you to the Events page where you will find district-wide events and well as those of clubs who submit them. By clicking on the tabs at

Weekly Greeters	
12/12/14	Phil Perington & Jon Wachter
12/19/14	Al Gapuzan & Mark Metevia
12/26/14	Frank Ross & Ralph Petersen
1/2/15	Curt Boell & ?
1/9/15	Craig Eley & ?
1/16/15	Robert Wardlaw & Michael Chavez
Need Friday morning greeters, see Jon Wachter, 303-204-5645 or jon_wachter@msn.com	

Super Citizen Presenters Dec.		
Dec 12 @ 8:30	Slavens	Bob Avery
Dec 16 @ 1:00	Samuels	Gary Strowbridge
Dec 17 @ 2:30	MPB	John Swick
Dec 18 @ 1:30	McMeen	?
Dec 18 @ 5:30	Hamilton	Casey Funk
Dec 19 @ 9:00 - 3:00	Holm	?
Dec 19 @ 8:45	Lowry	Paul Stratton
Dec 19 @ 3:00	Bradley	Tom Glazier
Be a Super Citizen Presenter See Rob Gardner, 720-263-6203 gardnerrb@gmail.com		

Dec 12	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - TBA
Dec 19	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - MSOC Santa's Gift Exchange
Dec 20	Sat	6:00 pm	Holiday Party, Glenmoor Country Club, Dinner & Entertainment
Dec 25			Christmas Day
Dec 26	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Kids to Breakfast
Jan 1			New Year 2015
Jan 2	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Karl Geil, The Brain Bowl is Here!
Jan 9	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Stephanie Villafuerte, Exec. Director, The Children's Law Center

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

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

2014 - 2015 Officers

President	John Oss	720-210-8056
Vice President	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Vice President	Don Iley	303-840-7706
Secretary	Curt Boell	303-980-1893
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

Barry Barker	813-545-4533
Pat Bush	303-750-9409
J. R. Gieck	949-636-7614
Tom Glazier	303-522-5214
Cap Hermann	303-587-5575
Jack Kleinheksel	720-938-1760
Fred Pasternack	303-758-3754
Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384
Jon Wachter (Past Pres.)	303-204-5645

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	rzolman691@aol.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	rlawardlaw@gmail.com	Craig Eley	720-771-0866	craigceley@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Dec **George Buzick**, Jan **Robert Wardlaw**, Feb **Pat Bush**, Mar **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.