



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

December 3, 2010 – Vol. 35, Issue 10



The Optimist Club of Monaco South

Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 35 Years

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Randy Marcove



Good Morning Optimist

Can you believe this weather? We were all greeted this post-Cyber-Monday Friday morning with unseasonably warm temperatures, and by our warm-smiling greeters **Paul Stratton** and **Keith “Banjo Man” Gallaway**. Thank you gentlemen!

First Bell

President **Ed Collins** was back in town this morning to chime the First Bell promptly at 7:00 AM. Ed welcomed our immediate Past President **Ron Cisco** who led us in our invocation and pledge to our Stars and Stripes. Welcome back! Ed also brought to our attention the great article printed in the *Denver Post’s Hub* about the MSOC Christmas Tree lot written by **Tom Hoch**. Speaking of our Christmas Tree lot, Ed also brought to our attention, courtesy of a surprise gift-bag won by Ron Gustas that a “Change” has been made to our sign-up processes. More on the Christmas Tree lot later.

Guests

Jon Wachter invited his friend and associate Adam Cole. Adam had a momentary lapse of reason thinking that he was at an Alcoholics meeting! We hope to see him again with his good humor.

Ed Collins had a returning guest, Tom Raynor, who forgot his completed application and check at home... until his next visit. At least he was able to indulge in **John Marinos’** awesome Breakfast Burritos!

Distinguished Past Governor **George Mills** joined us today as well, stating that the hat he’s wearing this year is: “*Money Man*.” He shared



that December is our *Scholarship Fund Month*, and that all donations will be kept in our district for the benefit of our kids. He also told us that **Fred Pasternack** is our MSOC Foundation Representative, and that through the generous golden-hearts of Fred and wife Karen Pasternack’s recent donation in honor of Doug Jones, the Boy’s Oratorical Contest has been funded for the next FIVE years. Thank you Fred and Karen! For more information regarding OI Foundations, talk with Fred or go to the website: <http://www.OIFoundation.org/>.



Announcements

Christmas Tree Sign-up: **Frank Middleton** distributed an information sheet—identical to the email distributed to all members earlier last week—detailing that we have a computer and cell phone at the Christmas Tree lot. Yea!! Bottom-line, the telephone number to the lot is 720-224-1799, and the MSOC website (<http://www.monacosouth.org/>) has the official sign-up site for the Christmas Tree lot. Please review—we’re counting on you!

Book Lover’s Give-Away: **John Young** took our pulse on an idea he and his wife Claire are cooking up, a Book Lover’s Give-Away. John came prepared with a three-pound box of chocolates as bribery, just in case. He was answered with a resounding, “Yes,” and **Joe Marci** made off with the chocolates for the Christmas Tree Lot.

Best Job at the Tree Lot: What is the best job at the Christmas Tree Lot? According to his Honor **Craig Eley**, it’s playing the role of Santa Claus! Sign-up on-

Continued 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****

line or the old-fashioned way, but DO Sign-up. The kids need you! In case you missed it - Santa Claus Hoch was given a free pass by Sargent at Arms Eley for interrupting his announcement with an echoing chorus of Ho-ho-ho's. Dare not fine Mr. Claus unless you want some lumps of coal!

Here is why it's the best job at the Tree Lot. **Nick Newey** does his yeoman's duty at the Santa House this week-end. And you thought it was just for kids!



Photo Craig Eley

Tree Lot Update: Speaking of the Christmas Tree lot again, **Joe Marci** announced that we are off to a great start this year with 53 different members already helping at the tree lot. "We hope to have over 100 participate in this club's primary fund raiser." Sales are equal to those in 2009 and will be picking up this next week. Our next load of trees will be delivered on Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., and we'll need your help to unload, tag, and drill the new inventory. Ten ladies from the Tamarac Optimist Club helped in pricing the first two tree load deliveries. There will be students from TJ and GW high schools helping on the week-ends. Let the kids tie trees to the car rooftops!

Chili Cook-off: Our annual CHILI COOK-OFF will be this Saturday, December 11th. Members are invited to bring a pot of your favorite chili, red or green, carne or whatever, to the tree lot around 11:30 in the morning. The members who don't bring chili will be the judges. Bring a ladle also. Crackers, bowls, spoons, etc. will be provided. May the best cook win and have the title, 2010 "Chili Champion."

Super Citizen: **Gary Strowbridge** proudly displayed a group photo of eighteen family members of a Super Citizen, awarded to a fantastic student at Samuels Elementary. This framed picture will be on display in the Christmas Tree lot trailer. Don't forget, our Super Citizen program is funded by the proceeds of our Christmas Tree lot sales. We need you there!



U-Hills Holiday Party: **Jon Wachter** announced the University Hill Neighborhood Association's Neighborhood Holiday Party this Sunday, December 5th, from 5-8 pm at the Garlic Knot, 2553 S. Colorado Blvd. #107 (U-Hills West Shopping Center), for Unlimited Pizza Buffet, garlic knots, and soft drinks. \$10/

adult, \$8.50/kids under 12. Draft Beer at Happy Hour prices (\$1.00 off) all evening. Come meet your neighbors! Santa will be "in the house" with gifts for the kids as well.

MSOC Gift Exchange: **Oscar "Mr. Succinct" Sorensen** stated, "Friday the 24th is the White Elephant Party." *Verbatim.*



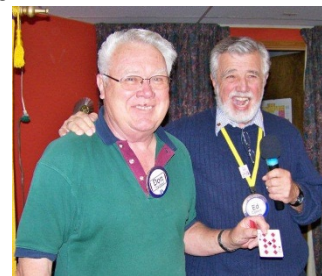
Toys-for-Tots Drive: **Greg Young** informed our members that the Embassy Suites on Hampden Avenue is now collecting Toys-for-Tots. Please consider making a donation today!

Christmas Food Baskets: **Don StJohn** passed around a sign-up sheet for the Christmas Basket program. We are in need to find a new Chairman for this project. This year between the combined efforts of **Bob Avery, Russ Paul, Don StJohn**, and others that signed up, the baskets will be delivered on December 18th, but this may be the last year for the program if a new Chair is not found. Please consider leading this event and talk to Don if you have any questions.



McMeen Elementary Update: **Don Thomson** told us that McMeen Elementary school has a new Assistant Principal that would like to integrate their Kindergarten students into their Super Citizen program. Don also praised **Jim Vander Kamp** for his outstanding Super Citizen presentation. Thank you Jim!

This Week's Drawing: Friday's pot was worth \$60, and the lucky card was the 9 of Diamonds. The lucky cup winners were **George Buzick, Bryce Slaby, John Greene**, guest Adam Cole, **Frank Middleton**, and **Rich Wagner**. Lightning struck twice for **Ron Carlson** to draw for the winning card, but he came up empty both times. Good fortune rewarded **Don Thomson** (his name was drawn third because of the early exits by **Paul Simon** and **Robert Wardlaw**) for wearing his name-tag, and he WON the \$60!



Don Thomson \$60 dollars richer with Prez Ed.

Photo Don StJohn

Thank you!

Thank you to FOO member Commander **Kris Kroncke** of DPD District 3 for adding extra patrols around the Christmas Tree lot after-hours.

Remember: Support our Christmas Tree Lot. Please sign up for as many vacant shifts as possible!

Speaker

"This is my dream." **Emma Whitehead** was our guest speaker today to impart with us her fantastic journey she is about to embark. Up with People, the international educational and cultural program founded in 1965, has selected Emma to join its 2011 world tour that begins in January.



Photo Denver Post Your Hub

Emma is a vocalist with Denver School of the Arts in middle school, was also awarded a Summit Scholarship for high academic achievement upon admission to Fountain Valley School of Colorado in 2009. This year, Denver will host Up With People's five-week rehearsal and first live performance of its 2011 tour.

Emma will join more than 100 international youth from over 20 countries who will travel, perform and do global impact community service projects for non-profit organizations worldwide. "Music is a universal language, and it has been my dream to travel internationally and impact people of the world in this way," she said.

Emma, who is fluent in Spanish and is studying French, will tour central Europe, Florida, the Bahamas, and Mexico, where she will gain the life skills and broad cultural perspectives to become a global citizen. She informed us that over 38,000 communities have been touched by Up with People in the last 45 years by over 3 MILLION hours of

community service! This is indeed a program of leadership and professional development - it's not just a program about singing. This is, "Travel with a purpose. We're making a difference!" according to Emma. *¡Buena suerte! Bonne chance!*

The cost to participate with Up with People this year per participant is \$14,250 for a one semester program, or \$19,800 for a full year option. Emma is responsible for covering approximately 30% of the total costs. Her presentation today was so impressive that a) she received a standing ovation, and b) President Ed broke out the Donation Hat to be passed around. Minutes later, a counting committee of three announced that \$212 was raised. Emma was so moved by our spontaneous generosity that she tickled the ivories of the old American Legion piano and sang a touching rendition of Seasons of Love to us all. BRAVO!

"Up with People is a manifestation of every passion I have," chimed Emma. Kudos to a superlative youth! We hope to have you return as a guest to share your experiences, even after you were exposed to our MSOC Happy Birthday vocal talents!

Up with People, with its international headquarters in Denver, is an independent, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization without any religious or political affiliations. It provides young adults an international and intercultural experience that teaches service leadership and uses the performing arts to deliver messages of hope and goodwill throughout the world.

Weekly Greeters	
Date	Greeters
12/10/10	Howard Fry & Jon Wachter
12/17/10	Phil Perington & Jim Vander Kamp
12/24/10	Randy Marcove & Woody Thibodeau
12/31/10	Paul Gleditsch & "Father Time"

Super Citizen Presenters for December		
8 @ 8:00 am	Highline	Rich Mahoney
9 @ 5:30 pm	Hamilton	Paul Bernard
15 @ 2:30 pm	McMeen	Bob Avery
15 @ 2:30 pm	MPB	Nick Newey
17 @ 8:30 am	Slavens	Doug Morton
17 @ 3:00 pm	Bradley	Fred Pasternack

Monaco South Calendar

- Dec 1-9 Festival of Lights, Hanukkah
- Dec 10 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Karl Geil, Brain Bowl
- Dec 11 Sat 11:30 am Annual Chili Cook-off at the Tree Lot
- Dec 15 Wed 6:30 pm Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
- Dec 17 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
- Dec 24 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Santa Claus Gift Exchange
- Dec 25 Sat **CHRISTMAS DAY**
- Dec 31 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Kids to Breakfast
- Jan 1 Wed **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**
- Jan 7 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Speaker Pending
- Jan 14 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Speaker Pending
- Jan 19 Wed 6:30 pm Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
- Jan 21 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day

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	Ron Cisco	2009-10

2010 - 2011 Officers

President	Ed Collins	303-905-7572
Vice President	Randy Marcove	303-667-3663
Vice President	Paul Simon	303-300-9940
Secretary	Jack Rife	303-349-1280
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

Michael Chavez	303-960-5304
Henry Fegley	303-671-7182
Les Larson	303-755-1213
Wyatt McCallie	303-759-2275
Frank Middleton	303-759-9232
Terry Shroyer	303-757-7944
Kale Smith	720-207-4363
Brian Williams	720-253-5731
Ron Cisco (Past Pres.)	303-794-0749

Newsletter Committee

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rzolman691@aol.com
Marc Goodbody	303-202-1610	mlgoodbody@gmail.com	Phil Perington	303-832-4578	perington@msn.com
Marlin Kent	303-779-0778		George Buzick	303-803-2268	gtbuzick@comcast.net
Jim Leuschner	720-851-7102	flyleusch@aol.com	O.C. Larson	303-737-7432	larson1942@cpmcast.net
Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	pedersen.ralph@q.com	Randy Marcove	303-667-3663	themarkoves@msn.com
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jpiccinelli@earthlink.net			

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Nov **O.C. LARSON**; Dec **RANDY MARCOVE**; Jan **RALPH PEDERSEN**; 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.