



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)



November 25, 2016 – Vol. 41, Issue 8

## Optimist Club of Monaco South

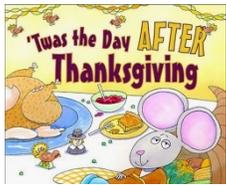


Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado  
Serving Youth and the Community for 40 Years  
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012  
[www.monacosouth.org](http://www.monacosouth.org)



Editor for this Issue—George Buzick

### Good Morning Optimist



A clear, crisp Friday after Thanksgiving with a number of our members apparently suffering the effects of overindulging on turkey, the tryptophan causing them to sleep through their alarms. Or perhaps they are getting an early start on “Black Friday.”



By the way, per the [Aurametrix, Environmental Health](#) newsletter, “the Friday-after-Thanksgiving was coined “Black” by police officers because of the fact that the traffic on the day after Thanksgiving is usually heavy and crowds are large. And they were right.” [See Forbes, average vehicular deaths = 573](#). Thanksgiving is the most dangerous holiday of the year for drivers.

### Greeters

Those few who did show up were greeted **Pat Bush**, left, and **Ralph Pedersen**, on right.

Photos Noel Hasselgren

### Invocation & Pledge

**Pat Bush** also read the invocation, involving be thankful for what we have and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

### Guests

President **Craig Eley** introduced his wife, Cindy and asked if there were any other guests. **Steve Kady** introduced his former neighbor, Harold Frey, who has recently retired from the US Treasury Department and is looking for something to fill up some time. Editor, “You’ve come to the right place Harold!”

### From the Prez

With Christmas only 30 days away, we are staffing up for the tree lot and Santa Haus! President **Craig Eley** mentioned that we need Santa’s for this weekend and **Ed Leuty**, one of our newest members, immediately volunteered, stating that he had experience as

a Santa and looked forward to the opportunity.

Craig mentioned last call for signing up to join the Tamarac Club at their regular Thursday morning meeting on December 1. Meeting begins at 7:30 a.m. at Calvary Baptist Church (S. Monaco and E. Hampden). Coffee and rolls will be served.

### Bill Walter Thanksgiving Dinner

Past president **Michael Chavez**, chair for the Boys and Girls Clubs and Girls Inc. of Metro Denver thanked **Chris Dunphy** and all the volunteers that made this year’s Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner a success. This was our 31<sup>st</sup> year Monaco South has provided this dinner.



Photo Craig Eley

We served well over six hundred meals that day. Special thanks to **Mike White** and **Allen Yockey** for helping with helping pick up and delivering the turkeys to the Hyatt Regency Denver Tech Center. The chefs at the Hyatt for the food preparation. **Berry Barker** and **Paul Gibson** for delivering the supplies. **Pat Bush** for ramrod the duties at Girls Inc. **Steve Kady** for arranging for the donation of the pies. **Robert Wardlaw** for bread delivery. **Kent Gloor** for pie delivery. **Noel Hasselgren** the bringing the supplies back to Boys and Girls club. **Phil Perington** and **Curt Boell** for clean-up duty, **Tom Glazer** for bringing all the supplies back to the storage unit and **Donlie Smith** for all his support and guidance. Your support is greatly appreciated — “You Guys are AWESOME!” (Both channel 31 and Channel 2 covered the Boys and Girls Clubs and gave us the opportunity to advertise the Christmas Tree lot).



Photo Tom Hoch

**Pat Bush**, who honcho the serving at Girls Inc., thanked those who assisted by saying: “The Monaco

South Optimists served Thanksgiving Dinner to some 200 people at the Girls, Inc. last Tuesday evening.

**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\*\*\*\***

## Thanksgiving Dinner Continued

The meal included turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, cranberries, bread, lemonade and topped off with pumpkin pie and whipped cream. The members serving dinner at Girls, Inc. included **Noel Hasselgren, Don Roth, Paul Gibson, Curt & Trish Merrill, John Green, Tom Hoch, Ed Leuty, Robert Wardlaw, Jim Easton** with his son Evan and daughter Emily, **Frank Middleton, Allen Pierce and Pat Bush. Don Thomson** showed up later and took several pictures. We also must thank **Michael Chavez** and **Robert Wardlaw** for providing backup support."

**Ron Cisco** reported that at the Boys & Girls Clubs dinner we had a large contingent of Optimists and family and friends. The food was delicious and the smiles on the guests faces was a great delight. Those in attendance at the Boys and Girls Clubs were: **Paul Simon, Gary Miller, Curt Boell, Dave Peck, Russ Paul, Chris Dunphy** and friend Tait Carmody, **Tom Glazier, Craig Eley, Steve Kady** and friend Harold Frey, **Mike McMahon**, wife Kimberly, daughter Reagan and friend Kimberly, **John Swick** and friends Ed and family, **Donlie Smith, Harry Fegley, Mike Chavez, Terry Shroyer, Greg Hurd, Barry Barker, Oscar Sorensen, Eldon Strong** and wife Roxie, **Dick Nickoloff, Mike White, Tom Kramis, Phil Perington, Allen Malask, Kent Gloor** and wife Abigail, **Harry Arkin, David Telpner, Bob Avery, Gary Strowbridge, Ed Collins, Brian Williams**, wife Karen, daughter Ella and friend Justin Beyern.

Photographers **Craig Eley** and **Tom Hoch** shared lots of photos, see <https://goo.gl/photos/xGfq7t1qy2PEAeaQ7> and <https://vimeo.com/192864443>.

## Announcements

**Thanksgiving & Christmas Food Baskets:** **Jim Easton** said that the delivery of the Thanksgiving food baskets had been a great success, with exception of one lost turkey, which was later found by our illustrious president, **Craig Eley**, laying in the middle of South Monaco. Apparently, it bounced out of the back of **Randy Marcove's** pickup. All is well that ends well and everyone got their turkey; however, Randy had to buy a turkey.

Jim also reminded us that Christmas food baskets will be delivered on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.

Prez Eley added, "A flock of Monaco South Optimists, friends and family gathered at the American Legion at 8 a.m. last Saturday to take Thanksgiving baskets to the needy of our community. About 50 braved the chilly morning to load turkeys, potatoes and all the accouterments in cars and trucks before heading out to make Thanksgiving dinner a reality for 40 families. **Jim Easton** and **Allen Pierce** organized this annual MSOC community service event. See Craig's photos <https://goo.gl/photos/8uVz4gpqW28ScMuPA>.

**Train Show:** **Greg Hurd** announced that, due to some hassle with the Merchandise Mart, the Train Show which normally happens in December has been postponed indefinitely until a site can be found. They are shooting for March 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of 2017. He will keep us posted.

**New Englewood Optimist Club:** **Phil Perington** reported Heather Gardens and Monaco South will be Chartering a new Englewood Optimist Club on December 7<sup>th</sup>. The Club will focus on Junior Golf activities, with the support of new members associated and involved with the Englewood Broken-Tee Municipal Golf Course. The Englewood High School Golf Team Coach, Assistant Principle, past Mayor and current Chamber of Commerce Director Randy Penn,

are among the many new members. Also, District Jr. Golf Committee Chair **Bob Meyer**, plus Club-builders Michael Chavez, District Secre-



The Englewood Optimist Chartering Committee  
Photo Phil Perington

tary/Treasurer **Craig Baldwin**, **Ed Keller** and **Phil Perington** will be joining and helping the Club with traditional "growing pains," for the first year. District Oratorical and Essay Contests are among assorted youth programs the new Englewood Optimists plan on pursuing.

The EO Club meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday morning at 7:30 a.m. for a sumptuous breakfast buffet, camaraderie and program. More information will be forthcoming in the December 2<sup>nd</sup> GUMS. It should be noted that Gov. **Paul Simon**, Lt. Gov. **Nancy DeNiro**, Past Governors **Abigail Nicholas, Donna Priestner, Curt Merrill, Ron Cisco**, along with **Joe Marci** and **Craig Eley** have contributed to the organizational effort of this exciting new Club. New members are always welcome!

**Christmas Tree Lot Info:** Thanks to **Allen Yockey, Steve Kady, Gary Miller, Mike Miller, Craig Eley, Greg Young, Paul Bernard** and anyone else who had a hand in the prep work before the setting up of the tree lot. And thanks to all of you who participated in the actual physical activity of setting up the parking lot and lights, unloading the tree and generally getting everything ready to go on Friday after the meeting. Things are looking good and we are ready to have a banner year. **Be sure to sign up for a shift or five and be sure to show up, if you sign up. Please do not just show up!** If someone has been called in because we are shorthanded and, upon arriving finds several people already there, there could be some hard feelings. Remember, anyone who works 15 or more hours can buy anything for cost. While you can sign on with a real PC, **Paul Bernard** suggests that there are some cell phones that do not sync up with the sign-on, so you may have to use another device.

How to Signup: Go to the Monaco South website [www.monacosouth.org](http://www.monacosouth.org), then click on "Tree Lot Schedule" (See left side of page). This will produce a sign on box. The User Name: msoc76 and the Password: xmas2016. Once this is completed you will see the calendar. This will show who is signed up for a given day and allow you to sign up by clicking on the "edit" button. Type in your name and do not forget to save!

## Drawing

We have a drawing worth \$60. Once again nobody comes up with the lucky two of spades, even though **Phil Perington, John**



**Young** and **Don Roth** took a shot at the big pot. Other winners of a few "bucks" included: **Donley Smith, Tom Mauro, Allen Yockey, Don St. John, Frank**

**Middleton** and **Steve Kady**. Remember, you cannot win unless you play. Just fifty cents (or two for a dollar) puts you in the running for big bucks! See Dr. **Bob Finkelmeier** at next week's meeting and get your winning ticket.

## Santa Photos

The start of the 2016 Santa Photos can be found at <https://goo.gl/photos/RF9pzayackpkqAmCA>.



## Brad Montgomery Motivational Speaker

Per his web site, Brad Montgomery “is a motivational speaker who presents funny business keynotes for corporate, association, and government audiences. His message helps connect engagement, passion, and meaningfulness to increases in revenue, better leadership, and graceful change management. He believes your people need more than just a “show” and “flash of motivation.” Brad believes your people need to leave with concrete strategies and “take a ways” to help them make sense of what they know, the changes they are faced with, and the people they work and partner with. Looking for a funny speaker with a bottom line message for improvement? You’ve found him; Brad Montgomery is a motivational speaker who will help your people make concrete im-



Brad Montgomery  
Photo Noel Hasselgren

provements.” Although previewed in *GUMS* to be a comedic magician, the only magic in today’s performance was with words. Brad contends that we all crave the same thing, i.e., “You’re important, you matter.” He also says, “You are all awesome!” And to embrace “your own awesomeness and share with others how awesome you think they are as well.” Although the topic was filled with comedy, there was a serious message here and Brad did a great job of making his point to a sometimes skeptical audience and a tough crowd to convince. Thanks to Brad for lightening up our morning while bringing a good life lesson!

You can visit Brad’s webpage @ <http://www.bradmontgomery.com/> or see some of his videos on YouTube, [CLICK HERE](#)

### History of Thanksgiving

President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a bill officially establishing the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day on November 26, 1941.

The tradition of celebrating the holiday on Thursday dates to the early history of the Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay colonies, when post-harvest holidays were celebrated on the weekday regularly set aside as “Lecture Day,” a midweek church meeting where topical sermons were presented. A famous Thanksgiving observance occurred in the autumn of 1621, when Plymouth governor William Bradford invited local Indians to join the Pilgrims in a three-day festival held in gratitude for the bounty of the season.

Thanksgiving became an annual custom throughout New England in the 17th century, and in 1777 the Continental Congress declared the first national American Thanksgiving following the Patriot victory at Saratoga. In 1789, President

George Washington became the first president to proclaim a Thanksgiving holiday, when, at the request of Congress, he proclaimed November 26, a Tuesday, as a day of national thanksgiving for the U.S. Constitution. However, it was not until 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln declared Thanksgiving to fall on the last Thursday of November, that the modern holiday was celebrated nationally.

With a few deviations, Lincoln’s precedent was followed annually by every subsequent president—until 1939. In 1939, Franklin D. Roosevelt departed from tradition by declaring November 23, the next to last Thursday that year, as Thanksgiving Day. Considerable controversy surrounded this deviation, and some Americans refused to honor Roosevelt’s declaration. For the next two years, Roosevelt repeated the unpopular proclamation, but on November 26, 1941, he admitted his mistake and signed a bill into law officially making the fourth Thursday in November the national holiday of Thanksgiving Day.

### Tree Lot Setup



Top, first load of trees setup. Tamarac Optimist ladies pricing each tree as it comes in.

Right, the Lindsay & Larkin family -- our first customers for 2016!  
Photos Craig Eley

Weekly Greeters	
12/2/16	George Buzick & Ed Leuty
12/9/16	Don Roth & Terry Shroyer

November Super Citizen Presenters		
Nov 30 @ 1:00 <small>New date</small>	McMeen	Mike White
December Super Citizen Presenters		
Dec 9 @ 8:30	Slavens	?
Dec 9 @ 1:00	Samuels	Dick Nickoloff
Dec 15 @ 5:30	Hamilton	Casey Funk
Dec 16 @ 9:00 & 2:00	Holm	?

### Optimist Club of Monaco South 2016-2017 40<sup>th</sup> Year — Chartered in 1976

Dec 1	Thur	7:30 am	Visitation, Tamarac Optimist Club, Calvary Baptist Church
Dec 2	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Bob Rhue, Animal Rescue & Welfare
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

**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	<a href="mailto:rfinkelmeier@comcast.net">rfinkelmeier@comcast.net</a>	Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	<a href="mailto:r.pedersen2658@comcast.net">r.pedersen2658@comcast.net</a>
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Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	<a href="mailto:rlawardlaw@gmail.com">rlawardlaw@gmail.com</a>	Craig Eley	720-771-0866	<a href="mailto:craigceley@gmail.com">craigceley@gmail.com</a>

**NEWSLETTER EDITORS:** Nov **George Buzick**, Dec **Phil Perington**, Jan **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.