



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

December 23, 2016 – Vol. 41, Issue 12



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

Editor for this Issue—Phil Perington



Good Morning Optimist On this Christmas Day Weekend

Twin Greeters **Ron Cisco** and **John Young** both donning identical Christmas shirts were gleefully welcoming the happy hoard of those bearing gifts, treats and other assorted surprises for the Santa Gala extraordinaire.

Ron Cisco & John Young in matching Christmas shirts.
Photo Phil Perington



Morning Camaraderie

The overwhelming colors of choice this merry morning was red, green, gold, and Bronco orange. **Randy Marcove** was wearing a bright red Cornhusker Jersey and was flashing a handful of drawing tickets. There was a very colorful collage of Christmas wear, as displayed by **Don St. John** in his sweater; **Bob Avery**, head to toe in Santa garb); **Jack Kleinheksel** showing off his Don Ho-Hawaiian Christmas shirt; **Everett Gardner** and Dr. **Robert Gardner** both in casual winter driving cap and sweater attire; **Al Gapuzan** in a bold sweater; while **Tom Mauro** rounded out the show with his Scrooge top hat.



First Bell, Invocation & Pledge

President **Craig Eley** opened the meeting with an original Christmas Invocation ... "Glorious day among glorious friends," followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

Guests

Past long time member and Brain Bowl Timer guru, **Frank Ross** joined us today. It should be noted that not only did he pay for his breakfast he also brought a gift! He said life in Pennsylvania was good but missed his Optimist Buddies. Editor: *Welcome back Frank, it's always great to see your smiling face!*



Frank Ross, left, with Michael Chaves and Lynn Jones.
Photo Phil Perington

Randy Marcove introduced his Nebraska guest, **Jack Conger**, who is the father of his one and only gal Sue Williams.

John Swick proudly introduced his 15-year-old daughter **Celeste** who just returned from San Antonio. She may never forget our Santa party.

Father and son, **Bob Engle** and his son **Parker Engle**. Guests of **Tom Mario** and **Chris Dunphy**. He mentioned that if Parker joins the Club he will bring a fresh 21-year-old outlook. Editor: *Welcome, we hope you will come and join us!*

Steve Kady brought his new friend **Jon Francis**, all the way from Barbados to the Santa party. Editor: *He just might get a Christmas blanket or pair of gloves to take back for those cold 75 degree nights. However, some said he was looking for Tom Hock who frequents Barbados.*

Ross Parrent, a former member, but how with the Wheat Ridge Club was visiting with us again. Editor: *Always good to see other Optimist members at our breakfast table.*

From the Prez

Tree Lot Chili Cookoff: **Jim Easton** won the annual Chili Cook off and is presented a gift card for Chili's. Jim commented that in previous attempts to win the brass ring he had entered green chili but switched to red chili this year and won! As a note to **Ron Cisco**, it was disclosed chili beans were involved. See more on page 2.

New Members: Official Name Badges were handed out to new members **Bill Blunden** and **Walter (Wally) Weld**.

Donation Report: A \$25 check donation received at the tree lot was left blank, not payable to Monaco South. President Craig quickly put on his extremely large red, white and blue Uncle Sam Top Hat and put it into his shirt pocket.

Kids to Breakfast: This coming Friday, on the 30th, the meeting will run later than usual to accommodate sleepy kiddos and magic tricks. Do not miss this happy and exciting year-end foray. Also, some lucky person will win \$10.



Kids to Breakfast

Friday, December 30

Tommy Walker - Magician

Be Prepared to be

Amazed...

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******

From the Prez Continued

Missing Chain Saw: There is an electric chain saw missing from the tree lot. It was generously loaned to us by a neighbor of **Chris Dunphy**. Editor: *Let's try and make this right. Please return to Craig or Chris.*

Thank You Note from TJHS ArtFest: The note reads,

"Craig & Optimist Club of Monaco South, Thank you all so very much! Every year, you all are there to help us when we ask. You all are nothing short of amazing! And we feel incredibly lucky to have your involvement and support!"

You are loved by all @ TJ (and me!) and I am forever indebted to you!

Thank you for bring such kind, generous people! You helped make this year's ArtFest the best one ever!

All the best to each of you . . . Kathryn Lepry"

Announcements

Christmas Baskets: **Michael Chaves** reported, we had a wonderful time delivering the Holiday food baskets last Saturday, despite the weather we had a good turnout. All together we delivered to 36 families providing 180 meals, with lots of toys to go with the basket. I could not have done this alone without the help of some key individuals: **Mike McMahon** assisted me with notifying the families of time and date of delivery, picked up the baskets and put the baskets together. **Kent Gloor** and **Randy Marcove** braved the cold weather and early hours with transporting the baskets to the Legion Hall and organizing the baskets. **Bob Avery** also assisting organizing the basket and provide very crucial advice. While **Ed Collins** and **Tom Mauro** provided the toys to go along with the food. **Joe Marci** brought wreaths by to give them to the families and President Craig Eley took the photos.

Those who participated in the delivery where, **Kent Gloor**, **Mike McMahon** and his wife and kids, **Oscar Sorensen** and his daughter and her family, **Tom Mauro** and his daughter, **Paul Stratton** and his son along with his friend and family, **Randy Marcove**, **Ed Collins**, **Jim Easton**, **Bob Avery**, **Tom Kramis**, **Ricardo Ortiz**, **Scott Walker**, **Don Roth**, **Gary Strowbridge**, and **Russ Paul**. Thanks for all your support It would not be such a success without you.

[See all of the photos by CLICKING HERE.](#)

Tree Lot Record Reported: **Joe Marci** proudly reported we have set a record for tree sales of 1375, up 66 trees from last year. Ninety members worked the Tree Lot serving customers, unloading and stocking trees, portraying Santa, making deliveries and serving as cashiers. We will get the full report at the meeting on the 30th. Editor: *A great big hooray and thank you. Another tremendous year for the tree lot and the future of Monaco South providing kids with encouragement and support.*

Tree Lot Photo's: On Saturday morning, December

17th, the snow made the trees beautiful, however, the Tree Lot had to be shoveled and the snow knocked off the trees in the near zero temperature. But **Wyatt McCallie** was victorious!

Tom Hoch shared this photo of a tree supposedly coming out of the



Photo Craig Eley

lot and indicating it was the biggest tree he saw this year.



Tree Lot Chili Cookoff Winner

There were 4 entries in the Monaco South Chili Cook-off on Sunday, December 17th. The votes were close, but **Jim Easton** held on and emerged as the winner. After the results were announced, former Chili Champion **Jon Wachter** revealed that one of the ingredients in his entry was tofu. Later this week the Board will consider a permanent ban on Jon for slipping this ingredient by us. At the very least, he can expect testing of his entry next year for banned substances, like tofu and kale.



Left, Tom Kramis and Lincoln Ayls, a friend of Chris Dunphy's, sample the chili offerings.

Photo Craig Eley



Right, Jim Easton shows off his winning chili for this year. Unfortunately, there was no chili left to save for the following day.

Photo Steve Kady

Time for Santa White Elephant

As the gift sharing begins when **Santa** calls on **John Young** who receives the first present: A book detailing with 14,000 good things in life.

Others in line included **Ricardo Ortiz**, who received light bulb box with a choo-choo train and Dr. **Rob Gardner** had to don a horse head mask.



MSOC Santa Claus
Photos Steve Kady



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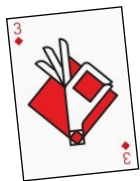
Time for Santa White Elephant Continued



Photos by Craig Eley and more gift exchanging can be found by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Is there a Drawing?

With a \$100 in the pot the card to find is the 3 of Diamonds. Cup takers were, Jack Conger, Tom Glazier, Steve Kady, Jack Kleinheksel, Allen Malask and Celeste Swick. However, Tom Hoch pulls the WINNER — Stuck to the 2 of Diamonds.



Therefore, the biggest winner at the White Elephant Gift Exchange was **Tom Hoch**, who exchanged 50 cents for a ticket and then picked the 3 of Diamonds to win the \$100 pot!



MSOC Holiday Party

Celebrate the New Year

Thursday, January 5th at the Capitol Hill Tavern, located at 1225 Logan Street, from 6 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person.

Weekly Greeters

| | |
|----------|---------------------------|
| 12/30/16 | OC Larson & Kent Gloor |
| 1/6/17 | Al Gapuzan & ? |
| 1/13/17 | Bob Avery & Scott Walker |
| 1/20/17 | Steve Kady & Allen Malask |

January Super Citizen Presenters

| | | |
|---------------|---------|------------------|
| Jan 18 @ 2:30 | MPB | John Scarborough |
| Jan 26 @ 1:00 | McMeen | ? |
| Jan 27 @ 3:00 | Bradley | Mark Metevia |

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2016-2017 40th Year — Chartered in 1976

Dec 25 Sun MERRY CHRISTMAS

Dec 30 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: Kids to Breakfast, Magician Tommy Walker. Note: Kid's breakfast won't be served until 7:45 am.

Jan 1 Sun HAPPY NEW YEAR

Jan 5 Thur 6:00 pm Holiday Party, Capital Hill Tavern, 1225 Logan St., Denver

Jan 6 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA

Jan 7 Sat 7:00 am Brain Bowl, North Region Tournament, Standley Lake High School, 9300 W. 104th Avenue

Jan 13 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA

**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 Stowbridge | 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 | rfinkelmeier@comcast.net | Ralph Pedersen | 303-759-3384 | r.pedersen2658@comcast.net |
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| 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 | rlawardlaw@gmail.com | Craig Eley | 720-771-0866 | craigceley@gmail.com |

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Jan **Paul Stratton**, Feb **Robert Wardlaw**, Mar **Pat Bush**, Apr **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.