



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)



December 12, 2014 – Vol. 40, Issue 11

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

Could you get more handsome, debonair, and exuberant greeters than Past President **Jon Wachter** and his faithful companion Past President and Past Governor **Phil Perington**. It is tough not to catch the enthusiasm projected by this dynamic duo.

Guests

All three of today's guests were relatives. **Frank Middleton** introduced his (much) younger brother **Kent**, who is visiting from Georgia, where he is a professor of journalism at University of Georgia, home of the Fighting Bulldogs. **Jack Rife's** guest really needed no introduction to many. **Gary Rife** is Jack's cousin, a former member of MSOC and currently living in Tucson. Good to see you back, Gary! **Jim Easton** brought his son **Evan**, presumably since he heard that there was a large pot to be won in the weekly drawing.



Evan's last win!

From the Prez

1. **"No back-end parking"** — there are signs up; the Legion had half of a fence replacement project, \$5,500 for no good reason. This is our third warning. Back up a Jeep, Buick, Pearce Arrow, or anything, and expect to have your vehicle towed out and held until the impound fee is paid. Do not expect \$5,500 from MSOC. Let's treat our host with respect. Moving can be a big pain.
2. It felt great to have the room overflowing. Stories of the blessings of thanksgiving trips were on so many lips. The signups for the tree lot are looking good. Keep it up!
3. **Vince Gonzales**, a new member, used the loss of his Dad to our benefit. Memorials for his Dad should be directed to MSOC. What a statement! Thank you Vince. We join in support at this time of need.



4. **Russ Paul** is back East to help his sister. Her husband was injured in a fall. Keep Russ and his family in your hearts. We will miss Russ, and look forward to his return.

Announcements

Roundup Fellowship:

Jim VanderKamp thanked the club for its generosity in supporting the Roundup Fellowship, of which he is Executive Director. He reminded us that they are having a "Pantry Collection" on December 17 to collect non-perishable foods, such as canned fish or meat, peanut butter, jelly, low sugar cereals, canned tomatoes, etc. Drop your donations by the Fellowship headquarters, 3443 South Galena Street, Suite 310.



Here we stand to make our pitch!
Photo Don StJohn

Bradley International School Update: Randy Marcove

said that even though **Aaron Beery** has not been in regular attendance at the morning meetings, he is working diligently with the Super Citizen program at Bradley. He also mentioned that **Dick Cohen**, in addition to all his work with JDF, is also a prime mover in providing toys for Mental Health. Kudos to **Steve Kady** for acquiring signage for the tree lot and for his perseverance in attempting to obtain more signs.

Holiday Party: One more time! **Frank Middleton** has done a great job of lining up the exclusive Glenmoor Country Club. Now he just needs people to attend. Next week is the absolute last week you can sign up and pay the \$26 per person for the meal and fabulous entertainment. The date is Saturday, December 20, starting at 5:30 with cocktails and dinner at 6 p.m. Glenmoor is just east of University Blvd on Belleview — on the north side of the street.

Channel 4 Toys for Kids: **Steve Kady** asked members to bring new toys to the Optimist Christmas tree lot for later distribution at the Channel 4 Toys for Kids, which will be held on Wednesday, December 17 at the University Hills King Soopers on Yale and Colorado Blvd. UNWRAPPED TOYS ARE NEEDED by the December 16. Toys will be stored in the Santa Haus at the tree lot and delivered to the

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



to the store on Wednesday, the 17th. These toys will be presented on Channel 4's "Care 4 Colorado Toy Drive" at the morning newscast around 6 a.m. We are once again taking part in their toy drive. Santa will present a truckload to Lauren Whitney, the morning weather anchor. Once again, bring as many UN-WRAPPED toys to the Tree Lot Trailer before Wednesday morning.

TJ Artisans Craft Fair: This eyewitness reporter noticed that it was still dark as members started arriving at 6:30 a.m. to assist crafters in parking cars and unloading their wares. Avely lead by **Craig Eley** the crack unit of volunteers, once again were successful in their mission. There were no wrecks getting into the facility and the crafters were overwhelmed by the assistance provided by Monaco South volunteers. "That is when they were not drinking coffee and enjoying the donuts and breakfast burritos supplied by TJ staff."

Craig Eley reports that the Thomas Jefferson High School Art Fest (formerly the Craft Fair) took place Saturday, December 13. The hardy group of traffic-directors and crafter car unloaders assembled at 6:30 a.m. on a beautiful, fairly warm day. We were treated to great coffee and sinful donuts, bagels, and even breakfast burritos! The MSOCers enduring these harsh conditions were **Casey Funk, Wyatt McCallie, George Buzick, Tom Glazier, John Young, Oscar Sorensen, Tom Mauro, Frank Ross, Gary Strowbridge, Gary Miller, Pat Bush, and Craig Eley**. All were done by 9:00, except Tom Glazier, who was in charge of organizing the used book fair. By noon, Tom commented that, because donations were still coming in, his inventory was increasing rather than decreasing. By 2:00, Tom was offering the deal of the century — as many books as you could fit in a bag for one dollar! "*We had better keep Tom away from the Tree Lot!*"

Tree Lot Update & Santa Haus: The focus of the holiday season for our members is the sale of Christmas Trees and other holiday decorations. **Greg Young** announced that we are slightly behind on tree sales, but can make it up with a little effort. A graph of tree sales is included on the *GUMS distribution* email. To date, 81 members have worked the tree lot and our target is 100.

Since this is the primary funding for all of MSOC activities involving youth, we need maximum effort from everyone to make the tree lot a financial success. Staffing on weekends and evenings is particularly important; since that is when we have the most customers so, help out whenever you can work it in.

The **Chili Cook-off**, scheduled for Sunday, December 21 at 11:30 at the lot is still tentatively on, but we need more participants. If for no other reason, plan to attend the cook-off to taste the chili of **Kathryn Birdwell**, who cooks our Friday morning breakfast. Kathryn has promised to cook up a batch of her world famous chili.

Santa for next weekend, please check out the need with Santa Wrangler **Craig Eley** at craigceley@gmail.com.

Accolades to Ron Cisco—**Oscar Sorensen** says thanks to Ron for providing the delicious elements of lunch and snacks for the tree lot trailer. "*I have had a very good lunch almost everyday since the tree lot opened!*"

White Elephant Gift Exchange: The White Elephant Gift Exchange will be on our regular Friday meeting, next week, December 19. **Santa Oscar** will facilitate the exchange. If you have never been through one of these, you

ALTHOUGH WE HAVE SNOW WE STILL NEED TREE LOT HELP

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 = msoc76

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.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
J.R. Gieck (949) 636-7614 Cap Hermann (303) 695-7769	Greg Young (303) 886-1110 Russ Paul (720) 431-0449	Jon Wachter (303) 204-5645 Jack Kleinheksel (720) 938-1760	Don Iley (303) 840-7706 Ron Gustas (720) 934-3566
THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
Tom Glazier (303) 522-5214 Jon Wachter (303) 204-5645	Cut Boell (303) 980-1893 Steve Kady (303) 931-1470	John Oss (720) 210-8056 Pat Bush (720) 254-3741	

do not know what you are missing. Gifts should be of minimal value. Repeat gifts are OK and tastefulness is optional. If you forget a gift, come anyway, as Santa has some extras on hand. Rules for exchanges will be made up by Santa as required by the situation.



We Have Tree Lot Signage: **Steve Kady** says, *I do not know if it was my optimism (ha ha) or an angel from heaven, but we got our second big sign for the tree lot.*

Barbara Barron owner of **Warning Lites Inc.** of Englewood came through Friday with the big-lighted sign for the northbound traffic to see.

I had spoken with her over a week ago and she was not very optimistic of being able to provide a sign due to the workload of several construction projects. However, she was true to her word and when one was available, she sent it out.

Rusty Reynolds, **Operation Manager for Colorado Barricade**, donated the other sign. *He too went out of his way to provide us with a sign. Colorado Barricade is the largest of the barricade companies in Colorado. We almost did not*

get this one due to the road construction projects that they are involved in.

Therefore, we have signs; now let's bring on the customers.



Those driving North see this sign.
Photos Steve Kady



Those heading South see this sign.

Linda Fuller
Mentor Specialist of Aurora Youth Options

Linda Fuller, Mentor Specialist of Aurora Youth Options was our speaker for today and was ably assisted by two of our members, **J. R. Gieck** and **Jim Easton**, who currently serve as mentors in this program sponsored by Aurora Mental Health Center.

Linda was recruiting new mentors. The Youth Options program has excellent and ongoing training for those who are willing to make the twice a month, two year commitment required of their mentoring staff. The program is considered to be one of the best in the United



States and is designed to relate to the boys and girls in the program, not to "fix" them. Jim and J. R. both testified that being a mentor had changed their lives for the better and that they now had a different perspective on some of the problems inherent in our society. Katherine is desperately in need of several more mentors. If you have further interest in this program, please visit the website @ www.aurorayouthoptions.org, or contact Linda Fuller at: 303-617-2614 or e-mail @ LindaFuller@aumhc.org.

Santa Picture of the Week



Santa **Eldon Strong** with a very unhappy customer! From Craig Eley,

Our Tree Lot Guards



Late Super Citizen at Tree Lot



A Super Citizen first grader from Slavens who showed up at the Tree lot with family. He received his shirt about a half a dozen years late. He and his family are very proud. One of those things that makes the Christmas tree lot a fun to work.
From Prez John Oss.

Weekly Greeters

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 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 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 - TBA
Jan 10 Sat	7:00 am	Brain Bowl North Regional Tournament, Standley Lake High School, Westminster, CO

**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: 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.