



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

November 20, 2015 – Vol. 40, Issue 8



Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 39 Years
Recognized as Outstanding Service Organization in Colorado in 2012

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Robert Wardlaw



Good Morning Optimist

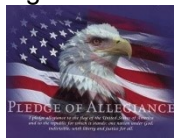
On this slippery day with 1"+ snow on the ground and temps in the low 20's we were greeters this morning with warm handshakes from **Frank Middleton** and you **GUMS** editor, **Robert Wardlaw**.

First Bell

President **Mike Chavez** rings the bell promptly at 7 a.m.

Invocation & Pledge

Ron Cisco delivered the invocation this morning telling us to live our Optimism, and to have it come through in our deeds and words. This way of living will spread by our actions to each person we come in contact with, and to be thankful for the fellowship that Optimism allows. Ron then leads us in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.



From the Prez

Mike Chavez announces to the club that **Don Iley** has resigned his position as President effective immediately and Mike has agreed to fill that vacancy. We wish Don the best moving forward and thank Mike for stepping into this role!



From the OCMS Board

At the Monaco South Board of Directors meeting on Thursday, November 19, 2015, President **Don Iley** announced that, due to personal issues which had arisen recently, he felt it would be in the best interest of the Club for him to step down as President. The Board accepted Don's resignation with regret and encouraged him to lead the Club again once his personal issues were resolved.

The Board, pursuant to the vacancy provisions in the Club bylaws, voted to appoint Vice President **Michael Chavez** to the office of President. Michael accepted the appointment, thanked Don for his service and pledged to keep the Club on its successful path.

The office of Vice President is now open as a result of Michael's assumption of the presidency. **Those interested in serving should contact a Board member as soon as possible, since it is hoped that the position will be filled at the December Board meeting.**

Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner at the BGC & Girls, Inc.
Tuesday, Nov. 24th, starting at 4 to 7 p.m.
3480 West Kentucky and 1599 Julian

Guests

Craig Eley introduces our guest this morning. It is **Ricardo Ortiz**, who has been in Denver for over a year, and is looking for a service organization to join and better his community. Ricardo has worked for Chick-Fil-A for many years and is excited to join us this morning.

Joe Marci introduces **Bob Streno**, his neighbor from South Rosemary Way. At one time, the number of members from South Rosemary Way totaled four, and Joe is hoping Bob will consider joining. Bob says hello and is happy to learn more about what the Optimist Club is all about.

We welcome both Ricardo and Bob! Come join us!

Announcements

Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner: **Donlie Smith** announces the final drive for the Thanksgiving Dinner at Boys & Girls Club and Girls Inc. will happen Tuesday, November 25. Immediately after today's meeting Donlie and several other volunteers will pick up the turkeys from Walmart and deliver them the DTC Hyatt for preparation. Lots of work goes on behind the scenes to prepare the food for the kids and their families.



File photo from 2014's Boys & Girls Clubs Thanksgiving Dinner

Concession Stands at Brain Bowl: **Paul Simon** announces that Monaco South Optimist Club has sponsored two new clubs, Front Range American Cancer Society Optimist Club and Type 1 Optimist Club. These clubs will be joining forces to run the concession stand at the upcoming CO-WY District Brain Bowl North Competition. If you are interested in helping with the concession stand or joining either of the two new clubs, please see Paul.

Super Citizen at McMeen: **Don Thomson** tells us about yesterday's Super Citizen Assembly at McMeen Elementary. **Pat Bush** and **Mike White** helped and they had another wonderful event. Tears were shed and smiles all around as another group of elementary kids were recog-

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

nized for their efforts in school. Don also noted that he came upon a community website and found some very positive reviews for the MSOC Tree Lot in regard to questions regarding where to buy Christmas Trees. The word is out, that the place to buy live trees is from your local Optimist Club. More on this later.

FIRST Lego League: Ross Parrent spoke to us recently about the FIRST Lego League and encourages any interested members to take in the competitions that are going on along the front range. He is always looking for volunteer judges. Go to <http://fll.coloradofirst.org/> to register.

Tree Lot Santa Haus Duty: Craig Eley announces he has only three slots left for Santa duties at the Tree Lot. Nevertheless, we need them filled so the kids will not show up to any empty Santa Haus. The two-hour shifts remaining are: Sunday, Dec. 13, 2 - 4, Saturday, Dec. 19, 2 - 4, and 4 - 6 p.m. If you can be a Santa to the kids during one or more of these shifts, email Craig Eley at craigceley@gmail.com.

Book Drive Give Away: Steve Kady appears amazed by the overwhelming response to the Book Drive Give Away that will take place at the Thanksgiving Dinner at Boys & Girls Club Inc. Over 2,000 books have been collected and Steve asks those members who are responsible for picking up donated books from Super Citizen Schools, please do so before Tuesday to ensure they can be placed.

Steve gave a big thanks to Leoni Scott of the Englewood Public Library for contributing 100 kids book to our drive. And in an email, Steve says he picked up 625 books from the Denver Public Library on Saturday right after their book Sale ended. Thanks to Gretchen Roberts for providing some wonderful children's books. I have not had time to get a complete count, but we are now close to 3,000.

Signs for Tree Lot: Steve also mentioned, thanks to Scott Pasternack, son of Fred Pasternack, and Barry Wisdom of Denver Promotional Products for their donations so that the Econo Lube sign can be covered with our name. The two 8' x 7' banners are sure to attract thousands of buyers.

Urban Peak Support: Ron Gustas mentioned that the **Type 1 Diabetes Optimist Club-T1DOC** is conducting a drive to benefit the **Urban Peak** non-profit which helps at risk Denver homeless and near homeless age 15 to 24 youth.

This past summer Preston Dickey, of Urban Peak spoke to both T1DOC and OCMS about programs helping these kids and young adults. The T1DOC welcomes support from OCMS members by joining in to donate the following type items: clothes (new underwear, winter socks, hats, gloves), men's and woman's winter boots, rain ponchos, umbrellas, deodorant, gift cards, bus tickets, bike locks, hand/foot warmers and snacks (High protein, trail mix, beef jerky).

A collection box will be at OCMS meetings through December 11th. Checks payable to the T1DOC are also welcome which will be used to purchase the above type items. For more info please contact Ron @ rgustas@earthlink.net.

The Brain Bowl is Coming: Karl Giel shouted, it is almost time, once again, for the *Optimist Brain Bowl competition*. Think of it as Jeopardy with teams for 6, 7, and 8th

grade students. This year, over 1,000 students will again compete, and we need to make sure we have enough volunteers to make the event work. There are three regional competitions: North Region at Standley Lake High School in Westminster January 9; Central Region January 30 at Heritage High School in Littleton; and South Region at Horizon Middle School on February 6. The Championship Tournament will be held February 20 at Hamilton Middle School in Denver. We need about 135 volunteers for each tournament, and closer to 150 for the North Regional. Most volunteers will be done at lunchtime, but we need to staff 12 competition rooms in the afternoon. If you would like to be a Reader at any of the tournaments, you need to attend a training in advance of the event. Dates, times, locations, and a link to sign up for Reader Training can be found at <http://www.optimistbrainbowl.org/readers.html>. Contact **Michael Chavez** or **Karl Geil** for more information.

Thanksgiving Baskets: Allen Pierce reminds members that Saturday morning at 8 a.m., to meet to at the Legion Hall to hand out Thanksgiving baskets. Prepare to make someone's day, the total is 84 food baskets to deliver. Many showed up as documented by Past Prez **John Oss**.



Hearing Better After Jury Duty: Bryce Slaby shared that he recently served jury duty and was given some head-phone type devices that helped his hearing considerably. Bryce, you might want to speak to Dr. **Rob Gardner**, an audiologist, operates a business that helps people with hearing problems. It is called *The Hearing Clinic*. See <http://www.heardenver.org/> or call 303-322-0054.

Dime-A-Day: Phil Perington stands in for **Perry Allen**, for the Dime-A-Day program. Each Club annually collects Dime-A-Day a contribution of \$36.50 per member—\$36.60 in leap years—that is forwarded to the Optimist International Foundation (OIF). This money is used to redistribute to Clubs for their Oratorical, Essay, and CCDHH programs including New Club Programs. OIF mails a tax credit statement to each contributor and enters their gift into their database of accrued individual contributions. Monaco South has been one of the top Clubs for Dime-A-Day in the past few years, including #1 and #2 in 2013 and 2014. Thank you all in advance for your heartfelt gift.



Safeway & King Soopers Gift Cards: Greg Young as club Treasurer reminds members that they can purchase gift cards through the club to hand out for Christmas gifts. He asks, "Do you need a little something to give your favorite nephew, barber, mail carrier, paper delivery person, house cleaner, etc. for the holidays? Consider the gift that keeps on giving." King Soopers or Safeway reloadable gift cards are a great way to say THANKS to people you care about during the holidays. You can get them from in \$10 denominations. However, if you want a different dollar amount, \$10 minimum to \$500 maximum, or a quantity of more than 5, call or email Greg Young, 303-759-3921 or gndyoung@comcast.net, and he can special order them for you in four business days.



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Joe Marci 2015 Christmas Tree Lot

Joe Marci tells us about the Tree Lot will open next Friday, November 27. For 38 years the Optimist Club of Monaco South has operated the Christmas tree lot at the corner of Monaco and Evans, near the old K-Mart.

The new location will be 2223 South Monaco Parkway, in front of Walmart Market, or directly across the street from last year's location. The Tree Lot is the main fundraiser for the club and funds the great majority of the activities to club sponsors. This is a very important project for the club and we urge all members to participate in helping staff the lot. Members who work five or more shifts will be able to purchase trees, wreathes, and garland at cost.

The lot is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. everyday starting November 27 through December 24. The club welcomes non-member volunteers who want to help with manpower.

The most important part of working at the Tree Lot is to have fun, because when you are having fun the customers are able to notice your happiness and experience the fun of buying a tree from the Optimist Club of Monaco South. The OCMS has been operating the Tree Lot since 1978 and many families have been coming back to purchase their trees for decades. It is also very likely you will see and hear



Joe Marci
Photo Don StJohn

stories of children who were Super Citizens from years back who remember what a positive impact this club has made on their memory.

Joe has shared a handout titled, "The Optimists' Guide to Selling Trees," it is attached to the GUMS distribution email, please peruse at your leisure to answer and assist you as you embark on your selling experience.

Based on a question, **Paul Bernard** spoke about the Club's website for signing up for Tree Lot Work Schedule. You will find it at <http://www.monacosouth.org/>. It includes a calendar for upcoming events. The club is

looking for strong support from members to help this year.

To get to the Tree Lot Signup Calendar go to OCMS Webpage > Members Only page and login: user name = msoc76, password = xmas2015. You can also find a pdf version of the Membership Roster there as well: user name = member, password = Denver76. Should you need assistance contact Paul.

For the list of Tree Lot Day Managers, see the attachment to the GUMS distribution email. The Tree Lot Cell Phone number is 303-960-5995.

Announcements Continued

Family in Need of Help: Joe Marci is looking for someone who can help a family who needs beds, bedding, and other furnishings. Anyone you can obtain discounts or can assist, please contact Joe @ 303-847-7844.

TJHS Art Fest: Tom Glazier also said that in conjunction with the TJHS Art Fest, he will be conducting a "Book Sale" and will need some help setting up the books for display and sale. Tom plans to begin collecting additional books and will be needing volunteers to assist.

Drawing

President Michael asks, do we have a drawing? The response, yes we do have a drawing this morning and there is a pot totaling \$90. The lucky card is the Six of Clubs. Members who had winning tickets this morning include **Allen Malask, Bill Morgan**, our guest **Ricardo Ortiz**, **Bob Avery, Karl Geil, Ron Cisco**, and **Oscar Sorensen**.

Craig Eley then draws **John Swick's** name from the plastic jug and John gets a chance to pick the lucky card! winning card were drawn so the pot grows!

Weekly Greeters	
11/27/15	Michael Chavez & Joe Marci
12/4/15	Paul Gibson & Bob Avery
12/11/15	Bryce Slaby & Tom Kramis
12/18/15	Ron Cisco & John Young
Help, Help, Help — we need Friday morning greeters, see Jon Wachter, 303-204-5645 or jon_wachter@msn.com	

December Super Citizen Presenters		
Dec 11 @ 8:30	Slavens	Bob Avery
Dec 16 @ 1:00	Samuels	Gary Strowbridge
Dec 16 @ 2:30	MBP	Don Roth
Dec 17 @ 1:00	McMeen	Mike White
Dec 17 @ 5:30	Hamilton	?
Be a Super Citizen Presenter See Rob Gardner, 720-263-6203 gardnerrb@gmail.com		

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2015-2016 40th Birthday Year — Chartered in 1976

Nov 24 Tue	4:00 pm	Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner, Boys and Girls Club and Girls Inc.
Nov 27 Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day. Sign-up for Tree Lot
Nov 27 Fri	8:30 am	Tree Lot Setup - New Location, West Side of Monaco at 2223, in front of Walmart Market
Nov 28 Sat	9:00 am	Tree Lot & Santa Haus
Dec 4 Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Frank Middleton, The OI Pass Through Program. How to make a deductible gift that our club can use.



**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		

2015 - 2016 Officers

President	Don Iley	303-667-3663
Vice President	Michael Chavez	303-960-5304
Vice President	Randy Marcove	303-840-7706
Secretary	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

Barry Barker	813-545-4533
Pat Bush	720-254-3741
Jim Easton	720-987-7684
Tom Glazier	303-522-5214
Cap Hermann	303-587-5575
Allen Malask	303-726-3700
Bill Morgan	303-868-4384
Allen Pierce	303-883-8506
John Oss (Past Pres.)	720-210-8056

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	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	rlwardlaw@gmail.com	Craig Eley	720-771-0866	craigceley@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Nov **Robert Wardlaw**, Dec **Pat Bush**, Jan **Paul Stratton**, 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.