



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

November 20, 2009

Vol. 34, Issue 8

The Optimist Club of Monaco South

Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado

Serving Youth and the Community for 34 Years

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Phil Perington



Good Morning Optimists!

A BIG CAMARADERIE DAY

Paul Stratton, OC Larson, and back-up Phil Perington greeted members this morning. Our smiling Greeters also passed out our new and improved neon Christmas Tree flyers with an incredibly happy Santa on the front. We are still trying to figure out which club member it's crafted after. John Marinos treated the hungry to scrambled eggs, country ham, crispy bacon, hash browns, juice, rolls, and steaming coffee breakfast. Still the best deal in town!

President Ron Cisco energetically rang the bell at 7:00am sharp, whereby Greg Hurd read us a very appropriate *Thanksgiving Invocation*. Ron then gave a "howdy good to see ya" to Allan McCall, and looked anxiously at the bright yellow chain saw sitting at the base of the podium. Fred "Mr. Sports Forecaster" Pasternak was apparently afoot.

Guests

We had two guests this morning. First was Bill Walters friend Chris Spalick. And second was Ed Collins friend Frank Farella. Welcome gentlemen, hope you return and join us on a permanent basis!

Good News: New Publicity Chairman

Steve "Thumper" Kady has volunteered to be our Publicity Chairman. Steve comes from a background of over 31 years in the Media including a lengthy stint at Channel 7. Please contact Thumper if you have any news items!

Prez Utterings

Prez Ron reported the Board met Wednesday night and everything went well. Lt. Gov. Abigail Nichols (Tamarac OC) attended the meeting and congratulated us for our hard work. Abigail suggested we consider a "Happy Bucks" program. It involves anyone who is happy about something to put a dollar in the jar and tell us why they are happy. It was unanimously approved. OC Larson presented a layout for the tree lot. We are waiting for Oscar Sorensen's approval. Ron reported that the money is safe and Treasurer Greg Young is working hard to keep us on budget. He then showed us the secret Board handshake. This reporter has been assured that Ron will repeat it at our Friday meetings.

The Happy Bucks inaugural was a hit. \$43 was garnered. Here are some of the highlights:

John Young – is happy and relieved that Claire's cancer is in remission. Fred (\$2) – is happy his nephew is here from San Diego and he bet him the Bronco's will win. Robert Duval – is happy because Fred is so optimistic. Tom Mauro – is happy because Obama is President. Don StJohn to Tom- He won't be happy next time. Ed Collins – has his 4th granddaughter on the way. Howdy Fry – is happy and proud of his son being elected soccer team captain. Nick Newey – is grateful his son is coming home from Afghanistan. Paul Simon – is happy his son is graduating from CU. Wyatt McCallie is happy he chose a root canal over euthanasia. Karl Geil is happy St.John will be

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****

Prez Utterings Continued

wrong. And finally a grateful happiness from **Bill Walters** that there has been no postage increase recently. How bout' that **Prez Ron**?

Announcements

Karl Geil reported, *The Brain Bowl is Coming* (TBBIC). Our club is taking the lead this year as the primary force behind the Bowl but we still need a ton of volunteers. There are three tournaments this year:
#1 Jan. 23, 2010 – Superior High School in Louisville
#2 Feb. 6, 2010 – Overland High School in Aurora
#3 Feb. 20, 2010 – Colorado Springs, TBD

All Designated Readers will need to attend training sessions, TBD. Veteran Readers will be placed on the "fast track." There will be over 400 students at each Tournament and we need 135-200 volunteers at each venue. Please check out www.optimistbrainbowl.org for more information.

Donlie Smith updated us on the Thanksgiving Dinner the 24th at the Boys & Girls Club located at S. Federal and W. Kentucky Ave. Shifts start at 4:00pm. Cutting pies and preparing bread and butter are critical items. **Russ Paul** reminds us to please remember that kids don't eat as much as adults and portion accordingly.

BTW, support the chef's at the Hyatt Regency DTC (they prepare all of the food for us) by celebrating Thanksgiving in their rooftop Centennial Room (11:30am-4:30pm) or visit then for dinner sometime. See the flyer included with the email of GUMS.

Craig Eley needs help with taking pictures at the Tree Lot Santa Station. There are 35 shifts scheduled and we are posting pic's on the web. **Don St. John** volunteered to help. If you are interested please see Craig.



Bob Avery reminded us to be at the MSOC by 8:30am on Saturday to deliver the Thanksgiving Baskets. The TJ Crafts Day is also that morning.

John Greene showed the group a book he highly recommended we all read, "*PAIN FREE*," by Pete Egoscue. Thanks John!

Greg Young announced the Sign-up Board for the Tree Lot was located directly at the back of the room and being marshaled by **Leo Hagele**. Please sign up to work the lot, we are going to need a lot of help next weekend. Any scheduling issues can be addressed through the Day Managers, **Joe, Mike, or Greg**.

Also, a way to help kids with cancer this season: buy holiday cards from Children's Hospital. See their webpage at Holiday Card Project @ <http://www.holidaycardproject.org>.



Grocery/Gas Card Sales



At each weekly meeting, gift cards usable at King Soopers and Safeway are available for sale to members. These are available in multiples of \$25.00, with no maximum. The member uses the card like a debit card for groceries and gasoline at dozens of stores associated with King Soopers or Safeway (see the list on the back of the card). The member gets full value for the card, but the club buys them for 95% of face value, thereby earning 5% of the face value as a fundraiser for Monaco South. King Soopers and Safeway have some of the best-discounted gasoline around, and everyone buys groceries each week, so it's a win-win proposition for the club and the members. Buy yours today!!

Cy Regan announced Grocery Sales this week were \$1325. King Soopers \$1,225 Safeway \$100. That brings \$66.25 to our general fund.

Drawing: There was and still is \$100 in the pot after this morning. Unlucky card drawers were **Phil Perington** and **Robert Duval**.

Name Chip Draw: **Oscar Sorensen** won for wearing his name badge, but lost on the draw.

Creed: **Bill Litchfield** led the Creed..."to talk, health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet."

Super Citizen Presenters for December

Day	School	Presenter
9 @ 2:30 pm	MPB	Don Iley
10 @ 5:30 pm	Hamilton	Harry Fegley
15 @ 9:30 & 10:30 am	Samuels	Gary Strowbridge
16 @ 1:20 & 2:05 pm	McMeen	Steve Kady
18 @ 8:30 am	Salvens	Bill Walters
18 @ 3:00 pm	Bradley	John Young

Late Breaking News by **Bob Avery**. It was another successful Thanksgiving Baskets project. We delivered 42 Thanksgiving Food Baskets with all the trimmings to needy families of the schools we do our Super Citizen programs with the exception of Most Precious Blood and Hamilton Middle school. Many thanks to **Eldon Strong, Greg Hurd, and Kent Gloor** for coming early to help pick up the food and helping me arrange the boxes and turkeys. Once again Greg Burke and his staff at Safeway went above and beyond in helping us. Not only did they give us a great price on the turkeys, they also put the food together in individual boxes, gave us a \$100 gift certificate, PLUS gave us the donuts and coffee (Starbucks) on the house. *I strongly urge you, if you are doing any grocery shopping in the Yale and Monaco area that you give that Safeway the business!* More about this project next week.

Speaker for Today
Tree Lot Guides to Better Sales

Joe Marci walked us through some of the nuances and general operating information of the Tree Lot. We now own the trailer. It has been donated lock-stock and barrel. There will be students from TJHS and GWHS again this year, which is good because we will usually sell 450 trees on each of the first two weekends. Hours are 9:00am to 9:00pm. Please stay around for your entire 3-hour shift, if possible. You know who you are! Don't forget to tell customers who tip that the money will go directly to our kids fund.

Gary Miller reported that we now have converted to a electrical box that is entirely switch controlled. No more short-circuits (knock on wood). **Mike Miller** can assist if flocking is requested by a customer again this year.

Candy canes and Santa hats will be plentiful this year. There are certain things that need to be done at the end of the shift and training will be given on

site. Santa and Frosty are well and eager to get back to work after having gone through successful rehabilitation following last year's cold and windy season. One hundred wreaths have been decorated and the ladies from Tamarac are once again going to help us with the pricing trees. We can deliver to SE Denver. We will discuss how to handle the cash box, at the trailer. And last but not least Joe reported there are still Entertainment Books for sale.

Joe recognized **Paul Simon** for developing the "The Optimists' Guide to Selling Trees," with input provided by **Bryce Slaby**. This guide has sales guideline to help us all serve our customers in all aspects from beginning to end of sales. **Harry Fegely** also produced a guide on how to tie a tree on a vehicle that is extremely helpful, especially the part about opening the car door before looping the cord through the windows. Both guides are attached. Every member that is working the lot should read and review the information. There are rumors of a pop quiz. Excellent job gentlemen, we all thank you!

Late Breaking News by **Craig Eley**. A hearty band of Optimists rolled out of bed early on Saturday morning and directed traffic at the Thomas Jefferson High School Craft Fair. The volunteers were **Garys Laman, Strowbridge and Miller, Russ Paul, Leo Hagele, Jim Easton, George Buzick, John Stoffel, Steve Kady, Rich Mahony, Oscar Sorensen, Donlie Smith, Randy Marcove, Tom Mauro, John Young, Joe Marci, and Craig Eley**. Retired cop **Rich Mahony** spread the rumor that he had stationed snipers on the roof of the high school in case any crafters parked in the wrong place, and that seemed to keep the throng orderly. Due to the perennial shortage of doorstops at TJ, **Donlie Smith** was relegated to holding a door open so the crafters could unload their wares. He was finally replaced with a bent beer can slid under the door. It's comforting to finally learn one's true value to society.



Randy Marcove and **Gary Laman** braved the middle of the street to direct traffic at the TJ Craft Fair. Gary is the one who does not look like the Unabomber.

Photo by Craig Eley

Monaco South Calendar

- | | | | |
|--|-----|-----------|--|
| Nov 24 | Tue | 4:00pm | Thanksgiving Dinners at Boys & Girls Club and Girls, Inc. |
| Nov 26 | Thu | | Thanksgiving Day |
| Nov 27 | Fri | 7:00am | Meeting, Legion Hall - John Young, Thank God I'm an Optimist |
| Nov 27 | Fri | 9:00am | Christmas Tree Lot Setup |
| Nov 28 | Sat | 9:00-9:00 | Christmas Tree Lot Opens; Sign Up |
| Dec 4 | Fri | 7:00am | Meeting, Legion Hall - Jeff Coyne, Lockheed Martin: <i>Mars Lander</i> |
| Dec 11 | Fri | 7:00am | Meeting, Legion Hall - Speaker TBA |
| Dec 16 | Wed | 6:30pm | Board Meeting, Board Meeting, 3540 S. Poplar, Suite 102 |
| NOTE: Board Meetings have changed to the 3 rd Wednesday of each month | | | |
| Dec 18 | Fri | 7:00am | Meeting, Legion Hall - Santa Gift Exchange |
| Dec 19 | Sat | 8:00am | Christmas Baskets Delivery |
| Dec 25 | Fri | | Christmas Day, no meeting |

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		

2009 - 2010 Officers

President	Ron Cisco	303-794-0749
Vice President	Howard Fry	303-601-5088
Vice President	Frank Ross	303-713-1008
Secretary	Robert Wardlaw	303-759-0360
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

George Buzick	303-803-2268
Michael Chavez	303-960-5304
Jim Easton	303-300-2431
Don Iley	303-840-7706
O.C. Larson	303-755-1213
Randy Marcove	303-667-3663
Gary Miller	303-751-0838
Terry Shroyer	303-757-7944
Kale Smith	720-207-4363
Phil Perington (Past Pres.)	303-832-4578

Newsletter Committee

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net
Marc Goodbody	303-202-1610	mlgoodbody@gmail.com	Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rzolman691@aol.com
Marlin Kent	303-779-0778		Phil Perington	303-832-4578	perington@msn.com
Jim Leuschner	720-851-7102	flyleusch@aol.com	George Buzick	303-803-2268	gtbuzick@comcast.net
Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	pedersen.ralph@q.com	Brian Williams	720-253-5731	bdw6688@yahoo.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS, Nov: PHIL PERINGTON, Dec: GEORGE BUZICK, Jan. BRIAN WILLIAMS, Feb: OC LARSON

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.

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID
AT DENVER, COLORADO AND

Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (USPS 401730)
Is published weekly for \$2.00 per year by the
Optimist Club of Monaco South at
4173 S. Rosemary Way, Denver, CO 80237
Postmaster: Send address changes to:
Marc Goodbody
3235 YARROW CT
WHEAT RIDGE, CO 80033-5980