



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

December 19, 2014 – Vol. 40, Issue 12



## 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](http://www.monacosouth.org)

Editor for this Issue—George Buzick



### Good Morning Optimist

On this crisp, last Friday before Christmas morning, members were greeted by a smiling **Al Gapuzan** and grinning **Mark Metevia**. They also got some assistance from **Harry Fegley**.

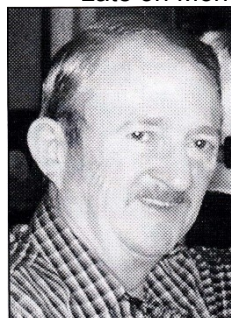
### Guests

Don Roth was the guest of **Leo Hagele**. Don is a former Denver realtor.

### In Memoriam

**Robert (Curt) Curtis Jefferies**

**January 27, 1942—December 15, 2014**



Late on Monday evening of December 15, the Club learned that Charter Member **Curt Jefferies** passed away in the hospital after three consecutive heart arrests. Although Curt's health had permitted him to attend meetings only sporadically, his presence as a charter member and past president of the club and all the contributions he has made to both our club and the CO/WY District will be long remembered.

A celebration of Curt's life, was held at St. John's Lutheran Church on Saturday, December 20, 2014 was well attended by members from both Monaco South and Tamarac Optimist Club—His wife Dottie is a member of Tamarac—and many more of his friends and associates. The service was a fitting tribute to Curt's volunteer spirit and his willingness to go out of his way to help others. *Rest in peace, Curt Jefferies.*

Curt, was one of the founders and supporters of MSOC's *Pooper Scoopers* that has served as the sanitation crew, cleaning up after the horses, mules and donkeys, for over 20 years at Denver's annual Denver St. Patrick's Day Parade. In that role he was instrumental in obtaining white tuxedo-tails jackets to add some class to this group. Therefore, the first order of business was a presentation by **Gary Strowbridge** who presented **John Oss**, our current president and a proud new member of the *Pooper Scoopers*, the coveted white tuxedo tails jacket formerly worn by Curt Jefferies. See Tom Hoch's video of this years *Pooper Scoopers* in action at <http://vimeo.com/89213230>.



Curt Jefferies serves as a 2014 St. Patrick's Day Parade Marshall and oversees the work of the *Pooper Scoopers*.

Photo Tom Hoch

### Award

Second order of business was the presentation of one of Boy Scouts of America's highest awards to **Donlie Smith**. In Donlie's own words, *"I just got a letter informing me of being a recipient of the Silver Beaver Award. Recognition made possible by Optimists and the Monaco South Optimist Club. For 15 years the club has sponsored and supported the Eagle Scout Recognition Awards for Outstanding Eagle Projects. Those involved in the process have given their time and dedication selflessly and helped show what great service work Eagles do for their communities, schools, and churches."*

Two of our members, **Bob Avery** and **Jack Kleinheksel**, both Silver Beaver Award recipients, submitted my application for this recognition. This was a brave and risky act, but one of friendship that makes Monaco South Optimists the wonderful and loving organization it is."



Donlie Smith, second from left, with Silver Beaver Award recipients Bob Avery and Jack Kleinheksel. Prez John Oss, on right, sporting his new *Pooper Scoopers* jacket.

Photo Don StJohn

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\*\*\*\***

## Award Continued

*My profound and deepest appreciation to ALL, this is a wonderful group of high character men and it is truly a privilege to be a part of Monaco South Optimist Club."*

Donlie is being modest about the role of the club in his achievement of this award. He was the driving force behind the concept and execution of selecting outstanding Eagle Scout projects and holding annual award ceremonies to honor those top Eagle Scout Projects. Starting out with somewhat sparsely attended luncheons over 15 years ago, to the present day banquets with 500 people in attendance, this has always been "Donlie's show." The Denver Area Council of Boy Scouts will present the actual award to Donlie in March. **Congratulations to Donlie!**

## Channel 4 Toys for Kids

**Steve Kady** thanked the club (mostly Freddy Paster-nack) for the contributions of toys to the Channel 4 Toys for Kids drive. Toys collected by club members were taken to the King Soopers at Colorado Blvd. and Yale to be distributed to needy children. Steve showed a video of Past Prez **Jon Wachter** being interviewed by the Channel 4 news staff. Jon did a great job of ensuring that Monaco South was duly recognized. Thanks to Steve, Jon, and Freddy and all others who supported this activity. The Channel 4 video clip can be viewed at <http://vimeo.com/groups/85985/videos/114820078>.



Pictured from left, Tom Kramis, Kent Gloor, Jon Wachter, John Stoffel, Lauren Whitney of Ch. 4, Owen Neiberg of All About Braces, Steve Kady, & Bertha Manshadi of Kids Choice Dental. In front is Santa, aka John Oss. All About Braces & Kids Choice Dental have assisted by offering free dental checks for kids.

## Announcements

**Christmas Tree Lot:** **Greg Young** said that, as of last night, December 18, there were 95 trees left on the lot and that we would probably be shutting down the lot on Sunday. He does need men and trucks at 10 a.m. tomorrow, on Monday morning. Greg also mentioned that we have had 95 different members working the lot since the Friday after Thanksgiving. Chili cook off will be held Sunday, December 21, around 11:30 a.m.

**Thanks to Phil Perington:** **Paul Simon** shares, "Here's



the tree you bought my 96-year-old neighbor **JimClaire Clippens** when I brought her by the tree lot to buy a wreath. She's very grateful."

**Brain Bowl:** Do not forget that it is the season for the Brain Bowl. Both **Paul Simon** and **Karl Geil** are concerned about the number of people signed up,

particularly for the North Region contest, which will be held on Saturday, January 10, 2015 at Standley Lake High School, 9300 W 104th Ave, Westminster, CO 80021, for more information go to [www.optimistbrainbowl.org](http://www.optimistbrainbowl.org).

## Academy Optimist Club Santa Train: Paul Simon al-



Lee helps in applying Christmas "tattoos" to kids at the North Pole.

so contributed that he and **Lee Claymore** played elf's for the Academy Optimist Club's Santa Train at Pike's Peak. The Santa Train is the Colorado Springs club's main fundraiser every year, with 50 trains running between Nov. 15 and Christmas to the North Pole halfway up Pike's Peak, using the COG railway. Lee and Paul Simon played elf's on two trains on Saturday. Lee's moniker was *Spinner* which came



Paul stands outside the North Pole workshop area.

from his hobby of fly fishing and that as *Spinner* he makes fishing rods for kids in Santa's Workshop. Paul played *Scoop*, Santa's publicist. The North Pole has a large Santa House where Santa greets the kids.

## White Elephant Gifts

Once again, **Oscar (Santa) Sorenson** did a masterful job



of distributing the various gifts bought in by members. The gifts ranged from the sublime to the ridiculous as pictured in the attached photos. Due to time constraints, there were not much trading of gifts, but a good time was had by all. Selected photos by **Craig Eley**. All can be seen by [CLICKING HERE](#).





## White Elephant Gifts



Weekly Greeters	
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 <a href="mailto:jon_wachter@msn.com">jon_wachter@msn.com</a>	

Super Citizen Presenters Jan.		
Jan 14 @ 8:00	Highline	?
Jan 19 @ 1:30	McMeen	?
Jan 21 @ 2:30	MPB	Jim VanderKamp
Jan 30 @ 1:40	Univ. Park	?
Jan 30 @ 3:00	Bradley	?
Be a Super Citizen Presenter See Rob Gardner, 720-263-6203 <a href="mailto:gardnerrb@gmail.com">gardnerrb@gmail.com</a>		

### Dec 25

Dec 26 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Kids to Breakfast

### Jan 1

### Christmas Day

### 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

Jan 15 Thur 6:30 pm Meeting, Legion Hall - Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102

Jan 16 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day

**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	<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>
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	<a href="mailto:jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net">jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net</a>	Phil Perington	303-832-4578	<a href="mailto:perington@msn.com">perington@msn.com</a>
Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	<a href="mailto:rz6267@gmail.com">rz6267@gmail.com</a>	Paul Stratton	303-366-6375	<a href="mailto:pcstratton@comcast.net">pcstratton@comcast.net</a>
George Buzick	303-803-2268	<a href="mailto:gtbuzick@comcast.net">gtbuzick@comcast.net</a>	Pat Bush	720-254-3741	<a href="mailto:pbush@bushreese.com">pbush@bushreese.com</a>
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:** Jan **Robert Wardlaw**, Feb **Pat Bush**, Mar **Paul Stratton**, Apr **Phil Perington**

**T H E O P T I M I S T C R E E D — 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.