



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

October 30, 2015 – Vol. 40, Issue 5



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—George Buzick



Good Morning Optimist

Those happy, smiling faces that greeted you this morning belonged to **Jim Easton**, **John Bamford**, and **Paul Stratton**, both of whom got up especially early on this overcast Friday morning to bring a little sunshine into your life.

Invocation & Pledge

Karl Geil's invocation explained that the youth of today holds our future in their hands and that we have an obligation to ensure that they have all the tools to be successful "...and optimistic."

He then lead our Pledge of Allegiance to our flag of the United States of America.

Guests

Guest and neighbor of **Mark Metavia**, **Doug Otto**, was introduced. Thanks to Mark for bringing Doug! We hope to see him back with application in hand.

Announcements

Thanksgiving Dinner In A Box: **Jim Easton** reminded us that the annual Thanksgiving food basket delivery would occur on Saturday, November 21. Due to the generosity of the many members who kicked in \$50 for additional baskets, Jim and Allen Pierce need some extra help in delivering the baskets to families who have been selected by social workers at the various "Super Citizen" schools. Sign up and show up at the Legion hall on the 21st at 8:00 a.m.

Super Citizen Program: **Don Thomson** announced that one of our newer members, **Paul Gibson** attended the Super Citizen presentation at McMeen Elementary with him. Hopefully Paul will help out as a SC presenter.

Tamarac Optimist Autumn Gift Boutique: **Craig Eley** reminded us, once again, of the Tamarac Optimist Autumn Gift Boutique, which will be held at the First Plymouth Congregational Church on Saturday, October 31 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Craig also so-

lited on behalf of the Santa Haus at our Christmas tree lot. Craig needs a few good men to don the Santa garb on weekends, starting on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. You need not be naturally rotund or even bright, to do this job according to Craig, as evidenced by the fact that **Ed Collins**, **Tom Hoch**, and others have been quite successful.

Craig noted in an email, for kids, the best part of the Tree Lot is the Santa House. Our Club provides a Santa every Saturday and Sunday while the Tree Lot is operating. We provide the Santa suit, beard, wig, boots, belt and gloves and all you have to do is sit on the Santa throne (way more comfortable than your home throne) in a heated Tuff Shed and bring joy to children. The shifts are two hours long, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

We will need to cover 32-shifts (64-hours) so we need everyone's help. Santa duty counts the same as cold, heavy, dirty, sticky tree-schlepping duty, so the hours you serve as Santa go toward your discounted personal tree.

Please go to the link below and sign up for a couple or three shifts. New members are especially encouraged. If you've been on Weight Watchers too long, we have padding that will plump you right up.

CLICK: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080E4EA4A6283-santa2

If you have a problem signing up, or have questions about the Santa program, contact Santa Wrangler **Craig Eley** at craigceley@gmail.com.

Lost Sun Glasses: **Russ Paul** announced that he had found some sunglasses after last week's meeting and had been wearing them all week. Russ is hoping that someone will claim them before he ruins his eyes, since they are prescription lenses.



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*****

Continued on the next page

Announcements Continued

King Soopers and Safeway Reloadable Cards:

Illustrious Treasurer **Greg Young** once again made the plea for purchase of *King Soopers* and/or *Safeway* cards, stating that we all have to eat and this is a no brainer fundraiser.

Get your cards for \$10 from **Cy Regan**. The club gets 5% on everything over \$5000, which amounts to about \$250/month.

Optimist Dues: **Greg** also reminded

us that dues are due and that you can now use your credit/debit card to pay dues. Since there is a slight handling charge, the \$5 discount does not apply to credit card payments. See Greg.



First Call for Brain Bowl: **Karl Geil** announced

the schedule of for this year's Brain Bowl, including Reader Training sessions and actual events. Events begin in early January and end with the championship tournament on February 10 at Hamilton Middle School. Go to www.optimistbrainbowl.org for dates, times, and locations, and more.



Be A MSOC Mentor: **Ron Cisco** asked for volunteers to act as mentors to our new members. The purpose of this program is to ensure that new members' questions regarding club activities, philosophies, etc. are answered and that each new member feels a sense of belonging. Check with Ron if you are interested in this valuable program. Call, 303-794-0749 or email, ciscoron@msn.com.

Growing the Club: **Phil Perington** mentioned that Monaco South is the 11th largest club in all of Optimist International and said that we need to continue our efforts to make it to the top 10. Chances of being number one are pretty slim, unless we can surpass the 437 membership of the Charlotte North Carolina club. By chance did you read **Bob Finkelmeier's** article on "How do they get so many members," in the CO-WY District 4th Quarter newsletter? If you didn't you can download it at <https://www.optimistcowy.org/about/newsletters/>.

Mark Your Calendar: **Donlie Smith** shouted out to mark the date for the Bill Walter's Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Denver Thanksgiving Dinner. Everyone is invited to participate in serving turkey, pies, drinks and clean-up.

Place: Owens Branch Boys & Girls Club,
3480 W. Kentucky Ave.

Date: Tuesday, November 24th

Time: 4 to 7 p.m.

Parking is on the street or on the west side of the building. Dinner will be served at 5 p.m. and we expect over 500+ kids.

In addition, we will be serving as well at Girls, Inc., 1499 Julian St., to serve over 100+ girls. We need about 10 people to help out at this location from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Update on Book Drive: **Steve Kady** shares, "Holy



crap Batman, look at all those books." A big thanks to **Allen Yockey** for lending his vacant garage to **Tom Glazier** and my



wife **Susan** so they could separate and count the books that were collected last week. My wife, who is an accountant, says we now have over 900 books collected.

Once we get all of the books collected, we will have to eye and separate the used from the new. The new ones, will be handed out at the tree lot.

Steve says, "I am open to any suggestions as to how we do this project. After all, this is the first time and we should try to do it in a way that satisfies everyone. Keep emails coming and thank you all for your continued support."

Our Special Guest & Installation

Our special guest for the day was **Ken Garner**, who is a Past President of Optimist International. Ken Garner



was here to meet us and to induct four members who have joined our club since the beginning of the administrative year on October 1. Ken said that although we "do it for the kids," being an Optimist is really an investment in yourself and in the communities we serve. Ken induct-

ed our newest members; **Matt Spampinato**, **John Bamford**, **Paul Gibson** and **Everett Gardner** (Everett went from a FOO member to a full member). **Chris Dunphy**, also a new member, was inducted last week. Thanks to Ken for his participation. Hopefully, we may be seeing him at future meeting, since he now has Ernst & Young clients in Denver and is occasionally in town on Fridays. Congratulations to President **Don Iley**, and new member sponsors, for this great start in increasing club membership!



Photos Don StJohn

Steve Martinez,
Branch Manager, Owen Branch Boys & Girls Club



Donlie Smith introduced our speaker today **Steve Martinez**, Branch Manager for the J. Churchill Owen Branch of the Boys and Girls Club. The Owen Boys & Girls Club serves the Westwood neighborhood in west Denver. Owen Boys & Girls Club was the first Denver-area Boys & Girls Club built specifically for that purpose. It bears the name of J. Churchill Owen, who was instrumental in establishing the Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Denver in 1961. The Club is home to the large Andrés "Big Cat" Galarraga multi-purpose field (named after the former Colorado Rockies first baseman), used for sports programs for all metro area Boys & Girls Clubs.

Boys & Girls Clubs provide young people with opportunities to engage in programs that help them achieve academic success, take charge of their health by building healthy habits that will stick with them throughout their lives, and foster the skills they need to become leaders in their communities.

According to Steve, the Owen branch serves 100+ kids every day, with various activities, ranging from sports, art, tutoring in all school subjects and leadership training. With a staff of six full-time and six half-time employees, there is about a 1:15 of employees to participants, who range in age

from 6-18 years. Both boys and girls participate in all activities. Cost to participate in these activities is \$2/year.

An emphasis is placed on STEM or science, technology, engineering and math. Jessie Cardenas, who is a former participant at the Owen Branch, is a graduate of Florida State University School of Engineering, but chooses to work with the Owen Branch kids to develop future engineers and scientists.

Overall there are 17 different sites in the Denver Metro Area, serving more than 2000 kids per day. In addition to the various activities, a healthy, nutritious meal is served every day. In many cases, this may be the only meal the participants may get. Meals are furnished in cooperation with the Metro Food Bank.

Steve thanked the club members for the annual Thanksgiving dinner sponsored by Monaco South and Tamarac Optimist clubs, at which a full turkey dinner is served to over 600 people, including Boys and Girls Club members and their families and said he is looking forward to this year's dinner, which will be held Tuesday, November 24.

For more information about the Boys and Girls Club of Metro Denver, please see their website at www.bgcmand.org.

DRAWING

Although both **Pat Bush**, **Bob Avery** and **Lynn Jones** (by virtue of his name tag) had an opportunity to draw the winning card, the Queen of Diamonds was nowhere to be found, thus the pot of \$60 remained intact. So, save your pennies and nickels and buy a fifty cent chance at winning next week. Winners of the "Cup O' Money" included **Frank Middleton**, **Gary Strowbridge**, **Jack Kleinhessel**, **Cy Regan** and **John Oss**.

HUMOR

I was in the six item express lane at the store quietly fuming. Completely ignoring the sign, the woman ahead of me had slipped into the check-out line pushing a cart piled high with groceries. Imagine my delight when the cashier beckoned the woman to come forward looked into the cart and asked sweetly, 'So which six items would you like to buy?'

Wouldn't it be great if that happened more often?

Weekly Greeters

11/6/15	Noel Hasselgren & Pat Bush
11/13/15	Don Iley & Steve Kady
11/20/15	Frank Middleton & Robert Wardlaw
11/27/15	Michael Chavez & Joe Marci
Help, Help, Help — we need Friday morning greeters, see Jon Wachter, 303-204-5645 or jon_wachter@msn.com	

November Super Citizen Presenters

Nov 4 @ 8:00	Highline	?
Nov 12 @ 1:00	Lowry	Michael Chavez
Nov 13 @ 8:15	Holm	?
Nov 18 @ 2:30	MPB	?
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

Now 6 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Ross Parrent, Colorado First Lego League
 Now 13 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - TBA
 Nov 18 Thur 6:30 pm Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's Home, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
 Nov 20 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Joe Marci, **Tree Lot Orientation**
 Nov 21 Sat 8:00 am **Thanksgiving Baskets** - See Jim Easton or Allen Pierce



**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		

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
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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: Oct **George Buzick**, Nov **Robert Wardlaw**

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.