



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

December 14, 2018 – Vol. 43, Issue 11

Optimist Club of Monaco South



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 41 Years
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012
www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Good Morning Optimist

On this cold morning **Noel Hasselgren** and **Eldon Strong**



Eldon Strong & Noel Hasselgren

Note, isn't it amazing now the GUMS Chief Photographer took this photo of Eldon and himself? A real selfie!

First Bell, Invocation & Pledge

With the call to order, President **Everett Gardner** asked **Ed Collins** to deliver our invocation. Ed reminded us of the truth that our youth will be our future leaders, and we are setting examples for them every day, so we should ensure our examples are appropriate. He then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

Guests

Past Prez **Jim Easton** once again introduced his friend **Tracy Sorensen**. Tracey is no longer a guest! He brought his application, and pending the board's exhaustive approval process, he will join our merry band! Tracy is a telecom executive with WOW! Internet, Cable & Phone located in Englewood. Welcome Tracy!

Announcements

Brain Bowl: Brain Bowl Champion, **Karl Geil**



reports that the Brain Bowl team registrations are coming in fast and furious. For the Central Tournament, on January 12th, there are 69 teams, and for the North Tournament, January 26th, 96 teams! That means a minimum of 135 volunteers will be needed at each event. Reader training will be held on Saturday, January 5th at Karl's office and again on Tuesday, January 8th at Heritage High School. See the Brain Bowl website at <https://www.optimistbrainbowl.org/> for all of the details.

Hamilton Middle School Super Citizen: Karl Geil

also shared that the club honored 14 new Super Citizens last night at Hamilton Middle School. As usual, the faculty did an excellent job of explaining why each student—or "scholar," as they refer to them at Hamilton—earned the title of "Super Citizen." The speaker for this presentation was **Craig Eley**, who told the scholars and their families about the people he considers to be the "Super Citizens of the World," the men and women who volunteer for the Peace Corps helping people all over the world. The vociferous **Tom Mauro** lost his voice, so Karl acted as M/C for the evening, with Tom acting as silent partner, and **Wyatt McCallie** taking the photos.



Christmas White Elephant Gift Exchange: Craig Eley



reminded us that time is fast approaching for you to fob off your old treasures on Club members! Yes, it is the Annual White Elephant gift exchange at Monaco South, Friday, December 21st. Bring a gift or gifts of stuff that you would like to see put to good use—but by somebody else. It can be electric, eclectic, a record by Queen, something a little obscene, a shirt that looks tacky, some shorts that are khaki, something unused, or something abused, etc.

What you bring may be designed to bring more appreciation to the audience than the recipient, but the good news is that you do not have to include a card with your name. It can be wrapped in newspaper—



At the 2017 gift exchange, Kent Gloor received these over the shoe ice treads.

might take an entire issue of the lean Denver Post—or anything you want. And if you forget to bring a gift, do not worry. We have a bunch of stuff left behind after last year's White Elephant, so come and enjoy the mayhem even without a contribution. Santa will be there, handing out the largesse. He knows who has been naughty and nice, but there is still time to shape up, so you do not get the perennial petrified poop paperweight!

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 next page

Presidential Rants & Raves vs. Tweets

Hey Gang, for your readership ...

PAST ... And continuing for an all-time sales record ... A GREAT THANK YOU to all who have signed up and showed up ... We may have enough extra to remodel the "Tree Shack". The txts blasts obviously work since reading email is quite often after the fact.

Last night's Christmas Party, coordinated by Frank Middleton, was a roaring success even if we were missing a couple of chairs and some tables ended squeezed ... worked out well as some of us who were first in line for the feast. Sandy Middleton was the official name tagger, so that we would remember who we were. While enjoying the best London Broil, for which everyone raved, I reminisced with Don & Kathy Roth about last summer's trip to Castle Rock to listen to a jam session of the "Crypt Kicker 5" (aka, our own Glass Half Full). Also learned about Georgia Kleinheksel's Official Antarctic Plunge, complete with video and certificate.

Channel 4 Toy Drive with Santa, Elves (Kent Gloor, Jim Easton and Tom Kramis respectfully) and others (Allen Yockey, Phil Perington, & Bob Meyer). Again a great THANK YOU to Steve Kady for upping the game by having Dan Farley delivering Santa and the toys in the Denver Firefighters Museum 1953 Fire Engine. Elevator speech included other projects that that we do. A thank you to Tom Hoch for recording the event and showing at the meeting.

HAPPENING NOW / SOON ... Also don't forget the White Elephant Gift Exchange this coming Friday.

FUTURE ... Board Meeting Thursday, 20 December at 6:30 ... Food / Drink at 6:00 p.m. If anyone has a matter to bring to the Board, please let me know by Sunday, 18 December before 12 NOON to be included in the Agenda.

Need readers and help for the Brain Bowl. Need someone to pick up the reader training as this is Karl Giel's last year.

If I have slighted anyone / forgotten something, I need a DIRECT CALL / TXT / Zap BITES to me about their ISSUE. Communication is the only SOLUTION.

PS—Bring a GUEST next week ... We've all met and invited new people during Christmas tree sales!

Prez Everett

Announcements Continued

Tree Lot Update: Joe Marci reports that 400 trees were sold last week. Even with an additional 50 trees arriving, there are only 331 trees left to sell. The pace of sales is 300 trees ahead of last year! These are fantastic results! Well done by all—the hard work our club has put in has paid off.

Tom Kramis added that by utilizing the new cash register to come up with pretty accurate numbers on the breakdown of tree sales. So, we have sold approximately: 333 Noble, 317 Douglas, 193 Balsam, 175 Nordman Pine, 146 Frazier, 100 Scotch Pine, and 252 Wreaths.

Tree Lot Marketing: It was reported that the Tree Lot Marketing on NextDoor, the neighborhood social media tool that goes out to over 11,000 individuals, was very successful. One pleased customer shared a picture and wrote, "Our tree from the Optimist Club lot, is super fresh and stunning. The prices seemed super reasonable too. Thank you, Amber Laiminger."



Annual Together 4 Colorado Toy Drive: Tom



Kramis reported on the Thursday mornings Toy Drive, which received great coverage on Channel 4. Thanks to the efforts of **Steve Kady** and our Club's Santa Claus, the Elves and the gifts arrived at King Soopers riding on a 1953 Fire Engine. This Engine comes out very rarely and usually is in ceremonies for firemen who have fallen in the line of duty. Former Denver Mayor Tom Currigan was a strong supporter of the Fire Department, and this engine was brought out for his funeral. So, it was a real honor to have this support from our firefighters.



Thanks to everyone in the club who contributed cash towards the gifts, and also those who showed up in the early morning hours - **Kent "Santa Claus" Gloor, Jim Easton, Allen Yockey, Bob Meyer, Phil Perington, and Prez Everett Gardner.**

See Monaco South Optimist Club Toy Drive 2018 Video clip @ <https://vimeo.com/306414303>



Above Bob Meyer, Jim Easton & Phil Perington.

On left, Prez Everett gets the opportunity to sit in the drivers seat.

Below, Santa helps to distribute the toys for the Boys & Girls Club's.



Announcements Continued

King Sooper & Safeway Reloadable Cards:

Frank Middleton asks, "Hey, do you know what makes a great stocking stuffer?" But, Frank does, those King Soopers or Safeway reloadable gift cards make great stocking stuffers! They are also a good gift idea for the mailman, paper delivery, office assistant, etc.! See Frank to get your cards!



Eagle Scout Projects Judges:

Bob Avery is looking for interested Optimists to join a committee to evaluate Eagle Scout projects. This is to determine who will be the winner at the 2019 Eagle Scout Banquet. If you would like to help contact **Donlie Smith** or Bob.

Chili Cook Off at the tree lot:

Ron Cisco announced that entries for the chili contest need to be at the tree lot by 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, and judging starts at 12:00 noon. There was a nomination made from an anonymous member to officially rename the contest "*The Ron Cisco Chili Cook-off*". After a brief floor discussion, no action was taken.



Christmas Basket Delivery:

Michael Chavez again reminded us that Holiday food baskets will be delivered next Saturday morning December 22nd. Fifty-four families are on the list to receive baskets, so please sign up to help deliver. Meet at the American Legion at 8:00 a.m. Michael would also like some toys to fill out the baskets for the children—if you have some or know where some could be found, please contact Michael.

Member Update:

Don Thomson reports that our friend **Bryce Slaby** had shoulder surgery on Monday, which was the second time on that same shoulder. He is home, in good spirits and the surgery went well.

While **Bill Morgan** shared that **David Moore** is home recovering from a short stay in the hospital.

We wish both a speedy recovery!

Toy Drive & Camaraderie

Since we did have a speaker for this morning **Tom Hoch** presented the highlights of the "Together 4 Colorado Toy Drive." Again see the video clip @ <https://vimeo.com/306414303>



Weekly Greeters

| | |
|----------|------------------------|
| 12/21/18 | John Young & Ron Cisco |
| 12/28/18 | Frank Ross & Bob Meyer |



Shenanigans at the Tree Lot

Some photos sent to the GUMS Chief Editor from the Tree Lot staff when selling trees at night was slow.

Labels on the photos stated, "...debauchery with Doctor Pepper soda."



Another Photo



At left, it was not reported who took or sent this picture, but that is our friend and former member **Scott Walker** looking more like a "mountain man" digging a septic tank hole in Ouray. Or is it Sasquatch digging a bomb shelter?

Drawing

We had a Drawing, with the pot at \$120 and the Ace of Clubs held the key to retrieving it. Cups of cash went to: **Dick Nickoloff, Ed Collins, Allen Yockey, Russ Paul, Ron Cisco, and John Greene.** While **Don Thomson** and **George Buzick** tried their luck for the big money, but came up empty. So, the pot continues to grow!



December Super Citizen Presenters

| | | |
|---------------|---------|----------------|
| Dec 18 @ 2:30 | MPB | Jim VanderKamp |
| Dec 20 @ 1:00 | McMeen | Dave Peck |
| Dec 21 @ 3:00 | Bradley | Jon Wachter |

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2018-2019 41st Year — Chartered in 1976
See the Online Calendar @ <http://www.monacosouth.org/Events/Calendar>

SIGN UP: The OCMS Christmas Tree Lot & Santa Haus is OPEN at Villa Monaco, 2223 S. Monaco Pkwy.

Dec 20 Thurs 6:15 pm OCMS Board Meeting, Councilwomen Black's Office, 3540 S. Poplar St, Ste. 100 lower level
 Dec 21 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: Annual Santa's Gift (White Elephant) Exchange
 Dec 22 Sat 8:00 am Christmas Basket Delivery, American Legion Hall
Dec 25 Tues MERRY CHRISTMAS
 Dec 28 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Jan 1 Tues The start of 2019 — HAPPY NEW YEAR
 Jan 4 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: Karl Geil, The Brain Bowl is Coming
 Jan 11 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
 Jan 12 Sat 7:00 am Brain Bowl Central, Heritage High School, 1401 W. Geddes Ave., Littleton, CO
 Jan 18 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day

2018 - 2019 Officers

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| President | Everett Gardner | 949-246-0984 |
| Vice President | Steve Kady | 303-931-1470 |
| Vice President | Bob Meyer | 303-814-5990 |
| Secretary | James Dockter | 605-216-7799 |
| Treasurer | Greg Young | 303-759-3921 |

2018 - 2019 Board of Directors

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Ken Duffy | 303-880-5072 |
| Tom Glazier | 303-522-5214 |
| Noel Hasselgren | 303-475-7125 |
| Jack Kleinheksel | 720-938-1760 |
| Tom Kramis | 303-917-5299 |
| Dan Rodriguez | 303-521-5120 |
| John Stoffel | 720-837-3013 |
| Robert Wardlaw | 303-525-2532 |
| Jim Easton (Past Pres.) | 720-987-7684 |

Past Presidents

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------|------------------|---------|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|
| Bob Rhue | 1976-77 | Lupe Salinas | 1988-89 | Stan Cohen | 2000-01 | Paul Simon | 2012-13 |
| Jerry Whitlow | 1977-78 | Bob Avery | 1989-90 | Don St. John | 2001-02 | Jon Wachter | 2013-14 |
| Bill Kosena | 1978-79 | Bill Litchfield | 1990-91 | Jack Rife | 2002-03 | John Oss | 2014-15 |
| Duane Wehrer | 1979-80 | Bill Walters | 1991-92 | Karl Geil | 2003-04 | Michael Chavez | 2015-16 |
| Curt Jefferies | 1980-81 | Kent Gloor | 1992-93 | Bryce Slaby | 2004-05 | Craig Eley | 2016-17 |
| Frank Middleton | 1981-82 | Gary Strowbridge | 1993-94 | Donlie Smith | 2005-06 | Jim Easton | 2017-18 |
| John Young | 1982-83 | Mark Metevia | 1994-95 | Paul Bernard | 2006-07 | | |
| Pat Bush | 1983-84 | Bob Safe | 1995-96 | Greg Young | 2007-08 | | |
| Bob Hugo | 1984-85 | Tom Overton | 1996-97 | Phil Perington | 2008-09 | | |
| Tom Mauro | 1985-86 | Peter Dimond | 1997-98 | Ron Cisco | 2009-10 | | |
| Curt Lorenzen | 1986-87 | Ralph Symalla | 1998-99 | Ed Collins | 2010-11 | | |
| Oscar Sorensen | 1987-88 | Cy Regan | 1999-00 | Randy Marcove | 2011-12 | | |

Newsletter Committee

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
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| Robert Wardlaw | 303-525-2532 | rlawardlaw@gmail.com | Craig Eley | 303-758-9499 | craigceley@gmail.com |
| Phil Perington | 303-832-4578 | perington@msn.com | Greg Young | 303-759-3921 | gndyoung@comcast.net |

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Dec Paul Stratton, Jan Phil Perington, Feb George Buzick, Mar 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.