



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

December 15, 2017 – Vol. 42, 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, sitting in for George Buzick



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Good Morning Optimist

It is another unseasonably warm morning, for Friday, December 15th, but we were gathering for another Camaraderie Day meeting. Waiting to greet the men of Monaco South were official greeters **Ed Collins** and **Paul Stratton**. However, Ed kept wan-



Paul Stratton greets Bill Blunden.

dering around, trying to figure out how he was going to get his furnace working again after a



Ed Collins

power outage and Paul was seeking insight on how to connect to the Internet, since he was doing double-duty as *GUMS* editor this morning.

At left, Paul Stratton seeks assistance from Greg Young on how to connect to the Internet.

Photos Noel Hasselgren



First Bell

President **Jim Easton** called us to order promptly, and asked Past President **Jon Wachter** to deliver our invocation.

Invocation & Pledge

Jon Wachter challenged us to make your optimism come true, which can be done with your words and actions every day. He then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag of the United States of America.

From the Prez

President **Jim** let us know that **Kent Gloor** (aka Santa Claus), **Steve Kady** and **Allen Yockey** were up even earlier than normal today and got some TV and

KOA radio air time at King Soopers for the Channel 4 Toy Drive to support the Boys and Girls Clubs. See the link for CBS coverage, [CLICK HERE](#) (about 6 minutes in). Jim said thanks to Steve and his crew for setting this all up!



Target's Santa helps Stephanie Hoover and Ricky Tabuchi presenting Allen Yockey with 5 bags of toys, clothes, tech accessories, and personal items for the kids.
Photo Steve Kady



President Jim Easton with Britt Moreno, CBS Denver Toy Drive at the King Soopers, Colorado & Yale collection event.
Photos Allen Yockey



Kent Gloor (aka Santa Claus) with the KOA's Colorado Morning News crew, broadcast live from 5 – 10 a.m. at the King Soopers, Colorado & Yale.

Guests

Eldon Strong introduced his fraternity brother, Ken Hope. Ken joined us from the Centennial Rotary Club. Their club held a Christmas tree giveaway program last Saturday. They received 100 donated trees from

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*****

Guest Continued

various providers, and have 30 trees leftovers. Their club would like to give our tree lot these trees at no cost. The trees are in storage by the Arapahoe County Sheriff's dept. Another friend of Ken's, **Bob Avery**, will coordinate pickup and delivery to our lot. *Thanks to Ken and his Rotary Club!*

Dick Nickoloff introduced his guest, Honyet Phu. Dick and Honyet met at the tree lot, and Honyet left as not only a satisfied customer with a Christmas tree, but also with an invite to breakfast. He said he has been looking for an opportunity to give back to the community, and thanks for having him. Welcome! And well done Dick! Spread the news!

Stories from the Tree Lot

Steve Kady had the pleasure of making the first sale at the tree lot to Marcia Stevens on Friday, November 24th. Marcia said she has been coming the lot for years.



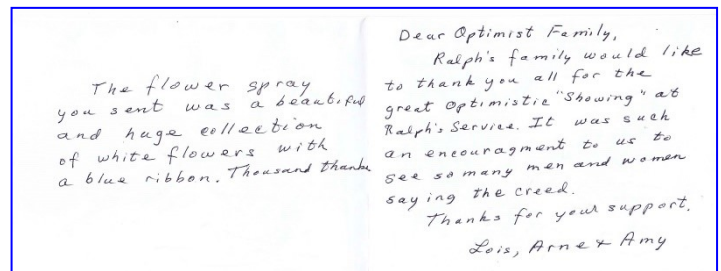
Pat Bush shared a story from Thursday night at the tree lot. Pat said a couple came in looking for a large tree. Pat and **Mike White** put the tree on the car while the gentleman was inside paying the cashier, **Ken Duff**. When Mike and Pat returned to the trailer, Ken said the check had been written for \$1,000. Pat tracked down the couple as they were driving away to be sure the check was written correctly. The man confirmed and said to Pat, *"Most certainly, what do you think I am, old?"* Pat is pretty sure Thursday was the first day in tree lot history where the club made more in tips than in sales.

Mike White said he thought he had the story of the day — he delivered a tree to a family in the Preserve and received a \$150 tip. He met the impressive family which included three football players, one of whom is the punter for the University of Alabama team, and a young woman who is a recent Harvard graduate. Alas, a \$150 tip story takes second place!

Gary Miller shared a story, saying, Brett Golie and his family came in last Friday night at the tree lot when he purchased a tree. He was interested enough in our mission that he and his son Ty came back Saturday morning and helped us in the lot. Brett and Ty were great help! Brett is interested in hearing more about our activities so he may come back and help us with the December 23rd delivery of Christmas baskets.

Thank You Notes

Jim Easton passed around thank you notes the club received. **Bill Anderson's** wife Kathy, thanked us for the donation to the OI Foundation. Lois Pedersen said thank you for the card and donation, and for the large presence and recitation of the creed at Ralph's service.



Thank You Note from Lois, Arne, and Amy Pedersen.

Announcements

White Elephant Gift Exchange: **Craig Eley** says that there will be a new Santa in town next Friday, and he will be running our white elephant gift exchange next week. Please Bring a gift of the "highest quality" next week. If you do not have one, come anyway as it is a ton of fun and there are lots of extra gifts floating around. However, this may not be a good meeting to bring spouses or children—some of the gifts can be surprising.



The Brain Bowl: **Karl Geil** reminded us again that, Christmas notwithstanding, the Brain Bowl is coming. He shared these important dates:

Reader Training Sessions:

- ⇒ 12/30/2017, 9:00 a.m., Valmont Presbyterian Church in Boulder
- ⇒ 1/2/2018, 6:00 p.m., Hamilton Middle School in Denver
- ⇒ 1/16/2018, 6:00 p.m., Heritage High School in Littleton

2018 Tournaments:

- ⇒ North Region: 1/6/2018 at Standley Lake High School in Westminster
- ⇒ Central Region: 1/20/2018 at Heritage High School in Littleton
- ⇒ South Region: 2/3/2018 at Horizon Middle School in Colorado Springs
- ⇒ Championship Tournament: 2/24/2018 at Hamilton Middle School in Denver

For additional information, [CLICK HERE](#)

TJ ArtFest and Book Sale: **Tom Glazier** wanted to pass along the news that the TJ ArtFest and Book Sale was again a huge success. The book sale raised \$960 for the PTO organization. Special thanks go out to **John Young, Craig Eley, Don Roth, and Gary Strowbridge** who helped with the set up after parking cars. However, it was all taken care beforehand, but Tom greatly appreciated the intended help.



Craig Eley's photos can be found by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Help for the Academy of Lifelong Learning: **Bob Finkelmeier** shared that Lynn Wells from Academy of Lifelong Learning, who spoke to us in August is in need of a Morning Site Coordinator. It is a paid position and details can be found by contacting Lynn, cell 303-995-9712 or email lynnwacademy@gmail.com.

Announcements Continued

King Soopers & Safeway Cards: Greg Young reports that these reloadable gift cards make great stocking stuffers. Buy your gift cards for King Soopers and Safeway from Greg Young. These cards are only \$10 initially, but can be reloaded up to \$500, and King Soopers or Safeway send us a rebate equal to 5% or 3% respectively for whatever amount you put on the card. Cards can be used for groceries, prescriptions, or gasoline. You can use them at any store owned by the chain such as Loaf N Jug, City Market, Albertson's, etc. You get full value and the Club benefits with no sweat on your part!

Give \$10 cards to your family, or as thanks to the helpers you may have, to your coworkers or employees. Bulk cards are available in any other denomination ... order from Greg with a 4-day lead-time.

Tree Lot Report: Joe Marci shared that 80 members have worked at the tree lot thus far. Last year we had 102, so those who have not been to the lot yet please come out. It is a lot of fun spending time with fellow members and getting the chance to visit. He mentioned we will be selling trees through the end of this coming week or until we are out of trees.

Joe added, that this week he made a delivery to a family that lost a 15-year-old boy recently — he passed away with heart issues. Joe brought a tree and wreath, and received hugs and "Thank You's" from the boy's twin sister. It was a very touching experience.

Holiday Food Baskets: Michael Chavez provided a reminder that we are delivery Holiday baskets next Saturday the 23rd starting at 8:00 a.m. So, if you have signed up to help, meet up at the American Legion Hall and we will brighten the day of some needy families.

Thanks to Heather Mulqueen

President **Jim Easton** led an appreciation for our breakfast food staff — Heather Mulqueen, and her

husband Steve who assists her and fills in for her periodically, by asking **John Greene** to pass around the spittoon for members to share a gratuity. A bit later in the meeting, **Greg Young** presented Heather with the club's collection and gave her a chance to thank us.



Heather shows her gratitude by sharing her thanks to all of us. As we all know, breakfast by Heather, is what gets many of us going on Friday mornings.

Photo Noel Hasselgren

Do We Have a Drawing?

In the drawing today, it was \$120, if you found the 8 of Diamonds. Kudos to **Karl Geil** and **Pat Bush** for going for the big bucks, but alas, they are none the richer (in terms of money, anyway).

Sure, thing cups, which seemed to have gotten larger with the number in the drawing for the big amount, went to **John Oss**, **Jim Easton**, our guest **Ken Hope**, **Karl Geil** (double winner!) and **Terry Shroyer**, who was also a double winner, after calling his own number!



Terry Shroyer, who always wants a guarantee, since he claims he never wins takes one of two cups this week. It is assumed the guarantee paid off, Terry! Please share your luck!

Photo Noel Hasselgren

Allen Pierce proudly showed off his nametag at the right time, however, the \$120 was not in the cards for him thought — maybe next time Allen!

Creed

Jack Kitchell rose and led our club in reciting our creed: *Promise yourself*

December Super Citizen Presenters

Dec 19 @ 2:30	MPB	Dave Peck
Dec 20 @ 1:00	McMeen	Joe Campana
Dec 21 @ 8:30	Slavens	Mark Metevia

Weekly Greeters

12/22/17	Don Roth & Mark Smith
12/29/17	Steve Kady & Phil Perington
1/5/18	A New Year, Greeters TBD

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2017-2018 41st Year — Chartered in 1976

See the Online Calendar @ <http://www.monacosouth.org/Events/Calendar>

Dec 20	Wed	6:15 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
Dec 22	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Santa's Gift Exchange
Dec 23	Sat	8:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Christmas Food Basket Delivery
Dec 25			MERRY CHRISTMAS
Dec 29	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Kids to Breakfast, with Magician Dan Rodriguez
Jan 1			HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018
Jan 5	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Julia Jung, Florence Crittenton Services
Jan 6	Sat	6:45 am	North Regional Brain Bowl, Stanley Lake HS, Westminster, CO
MARK YOUR CALENDAR, Friday, Feb. 16 — Sweetheart to Breakfast			

**Past Presidents of the
Optimist Club of Monaco South**

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

2017 - 2018 Officers

President	Jim Easton	720-987-7684
Vice President	Mike McMahon	303-514-5175
Vice President	Everett Gardner	924-246-0984
Secretary	Randy Marcove	303-667-3663
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

Harry Arkin	303-941-8800
Ken Duffy	303-880-5072
Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532
Tom Kramis	303-917-5299
Rob Gardner	720-263-6203
Wyatt McCallie	303-759-2275
Paul Stratton	303-474-4358
John Swick	720-422-2733
Craig Eley (Past Pres.)	303-758-9499

Newsletter Committee

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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
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Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	rlwardlaw@gmail.com	Craig Eley	303-758-9499	craigceley@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Nov **Robert Wardlaw**, Dec **George Buzick**, Jan **Pat Bush**, Feb **Paul Stratton**

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.