



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

December 29, 2017 – Vol. 42, Issue 13

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—George Buzick



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Good Morning Optimist

On this New Year weekend, we had a relatively small—between holi-days—crowd who was greeted by two of our tree lot stalwarts, **Steve Kady** and **Phil Perington**. The two also greeted a number of kids, who were here to



Steve Kady & Phil Perington greet us on this last meeting for 2017 with open arms.
Photo Noel Hasselgren

see the “kids to breakfast” magic show.

Invocation & Pledge

Perry Allen provided the invocation and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance, as we all reflected on the highlights of 2017 and the challenges of the new 2018 year!



From the Prez

President Jim Easton welcomed visitors, both old and young, and asked for members to introduce their guests.

Jim then reflected on the successes of 2017, especially the Christmas Tree Lot, and thanked **Joe Marci** for having done yet another outstanding job of planning, organizing, and directing the operations of this year's enterprise.

With the month coming to a close, Jim said we had forgotten to honor those whose birthdays were in October, November and December and asked **Antonia** (Joe Marci's granddaughter) to lead us in the singing of the 1893 classic “Happy Birthday to You.” In spite of Antonia's excellent lead, that which followed was the same old cacophony of sound, that possibly resembled. But it is the thought that counts!

OCTOBER BD's: John Bamford, James Dockter, Tom Glazier, Ron Gustas, Cap Hermann, Ed Leuty, Allen Malask, Tim Settle, Matt Spampinato, John Swick, Robert Trout, Robert Wardlaw, and Dick Zolman.

NOVEMBER BD's: Mark Andringa, Joe Campa-na, Michael Chavez, Jack Kitchell, Mike McMahon, Tom Overton, Jack Rife, Don Roth, Alan Russell, Mark Smith, Steve Wera, and Brian Williams.

DECEMBER BD's: Harry Arkin, Aaron Beery, Curtis Boell, Ron Cisco, Robert DeSpain, Robert Gardner, Noel Hasselgren, Bob Meyer, Kurt Siebold, and Mark Westlund.



Welcome Kids!

In addition to **Antonia**, her sister **Gabriella** was also representing **Joe Marci**, who has five other grandchildren. Not to be outdone, **Jim VanderKamp** introduced three of his seven grandchildren, **Ed Leuty** introduced his two grandsons here all the way from Chesapeake Bay and **Gary Strowbridge** introduced **Wesley**, one of his five grandchildren. Also in the crowd was **John Young's** daughter, **Tricia**, who did not require much introduction. Several other kids showed up at the magic show after the regular meeting.



Craig Eley and Joe Marci with Antonia & Gabriella.



Gary Strowbridge with grandson, Wesley.



Jim VanderKamp with three of his grandchildren.



John Young's daughter, Tricia, Ron Cisco, John Young, Ed Leuty and his grandson.
Photos Noel Hasselgren

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

Christmas Basket Delivery: Michael Chavez



thanked those who had participated in the delivery of 42 Christmas food baskets. Since the baskets were de-

FOOD BASKETS thaw a frozen turkey, **Tom Mauro** suggested that ham would be a good substitute. This worked out very well. Once again, kudos to Safeway for joining us in this effort to share the holiday spirit with others.

Tree Lot Update: Joe Marci reported that we sold 1,266 Christmas trees this year, a few less than last year, but a very successful effort, as 84 members worked on the tree lot from the day after Thanksgiving until December 23rd. Almost 50% of the trees were sold on the two weekends of mid-December. In addition to those sold, a number of trees were donated to various Boys and Girls Clubs and other organizations in need. There were a number of comments on "Yelp," almost all of which gave us five stars and commented on the helpfulness and cheerfulness of those working the tree lot! See the Yelp posts by [Clicking Here](#).

Tree Lot Tear Down: Editor **George Buzick** and

Steve Kady reported that the final tear down of the tree lot occurred on Saturday, December 30th. Lead by **Joe Marci** and **Gary Miller**, along with **Mike White** and his son **Ryan**, **Pat Bush**, **Noel Hasselgren**, **Bob**



Photo Steve Kady

Avery, **Steve Kady**, and **George Buzick** all met in the 15-degree cold weather to put the finishing touches of the lot for this year. The sun peaked out shortly, but not enough to raise the temperature. It took more than 2 hours to for the crew to finish. After several trips to the storage facility we bid a fond farewell to this year's most excellent experience and a "Happy New Year" to each other.

The Santa Haus trailer is going to **Peter Dimond's** place. The other trailer will be going back next week to where it was stored last year, thanks to Brink's Heavy Towing.

After all was done, every one had bright red cheeks that would have put Santa to shame.

CO-WY Brain Bowl: Once again, Christmas notwithstanding, **Karl Geil** shared that "The Brain Bowl is coming." Here are these important dates:

Reader Training Sessions:

- Dec. 30, 2017, 9:00 a.m., Valmont Presbyterian Church in Boulder;
- Jan. 2, 2018, 6:00 p.m., Hamilton Middle School in Denver
- Jan. 16, 2018, 6:00 p.m., Heritage High School in Littleton

2018 Tournaments: North Region:

- Jan. 6, 2018, Standley Lake High School in West-

minster Central Region

- Jan. 20, 2018, Heritage High School in Littleton South Region
- Feb. 3, 2018, Horizon Middle School in Colorado Springs

Championship Tournament:

- Feb. 24, 2018, Hamilton Middle School in Denver

Drawing

There was a drawing! The big money was a \$140 and the card to draw was the Four of Hearts. Several of our young guests were cup and drawing winners, but nobody was able to draw the right card. **Carl Brown**, whose name was pulled for wearing his name tag, after emptying half the jar by pulling names of absent members went for it, but he too was not able to get the Christmas Bonus.



OCMS Club Policy Documents

The OCMS Club Policy Document has been updated and approved by the board. It is attached to this weeks GUMS distribution email.

Please read the policies and if there are any questions, please direct them to the Board of Directors, President, Jim Easton.

Members may suggest changes at anytime to the policies. Also for your reference are the OCMS Club Bylaws. Any change to the Bylaws requires a vote of the membership.

Kids to Breakfast Entertainment with magician **Dan Rodriguez**

After the regular meeting, **Dan Rodriguez**, MSOC member, owner of [Signarama](#), and magician extraordinaire, demonstrated his talents in the art of prestidigitiation. Much to the delight of the children (of all ages, including our members). Learn more about Dan and to see him in action visit <http://danrodriguez.com/magician.html>.

Dan included many of the children in his routines and did some fun stuff with ropes, blocks, rabbit in a hat, and others which kept the children entranced and amused trying to figure out "how did he do that?"

Thanks to Dan for sharing his talents and to all those who brought their kids and grandkids to enjoy the show.

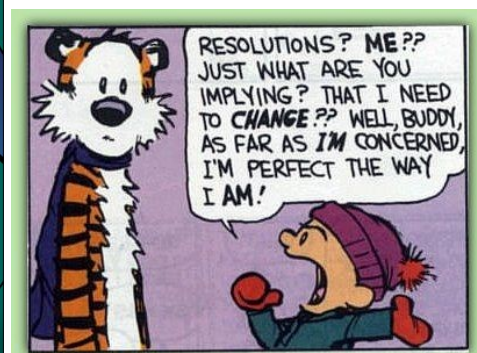


More of Dan Rodriguez and the Kids



Photos Noel Hasselgren

Christmas & New Year Humor



January Super Citizen Presenters

Jan 16 @ 2:30	MPB	Tom Kramis
Jan 25 @ 1:00	McMeen	Mike White
Jan 26 @ 3:00	Bradley	Jon Wachter

Weekly Greeters

1/5/18	Bob Avery & Jon Wachter
1/12/18	Joe Marci & Jim VanderKamp
1/19/18	Santa Claus & Al Gapuzan

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

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

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018

Jan 1			
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
Jan 12	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Jan 19	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Jan 20	Sat	6:45 am	Central Regional Brain Bowl, Heritage HS, Littleton, CO
Jan 24	Wed	6:15 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
Jan 26	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Bill Morgan, Building Violins

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

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Phil Perington	303-832-4578	perington@msn.com
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jpccinelli@earthlink.net	Paul Stratton	303-366-6375	pcstratton@comcast.net
Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rz6267@gmail.com	Pat Bush	720-254-3741	pbush@bushreese.com
George Buzick	303-803-2268	gtbuzick@comcast.net	Craig Eley	303-758-9499	craigceley@gmail.com
Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	rlwardlaw@gmail.com			

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Jan **Pat Bush**, Feb **Paul Stratton**, Mar **Phil Perington**, Apr **George Buzick**

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.