



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

December 7, 2018 – Vol. 43, Issue 10

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

This Friday morning, December 7th, is an important date in our nation's history. Today marks 77th anniversary of Pearl Harbor attack. The attack on Pearl Harbor was a surprise military strike by the Imperial Japanese Navy Air Service against the United States naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii Territory, on the morning of December 7, 1941. The attack, also known as the Battle of Pearl Harbor, led to the United States' entry into World War II. For first time, Pearl Harbor remembrance takes place without a single USS Arizona survivor present, [Click Here](#).

Additionally, earlier this week, President George H. W. Bush passed away. He was the last veteran of WWII to serve in our nation's highest office. And he was not an idle participant - [Click Here](#) for details on one of his 58 combat missions.

Our Greeters

Dick Nickoloff and Jon Wachter were up a bit ear-



Dick Nickoloff & Jon Wachter
Photo Noel Hasselgren

lier this Friday, as they braved the brisk December air to be able to greet each optimist as they arrived for our breakfast meeting. Seen in the background, just over Dick's shoulder, is **Mike Miller**, facilities manager for the Tree Lot.

First Bell, Invocation & Pledge

At the ring of the first bell, President **Everett Gardner** asks for an invocation from **Dave Peck**. Dave spoke about the opportunity for us to be promoters of patriotism, and defined patriotism as the love of country, whereas nationalism is the hatred of others. He then led our Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.



Dave Peck

Guest

Today's guest is **Frank Middleton** younger, better-looking, and wittier brother Kent Middleton. Editor, at least that is what Kent said when he took the microphone to introduce himself. Kent is visiting from Georgia and took the time to join us. Kent is a retired academic and is heading to Wyoming to visit a nephew. Thank you for coming Kent!

Announcements

Chili Cook Off at the tree lot: Only **Ron Cisco**, champion of Chili champions, can announce that the Chili Cook-off will be on Sunday, December 16th at the tree lot. The Broncos play on Saturday that weekend so watching the game will not be a conflict. **Craig Eley** will look to repeat as champion, and Ron will once again refrain from entering the contest, in the interest of giving other people a chance. So bring your best Chili for the tasting and judging.



Poinsettias are here: **Evan Easton**, **Jim Easton's** son, announcing that the poinsettia plants arrive today. If you ordered one from Evan they will be at the storage unit at the tree lot (where the bathroom is) today for you to pick up. If that does not work for you contact Evan for another delivery option.

Super Citizen Program Helper: Jim Easton



passed around the clipboard looking for presenters for Super Citizen assemblies at Most Precious Blood, Samuels, Hamilton, and McMeen. Lots of slots were filled but reach out to **Robert Wardlaw** if you did not get a chance to sign up but would like to participate. The dates are:

- ◇ Hamilton, Thursday, December 13th @ 5:30
- ◇ Samuels, Friday, December 14th @ 1:00
- ◇ MPB, Tuesday, December 18th @ 2:30
- ◇ McMeen, Thursday, December 20th @ 1:00
- ◇ Bradley, Friday, December 21st @ 3:00

If you care to join them to see what happens at a Super Citizen program, just show up.

Continued 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******

Announcements Continued

OCMS Holiday Party: Frank Middleton reminded us that the holiday party is coming up next week, Saturday, December 15th at the Cherry Creek Country Club, 2405 S. Yosemite Street. The cost is \$38 per person, with a check payable to Frank. The sign up sheet went around, but the deadline is coming up soon so sign up and/or reach out to Frank to RSVP. There will be some 1950s entertainment, featuring a jukebox!

Brain Bowl: Karl Geil let us know that the Brain Bowl registrations are coming in fast and furious. For the Central Tournament, 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 Tuesday January 8th at Heritage High School. See the Brain Bowl webpage @ www.optimistbrainbowl.org/, and see an email from Nancy DeNiro with all of the details at <https://conta.cc/2RKG4AN>.



Vienna and Budapest: Bryce Slaby and his wife are back from a trip to Vienna and Budapest. Bryce was very moved by a memorial on the Danube River remembering a horrible incident that took place in December 1944 — the Shoes on the Danube Bank. More insight can be found [Click Here](#).



Christmas Basket Delivery: Michael Chavez let us know that Holiday food baskets will be delivered on 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.



Tree Lot Update: Joe Marci reports that a record 397 trees were sold last weekend - Wow, 397! That is a big number. Last years total was 1,375 was a record season for total trees sold, however, Joe feels we will go over 1,500 this year. Joe said thanks to all and congratulations!

Tom Kramis followed Joe to the stage and said that this season will be Joe's last as the Number 1 Guy in charge. It has been 41 years for **Joe Marci** coordinating and working the tree lot, which is amazing! Tom gave a big **"THANK YOU"** and led a round of applause for Mr. Marci. *Well done Joe - the tree lot proceeds make our club run, and you have done fantastic work!*

Tom also gave a shout out to **Robert Wardlaw** and **Paul Gibson**, who both found themselves on their own for a tree lot shift. Great job by them, but if you have not signed up please come out and help so that we can avoid club members being all by their lonesome trying to help customers.

With that Tom thanked those men who have logged

20 plus hours at the tree lot so far: **Gary Miller, John Oss, Russ Paul, Phil Perington, Don Roth, Bryce Slaby, Dean Sotiriou, Gary Strowbridge, Woody Thibodeau, Paul Bernard, George Buzick, Ron Cis-co, James Docktor, Keith Gallaway, Paul Gibson, Noel Hasselgren, Mike White, Greg Young, Robert Wardlaw, Dick Nickoloff, Mark Smith, Pat Bush, Kent Gloor, Steve Kady**, and of course, **Joe Marci!**

Annual Together 4 Colorado Toy Drive: Tom



Kramis also mentioned the Channel 4 Toy Drive and passed the hat. He received an additional \$280 at the meeting, which means we have enough funds to get a discount on toys purchased at Timbuk Toys. This Thursday the 13th we will be on Channel 4 TV live from the University Hills King Soopers at Yale and Colorado delivering the toys. Be there bright and early at 5:45 a.m. if you want to participate.

Morning Program Speakers: Speaker Coordinator Extraordinaire **Paul Bernard** said that if you have an idea for a speaker for one of our meetings, contact him. Right now he is booked into February, so please plan in advance.

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.



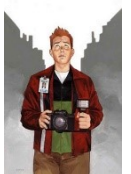
Monaco South White Elephant Gift Exchange

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 (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 don't get the perennial petrified poop paperweight!

GUMS Editor Rotation: GUMS Chief Editor announced that the following are the esteem editors of our Weekly Rag. As **Phil Perington** likes to say, they function as the *Jimmy Olsen* for the club. They are: **Paul Stratton**, Dec. 2018; **Phil Perington**, Jan. 2019; **George Buzick**, Feb.; **Robert Wardlaw**, Mar.; and **Pat Bush**, Apr. If you would like to join this rotation let **Bob Finkelmeier** know. Or if you would like to be the Chief Editor that too can be arranged.



Presidential Rants & Raves vs. Tweets

Hey Gang,

Here's this issue of GUMS "RANT AND RAVES Vs ... Tweets" for your readership. ☺

PAST ... And continuing ... A GREAT THANK YOU to all who have signed up and showed up for the Tree Lot and for all the work that is required. And thanks for your response to the 911 txt blasts sent from the Tree Lot cell phone and a strange 774-244-3048 number which allows 20's for a group test from the computer.

Sales have been and continue to exceed last year's and is headed for breaking an all-time record. This phenomena is a result of Social Media new customers looking for a Christmas tree sponsored by a Charity. Note other spots in this issue for more detail and a nice "Tip" which may have surpassed **Pat Bushes** tip of last year.

HAPPENING NOW / SOON ... Channel 4 News Toy Drive interviewing Santa and your Prez this coming Thursday morning. Elevator speech preparation currently going on. Also don't forget the Gift Exchange mentioned elsewhere herein.

FUTURE ... Board Meeting 20 December @ 6:30 p.m. ... Food / Drink starting @ 6:00. 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.

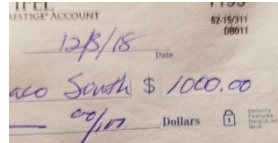
If I have slighted anyone / forgotten something, I need a DIRECT CALL / TXT / Zap BITES to me about their ISSUE. Communication is the only SOLUTION.

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

Prez Everett

Tree Sale & Donation

Steve Kady reports that the customer purchased a tree for \$103 and left a \$890.20 donation.



Prez Everett and I were floored when he gave us the check. This tip surpassed **Pat Bush's** big tip from last year.

Sharing

Phil Perington caught this picture this past week when a customers little daughter shared her candy cane with her Dad and sister.



Weekly Greeters

12/14/18	Noel Hasselgren & Eldon Strong
12/21/18	John Young & Ron Cisco

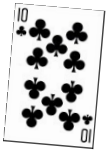
Saying our last goodbyes to Dr. Ed

Mark Metevia provided these pictures of the Interment of Dr. Ed Fankhauser at Fort Logan National Cemetery. Followed by a breakfast gathering at the Breakfast Inn—one of Dr. Ed's favorite places on Saturday with his boys.



Weekly Drawing

Today's Drawing! \$110 awaited the lucky guy who could find the 10 of Clubs last week. The "Good news" and "Bad news" for **Mark Metevia** and **Woody Thibodeau**. Their ticket was drawn but the 10 of clubs still eluded them. The cups of cold hard cash went to: **Kent Gloor, Russ Paul** (twice!), **Joe Marci, Bob Avery, and Tom Mauro**.



Allen Pierce, who ALWAYS has his nametag on, boldly reached for a card, but came up empty. And for another week, the "P(l)ot" thickens!

Closing Bell

President **Everett Gardner** sent us on our way by starting off our creed: *Promise yourself...*

They Call this Working at the Tree Lot



Brice Slaby & Al Gapuzan with Santa



Frank Ross With Santa

December Super Citizen Presenters

Dec 13 @ 5:30	Hamilton	Craig Eley
Dec 14 @ 1:00	Samuels	Bob Avery
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 14	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Dec 15	Sat	6:00 pm	Annual Holiday Party, Cherry Creek Country Club, 2405 S Yosemite St.
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

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

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Paul Stratton	303-366-6375	pcstratton@comcast.net
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	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.