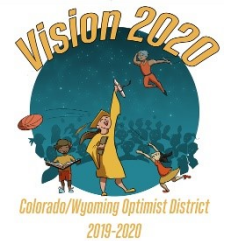




# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

November 1, 2019 – Vol. 44, Issue 5



## Optimist Club of Monaco South



**OPTIMIST**  
INTERNATIONAL

Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado  
Serving Youth and the Community for 43 Years  
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012  
[www.monacosouth.org](http://www.monacosouth.org)



**OPTIMIST**  
INTERNATIONAL

Editor for this Issue—Phil Perington

### Good Morning Optimists

Our morning began with a high spirited greeting from



John Oss & Tom Mauro  
Photos Noel Hasselgren

**John Oss** and **Tom Mauro**, both smiling and giving warm salutations to the gathering crew. We also received a reminder to ...  
**“Daylight saving time ends on Sunday—so fall back”**



### Morning Observations & Conversations

A happy and glowing **Jack Kleinheksel** said he was feeling good and on the mend, getting ready for the holidays season. While enjoying the breakfast fare **Bob Avery** and **Wyatt McCallie** were lamenting about their high school glory day weights of 175 lbs. and 160 lbs.

**John Greene** looked sharp in his bright green Monaco South shirt while **Donlie Smith** and **Tom Kramis** cruised the room in their red and sporty black chapeau's.

Treasurer **Greg Young** always the busy guy, was briskly writing checks and collecting dues.

**Ed Collins** was heard bragging about his newest grand daughter **Margo Lane Collins**, celebrating her first week of life on Earth. Soon to be new member **Larry Pulaski** was be-moaning “that damn work thing” and his cause for leaving early.

Meanwhile Johnson Club Director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Denver guest **Steve Martinez** and Girls Inc. of Metro Denver Program Director, **Charleen Ramirez-Mares**, were having a great time talking about the joy and excitement of the upcoming Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner.

**Ron Cisco** noted that even though he heard the Post Office was hiring 50,000 new seasonal personnel he had yet to hear from them.

Late arrivals included **Jim Easton**, **Allen Pierce**, and **Steve Avery**, bright eyed and ready to go.

### First Bell, Invocation & Pledge

**President Bob Meyer** starts the meeting down at 7:00 a.m. sharp, and calls on **Greg Hurd** to present the invocation, “Happiness is not achieved by surrounding our self with

constant pleasant moments but by working for the betterment of all. We win by comforting the troubles of others and giving support for those in need.” Greg follows by leading us in *The Pledge of Allegiance*, with the cry of “Play Ball” at the end.

### From the Prez

**Prez Bob** reminds us that this is All Saints’ Day, also known as All Hallows’ Day, Halloween, the Feast of All Saints, or Solemnity of All Saints, is a Christian festival celebrated in honor of all the saints, known and unknown.

He then shares of few things that happened on this date over the years like: “Black Death” reached London in 1348; Shakespeare’s “Othello” was first presented in 1604 and “The Tempest” was presented in 1611; that Seabiscuit beats 1938 Triple Crown winner War Admiral in one of the greatest match races in horse racing; KMGH Denver Channel 7 begins broadcasting in 1953; and First Class US mail raised from 18 cents to 20 cents. (From those in attendance someone recounted that **Ron Cisco** must have gotten a raise.)

**Prez Bob** then shared the November Birthdays of **Mark Andringa**, 21; **Michael Chavez**, 15; **Jack Kitchell**, 2; **Mike McMahon**, 27; **Tom Overton**, 5; **Jack Rife**, 21; **Don Roth**, 3; **Robert Ruhl**, 12; **Mark Smith**, 2; **Steve Wera**, 26; **Brian Williams**, 3; and **Jed Ziegenhagen**, 14.

**Prez Bob** welcomed back **Nick Picucci** soon to be our newest member with a round of cheers.

### Food Bank of Colorado Recognized

At the encouragement of **Prez Bob Meyer**, **Michael Chavez** presented a MSOC Thank You plaque to Food Bank of Colorado Culinary Manager and Head Chef **Paul Fisher**.



Bob Meyer & Michael Chavez recognize Culinary Manager and Head Chef Paul Fisher of the Food Bank of Colorado.

The Food Bank of Colorado has been preparing the food we serve at the Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Denver and Girls Inc. for a number of years. Michael said that when the DTC Hyatt Regency could not do it any longer he spoke to Chef Paul who not only offered to prepare the food, but to take over the purchasing of it as well. Michael also recognized **Donlie Smith** for his previous management of the dinner.

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

**OCMS Bylaws Update:** Greg Young started off asking how many have been reading **GUMS**, *Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South*. With a show of hands, he asked, "did you see that the Club's by-laws have been updated and you are encouraged to read them before we vote on them at the November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Here again [they are attached](#) and you can also find them on the GUMS distribution email, are the changes (with changes highlighted in yellow) and a copy of the [updated Bylaws in full](#). The two main changes are to incorporate wording required by OI, and to revise the election procedures as we are currently doing per our policies. Should you have questions, contact **Bob Meyer**, **Tracy Sorensen**, or **Greg Young** immediately.

**Dues are Dues:** Greg Young also reminded us that if you have not paid your 2019-2020 you need to do it ASAP. If you did not receive your dues statement see Greg so that the club can continue to operate.

**Tree Lot Update:** Tom Kramis reported the clock is ticking and there is a lot of work pending, we open on Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. Vice President **Steve Kady** has made arrangements for the Tree Lot Trailer and Santa Hauz to be moved from storage and into place this Saturday along with a dumpster and parking lot signage. He said he needs help loading tree stands onto the tow truck.

**Bradley International Super Citizen Program:** Jon Wachter said that Bradley's Super Citizen program was successful with the assistance of **Andy Towt** on photo duty while **Steve Peck** presented shirts.



**Samuels Elementary Super Citizen:** Kent Gloor followed up with Samuels Super Citizen program by saying it was a big success. He thanked **Eldon Strong** on shirt presentation and **Noel Hasselgren** on photos.

**Remarkable Story of Victoria Arlen:** Bob Avery shared the story of Victoria Arlen who he heard speaking at a recent conference. Victoria recovered from a full body shut down with the help of her mother. She is now a Para Olympics champion swimmer. At the time she could not walk but could really swim. It is a great story of determination, optimism, and redemption through a mother's love. You can view Victoria's story on YouTube by [clicking here](#).

**New Membership Directory:** Once again **Craig Eley** and **Tom Mauro** have made available a new Membership Directory. If you have not received a copy as yet, see either Craig or Tom for your copy.



**Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner Desert:** Via email Vice Prez **Steve Kady** reported that once again that **Janet Walker** owner of Fat Boys Sports Bar and Grill, 10660 E Alameda Ave, Aurora, has furnished deserts for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Denver and Girls Inc. Thanksgiving dinner. Steve reported that she was presented with a plaque and gift card for her participation. A huge Thank You to her and



Janet Walker

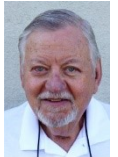
her staff for their contribution. For the past 4 years Janet and Fat Boys Sports Bar and Grill, has furnished dessert for this annual event. Steve also mentioned she plans to attend this years dinner and help serve those sweet treats.

**Channel 4 Toy Drive:** Vice Prez **Steve Kady** reminded us that the Channel 4 Toy Drive is underway and anyone wanting to help collect toys or gifts for this drive are welcome to do so. Our Santa will deliver these gifts on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 a.m., at the U-Hills King Soopers. [See the wish list here](#). Steve is working with the Retired Fire Fighters Association to help with the delivery. More details will be forthcoming.

**OC (Ocie) Larson Celebration of Life:**

Jeff Larson writes,

*We are sorry to inform you that Ocie Larson passed away on Sunday Oct 20. Six weeks ago Ocie had a bad bout of pneumonia and was just not able to recover. Pat is doing well at Cherry Hills assisted living and her phone number is 720-542-8004.*



OC Larson

*We are holding a celebration of Ocie's life on Saturday November 16 at our home at 21248 Snowshoe Lane, Parker 80138. We invite all Optimist members and their families and it is an open house format between 2-5pm. Please RSVP to Jeff Larson at 720-851-5802 if you are able to attend.*

*Please pass this along to the membership.*

*Ocie lived by the Optimist creed and thoroughly enjoyed helping with all the great causes that your club supports!*

*Best regards, Jeff Larson*

There will be no services, but his son Jeff will be holding a reception at his home on Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup> from 2 to 5 p.m. All of OC's friends and all Optimists are invited. **Joe Marci** has started a signup sheet for those interested in riding together to Parker on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Joe if interested. Or, RSVP directly to Jeff Larson at 720-851-5802.

**From Last Weeks Speaker,  
Kathleen Chandler**

*Thanks for sending your newsletter. My visit was fun! The picture you used was great. I was animated!*

*I appreciated the time you all gave me. I do hope it was informative. Sometimes the ballot issues can be controversial. I liked your balance report. Thank you for including the website.*

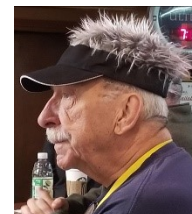
*If I can help in anyway, please don't hesitate to connect with me. The Independence Institute has many experts - I can help connect you with a specific topic or person.*

*Again, thanks!*

*Best -*

*Kathleen Chandler  
Coalitions Manager*

**An Outstanding Photo**



## Mitch Jelniker

Corporate Relations Manager at Food Bank of the Rockies

**Michael Chavez** introduced **Mitch Jelniker**, Corporate Relations Manager at **Food Bank of the Rockies** (FBR), and our other guests who joined us. **Paul Fisher**, culinary manager and head chef at the Food Bank; **Steve Martinez**, Director Johnson Boys and Girls Club; and **Charleen Ramirez**, Director of Programs, Girls Inc.



Mitch Jelniker

After the introductions, Mitch opened his presentation with a few facts of interest: FBR Semi-trucks drive the mountains on a regular basis serving small communities including many resort towns. The beneficiaries include 7% homeless and 50% kids. FBR covers both all of the state of Wyoming and service programs to 30 Colorado counties, providing food supplies for one or two meals a day. Five million dollars from partner agencies help with inventory to associate food banks.

There are many assorted reasons for skipping meals, mostly lack of funds, however. 1 in 10 adults are "food insecure" in Colorado. In the more expensive counties 1 in 8 are "food insecure." The number goes up in Wyoming.

FBR travels 135,000 miles a year delivering food to their 5 food banks across the state.

On a positive note, all area Food Bank associate senior staff meet once a month to share data and planning. In total 145,000 meals are served each day and they assist a million people each year. There are many Partners associated with FBR including 38,000 public volunteers a year, plus a 60 full-time staff.

Smaller food banks may order online and receive a delivery from FBR. Over 70 million pounds of food were delivered last year. Forty percent of FBR Big store partners will drop ship supplies as well. Fresh produce is an intricate part of the delivery process. Truckloads of produce are delivered to the FBR main warehouse for quick distribution and pick-up. FBR trucks are also identified as "Mobile Food Pantries" or a "Food island" and distributed over a wide area.

Kids need food to study well in school. Schools

send food home in back packs and is available to all students. The supplemental amounts of food offered are a "no signup" program at all mobile food tanker units. Food is distributed openly and without bias.

Top contributors to FBR are the general public. As they report, \$1 buys 4 meals. Low overhead holds down costs and increases product fulfillment FBR is a champion of fighting food waste. Mitch said 30-40% of food ends up as waste. FBR rescues 18-million pounds from

landfills and is recognized as a Top Nonprofit earning 4 stars.

Meals on Wheels mostly serves elders. FBR meal preparation consists of Paul Fisher and one other helper. 225,000 meals were prepared and distributed last year.

Grocery Companies can now donate discarded product. Dumpster recovery led to this reality. On a sad note, it is common knowledge the military discards tons of food. On a positive note, Starbucks bought a truck for FBR and donates packaged products.

As volunteering is concerned, the Boy Scouts and 9 -News are very active partners. The Boys and Girls Clubs are a beneficiary of FBR at all their metro area clubs. FBR guarantees meals are eatable and nourishing.

A big thank you to Mitch and Paul for their presentation. We hope to be of assistance in the future. And welcome them back anytime.



Left, Steve Martinez, Director, Johnson Boys and Girls Club and Charleen Ramirez-Mares, Director of Programs, Girls Inc., with Michael Chavez.

## Drawing

For the drawing this week the Lucky Card was the Three of Diamonds with \$60 in the big pot.



Cups winners were **Ed Collins**, **Jack Kleinheksel**, **Terry Shroyer**, **Bill**

**Litchfield** (who reported that this was his first win in 10 years; of course he did not mention he was not living in Denver during that time.), **Prez Bob Meyer**, and **Mike White**.

Those taking the chance to find the Lucky Card were **Greg Young** and **Jack Kleinheksel**, but both came up short. For wearing his name tag **Wyatt McCallie** got a chance to draw, but he too came up short.

## A Bit of Humor



## Weekly Greeters

11/8/19	Steve Hick & Don Roth
11/15/19	Curt Boell & Bill Blunden

**Optimist Club of Monaco South 2019-2020 43<sup>rd</sup> Year — Chartered in 1976**  
**See the Online Calendar @ <http://www.monacosouth.org/Events/Calendar>**

Nov 8	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Nov 13	Wed	1:00 pm	<b>New Date:</b> Super Citizen: Lowry Elementary
Nov 15	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Nov 18	Mon	6:15 pm	<b>Note Change</b> OCMS Board Meeting, Schlessman YMCA, 3901 E. Yale
Nov 19	Tue	2:30 pm	Super Citizen: Most Precious Blood
Nov 21	Thu	3:00 pm	Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner, Boys and Girls Club and Girls Inc.
Nov 22	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: David Schunk, Volunteers of America
Nov 22	Fri	8:00 pm	Super Citizen, Holm Elementary
Nov 22	Fri	3:00 pm	Super Citizen, Bradley International
Nov 23	Sat	9:30 am	Thanksgiving Basket Delivery
Nov 26	Tue	9:00 am	<b>TREE LOT SET UP Need Help for lot opening on Friday the 29th</b>

**2019 - 2020 Officers**

President	Bob Meyer	303-919-4532
Vice President	Steve Kady	303-931-1470
Vice President	Dan Rodriguez	303-521-5120
Secretary	Tracy Sorensen	303-886-1743
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

**2019 - 2020 Board of Directors**

Perry Allen	303-521-3453
Noel Hasselgren	303-475-7125
Jack Kleinheksel	720-938-1760
Tom Kramis	303-917-5299
Allen Malask	303-726-3700
Bill Morgan	303-868-4384
Mark Smith	303-691-9766
John Stoffel	720-837-3013
Everett Gardner (Past Pres.)	949-246-0984

**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	Everett Gardner	2018-19
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	Paul Stratton	303-366-6375
George Buzick	303-803-2268	Pat Bush	720-254-3741
Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Phil Perington	303-832-4578	Greg Young	303-759-3921

**NEWSLETTER EDITORS:** November **Phil Perington**, December **George Buzick**, January **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.