



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

November 15, 2019 – Vol. 44, Issue 7



## 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

Greetings! This morning we were blessed with the presence of **Bill Blunden** and **Curt Boell** who welcomed the gathered with warm hearted, good cheer, and “Thanksgiving spirit.”



Bill Blunden & Curt Boell  
Photos Noel Hasselgren

**Jon Wachter** was proudly handing out his new Monaco South Welcome stickers to everyone

walking in the door. Very thoughtful and a nice touch!

### Morning Observations & Conversations

Event planner and community organizer **Frank Middleton** was judiciously passing out playing cards for our monthly rearrangement seating program. You can tell from the wall clock that Frank was even early for his room rearrangement duties. While **Ron Cisco** was lamenting he not heard from the Post Office offering him one of the 50,000 seasonal jobs. Apparently all the administrative slots are already taken.



Frank Middleton

We had twin bright red shirts worn by **Bryce Slaby** and **Joe Marci**, getting a jump on the Christmas season. **Bob Avery** and **Michael Chavez** were making nice and shaking hands like long lost buddies. While **Perry Allen**, dressed in classic “butler attire,” was definitely prepared for a full session with his Evergreen and Rancho Santa Fe employers.

**Craig Eley** was bonding with **John Stoffel** and **Mike White** in deep in conversation about an angry cow reported assaulting people at a meat processing plant and also wondering if the Club was in need of new banner display stands. *Note, you will need to ask them.*

**Jack Kleinhessel** sitting by himself at table #5, stealthily slipped into a chair at table #8. Don't tell Frank!

**Allen Malask** was chortling and gloating about his recent poker winnings to **Gary Strowbridge**, who was

then asking why he would not buy him breakfast. Although coming in late, **Steve Avery** was excitedly announcing his wedding plans for August while getting humorous advise from assorted authorities. And “fun-house” **Ed Collins** could be heard laughing from all corners of the room, still excited about his new grand kids.

### First Bell, Invocation & Pledge

Returning President **Bob Meyer**, with numerous strikes at the bell gaveled the rowdy crowd together at the crack of 7 a.m. He proceeded to present the Invocation ... *“Talk health, happiness and prosperity to those who cannot do so without our help and encouragement. It is our duty to give people heartfelt words of hope, especially our youth.”* The Pledge of Allegiance followed, with hearty calls of “play ball” and high fives all around. *Optimism was alive and well!*



Prez Bob Meyer gets the morning meeting started by sharing what happened this date in history.

### Guests & Birthday

No guests were present today, but since November 15<sup>th</sup> is **Michael Chavez's** birthday, we once again sang a rendition of *Happy Birthday*, who proceeded to blow out the candles on his imaginary cake. People born on this day in November were enthralled by **Prez Bob**, who shared some important (and not so important) moments in history. For example, today is also German air force field marshal Erwin Rommel's birthday, born in 1891; as well as singer Petula Clark's (1932); and Mexican golfer Lorena Ochoa (1981), a top winner of the OI Junior Golf tournament, 1990, '91, '92, '93 and '94. As well as on this date, Christopher Columbus notes first recorded reference to tobacco in 1492; Articles of Confederation, the first constitution of the United States is approved in 1777; and in 1806 explorer Zebulon Pike (Jan. 5, 1779-Apr. 27, 1813) sights Pikes Peak.



Michael Chavez

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

**Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinners: Michael Chavez** reminded us that the Bill Walters Dinner is on Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. It is organized and ready to go in part thanks to the Food Bank of the Rockies. He asked that everyone participating be at either the Boys and Girls Clubs by 4:30 p.m., Knox Ct and Kentucky, or the Girls Club at Colfax and Julian ready to go and following the same schedule.

**Dime-A-Day: Perry Allen** reported that the Dime-A-Day program is alive and well with two members already committed to a \$365 contribution. Our Club was the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in contributions last year. He also said he will be promoting the Presidents Club Membership more aggressively and you may give your \$250 to Perry to join. **Prez Bob** has already joined. You do not have to be a past Club President to participate. Veterans memorial banner patches for three categories: Past, Present, and Deceased are available. Monaco South already has participated for a few of our members, including decorated B-24 tail gunner, **Al Perington**.

**Lowry Super Citizen: Paul Stratton** brought everyone up to date on the activities at Lowry Elementary School's latest Super Citizen program on November 13<sup>th</sup> and thanked everyone for their help and involvement.

**Two New Super Citizen Schools: Don Thomson** announced that Ellis Elementary, 1651 S Dahlia St., contact Dr. **Bob Finkelmeier** and that **Steve Kady** and **John Oss** have been working with Sabin World Elementary, 3050 S Vrain St., to get them into our program. It is hoped that both schools will have their first recipients in January 2020.

**MSOC Christmas Tree Lot: Tom Kramis**, this year's new chair, explained how he came to volunteer as new chairman and trail boss of the Tree Lot. Maybe it is because he is a natural born helper, as he described his doing so in high school promulgating a suicide prevention program. Maybe it was because his mentor and Uncle was the Pastor at a large Seattle Church that led him to service in the community. When asked, **Joe Marci** suggested it was because he had a big truck. This editor thinks it is "All the Above." Tom recognized **Mark Metevia** who finished a new flooring in the Tree Lot Trailer along with other assistance from **Cesar Camarena**. Tom also noted that two large trees have already been ordered and sold.



Mark Metevia installing a new floor in the trailer.



Cesar Camarena, on right, with Tom Kramis, after installing a new entry stair platform to the trailer. Below, a new coat of interior paint.



## Presidential Rants & Raves



There were no "Rants and Raves" the last couple of weeks, because I was helping out on the 2019 Optimist Junior Golf Tournament of Champions (TOC) at Champions Gate Golf Club in Orlando FL. While there, I also got in seven rounds of golf... a great break from the recent snow and cold weather in Colorado.

At the TOC were four golfers with ties to the Colorado-Wyoming District Optimist Junior Golf Program. Ashley Kozlowski from Highlands Ranch who shot 79-77-156 to finish T24 in the Girls' 14 – 18 age division. Carter Surofchek from Colorado Springs who shot 82-84-166 in the Boys' 14 – 15 age division, finishing in 27<sup>th</sup> place. Rylee Salome from Los Lunas NM, who has won her age division in the last two Optimist Junior Tour events at Green Valley Ranch, who shot 78-82-160 to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Girls' 11 – 13 age division. Carson Bertagnole from Casper WY shot 80-76-156 to finish T8 in the Boys' 11 – 13 age division.

There was a great turnout of Monaco South members Saturday afternoon at Jeff Larson's house, celebrating the life of **OC (Ocie) Larson**. OC passed away on Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. **Mark Metevia** showed me Jeff's basement that Mark finished based on OC's designs. There were a lot of nice architectural touches that OC incorporated into the design.

Elsewhere in today's **GUMS**, you'll see an article about the passing of Twyla Buzick, **George Buzick's** wife. All of our thoughts and prayers go out to George. Details about a celebration of life for Twyla will be made available in the coming days.

We're getting into the busy Holiday season. Please continue to check the MSOC calendar at [www.monacosouth.org/events/calendar](http://www.monacosouth.org/events/calendar). You wouldn't want to miss any of our great service projects and activities.

Coming up Thursday is the **Bill Walters' Thanksgiving Dinner** for the Boys & Girls Clubs and Girls, Inc.

Coming up the following week are set-up of the Christmas Tree lot and unloading of the first deliveries of Christmas trees.

We'll need "all hands on deck" for these activities.

We have a full cadre of Tree Lot Day Managers, so we're ready to start soliciting workers for the Tree Lot when we start selling our first trees on Friday, Nov. 30. You can sign up to work on the calendar at [http://www.msocxmas.org/xmas\\_schedule.php](http://www.msocxmas.org/xmas_schedule.php).

Optimist Dues are due! See **Greg Young**. Also, don't forget Dime-A-Day and the other OIF donor opportunities. See **Perry Allen**.

I continue to challenge all Monaco South members to bring a guest to upcoming meetings. Let's continue to grow the Club so that we can maintain, and build upon, our service projects and activities.

I also ask for your continued support as Monaco South's president. Please provide constructive criticism so that I can lead weekly Club meetings that are fun and informative.

Yours in Optimism, Prez **Bob Meyer**

**One Santa Shift Left: Craig Eley** reports that only one Santa shift is left for this season and no sooner did he say that **Steven Hick**, a Monaco South newbie signed up. Thank you, Steven! You join the ranks of many other Monaco South Santa Claus', aka, Father Christmas, Saint Nicholas, Kris Kringle, or simply Santa.



## Announcements Continued

**Twyla Buzick:** Tom Overton reported that Twyla Buzick, wife of George Buzick was not in good shape and in Hospice care at St. Anthony's. On Saturday morning it was learned from Gary Miller, as well as from Tom, that she had succumbed to kidney failure and passed peacefully on Friday evening at 6:02 p.m. Arrangements will be announced by her beloved husband and our fellow brother George.

**Thanksgiving Baskets:** Allen Pierce announced that next Saturday morning, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, we will deliver Thanksgiving Baskets starting at 8:00 a.m. If Members have never participated in this wonderful program here is your chance to have some fun and meet new families.



With food baskets in the background Allen and Jim Easton give everyone instructions.

Greg Young shared we receiving a generous donation for the baskets and then asked how many can remember if they paid their dues by raising their hands. Also, Tree Lot Day Managers are needed. You do not have to work the Lot, but just need to make sure all shifts are covered—it is the responsibility of every Manager. Four more people are needed and Al Gapuzan volunteered.

**OCMS Bylaws Revisions:** Greg Young also reported that due to some technical difficulties and some new suggested changes, the OCMS Bylaws revision will be delayed until January. It was discovered that a revision made in 2015 was not implemented by OI on the web page, so more work

is required to bring the current By Laws up to proper revision. Additionally, Tom Mauro has requested a revision to the financial audit section, so that will be incorporated. Hopefully the updated proposed Bylaws will be circulated for final review by December for vote in January.

**OCMS Club Policies:** Attached to GUMS distribution email are the Club Policies. These Policies elaborate on our Bylaws and are reviewed and updated annually by the Board of Directors. All club members should read and become familiar with the Club Policies. Any voting member desiring to change the policies is welcome to submit a change in writing to the Club President.

**Invite a Guest:** Jon Wachter asked for a show of hands by Club Members ready to hand out cards and invite folks to breakfast. Quite a few hands went up. Please see Jon if you need more invitation cards.



**Super Citizen Schools:** Robert Wardlaw. The Club's Super Citizen School overseer provide "Thank You's" to Don Thomson, Steve Kady, John Oss on bring in the new elementary schools to our "premier service project," Super Citizen Award program. Please stay alert for new schools for our Super Citizen Program. Bob Avery mentioned that his son Steven Avery is working on an alternative school, however the schools located is a bit away on E. Evans and Federal Blvd.



## Happy Bucks

At the encouragement of past Prez Craig Eley, Prez



Bob Meyer dug out the brass spittoon and announced we are going to do Happy Bucks'. At the end a total of \$55 was raised for Childhood Wellness and Cancer. Some happy stories:

- ◆ **Prez Bob:** Happy to be at the OI Championship Jr. Golf Tournament. John Daly Jr. finished 3<sup>rd</sup> and Colorado Players did well.
- ◆ **Perry Allen:** Placed \$5 into the toon' and just happy to be here.
- ◆ **Michael Chavez:** Happy it is his birthday and he could be with his Optimist pals.
- ◆ **Craig Eley:** Happy his second grandchild is aware they are living in Colorado and not in Vermont.

## Drawing

Is there a drawing? You bet with \$80 in the big pot and the lucky card is the 2 of diamonds.

Taking a cup of cash were Jack Kleinheksel who gets the hat trick with 3 wins, and John Oss, Steve Kady, and Greg Young.

Going for the Draw were Perry Allen and Prez Bob, but neither pulled the right card.

For the Name Tag draw Prez Bob Meyer pulled his on name, but was not any luckier.

## Closing Bell

Prez Bob closed the meeting by reminding everyone that the Board Meeting will be on Monday evening, November 18<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00 p.m. He also "thanked" everyone for volunteering at our events.



## Creed

Cap Hermann closed the meeting by leading us in the Optimist Creed ... *Promise Yourself, To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.*



At left, once in awhile our photographer gets an opportunity in a photo shoot. Not sure who took this shot, but Noel Hasselgren demonstrates that he can radiate the Optimist Creed!

## Weekly Greeters

11/22/19	Al Gapuzan & Allen Malask
11/29/19	George Buzick & John Young

**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 18	Mon	6:15 pm	<b>Note Change OCMS Board Meeting</b> , 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</b> Need Help for lot opening on Friday the 29th
Nov 28	Thu		<b>Thanksgiving Day</b>
Nov 29	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Tree Lot Training for Cashiers and how to signup on the schedule
Nov 29	Fri	9:00 am	<b>CHRISTMAS TREE LOT Opening Day</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.