



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

November 22, 2019 – Vol. 44, Issue 8

## 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)

Editor for this Issue—Phil Perington



**OPTIMIST**  
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### Good Morning Optimists

**Allen Malask and Al Gapuzan** were our greeters this morning. They welcomed the cold and chilly arriving members with a smile and warm handshake.

Left, Allen Malask &  
Al Gapuzan.  
Photos Noel Hasselgren



### Morning Observations & Conversations

Enjoying a big chocolate donut for his breakfast desert while imitating Don Rickles and Soapy Sales was **Tom Hoch**. While **GUMS** photographer **Noel Hasselgren** caught an unexpected **GUMS** editor in a surprise shot.

**Joe Marci** at the dais, was standing at attention waiting for the start of business. **Tom Mauro** was spotted still wearing the same orange sweater he had on at last night's Boys and Girls clubs Bill Walter's Thanksgiving Dinner. The Santa cartel of **Hoch, Collins, White, and Thomson** were busy sharing Christmas plans for the Santa hut. It was a very busy buffet this morning—Lots of hungry Optimists filled the room!



Phil Perington

### First Bell, Invocation & Pledge

President **Bob Meyer** gavelled the gathered together at 7:00 a.m. sharp and gave a big "Thank You" to everyone for coming out on this cold and icy morning. He then called on **Joe Marci** to presented the morning invocation: "As in the development of our lives, do not let us forget that the youth will take over and will retain what is good and taught them, for their own time in the development of their lives. Nurture each generation as friends and mentors." To which **Chris Duffy** commented life is a critical mass. The *Pledge of Allegiance* followed with yet another tremendous shout of "Play Ball!"

### On This Date in History

As **Prez Bob** has introduced from the start of his term, he shared some birthdays and events that occurred on this date. **Birthdays**: 1888, Tarzan of the Apes, according to author Edgar Rice Buurroughs; 1890, Charles deGaulle; 1899, Hoagy Carmichael; 1921, Rodney Dangerfield; 1943, Billie Jean King; and in 1984, Scarlet Johansson.

**Events**: 1492, Pinta separated from Christopher Columbus' fleet; 1943, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, & Chiang Kai-shek meet to discuss ways to defeat Japan; 1955, RCA records pays \$35,000 to Sun Records for Elvis Presley's contract; 1959, Boston Patriots enter AFL; 1963, John F. Kennedy assassinate in Dallas; 1990, Margaret Thatcher resigns as British Prime Minister.

**Prez Bob** also reported that yesterday we unloaded 150 trees, delivered by a sleepy over the road driver discovered snoozing in the parking lot across the street. However, the trees are now at the lot.



Photo Steve Kady

### Announcements

**Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinners**: **Michael Chavez** passed around a handmade Thank You card signed by lots of happy kids and parents who enjoyed our Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner, attended by over 625 kids and adults at the Boys and Girls club. MSOC members who took part as reported by **Ron Cisco** included, **Bob Avery, Steve Avery, Sewell Black, Curt Boell, Cesar Camarena, Michael Chavez, Ed Collins, Jim Easton, Karl Geil, Tom Glazier, Steve Kady, Tom Kramis, Bill Litchfield, Allen Malask, Tom Mauro, Bob Meyer, Gary Miller, Bill Morgan, John Oss, Nick Picucci, Allen Pierce, Phil Perington, Terry Shroyer, Oscar Sorensen, Tracy Sorensen, Paul Stratton, Gary Strowbridge, David Telpner, Jim VanderKamp, Mike White, Brian Williams, and Greg Young**.

Another 250 kids and parents were served at the Girls Inc. as well. The Dinner festivities were led by **Pat Bush, Al & Donagene Gapuzan** along with the energetic and able assistance of **Tom & Laura Hoch, Ed Leuty, Mark Metevia, Noel Hasselgren, Mark Smith, Don Roth, Robert Wardlaw, Jon Wachter and Joe Marci**. A big Thank You and round of applause filled the room.



Photos Bob Avery



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

With the recognition of this years **Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner**, **Bill Litchfield** shared that Bill had owned a



Being recognized as a MSOC past president and founder of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Denver annual Thanksgiving Dinner, Bill Walters stands before the banner that will be displayed for all future dinners. Photos Don StJohn

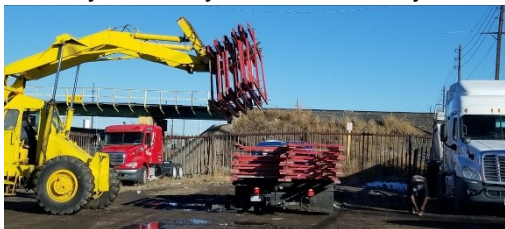


catering service and prepared all the turkeys for the inaugural dinner which he continued after the catering business closed. The Dinner has grown over the years The Food Bank of the Rockies now prepares food donated by the Club. Their superb preparation and delivery protocol has been of great service.

**So You Want to be a Tree Lot Cashier:** **Greg Young** first asked for a show of hands of those who cannot remember if they paid their dues. If you don't know, see him.

He then went on to explain there will be a cashier's training session immediately following next weeks meeting. There now is a more user-friendly cashier terminal set up this year. We are making progress with our entry into the digital universe. Greg proceeded to explain how to signup online for the tree lot—it is easy at [http://www.msocxmas.org/xmas\\_schedule.php](http://www.msocxmas.org/xmas_schedule.php)

Additionally, he said we need help with the lot setup next Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday with a Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup> our opening. We have 750 trees coming on Monday. **Steve Kady** now has the barricades setup. And he shared



this picture of the tree stands being loaded for delivery to the lot on Friday.

**Tree Lot Update:** **Tom Kramis** followed up on the tree delivery scenario by reporting that the 7:45 a.m. delivery truck showed up with 150 trees after the driver and truck were discovered sitting in the old K-Mart parking lot asleep at the wheel. The cadre of volunteers included: **Ed Collins, Noel Hasselgren, Steve Kady, Joe Marci, Mike White, Andy Towt, Prez Bob Meyer, Al Gapuzan, Henry Schonewise, Nick Picucci, and Jon Wachter**. The Tree Lot Trailer is 99% finished and the trim will be done soon. A Murphy bed is still under consideration. All "hands on deck" on Monday, Nov. 25 at 8:00 a.m. for unloading 750 Michigan trees. Then again on Wednesday, Nov, 27 another 400 Oregon trees will be arriving ... same time same place!

Friday, Nov 29<sup>th</sup> the Tamarac ladies will be setup and ready to go with tree tagging and pricing.

Santa's crew will be bringing the Santa Haus down from the North Pole at an undisclosed time. Reaffirmed we need setup volunteers next week everyday starting at 8:00 a.m. Food supplier **Ron Cisco** has assured everyone there will be ample nosh. We have permits. **Please open your emails and Read Them when Tree Lot appears in the header.**

**Thanksgiving Baskets:** **Allen Pierce** provided a "friendly reminder" that tomorrow (Saturday) is Thanksgiving basket delivery day staring at 8:00 a.m. We will partially assemble, load, and delivery to 64 need families.

**Going to Graduation:** **John Oss** shared he will be gone

on the 14<sup>th</sup> to attend his granddaughter graduation in Missouri as a teacher. Then reminded us that he meets with the University Hills Optimists on Thursday morning right here in the American Legion Hall and suggested that they could help us on some of our programs and vice versa.

**Where's Greg Hurd:** Someone asked, where Greg?

They were reminded that the Union Pacific's historic Big Boy steam locomotive No. 4014 is touring the Union Pacific system throughout 2019 to commemorate the transcontinental railroad's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. So, check the schedule at <https://www.up.com/heritage/steam/schedule/index.htm>. He may be in Kit Carson, CO.



**The Brain Bowl is Coming; the Brain Bowl is Coming!**



**Karl Geil** wants us all to know that the 2020 Optimist Brain Bowl tournaments are right around the corner. Dates and locations for the Four Tournaments and Reader Training sessions are attached to the **GUMS** distribution email.

## Pictures from the Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinners Boys & Girls Clubs & Girls Inc.



Photos by Bob Avery, Jon Wachter, and Steve Kady



**Dave Schunk**  
**President & CEO Colorado Branch Volunteers of America**

Our speaker this morning was Dave Schunk President & CEO Colorado Branch VOA, a friend and neighbor of **Bob** and **Steve Avery** and of **Ken Duffy**, and who assisted Steve with getting his job, was introduced.

Dave explains that prior to joint VOA, he was the CFO of Denver Rescue Mission and subsequently moved on to his position at VOA. The mission of VOA is to help the most vulnerable of Colorado by providing numerous interactive programs. He is a committed optimist and told his favorite joke about a guy who keeps his car running while his wife shops. A compelling video was presented showing the multi-dimensional impact of sharing food and the camaraderie generated. The bottom line being that in a world filled with uncertainty we do not need to be alone. Gathering over food through the ages has been the common denominator of spontaneous human connection. The magic of not being afraid to reach out.

About 144,000 people use VOA services for shelter and food. The Denver 20<sup>th</sup> and Arapahoe Street facility is the largest homeless shelter in Colorado. Dave stated that studies clearly show that the top 5 people shape 85% of your life. Sharing time with them is a chance at developing a relationship which is foundational to the human experience.

Dave explain that there are 57 programs available rough VOA services. With 205,205 people receiving VOA services in Colorado last year.

The 13<sup>th</sup> and Santa Fe Drive facility donated by Bill Daniels is the Veteran Service Center and the biggest shelter in Colorado. The "Meals on Wheels" program is dedicated to



Dave Schunk

serving 3,000 home bound senior's meals each day. His favorite personal story was when he delivered meal to a 103-year-old lady who always shows him her family photos and once asked him to fix a leaky sink, mentioning "How wonderful to have man in the house again." He shared. "God truly stages wonderful moments."

The Organization provides Affordable housing to seniors and the homeless trying to escape the grip poverty and drug abuse. A safe home is the savior where Stabilization begins. VOA is the largest low-income housing provider in Colorado.

VOA also administers a resurrection type program, providing personal advocates to those released from prison.

Dave told several stories with a very successful and happy endings. One specifically was of a single mother convicted of a felony 10 years ago and now out on the street and alone with a child. She became homeless because of her prison record. VOA stepped in with an assigned advocate who then successfully helped her get settled and get employed as a case management assistant at the Denver Library. She now meets with the homeless and talks to them about working with the police in a positive atmosphere. A kindhearted man, David Schunk is a very involved and resourceful fellow guiding a wonderful organization we can all be proud of.

*We welcome Dave back anytime for breakfast and camaraderie!*

More can be found about the Colorado Branch of Volunteers of America @ <https://www.voacolorado.org/>

### A Bit of Fun & Humor

**For the golfers** — from the European Tour see Billy **Jenkins** at the DP World Tour Championship in Dubai attempting to resurrect his failing career @ <https://www.youtube.com/user/Everyshotimaginable/featured>



And see what happens when you mix **Golf with Magic**. Magician Drummond William Thomas Money-Coutts, aka DMC visits the golfers on the European Tour @ <https://www.youtube.com/>

[embed/NIZ\\_bmCP7GQ](https://www.youtube.com/embed/NIZ_bmCP7GQ)

Therapist: Your wife says you never buy her flowers is that true?

Him: To be honest, I never knew she sold flowers.



The emotional support dog after I get done telling it my problems.



### Drawing

This weeks drawing was to be \$90 to the one who found the Ace of Clubs, but that was not in the cards. Both **Greg Young** and **Russ Paul** came away with zip. Cups of cash went to **Frank Middleton**, **Michael Chavez**, **Ed Collins**, **Steve Avery**, **Dick Nickoloff**, and someone else. Next week the pot is \$100.

**Pat Bush** had his chance because his name was called and he was wearing his name tag.



#### Weekly Greeters

11/29/19	George Buzick & John Young
12/6/19	Steve Kady & Michael Chavez

**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 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>
Dec 6	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Brad Appel, Wish for Wheels
Dec 6	Fri	1:00 pm	Super Citizen, Samuels Elementary
Dec 12	Thu	5:00 am	Channel 4 Toy Drive, King Soopers, 2450 S Colorado Blvd
Dec 12	Thu	9:00 am	Super Citizen, McMeen Elementary
Dec 13	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Michelle Freeman, High Line Canal Conservancy
Dec 13	Fri	8:30 am	Super Citizen, Slavens Elementary
Dec 13	Fri	5:00 pm	Christmas Party: Rhinestone Cowboy Holiday, Calvary Baptist Church, 6500 E Girard

**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.