



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

November 9, 2018 – Vol. 43, Issue 6



## Optimist Club of Monaco South



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](http://www.monacosouth.org)

Editor for this Issue—Robert Wardlaw



### Good Morning Optimist



Crisp and clear this Friday fall morning to start off this **Veterans Day Weekend**.

Are you aware, Veterans Day commemorated in many countries as Armistice Day, became known in the USA as Veterans Day and falls on November 11 annually. This date marks the cessation of hostilities of World War I, which ended on the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month of 1918 when the Armistice with Germany went into effect.

Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, marks 100 years since the end of the First World War with Armistice/Veterans Day events taking place across the globe.

Since that time, millions of Americans have answered the call to defend their nation. They include parents, children, grandparents, aunts and uncles, friends, students, neighbors and coworkers. We are enormously grateful for their service and sacrifice.

### Our Greeters

Our Greeters this morning are **Andy Towt** and **Karl Geil** filling in for **Jack Kleinheksel**.

Right, Andy Towt and Karl Geil serve as early morning greeters.  
Photo Noel Hasselgren



### First Bell, Invocation & Pledge

**President Everett Gardner** promptly rings the bell at 7 a.m. and calls on **Wyatt McCallie** to read the invocation this morning. In honor of Veterans Day, "... we pray to honor for those who protect our nation. We remember those who have laid down their lives, so we may enjoy our freedoms. Bring peace and comfort to those who are injured or disabled." Wyatt then leads us in the pledge of allegiance.

### Guests

**Dick Nickoloff** introduces his daughter in law's father, **Carl Sinder**. Carl moved to Colorado recently from Chicago and is happy to be here this morning. Welcome Carl—come and join us!

### Announcements

**OCMS Holiday Party:** **Pat Bush** standing in again for **Frank Middleton**, announced that the Holiday Party is Saturday evening, December 15<sup>th</sup>. It will be at the Cherry Creek Country Club, cost is \$38 per person and includes a London Broil steak dinner, plus a fun evening. Please sign up.

**The Brain Bowl is Coming:** **Karl Geil** announces that the Brain Bowl is Coming and it is time to mark your calendars. This year there are some difference:

1. the Central Tournament will be held first, and
2. the South Tournament will be held in a new location.

The tournament information is as follows:

- **Central Region Tournament**, Saturday, January 12  
Heritage High School  
1401 W. Geddes Ave.  
Littleton, CO 80120
- **North Region Tournament**, Saturday, January 26  
Standley Lake High School  
9300 W 104th Ave  
Westminster, CO 80021
- **South Region Tournament**: Saturday, February 2  
Challenger Middle School  
10215 Lexington Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80920
- **Championship Tournament**: Saturday, February 23  
Hamilton Middle School  
8600 E Dartmouth Avenue  
Denver, CO 80231

For those of you who plan on being **Readers**, attending a training in advance of the tournament(s) at which you will be working is required.



**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 next page

## Announcements Continued

The **Reader Training** sessions will be held:

- Saturday, January 5, 2019 9 a.m. to noon  
1325 S. Colorado Blvd.  
Room B-018 (N Bldg.)  
Denver, CO 80222
- Tuesday, January 8, 2019 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Heritage High School, rooms 2841 and 2843  
1401 W. Geddes Ave.  
Littleton, CO 80120
- Saturday, January 19, 2019 9:00 a.m. to noon  
Scott Osgood's office  
2586 Trailridge Drive East, Suite 200  
Lafayette, CO 80026

All other volunteers receive training the day of the tournament as well. For further information see <https://www.optimistbrainbowl.org/index.html>.

**Thanksgiving Dinners:** **Steve Kady** reminds us that the **Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner** is coming up November 15<sup>th</sup> at the Boys and Girls Club on 3480 W. Kentucky and Girls Inc. is at 1499 Julian St.

### **Annual Together 4 Colorado Toy Drive:**



**Steve Kady** also shared that Channel 4 has requested our Santa and the club to come to the University Hills King Soopers on Thursday morning, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 a.m. to help fill up

the toy bin. Very similar to last year. He said, "we/ Santa will be there to help unload the toys."

**Tom Kramis** joined **Steve** to make a plea for everyone to donate or buy a gift to help. Although the Club provided \$350 for toys, Steve and Tom would like to make this closer to \$1,000. Tom will collect and purchase toys until the delivery on December 13<sup>th</sup>. As Tom made this plea he received a donation from **Bob Meyer**, **John Young**, plus from our morning speaker **Tina Swonger**.

### **Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age:**

**John Scarborough** announces that the showing of **Screenagers** will be on Monday evening, November 12<sup>th</sup>, at Thomas Jefferson High School, starting at 6:30 p.m. Those attending are asked to donate \$5. This showing is sponsored by Southmoor Elementary PTO, Silicon Stem, and Optimist Club of Monaco South.



**Optimist Golf Tournament:** **Bob Meyer** tells us about the Jr. Golf Tournament of Champions held in Florida last week. Local golfer **Ryan Sang** finished 3<sup>rd</sup>, shooting 3 over par. Bob was able to fit in a few rounds himself.

**Thanksgiving Baskets:** **Allen Pierce** reminded us that Saturday a week, November 17<sup>th</sup>, the club will distribute 50 baskets for Thanksgiving. Please volunteer to take baskets to families in need so they may have a meal to celebrate Thanksgiving. We will start at about 8:00 a.m. from the American Legion Hall.

## National Diabetes Awareness Month: Ron



**Gustas** tells us November 14<sup>th</sup> is World Diabetes Day at Old Chicago restaurants! Eat out anytime throughout the day at your neighborhood Old Chicago and 15% of sales will be donated back to JDRF Rocky Mountain Chapter.

**Santa's Needed:** **Craig Eley** gives a shout for Santa volunteer shifts for the Tree Lot, only 10 spots left for this season. Craig is also a bee keeper and brought honey this morning to sell. See Craig for details.



### **Do we have a drawing?**

Yes, we do and there is \$70 in the pot and the lucky card is the 6 of Hearts.

Members holding tickets numbers this morning include **Steve Kady** who donates his cup to the Christmas toy fund, **Russ Paul**, **Terry Shroyer**, **Ed Collins** (he won a cup last week), **Steve Kady** who once again donates a second cup to the kids' presents. Your editor, **Robert Wardlaw** gets the opportunity to draw a card, but comes up short. With no pot winners the pot continues to grow.

### **Name Tag Drawing**

**Prez Everett Gardner** draws a name out of the jar—it is **Greg Hurd**. But he too does not draw the winning card.

### **Optimist Creed**

Our speaker **Tina Swonger** then leads us in the pledge. **Promise yourself ....**

### **Pictures of the Day**





## Tina Swonger Real Estate Investing

Tina Swonger is our speaker this morning. Tina has over 25 year's experience in the wonderful world of real estate and has been a resident of Colorado Springs for over 30 years, having worked during the booms and the busts.

Tina's story starts as being born in St. Louis in 1966, to a very poor family and she was exposed to a life of substance abuse and violence at a very young age. She has two younger brothers, one with special needs.

Growing up in that environment cause her to get into drinking and drugs. However, after having a child at 17 and being a single mom with little prospects, she turned her life around. She now has been sober since November 10, 1991.

When she got into real estate she made it her passion. She went on to sell her parents their first home, here in Colorado. She meet her future husband in 1997 and it was love at first sight. They have been married 22 years, they combined their families and Tina now has 5 boys.

Tina has completed over 65 fixup and flips and offers us advice on what to do and how to avoid mistakes she has made over the years. Owning property is one of the best ways to increase wealth. There are many factors to consider, especially with a market that is as hot as the metro area here in Denver.

Tina offers ideas on where to find properties including



Tina Swonger  
Photos Noel Hasselgren

lists provided by FHA, VA, and conventional loan providers. Once a property has been identified you must do your due diligence. Asking questions like, Are there liens on the property? What condition is it in, and how might the previous owners/tenants care of the property factor in on the condition?

Tina lists several instances where she believed deals were being made in good faith only to have unseen problems (sewer issues, liens, etc.) come to light and cost tens of thousands of dollars. At times, going to the closing and accepting a deal that was not what she

had hoped are costly lessons she has learned. Tina offers her services and experience to anyone hoping to take advantage of this exciting and potentially lucrative industry.

Thank you Tina, what an inspirational story—thank you for sharing your thoughts and ideas with us!



## Remembering the Centennial of World War I Armistice

**Bob Finklemeier's** nephew James P. Head, who is a noted author on the work of Howard Chandler Christy, shares this trivia. Christy (January 10, 1872 – March 3, 1952) was an American artist and illustrator, famous for the



"Christy Girl" – a colorful and illustrious successor to the "Gibson Girl" – who became the most popular portrait painter of the Jazz Age era. Christy painted such luminaries as Lt. Col. Theodore Roosevelt, and Presidents Warren G. Harding, Calvin Coolidge, Herbert Hoover,

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and Harry Truman. Other famous people he painted include William Randolph Hearst, the Prince of Wales (Edward the VIII), Eddie Rickenbacker, Benito Mussolini, Prince Umberto and Amelia Earhart.

Head writes, "*Christy made at least two versions of the 1918 poster titled, 'Gee!! I Wish I Were a Man—I'd Join the Navy.'*" According to the Federal government, these posters prompted at least 25,000 men to enlist.

Aside from Nancy Mae Palmer [Christy Conneen], three other women claim to have posed for this work: Louise Ford, Isabel Rogers [Finch], and Bernice Smith [Tongate].

In 1977, Bernice Smith [Tongate] (1897-1990) told a reporter about a heated argument she encountered in a recruiting office in 1917 which inspired this poster. Howard's iconic work became one of the most powerful marketing successes in American military history. After Bernice's 1977 interview was published, she received dozens of telephone

*calls, many from wives and relatives of the brave soldiers who died during the World War I. Nearly sixty years after the fighting stopped, they still held a profound resentment towards this beautiful poster girl. According to them, had Bernice's charming face not graced that poster—tauntingly dared them to "be a man" and join the Navy—their deceased relatives would have survived the war. With tears streaming down her face, she disclosed in 1985 that she could no longer sleep at night because of the haunting thought of those who had been enticed by her powerful message and subsequently perished; she wished she had never posed for the poster."*



### November Super Citizen Presenters

Nov 16 @ 8:15	Holm	?
Nov 27 @ 2:30	MPB	?

### Weekly Greeters

11/16/18	Don Thomson & Mike White
11/23/18	Michael Chavez & Don Roth

**Optimist Club of Monaco South 2018-2019 41<sup>st</sup> Year — Chartered in 1976**  
**See the Online Calendar @ <http://www.monacosouth.org/Events/Calendar>**

Nov 15	Thur	3:30 pm	Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner, Boys and Girls Club and Girls Inc.
Nov 16	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Nov 17	Sat	8:00 am	Thanksgiving Basket Delivery, American Legion Hall
Nov 19	Mon	9:00 am	Start: OCMS Christmas Tree Lot & Santa Haus Setup
Nov 19	Mon	6:15 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Councilwomen Black's Office, 3540 S. Poplar St, Ste. 100 lower level
Nov 22	Thur		Thanksgiving Day
Nov 23	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Nov 23	Fri		OCMS Christmas Tree Lot & Santa Haus OPENS at Villa Monaco, 2223 S. Monaco Pkwy.
Nov 30	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Dec 7	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Dec 14	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Dec 15	Sat	5:00 pm	Annual Holiday Party, Cherry Creek Country Club, 2405 S Yosemite St.

**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

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Ken Duffy	303-880-5072
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		

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**NEWSLETTER EDITORS:** Oct **Pat Bush**, Nov **Robert Wardlaw**, Dec **Paul Stratton**

**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.