



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)



February 6, 2015 – Vol. 40, Issue 19

## Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado  
Serving Youth and the Community for 39 Years  
Recognized as Outstanding Service Organization in Colorado in 2012

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

Editor for this Issue—Robert Wardlaw

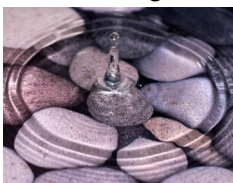


### Good Morning Optimist

On this beautiful morning of February 6th, the day that Frank Sinatra debuted on the radio show, "Your Hit Parade," in 1943, and with the sunlight peeking from the southeast we gather for another great meeting. **Gary Strowbridge**, and late greeter **Jon Wachter**, do a great job of greeting everyone this morning. Jon made up for his tardiness by going around the room making sure he gave an optimistic handshake to all.

### Invocation & Pledge

**Cy Regan** delivers the invocation this morning. The message this morning talks about the difference one person can make. It is like a pebble being dropped into a pond that creates ripples in all direction. When that ripples become a wave that reverberates, it is similar to how we act together, when we work together for our club. The resulting wave lifts up all who come in contact with us. Cy then leads us in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.



### Greet Your Fellow Optimist

Immediately after the Invocation and Pledge we are encouraged by **Prez John Oss** to greet those nearby. Here again we can see that the energy is positive and spreading, again much like the ripples of the pebble.

### From the Prez

**Prez John** brings the meeting to order. He tells us to focus our efforts this month on bringing in new potential members, who can enjoy \$30 off the cost of annual membership if they join during February. He also mentions, "... today is **Cy Regan** and the club serenades him with the Birthday Song, Cy also lets the club know that today is also **Craig Eley**'s birthday. And an encore of Happy Birthday can be heard. Editor: By the way, February 6<sup>th</sup> is also Babe Ruth's, Ronald Reagan's, and Tom Brokaw's BD!



Cy Regan



Craig Eley

**Rodner Winget** changed that "optimist" to "Optimist" after the fine presentation he gave our club a year and a half ago. We "Optimists" give a lot and receive a lot. I am still pinching myself after **Jim Easton** introduced me to the club. We passed by the greeters table where Jim reached in and gave me a recent newsletter. He folded it so I could read the creed. There I had a great testimony to the excellence of our club, and a copy of the creed which I recited at the close of the meeting. **Bob Finkelmeier** was one of the many friendly guys who talked to me.

Copies of the news letters should go into the hands of all our visitors and speakers. Thanks to **Ron Cisco**, there are also information folders on the greeters table. Plus, you have been bringing copies of the "Optimist Magazine." Even if they are outdated, they are informative to visitors exposed to Optimists for the first time. Signing up goes with a national discount rate of \$30 until the end of the month. An application form is in the information folder.

Next week, remember to meet at the Citron Bistro. No meeting here at the American Legion."

### Announcements

**Super Citizen Programs:** Robert Wardlaw encourages members to become involved in this month's Super Citizen assemblies. Besides today's assembly at Holm, there are seven schools that are hosting events this month. See **Rob Gardner** or me for details on who to contact for those schools.

Wives and Sweethearts to Breakfast  
Friday, February 13 @ 7 a.m.  
Valentines Day  
Citron Bistro, 3535 S. Yosemite

Remember  
NO MEETING AT THE AMERICAN LEGION HALL

Continued on the 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

**Western Barbeque & Hoedown:** Frank Middleton is in fine form this morning and tells us about the upcoming Western Barbeque and Hoedown. To be held, Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:30 p.m. Sponsored by Monaco South, DTC, and Tamarac Optimist clubs at the Outpost Square Dance Club, 10101 East Colorado Avenue, west of South Havana, behind Lowe's. Couples and singles are invited to enjoy an evening of dancing and fine food. Barbeque Beef and Chicken, Cole Slaw, Beans, Potato Salad and Dessert. Featuring Square Dancing including instruction for beginners along with line and square dancing. The cost is \$23 per person payable by check to Frank, the evening will also feature door prizes adult beverages for a reasonable price. So prepare to trip the Light Fantastic, casual Western dress is optional, cowboy boots and hats are encouraged.

**Upcoming MSOC Election:** Oscar Sorensen tells the club that in early March elections for club officers will take place. If you are interested in becoming more involved with the inner workings, talk with Oscar.

**Wives & Sweethearts to Breakfast:** Craig Eley reminds members about next week's Sweethearts to Breakfast, at the Citron Bistro, 3535 South Yosemite. Craig has arranged for a magician to entertain guests. If you have not paid, please see Craig to square up the tab. So plan to bring you sweetheart and start the Valentine weekend off right. Cost is \$19 per person.

**Super Bowl Square:** Joe Marci announces Monaco South members win Super Bowl pool. Five Monaco South members, **Wyatt McCallie, Bob Meyer, Allen Yockey, Jack Kleinheksel, and Frank Middleton** all winning some loot. CO/WY Junior Golf also came out a winner as \$80 went towards this year's tournaments. Thanks to all who participated.

**Golf Expo:** Joe Marci also reported that for the upcoming Golf Expo the schedule is as follows:

- ♦ Friday, 10 - 1, **Sewell Black, Jim Davis, Gary Miller, & Noel Hasselgren**
- ♦ Friday, 1 - 5, **Joe Marci & John Greene**
- ♦ Saturday, 9 - 12, **Lynn Jones & John Greene**
- ♦ Saturday, 12 - 2:30, **Pat Bush & Don Thomson**
- ♦ Saturday, 2:30 - 5, **Barry Barker & Sewell Black**
- ♦ Sunday, 10 - 1, **Frank Middleton & John Stoffel**
- ♦ Sunday, 1 - 4, **Joe Marci, Nan Belme, & Dave Karchner**

Anyone who wants to volunteer please call Joe Marci @ 303-771-3748.

**Tri Star Basketball:** Michael Chavez announces Tri Star Basketball will be coming up Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. This event is open to boys and girls and is a skills competition that will test participants in shooting, dribbling, and passing. Michael needs more volunteers to help with judging, scoring, and keeping the kids going the paces. The contest will be held at the Boys & Girls Club at 8<sup>th</sup> and Inca. More volunteers are needed to run this event so please check your calendar and sign up if you can help.



**Brain Bowl:** Karl Geil announces that the Central Region Optimist Brain Bowl is over, and it was one of the smoothest, if not the smoothest, tournament we have ever had thank to our 146 volunteers. Monaco South led the volunteer effort with 37 (more than 25%) of the volunteers: **Tom Overton, John Oss, Kent Gloor, O.C. Larson, Michael Chavez, Harry Fegley, Joe Marci, Don St. John, Ron Gustas, John Greene, Paul Bernard, Pat Bush, Al Gapuzan, Russ Paul, Gary Strowbridge, Tom Glazier, Allen Malask, Mark Metevia, Craig Eley, Paul Simon** and his friend, Howard Tishlor, Nick Newey, Lee Claymore, Frank Ross, Casey Funk, Perry Allen, Don Iley, Bill Morgan, Randy Marcove, George Buzick, Frank Middleton, Greg Young, Jim VanderKamp, Bob Meyer, Allen Pierce, Phil Perington, and Karl Geil.

The South District of the Brain Bowl to be held at Horizon Middle School in Colorado Springs tomorrow. See you at 7 a.m. bright and early.

Next up is the Championship Tournament on February 21<sup>st</sup> at Hamilton Middle School.

**Special Olympic Polar Plunge:** Mike McMahon tells us that tomorrow is the big day to take a dip into Cherry Creek Reservoir for Special Olympics. Mike's sons are set to jump in with him and with temperatures in the 70's for midday; this might be the year to join him. If you have pledged please follow up with that and make your contribution. *Good luck Mike!*

**Friday Morning Breakfast:** Greg Young reminds members that the wonderful breakfast we enjoy this morning is not free. So if you are partaking in a complete breakfast, or coffee, juice, and/or roll, please pay before going through the line.

## Drawing

**President John** asks, "Do we have a drawing?"



Yes and there is a small pot this morning. Lucky ticket holders this morning include **George Buzick, Jack Kleinheksel** - twice, **Terry Shroyer, Ed Collins, and Russ Paul**, along with Prez **John Oss** as well as our guest Stephanie Villafuerte. **Craig Eley** then pulls from the plastic name tag jug and **George Buzick** name is called. Looking dapper in shirt and tie, but again is thwarted in his attempt.

## Closing with the Creed

Today's speaker, Stephanie Villafuerte, leads us in the *Optimist Creed* ... *Promise yourself*.... Go out to this beautiful day and spread the word of Optimism.





**Stephanie Villafuerte**  
Executive Director, Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center

**Mike McMahon** introduces our speaker this morning. Stephanie Villafuerte, Esq. is the Executive Director of the Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center (CLC). She commends the assembled group on the energy this morning and begins to tell the story of this group. For over thirty years, the Children's Law Center has dedicated itself to advocating for Colorado's abused and neglected children.

The CLC's mission is to *"transform the lives of abused, neglected and at-risk children through compassionate legal advocacy, education and public policy reform."*



Stephanie begins with the story of Samantha, 6 months old who died in November of 2014. After being called for a child that was unresponsive

authorities questioned the father after efforts to revive her failed. His story was inconsistent with the injuries that caused her death and he eventually confessed to causing her severe head injuries after her cries became irritating to him. As terrible as the crime of her death was, even more egregious were the sentence of probation and mandatory parenting classes the father received. The Children's Law Center seeks to protect and speak for those too young to protect and speak for themselves.

Each year social services receive over 80,000 calls of neglect or abuse of children. Of these, roughly half are



Stephanie Villafuerte

prosecuted, and of those, 10,000 children are removed from their home. The Children's Law Center works on the three "P-theory": **PREVENT**, **PROTECT**, and **PRE-PARE**.

The best way to protect children is To PREVENT abuse from occurring in the first place. The group works to implement public policy and appellate programs to create legislation and standards to assist in preventing child abuse. To PROTECT the 10,000 children who have been removed from their homes, CLC works to make sure they get the services they deserve to heal

from the trauma they have suffered. In addition, To PRE-PARE the children for life after abuse that has occurred. The group's specialists work to give children the childhoods they deserve by finding resources for extra-curricular activities, educational service, and needed life skills.

Thousands of children need help each year; the Children's Law Center receives funding from legal services they provide, from Grants and donations, and from special events. Please consider supporting this group as they perform this vital service for the neglected and abused children of our State.

More can be learned about the CLC at <http://www.rockymountainchildrenslawcenter.org/>.

**Thank you Stephanie, for the work that you do and for the important mission your group embraces.**

**Persistent Oss** shares, *"Stephanie Villafuerte gave us a very enlightening presentation. We spoke about the Tamarac club. I sent a note over to their president, Nancy DeNiro and to the Denver Tech Center Optimist president Trish Merrill. I believe she would find visiting or speaking uplifting for both her and the members. Of course I harbor the view that she would make a wonderful Optimist. She has the need to be optimistic. She is already an optimist in her approach. She could not have survived in her work if she were not. She has it in her, so we just need to change that 'optimist' to an 'Optimist'."*

Weekly Greeters	
2/13/15	Jack Kleinheksel & George Buzick
2/20/15	Bob Avery & Ralph Pedersen
2/27/15	Barry Barker & Don Thomson
Need Friday morning greeters, see Jon Wachter, 303-204-5645 or <a href="mailto:jon_wachter@msn.com">jon_wachter@msn.com</a>	

Super Citizen Presenters February		
Feb 18 @ 8:00	Highline	?
Feb 18 @ 2:30	MPB	?
Feb 20 @ 8:30	Slavens	Michael Chavez
Feb 24 @ 1:00	Samuels	Joe Marci
Feb 26 @ 1:30	McMeen	Rod Winget
Feb 27 @ 3:00	Bradley	?
Be a Super Citizen Presenter See Rob Gardner, 720-263-6203 <a href="mailto:gardnerrb@gmail.com">gardnerrb@gmail.com</a>		



Feb 13 Fri	7:00 am	Citron Bistro, 3535 S. Yosemite - Wives / Sweetheart to Breakfast
Feb 19 Thu	6:30 pm	Meeting, Legion Hall - Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
Feb 20 Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Feb 21 Sat	7:00 am	Brain Bowl Championship - Hamilton Middle School, 8600 E. Dartmouth Ave.
Feb 27 Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Cynthia York, Denver Kids Inc.
Mar 6 Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - TBA

**Past Presidents of the  
Optimist Club of Monaco South**

Bob Rhue	1976-77	Bob Safe	1995-96
Jerry Whitlow	1977-78	Tom Overton	1996-97
Bill Kosena	1978-79	Peter Dimond	1997-98
Duane Wehrer	1979-80	Ralph Symalla	1998-99
Curt Jefferies	1980-81	Cy Regan	1999-00
Frank Middleton	1981-82	Stan Cohen	2000-01
John Young	1982-83	Don St. John	2001-02
Pat Bush	1983-84	Jack Rife	2002-03
Bob Hugo	1984-85	Karl Geil	2003-04
Tom Mauro	1985-86	Bryce Slaby	2004-05
Curt Lorenzen	1986-87	Donlie Smith	2005-06
Oscar Sorensen	1987-88	Paul Bernard	2006-07
Lupe Salinas	1988-89	Greg Young	2007-08
Bob Avery	1989-90	Phil Perington	2008-09
Bill Litchfield	1990-91	Ron Cisco	2009-10
Bill Walters	1991-92	Ed Collins	2010-11
Kent Gloor	1992-93	Randy Marcove	2011-12
Gary Strowbridge	1993-94	Paul Simon	2012-13
Mark Metevia	1994-95	Jon Wachter	2013-14

**2014 - 2015 Officers**

President	John Oss	720-210-8056
Vice President	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Vice President	Don Iley	303-840-7706
Secretary	Curt Boell	303-980-1893
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

**Board of Directors**

Barry Barker	813-545-4533
Pat Bush	303-750-9409
J. R. Gieck	949-636-7614
Tom Glazier	303-522-5214
Cap Hermann	303-587-5575
Jack Kleinheksel	720-938-1760
Fred Pasternack	303-758-3754
Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384
Jon Wachter (Past Pres.)	303-204-5645

**Newsletter Committee**

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	<a href="mailto:rfinkelmeier@comcast.net">rfinkelmeier@comcast.net</a>	Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	<a href="mailto:r.pedersen2658@comcast.net">r.pedersen2658@comcast.net</a>
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	<a href="mailto:jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net">jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net</a>	Phil Perington	303-832-4578	<a href="mailto:perington@msn.com">perington@msn.com</a>
Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	<a href="mailto:rz6267@gmail.com">rz6267@gmail.com</a>	Paul Stratton	303-366-6375	<a href="mailto:pcstratton@comcast.net">pcstratton@comcast.net</a>
George Buzick	303-803-2268	<a href="mailto:gtbuzick@comcast.net">gtbuzick@comcast.net</a>	Pat Bush	720-254-3741	<a href="mailto:pbush@bushreese.com">pbush@bushreese.com</a>
Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	<a href="mailto:rlawardlaw@gmail.com">rlawardlaw@gmail.com</a>	Craig Eley	720-771-0866	<a href="mailto:craigceley@gmail.com">craigceley@gmail.com</a>

**NEWSLETTER EDITORS:** Feb **Pat Bush**, Mar **Paul Stratton**, Apr **Phil Perington**

**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.