



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)



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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

Editor for this Issue—Phil Perington



Good Morning Optimist

On this Friday before the Labor Day weekend, early morning greeters were



standup comedian **Tom Hoch** and Governor Elect **Curt Merrill**. They were being aided and abetted by **Frank Middleton**.

We were treated to a delicious breakfast buffet—only if you stopped by to make a payment to Gary Miller—of cinnamon coffee cake, fresh

watermelon slices, orange juice, Denver scrambled eggs, hash browns, gravy, and coffee or tea. Yum!

Pre-meeting Camaraderie And Observations

Conversations from the gathered included **Eldon Strong**, fresh back from Scotland, explaining his better understanding of the “Scotch-speak” as it related to describing hairy cows (Aberdeen Angus).

Joe Marci explaining to **Harry Fegley** why he needed to sign a release for the Alzheimer's Walk led to his concern about possibly losing his Jaguar in a lawsuit. Joe gave comfort and Harry signed.

Todd Olson a visiting 30+ year past member was in full glow and happy to be back among the friends and pals he has been missing. Todd is now living in Bayberry South, Delaware and has started a new Painting Company by the name of Van-Go Paint. His web site is vangopaint.com. Way to go Todd!

Perry Allen was smiling as he was getting off to a thundering start as our new Club Foundation Representative (CFR) was busily passing out Dime-A-Day Applications.

Fred Pasternack would be proud.

Gary Miller was having a pleasant morning as our new cashier and **Don St. John** was seen smiling with a contented nod of approval.

Mr. Baseball, **Tom Mauro** was sporting a snazzy purple shirt and proclaiming the ROX will have to break 63 wins if he is going to renew his tickets next year. Your Optimistic

reporter assured him there would be no problem.

Paul Stratton was seen toting a Jorge de la Rosa bobblehead box around and newest member **Chris Dunphy** was proudly wearing his Farmers Insurance shirt.

Friend of Optimist member **Everett Gardner** and **Kent “First Dude” Gloor** were exchanging stories about the Convention in Glenwood Springs, while **Les Larson** was busily thanking everyone who attended his birthday party on August 14th. The ever-dapper **Tom Glaizer** and new member **Ross Parrent** were both enjoying the morning camaraderie along with President Elect **Don Iley** and Eternal Optimist **John Young**.

Cap Hermann and Super Salesman **Cy Regan** laughing it up about who knows what. Dr. **Rob Gardner** was being congratulated for his paid advertisement that aired during the Bronco game. “Lookin’ good Doc, we hear ya brother.”

And **Scott Walker** was seen sharing a beautiful framed picture he recently rescued that was once owned by an Air Force veteran pilot who served in the 391st fighter squadron during the Korean War.

First Bell

President **John Oss** gavelled the morning into session at 7 a.m. sharp and **Keith Gallaway** presented the Invocation, “*Working for the best...*” and followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prez Report

Prez **John Oss** provided an update on the events of the Annual CO-WY Optimists District Convention held last week in Glenwood Springs. Dr. **Bob Finkelmeier** and the entire GUMS team received an award for the best Newsletter and Promotional publication. Friend of Optimist and converted regular member of MSOC, **Curt Merrill** (DTC) was sworn in as Governor for the 2015-16 Administrative year. Also, Past Distinctive Club President **Paul Simon** (2012-13) was unanimously voted in as Governor Elect for 2016-17. Past Club President **Jon Wachter** (2013-14) will serve as Lt. Governor for Zone 8. Additionally, New Club Builder and Two-Term Lt. Governor **Michael Chavez** will preside over Zones 5 & 9. A program for Club members to generate 3-new members, personally sponsored by NOW TEAM (New Optimists Welcome) member **Frank**

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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******

Middleton distributed \$700 as well.

Guests

Don Thomson introduced Dave Thompson, a lifelong schoolteacher at both the Smith and Philips Elementary Schools and subsequently in Alamosa. Dave is a former MSOC member from the 80s and was enjoying saying hello to former pals. He is now spending his time as *The Diversified Handyman*.

Tom Mauro presented Anne Rowe, the much better half of member **Frank Rowe** and current Denver School Board member. She mentioned that she went to Phillips Elementary and was proud to represent southeast Denver. Anne is now looking forward to being reelected to the DPS Board of Education.

Tom Mauro then introduced Christian Sawyer, new principle at Hamilton Middle School who passionately announced he will perform to the best of his abilities and as a native of Nashville and will sing some songs to students and family during his tenure. He is beginning his 15th year in education and stressed optimism is alive and well for the future of our schools and students. Christian noted that he has gone door to door in the neighborhoods with a student outreach effort. He then gave our Super Citizen program "a big thank you" from all the students and faculty. He also thanked **Karl Geil** who helped in donating 50 backpacks at the beginning of school year along with the MSOC School Supplies Committee Chair, **Oscar Sorenson**. The club provides a contribution for assorted materials, supplies, and gift cards.

Tom Hoch introduced Melissa Hatchett, Slavens Elementary Assistant Principle and she thanked us for all the Club support and Super Citizen awards we provide throughout the year.

Super Citizen Principals to Breakfast

Since this day was to recognize our Super Citizen Schools, **Robert Wardlaw** recapped the 30+ years of our Super Citizen Program and then asked **Don Thomson** to speak in behalf of Club volunteers and urged new members to get involved. He finished by recognizing Dr. **Bob Finkelmeier** for all his work on creating all of the certificates, and Dr. **Rob Gardner** who oversees the presenter sign-ups, and coordinates and helps keep track of volunteers and school representatives.



From left, Colleen McManamon, principal MPB; Tom Hoch; Melissa Hatchett, asst. principal Slavens; Karl Geil; Christian Sawyer, principal Hamilton; Tom Mauro; & John Oss in back.

Photo Steve Kady



Although Grant Varveris, principal University Park did not make our breakfast, **Bob Avery** emailed this photo showing the presentation of the check for school supplies.

Announcements

Help the District Governor: President Elect **Don Illy** asked for help getting new members before the end of September and helping Abigail earn the Distinguished Governor designation.

Wounded Warriors Fundraiser: **Chris Dunphy** announced a fundraiser at DTC for the Wounded Warrior Program on September 12th in the Denver Tech Center at 7395 E. Orchard Rd. The goal is to raise \$30,000.00.

MSOC Installation & Celebration: **Jon Wachter** reaffirmed the Installation Dinner to be held on September 19th and urged everyone to sign up and attend this most important and exciting event.

Dime-A-Day: **Perry Allen** fol-



lowed up his application distribution with information on how important the \$36.50 annual contribution was to the funding of OI Programs. The new cycle begins on October 1, but there is still time to participate in this years giving. **Tom Glaizer** tipped

his hat to Perry and congratulated him for carrying on Fred Pasternack's tradition of keeping MSOC #1 in Dime a Day participation throughout the entire OI Organization.

Member Directory Update: **Tom Mauro** is in the process of updating the membership directory. Please see Tom for changes in the roster. See the one being passed around or email your changes to him. You can also advertise your company and make a million dollars for a mere \$25.00. Calling card size ads are at the top of each page.

JDRF One Walk to Cure Diabetes: **Ron Gustas** welcomed members to financially support his "walking" or participate themselves as either an actual or a "virtual walker" in the upcoming September 13th JDRF One Walk to Cure Diabetes starting at 9 a.m. at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. Walk proceeds fund JDRF research seeking a cure and improved treatment options for Type 1 Diabetes. Members are welcomed to join or contribute to either Ron's Granddaughter "Ellie's Diabetes Busters" walk team [CLICK HERE](#). Tax deductible contributions can be made to either the overall team or to any individual team member. For more information on how to participate please contact Ron at 303-770-9640 or rgustas@earthlink.net.

Pat Sullivan SC Coordinator: **Donlie Smith** reflected on the recent passing of longtime member **Pat Sullivan**, Super Citizen Coordinator for Most Precious Blood Elementary and a phone call he received from Mary Jean thanking everyone for their thoughts and prayers. **John Oss** recently stopped by to see Mary Jean as well.

An Update: **Paul Simon** asked us to remember the late **Jerry Davis** for his many years of service coordinating the Super Citizen program. He also commended **Frank Middleton** for his innovative program to draw new members into the CO-WY District. Optimists who bring in 3 new members before Oct. 1st get \$100. Paul also **praised Perry Allen** for stepping into Freddy's shoes to run the club Dime-A-Day program and for the clever prop of showing 365 dimes in a jar, representing a year's participation in the program that benefits Optimist's Childhood Cancer Program. Paul reported on an excellent annual Optimist conference in Glenwood Springs and commended **Michael Chavez**, **Mike McMahon** and **Jon Wachter** for stepping up to be lieutenant governors in the coming year. **Michael Chavez** is serving in two zones in the district for the second straight year. Paul also pointed that that a number

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Announcements Continued

of New Optimist Welcome events are planned to help attract new members, including September 17th by the Front Range American Cancer Society Optimist Club, which MSOC sponsored, will be hosting a NOW membership meeting at the American Cancer Society HQ. Anyone who is available is asked to attend and help make this a successful event.

District Webmaster: Paul Simon reported that the District is in need of a webmaster—someone to take over the management of the District Web Site. Salary and benefits are negotiable. “If any!”

2015-2017 Governors Team: Governor Elect **Curt Merrill** was pleased to report he has assembled a “Fantastic Team” for next year, including the addition of **Mike McMahon** as Lt. Governor in Zone 1. This is a big commitment and we all thank Mike for his desire to be a part of the District Team. Also, the 1st Qtr. Conference will be held at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. There is \$30 early bird registration and more information will be forthcoming.

Mile Hi Optimist Club: Mike Chavez asked every-

one to please attend the Installation Dinner of Officers at the Mile Hi Optimist Club on September 15. There is no set cost, only a donation. Mile Hi is one of the first Optimist Clubs in the United States, having been chartered in 1919. MSOC is rumored to still have a few of those members relaxing in retirement somewhere in the Caribbean. The gathering starts at 5 p.m. with cocktails and music followed by a wonderful dinner and installation ceremony. Location is The Second Story Event Center-1401 W.41st Ave. (I-70 & Pecos exit south side).

Relay for Life in Canon City: Bob Avery offered another opportunity for a tax deduction by participating in a Relay for Life event in Canon City. Residents of the State Penal System will participate and raise money for Cancer patients.

Thank You Letter: President John Oss read a nice thank You letter from Hamilton Middle School.

Drawing

With \$40 in the pot and the Four of Spades to be found in the midst of three other cards, drawing-master and **Dr. Bob** explained the rules for our guests. With call of the first two tickets, **Tom Glazier** and **Ron Cisco** jumped in to draw, but only picked a losing cards. The money makers were, Wyatt McCallie, Cy Regan, Don Iley, Oscar Sorensen, Bryce Slaby, and our guest, Colleen McManamon. A wooden nickels went to **Dr. Rob Gardner** since he was not wearing his name badge. Next week we move to only three cards left.



Closing Bell & Creed

Don Thomson led the recitation of the *Optimist Creed* as the meeting came to a close.

A Bit of Humor

Groups of Americans were traveling by tour bus through Switzerland. As they stopped at a cheese farm, a young guide led them through the process of cheese making, explaining that goat's milk was used. Additionally, she showed the group a lovely hillside where many goats were grazing.

“These,” she explained, “are the older goats put out to pasture when they no longer produce.” She then asked, “What do you do in America with your old goats?”

A spry old gentleman, much like a Bryce Slaby answered, “They send us on bus tours!”

Mick & Paddy, two Irish mechanical engineers were standing at the base of a flagpole, looking up. A woman walked by and asked what they were doing.

“We’re supposed to find the height of the flagpole,” said Mick, “but we don’t have a ladder.”

The woman said, “Hand me that wrench out of your toolbox.” She loosened a few bolts, and laid the pole down. Then she took a tape measure from their toolbox, took a measurement, and announced, “Eighteen feet, six inches,” and walked away.

Paddy shook his head and laughed. “Ain’t that just like a know-it-all woman! We ask for the height and she gives us the length!” still working for the government.

Mick and Paddy are still working for the government.

Weekly Greeters	
9/11/15	John Swick & Greg Young
9/18/15	Al Gapuzan & Randy Marcove
9/25/15	Mark Metevia & Mike McMahon
Help, Help, Help — we need Friday morning greeters, see Jon Wachter, 303-204-5645 or jon_wachter@msn.com	



Sponsor a New Member

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2015-2016 40th Birthday Year — Chartered in 1976

Sept 11 Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Karen Moravek, Alzheimer's Association
Sept 17 Thur	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's Home, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
Sept 18 Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Sep 19 Sat	7:00 am	Alzheimer's Walk - See Cap Hermann
Sep 19 Sat	6:00 pm	MSOC Installation & Celebration, Piccolo's, 3563 South Monaco Parkway



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

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Sept **Phil Perington**, Oct **George Buzick**, Nov **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.