



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)



February 27, 2015 – Vol. 40, Issue 22

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—Pat Bush



Good Morning Optimist

Man is was cold this morning. How cold you might ask. As a structural engineer might say, “cold enough to freeze the nuts off a steel bridge.” However, we had the bright and eager faces of **Don Thomson** and **Barry Barker** greeting us. Barry looked a little under the weather this morning. He looked just like **Jon Wachter**.

Invocation & Pledge

Frank Middleton delivered the invocation mentioning the strength of our forefathers like George Washington who risked everything, including being branded traitors, to fight for our independence from their home country. Frank gave us reason to put a little more emphasis into our Pledge of Allegiance today.



Presidential “Atta Boys”

President **John Oss** handed out a couple of “Atta Boys” this morning. One went to **Donlie Smith** for his work over the past seventeen years organizing our participation of the Eagle Scout Awards Dinner. Donlie and the Monaco South Optimist Club started the dinner in the beginning and has presented the awards ever since. Last Friday evening by President John served as the emcee at the Eagle Scout Project Award dinner.



Additional “Atta Boys” were given to **Wyatt McCallie** and **Jack Kleinhessel** for their work on the annual essay contest for high school students.

Announcements

Brain Bowl Rescheduled: **Karl Geil** shared that the Brain Bowl Championship Tournament has been rescheduled for Saturday, March 21st at Hamilton Middle School, due to the snow storm last Saturday. This

As it turned out, they could have made it to the competition but would have been stranded at Hamilton as the weather hit with a vengeance later in the afternoon. If you can volunteer on the 21st as a reader, contact **Karl Geil**. If you will be able to work in some other capacity, you should contact **Paul Simon**. If, on the other hand, you cannot work on the 21st, you do not have to contact anyone.

Western Barbeque & Hoedown: Frank Middleton



graciously corrected this editor on the name of this event. Last week I had referred to this event as the Ho Down Square Pants but it is actually the Western Barbeque and Hoedown. I guess the difference is that they will be serving a barbeque beef and chicken dinner as well as the fun and frolic of square dancing. Frank says this is open to singles as well as doubles and detailed lessons will be given to beginners. The cost is only \$23.00 per person with a cash bar (beer and wine). Dress is casual western with cowboy boots and hats (and hopefully shirts and pants). This all happens on Saturday, April 11, at The Outpost Club, 10101 E. Colorado Avenue.

Silver Beaver Award: **Bob Avery** reminded the membership that **Donlie Smith** would be the recipient of the prestigious Silver Beaver Award for his work on the Eagle Scouts Awards Dinner. This is the highest award given to an adult scout leader. The award will be presented on Wednesday, March 18th and Bob invited any of the members who wanted to witness this special event to contact him for more information. Donlie, in turn, thanked the club for their support of the Eagle Scout Awards Dinner throughout the years.



Super Citizen Awards: Samuels had their Super Citizens awards last Tuesday. **Kent Gloor** reports that 36 students were recognized over two assemblies. He also said Samuels has recently received a large grant and will undergo remodeling

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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******

and become a science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education programs school. A new school is being built nearby and will reduce the number of students at Samuels to around 500, which is a more manageable number. McMeen was also due for a Super Citizen awards program but the Denver Public Schools had a snow day on Thursday so their Super Citizen presentation will have to be rescheduled. According to the *DPS Foundation Newsletter*, DPS' have a \$7 million grant, along with \$2.3 million match from community partners, a total \$9.3 million for STEM and Career & Technical Education (CTE) programs.

Tri-Star Basketball: Michael Chavez reports the Tri-Star Basketball competition was a huge success. It was held last Monday, February 23rd at the Boys and Girls Club at 8th and Inca. He thanked all of those who helped including **Kent Gloor, Howard Fry, Gary Miller, Allen Pierce, Ed Collins, John Greene, Bryce Slaby, Don Thomson, John Young, Greg Young, Donlie Smith, Barry Barker, and Russ Paul.**



Golf Expo: The Golf Expo was held last weekend and the Optimist Junior Golf program had a booth at the expo. **Joe Marci** says that the Colorado/Wyoming District will be sending 26 junior golfers to the international tournament in Florida later this summer. At right, **Russ Paul and John Greene** staff the Districts booth at the Expo.



Constitutional Correction: Jack Kleinheksel wanted to correct the statement in the newsletter last week that the congress had approved the constitution in 1787. Actually, the colonies had to approve the constitution and the first 14 amendments because the congress did not exist at the time. Jack was then corrected that the amendments were actually approved by the states because the colonies no longer existed at the time they were passed. Editor: Man, are we getting a refresher on history or what? Anyway, the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration reports, "On September 17, 1787, a majority of the delegates to the Constitutional Convention approved the documents over which they had labored since May." Retrieved from <http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/constitution-day/ratification.html>.



Jack Kleinheksel
Photo Don StJohn

Another interesting fact is, since the Constitution came into force in 1789, it has been amended twenty-seven times.

JDRF Gala Wine Collection: Do not forget to bring wine donations for the JDRF gala. **Dick Cohen** is collecting donations over the next several weeks. **Jack Kleinheksel** asked if they were still to be valued at \$25.00 and when answered yes he said he still did not have any but will give the case of wine that he has valued at \$25.00.



JDRF Texas HoldEm Poker Tournament: **Ron Gustas** shared that the Type 1 Diabetes Optimist is hold its first annual poker tournament on Sunday, May 17th starting a 4 p.m. The tournament will be held at Legends of Aurora Sports Grill, 13690 E. Iliff Avenue. A \$100 donation includes buffet, two drinks, and a door prize ticket. Proceeds will benefit JDRF and the American Diabetes Camp Colorado scholarships. For further details see the flyer attached to the GUMS distribution email.

St. Patrick's Day Parade: **Gary Strowbridge** is still looking for Pooper-Scoopers for the St. Patrick's Day Parade. **John Swick** told a story about how they missing the horses that they were supposed to follow until several entries had passed. They then spent half the parade route trying to catchup to the horses while scooping as they were running. John promises to be more attentive to their positioning this year. For those unfamiliar with the duties of the Pooper Scoopers, see **Tom Hoch's** 2014 documentary clip at <http://vimeo.com/10241449>.

Completely versus Finished

No dictionary has ever been able to satisfactorily define the difference between "complete" and "finished." However, during a 2012 linguistic conference, held in London, and attended by some of the best linguists in the world, Samsundar Balgobin, a Guyanese linguist, was the presenter when he was asked to make that very distinction. The question put to him by a colleague in the audience was this: *Some say there is no difference between complete and finished. Please explain the difference in a way that is easy to understand.*

Mr. Balgobins response: *"When you marry the right woman, you are complete. If you marry the wrong woman, you are finished. And, if the right one catches you with the wrong one, you are 'Completely finished.'"* His answer received a five minute standing ovation.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR
Western Barbeque & Hoedown
Saturday, April 11th at 5:30 p.m.
 \$23 per person
Outpost Square Dance Club
10101 East Colorado Avenue

Cynthia York
Senior Director Development & Marketing Communications, Denver Kids, Inc.

Don Thomson introduced Cynthia York as our guest speaker this morning. Denver Kids is a program that Don observed and was impressed with during his years at the Denver Public Schools.

Cynthia joined Denver Kids last year and is the Senior Director of Development and Marketing Communications. Denver Kids, Inc. was started in 1946 and works in partnership with the DPS. They identify and support high risk kids by providing counseling and mentoring to keep them focused on graduating high school and going on to post-secondary education. Most of the students that are in the Denver Kids program are from single parent, impoverished families. Denver Kids now have 29 full time counselors and many more volunteer mentoring positions. About 25 percent of the students benefit from having a volunteer mentor. They work with approximately 1,400 students exclusively in the Denver Public School system. The graduation rate of the students in the Denver Kids



Cynthia York
Photo Don StJohn

program is 15 percent higher than the overall graduation rate of DPS. Sixty-two percent of the Denver Kids graduates are the first high school graduates from their families.

It was also pointed out that our very own **Bill Anderson**, a ski instructor at Winter Park in a past life, had taught many Denver Kids students to ski in the past. They are always looking for volunteers to be paired up with and mentor these students. For more information or to volunteer, you can visit

www.denverkidsinc.org.



A Denver Kids mentor with his student.

Drawing Winners

The lucky winners today were **Jack Kleinhessel, Ed Collins, Carl Brown, John Stoffel, Don St. John, and Terry Shroyer** who took cup of cash and **Ron Gustas, Greg Young and Frank Ross** who

tried their luck with the house of cards but with no luck.



Weekly Greeters	
3/6/15	Noel Hasselgren & Curt Boell
3/13/15	Russ Paul & Frank Middleton
3/20/15	Tom Glazier & Allen Malask
3/27/15	Ron Cisco & Pat Bush
4/3/15	Phil Perington & John Young
4/10/15	Carl Brown & Frank Ross
Need Friday morning greeters, see Jon Wachter, 303-204-5645 or jon_wachter@msn.com	

Super Citizen Presenters March		
Mar 13 @ 9:00	Holm	Phil Perington
Mar 19 @ 5:30	Hamilton	Karl Geil
Mar 25 @ 2:30	MPB	Joe Marci
Mar 26 @ 1:30	McMeen	?
Mar 27 @ 3:00	Bradley	Mark Metevia
Be a Super Citizen Presenter See Rob Gardner, 720-263-6203 gardnerrb@gmail.com		

Mar 6	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Halisi Vinson, City Council Candidate
Mar 13	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Abigail Nicholas, Story Time with the Coach
Mar 19	Thu	6:30 pm	Meeting, Legion Hall - Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
Mar 20	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Mar 27	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Celeste Archer, National History Day in Colorado

**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: Mar **Paul Stratton**, Apr **Phil Perington**, May **George Buzick**, Jun **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.