



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

August 15, 2014 – Vol. 39, Issue 41



Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 37 Years
Recognized as Outstanding Service Organization in Colorado in 2012

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Robert Wardlaw



Good Morning Welcome & First Bell

Summer intends to go out blazing as the sun greets us all this fine morning. **Howdy Fry** and **Eldon Strong** share their enthusiasm and greet everyone as they enter the meeting area. Additionally, we have a lot of distinguished visitors today—the principals and leadership staff from our Super Citizen Schools. President **Jon Wachter** rings the bell promptly at seven and asks that we greet our neighbors with a smile and handshake—good to see everyone this morning!



Invocation & Pledge

Chaplain **Bob Coulson** delivers the invocation this morning asking for strength and guidance for all of us and the leadership staff at each of the Super Citizen Schools; asking that these ideals strengthen and guide our leaders going forward. He then leads us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

Guests

President **Jon Wachter** asks for any guests this morning and there are many.



Vince Gonzales is here this morning. Recently Vince and **Prez Jon** had been in a conversation and it was revealed that Jon is president of the Optimist Club of Monaco South. Vince mentioned that his brother in California was

an Optimist Club President, and this prompted an invitation to our club.

Bob Winterfield is also in attendance and has turned in his application. Pending vote at the next Board Meeting we will welcome him.

Ron Cisco introduced Joshua Miller, who joins us from quite a distance. Joshua is hoping to find out more about Optimist Club's are all about and ideally would love to start a club in his area. MSOC has just the man for you to work with Joshua. Ron has helped to start and build many new Optimist clubs.

Principals to in attendance: **Robert Wardlaw** intro-

duces the principals, vice principals, and principals in training that joined us this morning. They were Mary Varveris and Marti Grosberg from McMeen, Gene Boyer and Anthony Wright from Lowry Elementary, Nick Dawkins and Brad Mann from Hamilton Middle School, Steve Wera and Joy from Bradley International; Melissa Hatchett from Slavens, Erin Mack Trapanese and Cesar Rivera from Samuels, and Colleen McManamon from Most Precious Blood Catholic School. Welcome to all!

Club Announcements

Monaco South 100% Day: **Ron Cisco** tells us about the upcoming 100% day, where all who were or ever wanted to be show up and be counted. Your editor is reminded of one, **Mark Andringa** who has since gone unnoticed. Calling all hands on deck, stand up and be counted. If you have not seen a member in a while that you enjoyed seeing, call him too.



Prez Elect Back: **John Oss** is back after a month in Minnesota. John and his wife Ruthy were able to spend precious time with an ailing loved one. John also reports to have met one of the most inspiring optimists he has had the pleasure. Even though this person suffered from outward disabilities, she shone like a beacon and comforted those needing comfort. Nice to have you back!

Thanks for Peaches: **Tom Glazier** gives a shout out to Dr. **Bob Finkelmeier** and his wife Bette for bringing over some of the freshest, tastiest peaches

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Celebrate Your Optimism Gala

MARK & CHANGE YOUR CALENDAR the MSOC installation of the 2014-2015 club officers will be Saturday, September 27, 2014 at **Highlands Park Pavilion**, formally Delmonico Hall, at 3220 Federal Boulevard, across from Highland Park.

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****

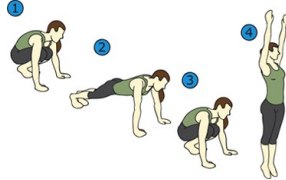
Announcements Continued

from the Western Slope many have not seen such quality in years. Your editor seconds that and cannot wait for the peach custard pie his wife makes every year with these fresh peaches. The experience is of the highest order.



Editor Robert and Leigh Ann, does this look anything like yours? If this sounds good a recipe can be found by [Clicking Here](#). Of course this is not Leigh Ann's.

Celebrate Optimism Gala: Paul Simon shouts out, the Monaco South Optimist Gala is coming up Saturday, September 27, starting at 5:30 p.m. and for the first timers, there is a deal. You will receive \$10 off yours tickets to this soiree. That is a bargain and your editor intends to check his calendar. See you then—no burpees today from Paul. Editor, "Looking around the room, a few burpees might be just what the doctor ordered."



2014 Walk to End Alzheimer's: Cap Hermann is looking for volunteers for the Alzheimer's Walk coming up on Saturday, September 20. Check your calendars and please let Cap know, cell #303-587-5575.

Monaco South Board Meeting: Prez Jon announced the next board meeting is Wednesday, August 20, starting at 6:30 p.m. Meetings are held at Councilwoman Lehmann's office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102. If you would like to see the inner workings of the club in a very comfortable setting please attend.

Sponsors - We Need You: We currently have three members who have sponsored principals of the schools we support to be Friends of Optimist (FOO). Additionally, two others are currently regular members. We need to make all 10-school principals either a regular or FOO member. If you want to sponsor a principal as a FOO member, give **Greg Young** your check for \$100 and that will get them in. If we get all remaining five principals sponsored, then we will only be five members shy of making "Honor, and possibly Distinguished Club" if **Ron Cisco** succeeds in building a new club that he is currently working on. Will you step up? Of course, we still need you to bring in young strong regular members to help grow and perpetuate the club!

University Park Picnic: Past prez **Paul Simon** finds **Jon Wachter**, **Randy Marcove**, and Sam Barley of the Academy Optimist Club, in their band *Glass Half Full* playing at the University Hills picnic at Eisenhower Park today.



Photo Paul Simon

Continued from page 3, Super Citizen School Leadership

Cesar Rivera, assistant principal at Samuels, recalls the award he earned in elementary school. How he still remembers the event and what happened. He shares that these types of events are recalled by kids the rest of their lives.

Erin Mack Trapanese, principal at Samuels talked about a student named Jose whose selection as Super Citizen gave him a sense of hope going into Middle School. Amazing what a little bit of confidence can do for a person.

Joe Marci talked about cleaning his basement recently and finding two old Super Citizen t-shirts. His son had won the award in successive years and all this time later was among treasured keepsakes that are among those that have been kept.



Colleen McManamon, principal at Most Precious Blood Catholic School talks about what a positive influence the Super Citizen Program has had at her school. They have begun to recite one line from the Optimist Creed at the end of their school announcements that happen daily.

Overall, we thank those school personnel who woke early on this Friday morning before many schools begin classes. In the blink of an eye, the summer has drawn to a close and a new school year beckons. For the Optimist Club of Monaco South this is indeed a wonderful time.

Save Sundial in Cranmer Park Concert Sunday, August 24, 2014



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ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS MONACO SOUTH NEEDS NEW MEMBERS

We need new members to achieve honor club. So bring your friends, neighbors, sons or grandsons... get them to join and receive a discount on your next year's dues. Don't forget, for only \$100, you can make them a *Friend of Optimist*, and it counts too! See Greg Young for details.

Welcome to Our Super Citizen School Leadership

Robert Wardlaw & Jon Wachter

President **Jon Wachter** welcomed our Super Citizen School leadership to our breakfast and talked about the Super Citizen Program for the new school Year.

Robert Wardlaw provided a historical overview

of the program going back to 1982 with a of three schools, Samuels, Southmoor, and Holm Elementary. Since that time, it is estimated that close to 15,000 kids have been recognized, within the 10 schools (Bradley, Hamilton, Highline Academy, Holm, Lowry, McMeen, Most Precious Blood, Samuels, Slavens, and University Park), currently participating in this "Premier Activity" sponsored by Optimist Club of Monaco South.

In sharing some highlights over the years, Mary Varveris assistant principal at McMeen Elementary told the members about a young student who struggled with school both in the classroom and socially. Having been able to turn his behavior and focus to more positive directions, he was named a Super Citizen and his emotional response was all you needed to see to understand what importance he gave to this award. He was supported at the assembly when receiving his Super Citizen Certificate and t-shirt by many of his family. Truly a wonderful story!

Melissa Hatchet, assistant principal at Slavens Elementary also had a very interesting story. She talked about a student that had severe behavioral problems as a kindergartner, having to be physically taken down the hall to the office. His behavior was very poor and it was discussed that he possibly was not ready for a normal school, but it

eventually improved. One of the signs of that improvement was him stating his desire for a goal of being named Super Citizen. Melissa also mentions how that encouragement and recognition from a source other

than parents and teachers recognizes student's for making good choices, and has a positive influence. Also special is the call she makes to families when they learn of this presentation, often overcome with emotion as they are notified that their child has been chosen.

Steve Wera principal at Bradley International presented a

plaque to our own President Jon, for his volunteer work at Bradley. Jon started an Optimist JOY club at Bradley and continues to spread the word in this young setting—making it cool to be in an Optimist crowd. Way to go Jon!

Steve also shared how the SC program gets the kids doing things right. Many times this program can be the turning point for a kid who is lacking a direction. He also mentioned the JOY club as being a way for kids to start thinking of the positive steps they can take to help themselves and others. This can make a big impact on a young person.

Dave Mann from Hamilton Middle School tells us about a student who after being recognized as a Super Citizen, mentions he feeling he is on his way in life. Somehow this award gets him to start thinking in terms of college and careers and is a stepping stone in that journey. Powerful stuff for those members listening.

Continued on page 2
School Leadership



Photos Don StJohn

Weekly Greeters

8/22/14	Gary Miller & Ralph Pedersen
8/29/14	Fred Pasternack & Tom Hoch
9/5/14	Curt Boell & Bryce Slaby
9/12/14	Bob Avery & Jim Easton

**Need Friday morning greeters,
see O.C. Larson, 303-797-7432 or
larson1942@comcast.net**

Closing Bell

And with that, Jon Wachter asks do we have a drawing? Yes and there is \$60 in the pot and the card to win is the Queen of Clubs. Lucky ticket holders this morning include **John Walsh** (twice), **Ed Collins**, **Mark Metevia**, and **Barry Barker** but no one pulled the winning card for the \$60 pot.

Optimist Creed

With the recitation of the Optimist Creed we go out to this beautiful day and spread the word of Optimism, what an inspiring meeting.

Aug 20	Wed	6:30 pm	Meeting, Legion Hall - Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
Aug 22	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - SolarCity, Chris Ebersberg
Aug 29	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Arapahoe County Sheriff, David Walcher
Sep 5	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - 100% Day—everyone needs to be present
Sep 12	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Placing Foreign Exchange Students, Deanna Foss
Sep 17	Wed	6:30 pm	Meeting, Legion Hall - Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
Sep 12	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - TBA
Sep 27	Sat	5:30 pm	MSOC Celebrate Your Optimism Gala, Delmonico Hall, 3220 Federal Blvd.

**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		

2013 - 2014 Officers

President	Jon Wachter	303-204-5645
Vice President	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Vice President	John Oss	720-210-8056
Secretary	Pat Bush	720-747-5482
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

Michael Chavez	303-960-5304
J. R. Gieck	949-636-7614
Jack Kleinheksel	720-938-1760
Mike McMahon	303-514-5175
Fred Pasternack	303-758-3754
Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384
Michael Short	970-261-6012
Scott Walker	303-803-3338
Paul Simon (Past Pres.)	303-300-9940

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	John Oss	720-210-8056	john.oss4us@gmail.com
Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rzolman691@aol.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: Aug **Robert Wardlaw**, Sept **Pat Bush**, Oct **Paul Stratton**, Nov **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.