



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

January 8, 2016 – Vol. 40, Issue 15



Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 39 Years
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012
www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton



Good Morning Optimists

On this snowy morning, **Jim VanderKamp** and **Craig Eley** greeted the MSOC men today. Thanks for the warm greetings on a very cold morning!

Comradery

If it certainly appears like we have not seen each other in awhile—after being away for three weeks for the Christmas and New Year holidays. *Happy New Year!* By the way—only 350 shopping days 'til Christmas.



Invocation & Pledge

Greg Young delivered our invocation, expressing thanks at the start of a new year, and giving a reminder to be kind to ourselves and be our own best friends. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

First Bell

President **Michael Chavez** opened the meeting and encouraged us to give our first round of warm welcomes of the New Year, to enjoying our first breakfast of the New Year, while listening to **Tom Hoch's** first joke of the new year. Two of those three things were enjoyable.

Guests

Do we have any guests? Our one guest today was



Cindy & Craig Eley
Photo Don StJohn

Craig Eley's better half, more like better 2/3's, since Cindy had to introduced herself. Craig was where else, but in the food line. Apparently Craig was too shy, or afraid, to handle the introduction. Thanks for joining us Cindy! Nice to have you with us this morning!

Installation

President **Michael Chavez** announced that new member **Chris Dunphy** stepped up to fill the vacancy on the club's board. Chris will serve as Vice President. Congratulations and thank you Chris! Chris has jumped into the club with both feet and it is great to have him with his positive energy.



Chris Dunphy
Photo Craig Eley

Prez Michael then called for new members **Robert Trout** and **Ricardo Ortiz**, and their sponsors **Greg Young** and **Craig Eley**. Robert and Ricardo were officially inducted into the Optimist Club of Monaco South and Optimist International. Welcome!



From the left, Greg Young, Robert Trout, Ricardo Ortiz, and Craig Eley.
Photo Don StJohn

From the Prez

Prez Michael let us know that **Howdy Fry** is moving to a FOO (Friend of Optimist) membership, due to multiple obligations. Therefore, we will need help filling the void as cashier at the 9 Health Fair, so please raise your hand if you are able to help. Just let Michael know of your willingness to this project on.

Announcements

Special Olympics Polar Plunge: Mike McMahon let us know that the Polar Plunge, a Special Olympics fundraiser is coming up on February 20th. Mike will once again jump in a lake, and is looking for pledges and additional jumpers. Sign up at a Friday meeting with Mike, or find more information and donate online

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 on the next page

at: <http://www.specialolympicsco.org/give/polar-plunge/> 1) Click on Aurora Polar Plunge, 2) Click on "Sponsor a Plunger," 3) Search for Mike McMahon.

Thanks you for supporting the athletes of Special Olympics Colorado.

Help a Recent Graduate: John Young announced that Karen Pasternak's grandson, Joshua, is a recent Oregon State University graduate with a B.S. physics degree and is looking to move back to Colorado. If you know of any employment opportunities that uses physics, computer science, or mathematics, please contact him or let John Young know. Joshua can be contacted at:

Joshua Montegna
386 NW 25th Street
Gresham, OR 97030
951-756-3226 or montegna.josh@gmail.com



Boy Scout Eagle Project: Bob Avery let us know that the 2015 Eagle Scout Project Judging was earlier this week at Frank Middleton's house. Three or four more projects will be judged yet today. The banquet honoring the scouts will be Friday evening, February 19th. See Donlie Smith for information on attending, see <http://www.denverboyscouts.org/> for details.

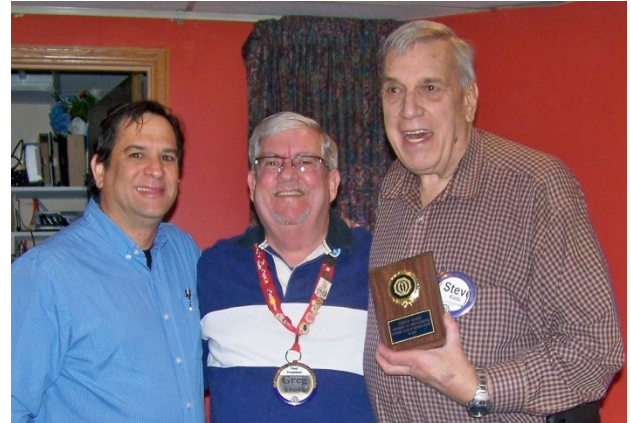
Tree Lot Closing Update: Joe Marci reports that this year was great as tree sales were 1,309, up by 245 trees over 2014. At the same time, 92 members worked 1,735 hours, Tamarac Optimists worked 54 hours, and TJ's basketball team worked 20 hours—1,809 volunteer hours in total. Additional sales included 60 stands, 50 funnels, 200 wreaths, 500 feet of garland, and 75 bunches of boughs. Thanks to all who enjoyed serving our many customers. A special thanks to all of the organizations that supported us. Joe also thanked Steve Kady and Gary Miller for help with space for the trailer and power needs.

Tree Lot Lost & Found: A pair of purple gloves and a pair of brown loafers are remaining from the tree lot lost and found. See Greg Young if these items sound familiar to you.

Wanted Speakers: Paul Bernard, chair of the Speakers Committee, said the speakers list will be updated on the website this week. If you have any speakers you would like to bring in give Paul a heads up, with contact information, etc., as soon as possible in order to manage the calendar appropriately.

Optimist of the Quarter

Prez Michael called forth Steve Kady. Steve's tireless efforts on the David Bruton book drive and the tree lot earned him the "Optimist of the Quarter" designation. Much deserved! Great recognition for Steve—many congratulations!

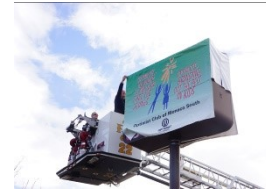


From left, Michael Chavez, Greg Young, and Steve Kady.

Photo Don StJohn



Organized a Verizon bag of books made ready for kids at the Boys & Girls Clubs, Thanksgiving Dinner.



Enlisting the assistance of Denver Firefighters from Station 22 to put up our tree lot sign.

Photos Craig Eley

Save the Date — Wives & Friends to Breakfast: Craig Eley shares, wives and friends to Breakfast—bring only one or the other—will be Friday morning, February 12, 2016. This means no meeting at the American Legion Hall that day. The price and location are not yet set, but we will be entertained by magician/comedian Brad Montgomery, who will amaze and amuse. By the way, if you do not have a wife or a friend, you are still welcome! We guarantee a good meal and a good time!

Save the Monarch Butterfly: Craig Eley is still in need of your plastic 2-liter pop bottles for a Monarch butterfly preservation project. Bring them to a meeting and Craig will gratefully find a use for them.



New Member Fee for all new Members added between December 1, 2015 and January 31, 2016

Dave Bruns, 2015-16 Optimist International



President, reminds us it will be easier for Optimists and Optimist Clubs to give the gift of Optimism to others who share our passion for helping children. In turn, it is our hope that this will strengthen our Clubs and--most of all--will result in Optimists serving even more children. In

addition, I would encourage Clubs and Members to consider giving "Friend of Optimists" memberships to family members, friends, neighbors, and co-workers who--for whatever reason--are unable to join our Clubs.

The new 2015-2016 member application is attached to the GUMS distribution email.

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)

Paul Simon

Today's speaker was our own **Paul Simon**, past MSOC president and now CO-WY District Governor elect. Paul is the Central Manager for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University of Denver.

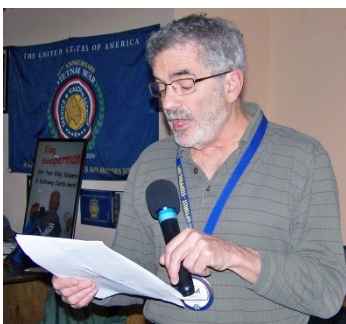
OLLI is an adult learning membership program designed for men and women age 50 and "better" that wish to pursue lifelong learning in a relaxed non-competitive atmosphere. They are proudly celebrating 20 years of providing stimulating classes at three OLLI sites in the Metro Denver area. See OLLI website @ <http://universitycollege.du.edu/olli/>.

Paul spoke of the need to get out of your house with a purpose, and seek out the learning that occurs after childhood and structured education. As people age intellectual stimulation and socialization keeps their minds healthy and helps them to handle change.

As Henry Ford said, *"Anyone who stop learning is old, whether age 20 or age 80. Anyone who keeps learning stays young."*

OLLI's classes cover academic subjects in history, music, political science, writing, literature, philosophy, science, religion, global issues, and more. Workshops and seminars expand the OLLI academic curriculum for adults. Learning centers around Denver offer workshops where members participate in interactive study groups. Topics lend themselves to practical application and keeping the brain active, such as learning a foreign language. Seminars will cover topics relevant to our member's interest and concerns.

The classes are 8 weeks, with three sessions a year. They are held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, two hours each. Registration is \$100 for unlimited classes, though some are very full and hard to get into. OLLI's slogan is *"Curiosity Never Retires."* It is a volunteer-driven or-



Paul Simon
Photo Don StJohn

ganization, and Paul is looking to add a mini-brain bowl soon.

Editors note: Many OLLI students also find opportunities to be classroom assistants and teachers—OLLI calls them facilitators. After taking a few classes of interest to them, my parents (an engineer and a nurse) are now each facilitating one class and attending another during the three yearly sessions offered.

OLLI Numbers: The current 8-week term begins January 11th. About 950 people are registered for 48 academic classes plus half a dozen interactive classes like Pilates, yoga and watercolor. In the fall term, 943 people registered for 55 classes.

The spring term, which begins on March 28, will have 60-65 classes. The catalog will be posted on the website on February 8, so those interested should act quickly at that point.

OLLI Info: OLLI Central Website—Paul is OLLI Central Manager, see <http://portfolio.du.edu/olli>. Click on "Receive OLLI emails" at the top right of the main page to be notified of spring classes and other items. To see the winter classes, go to the Classes tab and click on the Central Winter catalogA2.pdf link at the top left.

OLLI in the Media: **Fox News**, *Curiosity Never Retires for an Inquisitive, Growing Group of Seniors* @ <http://kdvr.com/2015/10/18/curiosity-never-retires-for-an-inquisitive-growing-group-of-seniors/>.

January **NewYorkTimes.com** article, *Older Students Learn for the Sake of Learning* @ http://www.nytimes.com/2016/01/02/your-money/older-students-learn-for-the-sake-of-learning.html?emc=edit_tnt_20160101&nlid=50449599&ntemail0=y&r=0

January Super Citizen Presenters

Jan 20 @ 8:00	Highline	John Oss
Jan 20 @ 2:30	MPB	Joe Marci
Jan 20 @ 3:00	Bradley	Everett Gardner
Jan 28 @ 3:00	McMeen	Joe Marci

Be a Super Citizen Presenter
See Rob Gardner, 720-263-6203
gardnerrb@gmail.com

Weekly Greeters

1/15/16	Everett Gardner & Tom Glazier
1/22/16	Gary Strowbridge & Chris Dunphy
1/29/16	Allen Malask & Ed Collins
2/5/16	John Oss & ?

Help, Help, Help — we need
Friday morning greeters,
see Jon Wachter, 303-204-5645 or
jon_wachter@msn.com

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

Jan 15	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Jan 21	Thu	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
Jan 23	Sat	9:00 am	Brain Bowl Reader Training, Heritage High School, 1401 W. Gaddes Ave., Littleton
Jan 30	Sat	6:45 am	Brain Bowl, Central Regional, Heritage High School, 1401 W. Gaddes Ave., Littleton
Feb 5	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Feb 6	Sat	7:00 am	Brain Bowl, South Regional, Horizon High School, 1750 Piros Drive, Colorado Springs



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

Bob Rhue	1976-77	Tom Overton	1996-97
Jerry Whitlow	1977-78	Peter Dimond	1997-98
Bill Kosena	1978-79	Ralph Symalla	1998-99
Duane Wehrer	1979-80	Cy Regan	1999-00
Curt Jefferies	1980-81	Stan Cohen	2000-01
Frank Middleton	1981-82	Don St. John	2001-02
John Young	1982-83	Jack Rife	2002-03
Pat Bush	1983-84	Karl Geil	2003-04
Bob Hugo	1984-85	Bryce Slaby	2004-05
Tom Mauro	1985-86	Donlie Smith	2005-06
Curt Lorenzen	1986-87	Paul Bernard	2006-07
Oscar Sorensen	1987-88	Greg Young	2007-08
Lupe Salinas	1988-89	Phil Perington	2008-09
Bob Avery	1989-90	Ron Cisco	2009-10
Bill Litchfield	1990-91	Ed Collins	2010-11
Bill Walters	1991-92	Randy Marcove	2011-12
Kent Gloor	1992-93	Paul Simon	2012-13
Gary Strowbridge	1993-94	Jon Wachter	2013-14
Mark Metevia	1994-95	John Oss	2014-15
Bob Safe	1995-96		

2015 - 2016 Officers

President	Michael Chavez	303-960-5304
Vice President	Open	
Vice President	Randy Marcove	303-840-7706
Secretary	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

Barry Barker	813-545-4533
Pat Bush	720-254-3741
Jim Easton	720-987-7684
Tom Glazier	303-522-5214
Cap Hermann	303-587-5575
Allen Malask	303-726-3700
Bill Morgan	303-868-4384
Allen Pierce	303-883-8506
John Oss (Past Pres.)	720-210-8056

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	rlwardlaw@gmail.com	Craig Eley	720-771-0866	craigceley@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Jan **Paul Stratton**, Feb **Phil Perington**, Mar **George Buzick**, Apr **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.