



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

October 7, 2016 – Vol. 41, Issue 1



Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 40 Years
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012
www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Pat Bush



Good Morning Optimist

Welcome to the start of another Optimist Year. This



At right, our official greeters, Bill Morgan and Don Roth present a motivational Friday morning greeting.
Photo Noel Hasselgren

is **President Craig Eley's** first membership meeting as President of the Optimist Club of Monaco South. **Bill Morgan** and **Don Roth** greeted us on this beautiful fall day.



First Bell

Taking over the gavel from **Michael Chavez**, new **President Craig Eley** rings the First Bell promptly at 7 a.m. to start this new year. Following normal protocol he calls on Wyatt McCallie for the morning invocation and to lead us in the pledge of allegiance to our flag.



Invocation & Pledge

Wyatt McCallie delivered the year's first invocation asking the membership to remember our mistakes of the past but not to dwell upon them then put them behind us so that we can get on the to greater achievements of the future. He then led us in the recitation of the *Pledge of Allegiance to our flag*.

Welcome Guests

We had a couple of guests at this first meeting of the year. **Joe Howard** introduced himself and said that **Joe Priester**, past CO-WY governor, had invited him to an Optimist meeting. Since Joe Howard lives here in Denver and Joe Priester lives in Colorado Springs, Joe Howard (Editor, *too many Joe's in this article*) decided to visit a club a little closer to home.

Our second guest was introduced by **John Scarborough**. He is **Ed Leuty**, John's Father-In-Law.

Welcome Joe and Ed. We hope you enjoyed breakfast and we invite you to join our club. (Editor, *as shared by new president Craig, we have many opportunities for you to share in the fun, including the Christmas Tree lot and Santa Haus.*)

Also in attendance was longtime member **Dean Sotiriou** who made an appearance. (Editor, *we would like to see you more frequently Dean.*)

October Birthday Boys

President Craig presided over his very first birthday chorus for those born in October. The lucky boys are **Neil Atkinson, John Bamford, Tom Glazier, Ron Gustas, Cap Hermann, Allen Malask, Matt Spampinato, John Swick, Bob Trout, Robert Wardlaw, and Dick Zolman**. Happy Birthday guys and we wish you well for your next year.

Optimist International Rebranding Program

During the 2016 Optimist International Convention in Quebec City, Chair of the International Marketing and Communications Committee **Nick Prillaman** introduced a new marketing and branding endeavor for Optimist International. This rebranding program includes a new official corporate logo for Optimist International.



The new logo becomes official in October 1, 2017.

[Click here to see the evolution of OI logo.](#)

Announcements

Thank You Note: It was shared that **Barb Culbertson**, wife of member **Bill Culbertson** who passed away in 2014, wrote a very nice "thank you" note for her invitation to our Fortieth Anniversary Luncheon. She particularly enjoyed the presentation of past presidents speaking about their year as club president. She said it is nice that we remembered to include the widows of members that have passed away. We also thank you, Barb, for stopping by to renew old acquaintances and letting us know how you are doing.

Super Citizen Photographers: **Wyatt McCallie** thanked all the members who volunteered to be back-

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

up photographers for our Super Citizen presentations this year. As you know, Monaco South makes Super Citizen presentations at ten different schools during the school year. We honor 800+ kids each year and take photographs of each award winner with their family and teachers. That a lot of photos! Wyatt said we now have enough photographers but said he would continue to accept volunteers who could fill in as substitute photographers on short notice. If you are interested and can skillfully operate a camera, get in touch with Wyatt. To be a presenter see **Rob Gardner**. See the SC schedule on page three.

Freddy Pasternack Bronco Foundation: **Phil Perington** reported, the bet has been made and that two hundred fifty dollars has been placed on the Denver Bronco's to win the Super Bowl. Any winnings will be donated for club projects in Freddy's name. Freddy was a diehard Bronco fan that never wavered in his support for the Broncos. He would predict that the team would make it to the Super Bowl at the beginning of every season. It wasn't unusual for Freddy to come to meetings on Friday morning dressed in Bronco gear from head to foot. He would have Bronco flags and logos on his royal blue Porsche.



Fred Pasternack
File photo

Pancake Breakfasts: The Windsor Garden Optimist Club is having their "All You Can Eat" pancake breakfast this Saturday, October 8th. **Mike McMahon** is selling tickets at \$6.00 each. He knows it is short notice but invited all members who didn't have breakfast plans to drop by and support the Windsor Gardens club. No sooner had Mike finished and **Donlie Smith** announced that Heather Gardens was having their pancake breakfast on October 8th as well. So after you have eaten all you can at Windsor Gardens, you are invited to eat all the pancakes you can over a Heather Gardens. However, it will cost you \$6.99 there.

And, More Pancakes: **Phil Perington** wanted to get in on the pancake breakfast craze. This time we will be cooking the pancakes rather than eating them. The FRACSOC (Front Range American Cancer Society Optimist Club) will be serving pancakes at the Cancer Walk next weekend. They will need cooks and servers to feed the walkers. Phil said he would have more information at this Friday's membership meeting.

Dues Time: Since this is the beginning of the new optimist year, **Greg Young** announced that membership dues are now due. He has sent out invoices to each member for their annual dues. National dues must be paid shortly so he would appreciate prompt payment from all Monaco South members. Please

help him by submitting your dues payment no later than by the end of October.

KEEP
CALM
AND
PAY YOUR
DUES

Halloween Pumpkin Patch: Boy Scout Troup 457



is having their annual pumpkin sale for Halloween. **Bob Avery** reports that their pumpkin patch is located at Greenwood Community Church, the corner of Bellevue and Holly over the next few weeks. Stop by and support the Boy Scouts by purchasing your Halloween pumpkins at their sale.

Duty to God & Country Breakfast: **Bob Avery** also reported that the Boy Scout "Duty to God and Country" breakfast will be held on November 4th at the National Western Stock Show complex. This year they will be honoring the memory of our very own **Doug Morton**. Bob will have more information about how to get tickets in the weeks to come.

Green Valley Ranch Golf Tournament: **Ron Cisco** reminded us that the golf tournament fundraiser at Green Valley Ranch Golf Club is set for next week. Funds raised will go the support the CO-WY District Optimist Junior Golf program. As you know, our partnership with Colorado Golf Association, which began just one year ago, has been a tremendous success. The CO-WY Optimist Junior Golf tournaments had over 200 participants and we will be sending some 35 to 40 kids to the International Junior Golf Tournament next year.



A Future Optimist: We are happy to announce the birth of a future optimist member. **Allen Pierce** and his wife **Amy** just delivered a baby boy on Sunday, October 2nd at 12:26 a.m. His name is **Jordan Charles Pierce** and he weighed in at 7 lbs. and is 20.5 inches tall. *Congratulations to Allen and Amy and we look forward to meeting Jordan in the near future!*

Drawing Winners

Well the card deck is back to full strength with all 52 cards available to be drawn. One card will be eliminated each week and the pot will grow each week that there is no winner. Now we will get back to some of the \$100.00+ pots. Ready, Get Set Draw.



Ron Cisco, weekly card controller in the ready position.
Photo Noel Hasselgren



No winners of the big pot this week, but plenty of little ones. Among them were **Karl Geil, David Moore, Robert Wardlaw, Bill Morgan, Wyatt McCallie** and **Phil Perington**.

Congratulatory Note

A note from Past CO-WY Governor **Bob Hartwig**, *Awesome! Dime-A Day rolled up to a \$365 PSCU contribution. And Michael Chavez concludes a most successful year. Way to go, guys!*

Craig Eley

It Ain't Broke—Let's Fix It
A Vision for the Future

New **President Craig Eley** did not introduce our speaker this morning because he said our speaker needed no introduction. In fact, our speaker was Craig Eley. Craig delivered his equivalent to the State of the Union address. We'll call it his State of the Club address.

*The Optimist Club of Monaco South is starting its fifth decade of service. This is an achievement of which we can all be proud, especially those five members, **Greg Hurd, Ralph Pedersen, John Young, Oscar Sorensen and Kent Gloor**, along with our founder was Dr. **Ed Fankhauser**, who were present at the Club's inception. So, how are we doing?*

Monaco South is the largest Club in our district. Indeed, the latest statistics from Optimist international show that we are the 12th largest Optimist Club. We stand at 131 members and 5 Friends of Optimism, for a total of 136. If we had 10 more members, we would be the 10th largest Optimist club in the world.

Our budget is the envy of most other clubs. When we add dues, tree lot income, Rockies game income, grocery card sales, entertainment book sales, peach sales, and contributions, we take in over \$50,000 a year.

Anyway, by all measures things are going swimmingly at Monaco South. Well, maybe. But I believe that if a group like ours is not moving forward, it is in danger of falling behind.

So I propose this sentiment to keep in mind for the next year: It Ain't Broke—Let's Fix It!

I have a number of goals to make our Club better over the next 12 months, goals which I hope will be realized and will make our Club better for the next 12 years or longer. (Editor, to see these goals, read Craig's entire talk on GUMS distribution email.)

Like national presidential candidates, it's easy for me to say what I would like to accomplish when the reality is I cannot accomplish these things merely because I want to. It takes all of you to buy in and to help out.



Left, past Prez Michael Chavez, passes the gavel and microphone over to new Prez Craig Eley.

But one thing I can accomplish on my own involves Camaraderie Day. I believe personal connections between members are formed, in large part, by the conversations we have with one another at the table. Most Fridays, we only get a few minutes before the business of the Club and the speaker intervenes. But one day a month is set aside for fellowship, with no scheduled speaker. I consider that time together to be of the highest importance, inviolable and invaluable to our Club.

Therefore, on Camaraderie Day, after the invocation, pledge and introduction of guests, there will be no announcements from this podium until 7:30. We will then have Club announcements. This means we will need to start our sign-up sheets circulating before having the chance to explain them, but it's just once a month.

Editor: No question about it, the Optimist Club of Monaco South is great. The challenge will be to make it even greater. President Craig does not believe in the saying, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." He believes that we cannot get complacent and fall into a belief that the club is a well-oiled machine and will perpetuate itself. All of us must continue to work at improving the club by sharing the experience of optimism with others; by looking for new ideas for projects; by keeping in contact with members that we haven't seen recently; by mentoring new members; by each of us making the effort to meet the new members and help them to get involved and by identifying and developing tomorrow's club leaders.

President Craig would like to improve and strengthen each of these areas. We have no doubt that he and his very capable new Board of Directors will do just that but they need our help and support. So don't just get into a groove of sitting back and watching, ask how you can get more involved. If you have an idea for a project bring it up and help make it happen. Only if we all continue to work at improving the club will it stay vibrant.

Milestone at OI Foundation

Congratulations to all your hard work. An article in the most recent OI magazine shows the Club, through club contributions and member Dime-A-Day, has achieved the lifetime designation of **SILVER BENEFACTOR—\$25000!**

Donor Listings	
GOLDEN BENEFACTOR - \$50,000 ARIZONA Theodore F. Gaffin	This is a record of lifetime accumulation levels achieved from March 1, 2016 – June 30, 2016 for individuals and Clubs. This listing is for gifts recorded up to the deadline date for the printing of <i>The Optimist</i> .
SILVER BENEFACTOR - \$25,000 COLORADO-WYOMING Optimist Club of Denver-Monaco South, CO	QUEBEC SOUTH Christiane et Lionel Desjardins-Saucier Club Optimiste de Gravelly, QC Club Optimiste de Sherbrooke-Centre
	DAKOTAS-MANITOBA-MINNESOTA Cheryl Bergstrom Timothy J. Gietz EASTERN ONTARIO

Weekly Greeters

10/14/16	Bob Avery & Dick Zolman
10/21/16	Paul Gibson & Michael Chavez
10/28/16	John Oss & John Swick

October Super Citizen Presenters

Oct 19 @ 2:30	MPB	Dave Peck
Oct 20 @ 5:30	Hamilton	Curt Merrill
Oct 21 @ 3:00	Bradley	Jon Wachter
Oct 26 @ 1:00	McMeen	Mark Metevia

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2016-2017 40th Year — Chartered in 1976

Oct 14	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Walker Stapleton, Colorado State Treasurer, 9 State Ballot Issues
Oct 21	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Oct 26	Wed	6:30 pm	Meeting, Legion Hall: Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
Oct 28	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA

**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 Stowbridge	1993-94	Jon Wachter	2013-14
Mark Metevia	1994-95	John Oss	2014-15
Bob Safe	1995-96	Michael Chavez	2015-16

2015 - 2016 Officers

President	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Vice President	Chris Dunphy	720-297-3111
Vice President	Mike McMahon	303-514-5175
Secretary	Randy Marcove	303-840-7706
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

Jim Easton	720-987-7684
Allen Pierce	303-883-8506
Allen Malask	303-726-3700
Bill Morgan	303-868-4384
Rob Gardner	720-263-6203
Wyatt McCallie	303-759-2275
Paul Stratton	303-474-4358
John Swick	720-422-2733
Michael Chavez (Past Pres.)	303-960-5304

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: Nov **Paul Stratton**, Dec **Phil Perington**, Jan **George Buzick**

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.