



100% and then some...

# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)



100% and then some...

February 24, 2012 – Vol. 37, Issue 21

## Optimist Club of Monaco South



**OPTIMIST**  
INTERNATIONAL

Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado  
Serving Youth and the Community for 35 Years

[www.monacosouth.org](http://www.monacosouth.org)

Editor for this Issue—Robert Wardlaw



**OPTIMIST**  
INTERNATIONAL

### Good Morning Optimist

A sunny, beautiful February morning **Mike McMahon** and **Michael Chavez** are our greeters this morning. As we walked in, some of us were reminded that this is the last February Friday in this leap year!

### First Bell

President **Randy Marcove** rings the bell promptly at 7 a.m., to begin the meeting. **Donlie Smith** gives the invocation this morning, giving tribute to *George Washington* in honor of his birthday. A man who led the fight and risked everything for a just cause, thank you for the courage to carry on in the face of great hardship. **Ron Gutru** then entertains us with “*Just Because*” on the piano, fine playing and thank you Ron!

### Guests

Guests this morning include **Jack Kleinheksel's** son John, past recipient of an Outstanding Eagle Scout award presented by this club. Welcome John, and thank you for coming.



### From the Prez

President **Randy** reads a message from **Tom Mauro** who tells us, that after a three month bout with shingles (Get the he shingles vaccination if you haven't.) had thoracic surgery yesterday and will be out of commission for a few weeks. Tom looks forward to his return and adding some balance to the meetings. Hurry back and get well soon Tom!

The club also received a letter from the parents of Caleb Preston, a young man who helped out at the Christmas Tree Lot in December. In the letter, Mary and Rick, Caleb's parents, say thanks for providing a rich and valuable experience. Caleb would like the opportunity to be further involved with our organization.

This editor see's a young, strong volunteer in our future, look forward to it. The letter is attached to the email copy of *GUMS*.

Dear Optimist Clubs of the Colorado-Wyoming District,

Our New Club Building Co-Chair, George Ofiesh, has been meeting with the American Cancer Society in Denver to start a new Optimist Club centered around Cancer - especially Childhood Cancer. They are excited about partnering with the Optimist Organization to form an alliance to help clubs help kids, schools, etc. who want to make a difference in raising awareness of health issues surrounding Cancer in Kids and helping kids feel that they can also be of service to kids who are struggling with the disease!

They would like to bring some Optimist programs into their prevue and help our clubs with projects surrounding the elimination of Cancer and finding new treatments for those who are fighting it! It sounds like a perfect match for communities and kids. This is a new kind of Optimist Club and can be a model for our future!

We are looking for 2 clubs who would be willing to sponsor this project. George Ofiesh is leading the effort, I am in great support of the effort and will be working with him, Ron Cisco, will be helping where he can with his recuperation in progress, and we need a club or two to step up!

What would the involvement be? The District has put monies aside to pay the \$400 initial fee. We would need banners - Club and creed; bell and gavel; and someone in the clubs to be involved with the new club to help them get started and comfortable with their mission. This is a new type of club and will take people who are willing to think just a bit outside the box! I have forwarded an evite that the American Cancer Society (ACS) sent out for our first get together on March 7th, Wed. at 6:00PM.

Please let me know what your club can do for this project!!

Thanks and Yours for Kids!  
Helping kids “Fly to the Top”! (and beyond)  
Donna Priester, Governor  
Colorado/Wyoming Optimist District



Cont. 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

**Channel 6 Auction:** Bryce Slaby needs more volunteers to work the phones for Channel 6 on Wednesday evening, March 14<sup>th</sup>. They will provide dinner and who knows, you might just get on TV. More to come from Bryce on this.

**Pancake Breakfast:** Kent Gloor has something tasty for those not volunteering for the Brain Bowl on Saturday. The **Tamarac Optimist Club** is hosting an all you can eat pancake breakfast at the Applebee's, one-block east of I-225 on Iliff. \$6 of the \$8 cost goes to Tamarac, and the ladies will also serve as well, so make sure to tip generously. **Editor's note:** *Although after the fact, we include these messages in hopes that we members become more inclined to support fellow Optimists in their efforts for our community.*

**Western Hoedown:** Frank Middleton is out of town this week, well at the Broadmoor, and in his place, **Craig Eley** bangs the drum for the **Western Hoedown and Barbeque**, one of the biggest Hoedowns west of the Mississippi. March 3<sup>rd</sup>, starting at 5:30 p.m. **John Young** then takes center stage and along with Craig, they demonstrate a solid do-si-do, a twirl or two, and I think I saw a Western Swing. Looks like fun to me!

**Cherry Creek Theater:** Dick Cohen announces that the second season for the Cherry Creek Theatre is fast approaching, March 3-25, 2012. The first season was a success. For the upcoming season *Proof*, a Pulitzer Award winning play by David Auburn, will be performed with discounted rates offered to MSO members for the evening performance on Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. According to Dick, the cast is outstanding.



**Honeymoon Weekend:** Howdy Fry sends around the signup sheet for the Honeymoon Weekend get away taking place the weekend of July 20<sup>th</sup> in Winter Park. Beautiful spot for a romantic weekend with that special someone. See Howdy for more information.

**OCMS Election:** Oscar Sorensen tells the club that elections for officers and the board will be held in about a month.

**Brain Bowl:** Karl Geil updates us on the Brain Bowl, the next session will be held February 25<sup>th</sup> at Fort Carson High School. Volunteers are asked to enter Gate 1 with the appropriate documents and to give themselves plenty of time to clear security and get settled in.

**Brain Bowl Update from the Prez:** Attendees and guests for the day from our club were as follows: **George Buzick; Randy Marcove**, and guests Tessa Lowenstein & Cassie Lowenstein; **Don Iley; Craig Eley; Fred Pasternack; Howard Fry; John Oss**, and his wife Ruth. It was great, thank you!

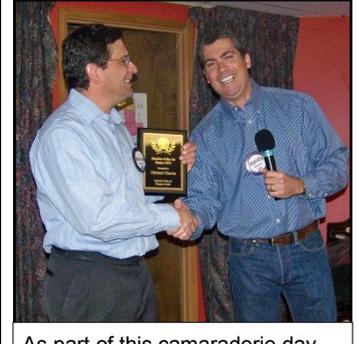
**Eagle Scout Dinner:** Donlie Smith reminds members of the Eagle Scout Presentation Dinner which our own Randy Marcove will MC, and will take place Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. See Donlie for details.

**Thanks From the Hugo's:** Dan Hugo gives a heartfelt thank you to **Phil Perington** and the others who helped during his family's move into Bob Hugo's home. Everything seemed to go well!

## Pictures from Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting

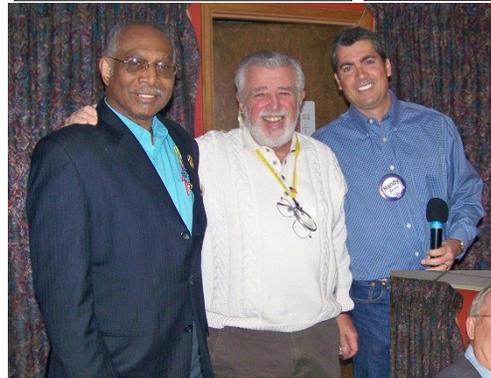


Above, President Randy then recognizes former Denver Police Chief Jerry Whitman as OCMS Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.



As part of this camaraderie day, President Randy Marcove, right, introduces Mike Chavez as OCMS Optimist Club of South Monaco, Member of the Quarter.

Photos Don StJohn



Above, Past MSOC President Ed Collins (center) was recognized as an Honor Club president. George Mills (left) past District Governor awarded Ed with a commemorative lapel pins. President Randy is on the right.

Below, John Oss is recognized as MSOC, New Member of the



## Super Citizen Program Makes A Difference

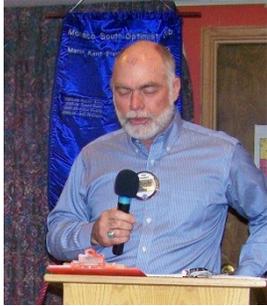
Mr. Senegal Diop is a very proud father. His daughter Binta was recognized with a Super Citizen certificate at McMeen Elementary, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. He saved \$3,000 to purchase a visa and travel to the USA. In 1996 he passed the English examination for citizenship, and paid the \$500 fee. In 2006 he and his wife were blessed with Binta. They are both very proud new citizens. We can take great pride and satisfaction to join in the joy of the Diop family. We can thank McMeen for supporting our SC program and our community. We can take a lesson in pride for our country from these new citizens!



A McMeen teacher sits on left with Binta and her father Senegal Diop.  
Photo and story John Oss.

## Speaker, Steve Smith—Incarceration in Colorado

**Bob Avery** takes the microphone to introduce this morning's speaker. During the introduction Bob talks about a past speaker who had two sons in prison and who sought to help them through this very difficult time and prepare them for a productive life in society, when they left prison.



Bob Avery shares his sons situation and the families heartbreaking story.  
Photos Don StJohn

Thoughts of how could a family live through that, and the empathy for her were strong emotions. Now he knows of this pain through his family's own experience and he stands before us this morning to introduce Steve Smith, Director of CCI.

Steve shares that CCI looks to give inmates the skills and training to successfully reenter society once their time in prison has ended. Steve says he is in the business of rebuilding and creating. When he first met Bob and Dorcas Avery he agreed to look into Steven Avery's situation. CCI has 2,000 jobs and with the inmate population of 23,000 demand for them is high.

CCI has companies in the correctional system that vary from furniture manufacturing to raising tilapia, from making saddles to a 100 head heard of water buffalo that produce milk for cheese. (A complete list of CCI's products can be found at [www.coloradoci.com](http://www.coloradoci.com).)

The hope is to give inmates a reason to wake up in the morning, to learn a skill or trade and conduct themselves in a positive manner. Inmates undergo a rigorous screening process before entering the CCI program and must exhibit progress. Wages paid to inmates for their work also have expenses such as child support, and the cost of incarceration deducted to help defray the cost to tax payers. On average, the cost to

incarcerate a prisoner is \$30,000 annually, and this does not account for the wages that person would be earning in society. This illustrates the high cost of the skyrocketing prison population.

The average stay for an inmate is two years and CCI hopes to give them a productive way to spend this time and something to prepare them for society when they are released.

Bob Avery gave a speech in December about the Seven Habits on the inside, based on Stephen Covey's book, *7 Habits of Highly Successful People*. Correctional officers are encouraged to take the class as well, and it reinforces the sense that the prison is a community where they are dependent on everyone to work together and cooperate. 97% of inmates return to society and it is in everyone's interest to have good habits practiced. Recidivism rates for inmates participating in CCI program are 25% compared to 52% in general population of the prison system, the evidence is there that the programs are working.

Bob commented on his dream to see his son become a productive member of society before he dies. How we as a society need to examine the ways we deal with nonviolent criminals and utilize the limited resources society has to spend. We all share this hope and thank Bob for his strength in addressing this topic with the club this morning.



Steve Smith, Director, talks about the numerous products and services that CCI, a division of the Colorado Department of Corrections, provides.

Weekly Greeters	
Date	Greeters
3/2/12	Tom Hoch & Joe Marci
3/9/12	Harry Johnson & Mark Metevia
3/16/12	Ed Collins & Woody Thibodeau
3/23/12	Craig Eley & Bob Avery
3/30/12	Don Thomson & Harry Fegley

Super Citizen Presenters for March		
15 @ 5:30 pm	Hamilton	Paul Bernard & Ron Carlson
16 @ 9:10, 10:00 & 10:40 am	Holm	Craig Eley
21 @ 2:30 pm	MBP	Les Larson
22 @ 1:20 & 2:10 pm	McMeen	Bob Avery
23 @ 3:00 pm	Bradley	Nick Newey

### Monaco South Calendar

- Mar 3 Sat 7:00 am Championship Brain Bowl, Douglas County High School, Castle Rock, CO
- Mar 9 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Colorado History Day, Kendra Black
- Mar 16 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
- Mar 17 Sat 7:00 am St. Patrick's Day Parade
- Mar 21 Wed 6:30 pm Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
- Mar 23 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Speaker TBA

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

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

**2011 - 2012 Officers**

President	Randy S. Marcove	303-667-3663
Vice President	Frank Ross	720-210-8809
Vice President	Howard Fry	303-601-5088
Secretary	Jack Rife	303-349-1280
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

**Board of Directors**

Harry Fegley	303-671-7182
Wyatt McCallie	303-759-2275
Frank Middleton	303-759-9232
John Oss	303-973-7934
Allen Pierce	303-833-8506
James Riley	303-472-3652
Jim Tapp	303-503-8043
Brian Williams	720-253-5731
Ed Collins (Past Pres.)	303-905-7572

**Newsletter Committee**

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	<a href="mailto:rfinkelmeier@comcast.net">rfinkelmeier@comcast.net</a>	George Buzick	303-803-2268	<a href="mailto:gtbuzick@comcast.net">gtbuzick@comcast.net</a>
Marlin Kent	303-779-0778		O.C. Larson	303-737-7432	<a href="mailto:larson1942@cpmcast.net">larson1942@cpmcast.net</a>
Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	<a href="mailto:pedersen.ralph@q.com">pedersen.ralph@q.com</a>	Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	<a href="mailto:rwardlaw@comcast.net">rwardlaw@comcast.net</a>
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Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	<a href="mailto:rzolman691@aol.com">rzolman691@aol.com</a>			

**NEWSLETTER EDITORS:** Feb **Robert Wardlaw**; Mar **OC Larson**; Apr **Ralph Pedersen**

**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.