



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

September 2, 2016 – Vol. 40, Issue 48



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—Robert Wardlaw



Good Morning Optimist

Clouds off to the west and cooler, it feels like fall approaching this morning as we gather, **Paul Stratton** and charter member **Ralph Pedersen** are our greeters this morning.

First Bell & Invocation

President **Michael Chavez** strikes the bell at 7 a.m., and after a warm welcome calls of **Tom Hoch** to give the invocation.



Tom provides the following for starting of our Labor Day weekend. "Oh God in

Heaven help us realize that all work has honor and gives each of us purpose and solace. Lord we Thank You for the blessings of work and the ability to complete these tasks. We pray for all who shoulder the task of human labor." Tom then leads us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

Guests

Our guest this morning include **Bruce Kaiser** who is here as guest of **Jon Wachter**. Bruce said he is enjoying his second stint living in Denver. He has been in the oil industry for many years and has lived in various locations that are common to that industry. He looks forward to learning more about the club. Welcome Bruce, we hope you will come join us!



Bruce Kaiser tells us bit about himself.
Photo Noel Hasselgren

From the Prez

Having just returned from the CO-WY 4th Qtr. District Convention, in Fr. Collins, **Prez Michael** shares that our own **Paul Simon** was elected Governor for 2016-2017, and also elected as Lt. Governors were **Jon Wachter**, **Mike McMahon** and himself from our club. He added that the OCMS was awarded a Silver Certificate for its donation to Optimists International.

Paul Simon, interjected that the upcoming club celebration for the 40th anniversary of the founding of

Monaco South is to take place on September 24th and we should all plan on attending. Paul also said we should all celebrate the Mile Hi Optimist Club's 100th Anniversary, on September 17th, by join a few others. Our club has reserved table's, so contact Michael Chavez if you are interested.

Prez Michael also shared that Dr. **Ed Fankhauser**, founder and charter member of MSOC, was admitted to Garden Terrace Alzheimer's Center, 1600 So. Potomac Street, in Aurora. Dr. Ed has been one of the most thoughtful and kind hearted people you will ever meet. Dr. Ed attended dental school during WWII in Paris and made his home in Denver over 40 years ago. If you have a few minutes' call the Center at 303-750-8418 ahead and check to see if it is convenient to visit him. Additionally, you may check-in with his wife, Jeannie to see if she could use some assistance. Her number is 303-751-8289.



Announcements

Hamilton Middle School: **Karl Geil** shared the club received a Thank You noted from Dr. Christian Sawyer. "Dear Optimists, I want to Thank you for the incredible contribution of school supplies to help children in need. This has made a difference to Hamilton. We simple could not be the community we are without the wonderful partnership we enjoy with you. You live your Creed and truly impact the lives of young people we serve. Most Sincerely, Christian Sawyer, Hamilton Principal." Additionally, Dr. Sawyer is trying to staff his Collaborative School Committee (CSC) at Hamilton and would like to have an Monaco South Optimist member this year. The CSC is the governing committee for the school. If interested contact Karl Geil.

Dime-A-Day: **Perry Allen** announces that the Dime-A-Day program is winding down for this Optimist year, but there is still time to donate. Thank you to those who have participated and help this club rank 3rd within OI for the amount of dollars raised. See Perry if you are able to donate.



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

JDRF Diabetes OneWalk: Ron Gustas requested OCMS members help with the 2016 JDRF OneWalk site set-up at the Jeffco County Fairgrounds. The "Walk" is to raise research funds seeking a cure and improved treatment options for Type1 Diabetes (T1D). Help is needed starting at 9 a.m. on Saturday, September 10th to pop tents, locate tables, chairs, banners, etc. For years OCMS members have helped make the JDRF volunteer supported "Walk" a success. Please email Ron at rgustas@earthlink.net if you can help support the kids and adults with T1D.

Ron also welcomed members to "Walk" with and/or make a tax deductible donation to support either his granddaughter click either link at "[Ellie's Diabetes Busters](#)" team or the "[Type 1 Diabetes Optimist Club-T1DOC](#)" team to join and/or donate on line please click on either. The "Walk" check-in starts at 8 a.m. on Sunday, September 11th.

Member Directory Update: Tom Mauro gave a plug to put your business card in the upcoming Directory and earn a million dollars. He attests in doing so, you will get a substantial return on your investment. Please give Tom any updated information for the Directory to be kept current.



Sending a Word to Les Larson: Ed Collins gave an update on Les Larson, a member since 2007, is doing better and has returned home and continues to improve. Ed encouraged everyone to reach out to Les to give him support. Les and his wife Ruth can be reached at 303-755-1213.



Do We Have a Drawing?

Do we have a drawing? Yes, we do and there is \$40 bucks in the pot. Members holding tickets this morning and taking a chance on the \$40 draw included **Karl Geil** and **Robert Wardlaw**. No one draws the winning card of with only 4 cards remaining. The other winners, just took a cup dollars and change.



Craig Eley then draws **Russ Paul's** name from the "do you have your name tag on" jug and he gets a chance, but no luck. The pot grows to \$50 next week, with the chance to win growing as well. By the way, no one told Craig his name was called while he was gone.

New OCMS Webpage is Coming



Monaco South President Elect **Craig Eley** shared that a new Monaco South Webpage is coming and he is in need of a few people to help post content on the new website. He especially needs someone to maintain the web calendar on a weekly basis. If interest in volunteering contact Craig Eley at craigceley@gmail.com.

40th Year of Monaco South

The Celebration & Installation will take place on **Saturday, September 24th at Maggiano's Little Italy, 7401 South Clinton, Englewood, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**
Cost is \$30 per person



Peach Sale Update

Bob Finkelmeier wants to thank everyone who purchased peaches this year. Bob and his wife Bette, moved and sold over 240 boxes of Palisade peaches with the help of both Tamarac and Monaco South Optimist Clubs generating a donation of \$777 dollars to Tamarac and \$903 dollars to Monaco South. It was a banner year for peaches!

Tamarac Optimist Annual Gift Boutique Bake Sale

Share the word for this year's holiday boutique. The ladies of Tamarac Optimist Club have schedule Saturday, October 29th as their date for this years event.

9th Annual
Autumn Gift Boutique
& Homemade Bakery

Saturday, October 29th - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Calvary Baptist Church
6500 E Girard Ave (corner Hampden & Monaco)
Denver, CO 80224
www.tamaractoptimist.com ~ tamaractoptimistclub@gmail.com ~ 303-617-3913

Start of the School Year

Get involved with this years Super Citizen programs at ten PDS schools. **Robert Wardlaw** and school coordinators are making ready for the first programs starting in September. Our first programs start in the last two weeks of this month. So, sign up with Dr. **Rob Gardner** who facilitates the Super Citizen presenter schedule. Currently presenters are needed at MPB, on Wednesday, September 21st (see Gary Miller) and for McMeen (see Don Thomson or Pat Bush), on Thursday, September 29th. Your assistance is appreciated.

School Coordinators

We are still awaiting presentation schedules for Bradley, Highline, Slavens, and University Park.

Greg Pixley

Captain Greg Pixley, Denver Fire Department Recruiter

Bob Avery introduces our speaker this morning. Greg Pixley is a Captain with the Denver Fire Department, now working in the administrative department and involved with recruiting of fire fighters.

Captain Pixley has been with DFD for 25 years starting out as a Boy Scout and moving on to fast cars and girlfriends before graduating from high school. After high school Greg joined the Air Force where he spent 16 years as a firefighter. After serving he returned to Denver and took the test to join the Denver Fire Department. He has seen many changes in his time with the department, but said, *"it seems as though when the Fire Department arrives on scene people are usually happy to see them."*

Established in 1866, the Denver Fire Department provides services to the citizens who live, work and visit the City and County of Denver providing fire suppression, emergency medical services, technical rescue, hazardous materials response, water and high angle rescue. The Department currently has over 900 paid firefighters supporting daily fire/rescue and medical operations. There are 30 fully staffed firehouses supporting fire and emergency calls within the city and supporting fire and emergency calls to the City of Glendale, City of Sheridan, and Skyline Fire District. The Department also has four fully staffed firehouses located at Denver International Airport.

Captain Pixley tells us that firefighting has a long history dating back to the days of Cesar Augustus who used slaves to fight fires in Rome. The Triumviri Nocturni (meaning three men of the night) were the first men, being privately owned slaves, organized into a group that combated the common problems of fire and conflagrations in Rome. The privately operated system became ineffective, so in the interest of keeping himself and Rome safe, Augustus instituted a new public firefighting force called the Vigiles. Augustus modeled the new firefighters after the fire brigade of Alexandria, Egypt. The Vigiles were also known by their nickname Spartoli or "little bucket fellows" which was given to them because of the buckets they carried water in, which were made of rope sealed with pitch.

Forward to revolutionary times and men who served as Firefighters include George Washington, Thomas Jefferson



Captain Greg Pixley
Photo Jon Wachter

and Paul Revere. On April 1, 1853, Cincinnati, Ohio became the first professional fire department by being made up of 100% full-time, paid employees. In 1863 Denver experienced a great fire. The fire destroyed most of the Denver Business District in what was then a newly forming western metropolis. The Denver Fire Department started in 1866 with the Colorado Territory's first fire company, volunteer Hook and Ladder No. 1, and build it first station a year later at 1534 Lawrence Street. The Peshtigo Fire was a forest fire that took place on October 8, 1871 in and around Peshtigo, Wisconsin. It was a fire-

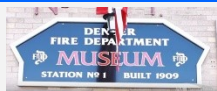
storm that caused the most deaths by fire in United States history, and was the deadliest wildfire in recorded history, with estimated deaths of around 1,500 people, possibly as many as 2,500. In 1973 the US experienced the highest amount of loss, both in terms of people lost and structures. We still have the recognizable issue of fires and with it comes the need to fight them and save the inhabitants. In 2014, 1.3 million fires were recorded including 380,000 home fires resulting in 84% of all deaths from fires. In all, one and two bedroom fires create more deaths than natural disasters in this country. In 2015, the DEF responded to 1800 fires in Denver and the department now responds to fires in Sheridan, Glendale, and Englewood as well as Denver International Airport.

Captain Pixley, reports that the Firefighting industry continues to develop new methods and tools to fight fires. He notes that when he started the equipment was lined with asbestos, thought to be a fire proof material. Now advances in both materials used to equip fire fighters and methods used to fight fires have enhanced the way in which fires are fought. These also include how firefighter's bodies react when exposed to high temperatures faced when encountering extreme conditions.

Fire Departments are also focused on public education and helping kids. This weekend Fire Departments around the country will be collecting money to help in the fight against muscular dystrophy. Firefighting and the men and women who serve in that capacity continue to be a valuable part of our society.

For an interesting recruiting interview with
Greg Pixley from the Denver Fire Department

See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7WmPzgqgXwQ>



Denver Fire Department 2011 Graduation Video

See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zu4VW6PYU8Y>

Weekly Greeters

9/9/16	Pat Bush & Allen Malask
9/16/16	Tom Kramis & Dave Moore
9/23/16	George Buzick & Barry Barker
9/30/16	Noel Hasselgren & Mark Metevia

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

Sept 9	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Optimist Junior Golf Program
Sept 10	Sat	9:00 am	Setup for 2016 JDRC OneWalk, Jeffco County Fairgrounds, see Ron Gustas
Sept 15	Thur	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
Sept 16	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: U.S. Representative Dianna DeGette
Sept 17	Sat	6:00 am	Alzheimer's Memory Walk, City Park, see Cap Hermann
Sept 23	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Sept 24	Sat	11:30	OCMS 40 th Celebration & Installation, Maggiano's Restaurant, see Greg Young



**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	Chris Dunphy	720-297-3111
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	rlawardlaw@gmail.com	Craig Eley	720-771-0866	craigceley@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Aug **George Buzick**, Sept **Robert Wardlaw**, Oct **Pat Bush**, Nov **Paul Stratton**

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.