



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)



September 26, 2014 – Vol. 39, Issue 52

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

Editor for this Issue—Pat Bush

### Good Morning

It is a picture perfect day as we were greeted by new member **Tom Kramis** and old member **Michael Chavez**. It seemed that everyone was ready for this weekend of leadership transition, since this was the last official meeting for **President Jon Wachter**.

### Invocation

**Randy Marcove** delivered a fine invocation asking that we celebrate the successes of others as we would celebrate our own. It is only by helping those around us to succeed that we successfully fulfill our own purpose.

### Guests

**Curt Merrill**, Zone 8 Lt. Governor, joined us for breakfast again this morning. **Bill Morgan**, a guest that visited us a few weeks ago, was back with an application for membership. **John Swick** introduced his guest **Mike Nekoora** who is Mike's life insurance advisor. **Ron Cisco** introduced **Joshua Miller** who has made application as a "Friend of Optimists" and **Kevin Koalenz** is back for a second visit. He is a guest of **Jack Kleinheksel**. Welcome to each of you!

### New Member Induction

**Bob Meyer** was inducted into membership of the Monaco South Optimist Club. Bob is also a mem-



Bob Meyer, on the left, was inducted by President Jon Wachter, and assisted by Curt Merrill, Zone 8 Lt. Governor, Colorado-Wyoming District.

ber of Castle Rock Optimist Club and is a co-chair of the District Optimist Junior Golf program along with **Joe Marci** and **Ron Cisco** of Monaco South. Welcome aboard Bob and we look forward to seeing you involved with the many projects conducted by Monaco South.

### Zone 8 Honor Clubs

**Curt Merrill** was recognized as the Lt. Governor of Zone 8 of which Monaco South is a part. Every club in Zone 8, which includes Denver Civic Center, Denver Tech Center, Tamarac, and Optimist Club of Monaco South, will become an Honor Club this year under Curt's guidance. *Congratulations Curt, job well done!* By the way, Curt was elected to the position of District Governor Elect for this next year, 2014-15. Way to go Curt!



Gold Honor Club Pin

### Announcements

**Celebrate Optimism Gala:** One final reminder was given by **Paul Simon** for the Celebrate Optimism Gala this Saturday evening, September 27<sup>th</sup>. He said over 90 members and guests had signed up to attend. He invited any others that have not signed up to join us for only twice the price of admission at the door.

**Big Anniversary:** It was announced that **Ralph Pedersen** and his wife **Lois** will be celebrating their 53<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary this week. Congratulations to you both! *Editor: Ralph, you must be a Prince!*



**Walk to End Alzheimer's:** The Walk to end Alzheimer's disease was held at Denver's City Park last Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. Chairman **Cap Hermann** thanked **Russ Paul**, **Gary Strowbridge**, **John Oss**, **Kent Gloor**, **O.C. Larson**, **Dave Peck**, **Scott Walker** for their help with the walk.

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

**Hamilton Super Citizen:** Karl Geil announced that he was in need of a speaker for the Hamilton Middle School Super Citizen presentation on October 16<sup>th</sup>. Randy Marcove quickly volunteered.

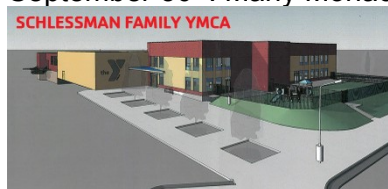
**McMeen Super Citizen:** Pat Bush also announced that McMeen Elementary had their Super Citizen program last Thursday honoring 24 students. Pat, Don Thomson and new member Vince Gonzales did the honors. Pat indicated that the McMeen program has grown to involve two formal ceremonies and an informal one for the kindergarteners.

**Holm Super Citizen:** Principal Jim Metcalfe is doing something different for this year's Super Citizen Program. They are going to have a Spirit Day on the Friday of every fifth week. On those Fridays, each grade level will be meeting at different times for awards. The Fridays currently scheduled for Spirit Day and Super Citizen Award ceremonies are October 3, November 7, December 19, February 6, March 13, and April 24. On those Fridays, each grade level will be meeting at the following times for awards:

- ⇒ 9:00 a.m. – 4th grade
- ⇒ 10:00 a.m. – 2nd grade
- ⇒ 11:20 a.m. – 5th grade
- ⇒ 1:00 p.m. – 1st grade
- ⇒ 2:00 p.m. – 3rd grade

Holm Super Citizen representative Donlie Smith said, "This new schedule at Holm involves much more than the award presentations alone, they also are doing a team building exercise on the playground after the awards and that is why each class is being dealt with on the hour — some new idea."

**Schlessman YMCA Ground Breaking:** A reminder that the ground breaking for the massive Schlessman YMCA remodel will be held on this Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. Many Monaco South members have



donated or pledged to donate well over \$70,000 toward building the children's playground as part of the remodel project. The

ceremony starts at 3:00 p.m. The YMCA is located on Yale just west of Colorado Boulevard. A reception with light refreshments will follow. More details can be learned at <http://www.denverymca.org/renovation>.

## Drawing Winners

The drawings winners this morning included our guest Joshua Miller. There was only one card left in the big pot so Josh elected to go to the cards, managed to pull the correct card, and claimed the \$30 prize. Other winners included, Tom Mauro, John Swick, Don Iley, Curt Merrill, Jack Rife, and O.C. Larson. Next week we start new optimist year with John Oss as president and 52 cards in the drawing.

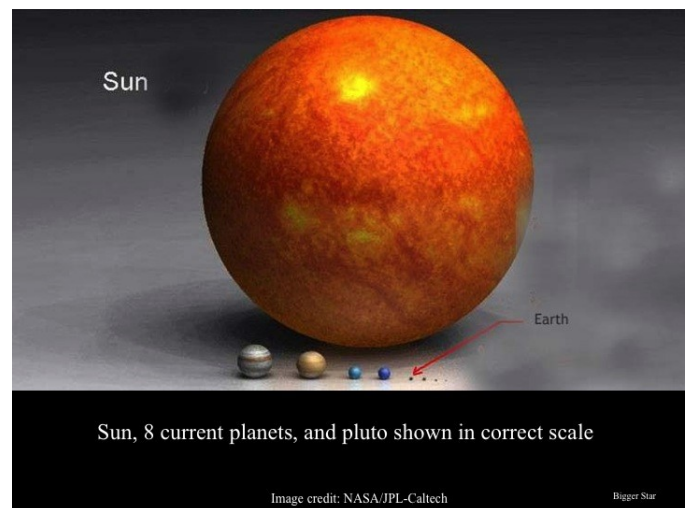


Continued from page 3

## Jim Paradise Presentation

Titan has liquid methane that flows like water. Methane changes from gas to liquid at a temperature of negative 300 degrees. Pluto has five moons. The largest is Charon and is large enough that it and Pluto actually orbit each other.

The sun at the center of our Solar System dwarfs the size of any of the planets. It is about 430,000 miles in diameter and is considered a smaller star. Our solar system is located in the Milky Way galaxy. The Milky Way is a spiral galaxy measuring up to 120,000 light-years across. One light year is the distance that light travels in one year or about six trillion (6,000,000,000,000) miles. Astronomers estimate that the Milky Way contains about 300 billion stars. Our galaxy is only one of about 300 billion galaxies. This translates to about 1024 stars or a septillion (that is one followed by 24 zeros) stars in the visible universe. Can you imagine what is beyond what we cannot see? How big in the largest star you might ask? You can fit one billion (1,000,000,000) of our suns into the largest known star. Don't you feel small?



Jim says that there are currently only two countries that can put a man in space. Those are Russia and China. The U.S. will not have that capability again until 2017 with the development of the Space Launch System and the Orion space capsule. Both will give us the ability to launch astronauts into deep space including trips to Mars.

### Some other web links to explore —

- Lockheed Martin Videos @ [http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJWcF0ex7\\_doPdIQGbVpDsQ](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJWcF0ex7_doPdIQGbVpDsQ)
- NASA @ <http://www.youtube.com/user/NASATElevision>
- NASA Kennedy @ <http://www.youtube.com/user/NASAKennedy>
- Ball Aerospace Overview @ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IsyGULKIHhU> & <http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcI5lfyzGefuFp8qZCkdAQ>
- Why We Go -- Leaving Our Beautiful Home and Exploring Outer Space: Will Pomerantz at TEDxPCC @ <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ueGFLVFf80>

From President John Oss sharing 2014 Optimist International Convention: President-Elect Ken Garner's Speech, now 2014-15 OI President, see <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TjHCVPtGGU>

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## Jim Paradise

**Engineering Staffing & Graduate Studies Manager, Lockheed Martin**

*Just How Big is Our Universe?* Our guest speaker, Jim Paradise, answered this question. Jim is a real rocket scientist with Lockheed-Martin here in Denver. He has worked on several different space exploration programs throughout his career and he gave us a glimpse of our own solar system and how small it is compared to the universe.



Jim Paradise

Even though Venus is the closest planet to Earth, it is a very inhospitable world. The hottest temperature here on Earth was recorded in the Lut desert in 2005. That temperature was 70.7°C (159.26F). While that is very hot indeed, the constant temperature everywhere on Venus is 460°C (860F). Where Earth's atmosphere is dominated by nitrogen and oxygen, the Venusian atmosphere is 96 percent carbon dioxide. CO2 is a greenhouse gas and holds heat close to a planet's surface. As if the heat and a complete lack of oxygen were not harsh enough, the planet has clouds of sulfuric acid droplets covering its entire circumference.



Venus

Throughout history, humankind has looked skyward to Mars and wondered, Could it be another Earth? Mars has a tilted axis, an atmosphere, and a day only forty minutes longer than that of Earth. With so many surface similarities, even without clear evidence of life in Mars's past, there is every reason to believe there is life in the Red Planet's future.



Mars

Exploration of Mars began in the mid-1970 with the landing of Viking I and II then continued with the Mars Pathfinder that delivered a stationary

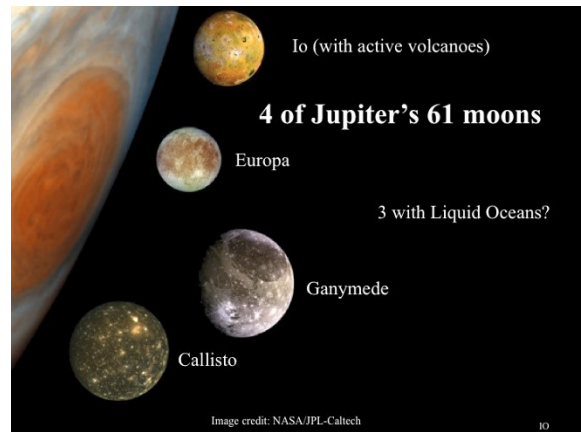
lander and a six-wheeled rover named Sojourner to the planet surface. The Mars Science Laboratory launched in 2011 with its rover Curiosity, successfully landed in Gale Crater in August of 2012. Curiosity reached Mt. Sharp, its primary study target, this past month.

There are many volcanos on Mars with the largest rising three times higher than Mt. Everest the tallest mountain at over 29,000 feet here on earth. There appears to be signs of the presence of water in the past on Mars but none has been found to date. It has two moons named Phobos (8 miles in diameter) and Deimos (14 miles in diameter. [CLICK Mars' Moons: Facts About Phobos & Deimos](#)). The asteroid belt is located between Mars and Jupiter and contains numerous irregular shaped bodies ranging from dust particles to asteroids with a diameter of 600 miles.

Jupiter is the fifth planet from the sun and the largest in the Solar System. Jupiter's mass is about 2 1/2 times the mass of all other planets in the Solar System combined. Jupiter has saltwater oceans covered by ice over three miles thick. It has 67 moons. Saturn also has saltwater oceans that are covered with thinner ice layers (about 300 feet thick). The ice fractures causing geysers of water to spray through the ice. It has 62 moons ranging in size less than a half mile in diameter to Titan, which is larger than the planet Mercury. ([CLICK Jupiter's Moons: Facts About the Largest Jovian Moons](#))



Jupiter



Jim Paradise Presentation Continued on page 2

### Super Citizen Presenters Sept./Oct.

<b>Oct 3 @ 9:00</b>	Holm	Donlie Smith
<b>Oct 14 @ 1:30</b>	Samuels	?
<b>Oct 15 @ 8:00</b>	Highline	Joe Marci
<b>Oct 15 @ 2:30</b>	MPB	George Buzick
<b>Oct 16 @ 5:30</b>	Hamilton	Randy Marcove

**Be a Super Citizen Presenter**  
See Rob Gardner, 720-263-6203  
[gardnerrb@gmail.com](mailto:gardnerrb@gmail.com)

### Weekly Greeters

<b>10/3/14</b>	Mark Metevia & Ralph Petersen
<b>10/10/14</b>	Al Gapuzan & Pat Bush
<b>10/17/14</b>	Jeff Johnson & John Oss
<b>10/24/14</b>	Terry Shroyer & Cap Hermann

**Need Friday morning greeters,**  
see O.C. Larson, 303-797-7432 or  
[larson1942@comcast.net](mailto:larson1942@comcast.net)

Oct 3	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Lee Shaughnessy, Rocky Mountain Children's Health Foundation
Oct 10	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Ashley Coccione, Anadarko Petroleum-Oil/Gas Development
Oct 15	Wed	6:30 pm	Meeting, Legion Hall - Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
Oct 17	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Oct 24	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - TBA

**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	<a href="mailto:rfinkelmeier@comcast.net">rfinkelmeier@comcast.net</a>	Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	<a href="mailto:r.pedersen2658@comcast.net">r.pedersen2658@comcast.net</a>
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	<a href="mailto:jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net">jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net</a>	John Oss	720-210-8056	<a href="mailto:john.oss4us@gmail.com">john.oss4us@gmail.com</a>
Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	<a href="mailto:rzolman691@aol.com">rzolman691@aol.com</a>	Paul Stratton	303-366-6375	<a href="mailto:pcstratton@comcast.net">pcstratton@comcast.net</a>
George Buzick	303-803-2268	<a href="mailto:gtbuzick@comcast.net">gtbuzick@comcast.net</a>	Pat Bush	720-254-3741	<a href="mailto:pbush@bushreese.com">pbush@bushreese.com</a>
Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	<a href="mailto:rlawardlaw@gmail.com">rlawardlaw@gmail.com</a>	Craig Eley	720-771-0866	<a href="mailto:craigceley@gmail.com">craigceley@gmail.com</a>

**NEWSLETTER EDITORS:** Sept **Pat Bush**, Oct **Paul Stratton**, Nov **Phil Perington**, Dec **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.