

## Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado  
 Serving Youth and the Community for 36 Years

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

Editor for this Issue—George Buzick



### Good Morning Optimist



In spite of the flooding throughout the state and the fact that today is Friday, the 13<sup>th</sup>, a goodly number of our members were greeted this morning by **Paul Stratton**. After the invocation by Lt. Governor **Mark Metevia**, **Tom Glazier** introduced his guest, whose name is “Moose” and who is the purveyor of shirts. Moose had a sample of the polo shirt (modeled by Tom) and said he could probably deliver shirts ordered today within two weeks.



**President Paul** welcomed **Jim Tapp**, who has not been seen for a while and read a “Thank You” note from Brent’s place, thanking the club for a \$600 donation. He also mentioned that three of the new Board members were in attendance at the Board of Directors meeting held last Wednesday. They were **J.R. Gieck**, **Fred Pasternack**, and **Ralph Pedersen**.

**President Paul** reminded us that budget items for next year’s activities need to be approved by the BOD and should be submitted to either **Greg Young** or **John Wachter**, incoming MSOC President. Also, if you have an interest in being on a particular committee or ideas for new projects, check with John (303-204-5465) or [jon.wachter@msn.com](mailto:jon.wachter@msn.com).

### Announcements

**Update on Doug Morton:** It was announced that **Doug Morton** was undergoing a medical procedure to drain fluid from around his brain and that he will be back in the near future.



**Builder of Excellence:** Colorado/Wyoming Governor **Phil Perington** presented **Dick Cohen** with the “Builder of Excellence” medallion, which is awarded by Optimist International to the key individuals in starting

a new club. **Ron Gustas** received his at the recent District Convention. Both were the prime movers behind the recently chartered Type 1 Diabetes Optimist Club (T1DOC).

**Installation of Dave Peck:** President-Elect **John Wachter** performed his first official function by installing **Dave Peck**, who was sponsored by **Pat Sullivan**. Welcome aboard to Dave!

**Membership:** **President Paul** announced that current membership stands at 156, although there may be some end of the year attrition, particularly among our Friends Of Optimism (FOO’s) members.

**Diabetes Research Foundation Walk:** **Dick Cohen** thanked the members, who had participated in the set up for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation walk, as well as those who participated in the actual walk and those who contributed toward this effort. Between those who contributed through the T1DOC and those who contributed to Ron Gustas’ granddaughter Ellie, over \$20,000 was raised between the two teams.



Representing Ellie’s team are (l to r) John Oss, President Paul Simon, grandpa Ron Gustas and Miss Ellie.  
 Photo shared by John Oss

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 Continued

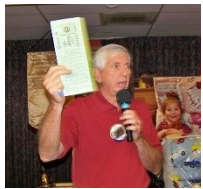
Participating as members of either the "T1DOC" or the "Ellie's Diabetes Busters" walk teams from OCMS were **Pat Bush**, the **Dick Cohen** family, **Mark Metevia**, **Fred Pasternack**, **Phil Perington**, **Paul Simon**, **Paul** and **Luke Stratton**, **Greg Young**, **Dick Zolman**, **John Oss**, and the **Ron Gustas** family.

Many, many other OCMS members, other "Optimists" and Optimist Clubs helped contribute to raising almost \$20,000 between the two walk teams. Pledges and donations are still being accepted at either <http://www2.jdrf.org/goto/t1doc> for the "T1DOC" team or <http://www2.jdrf.org/goto/EllieDiabetesBusters> for the "Ellie's Diabetes Busters" team. Thanks to all for helping to raise hopefully near one million dollars for Type 1 Diabetes research.

**Bradley PTO Wine Tasting:** **Mike McMahon** gave us a heads up for the Bradley International PTO Wine Tasting, which will be held in November. He needs contribution items for their silent auction. More details to follow.

**Alzheimer Memory Walk:** **Cap Hermann** once again requested a few more volunteers to set up for the Alzheimer Memory Walk on September 21. Check with Cap if interested. Or to register to walk, go to: [http://www.alz.org/co/in\\_my\\_community\\_walk.asp](http://www.alz.org/co/in_my_community_walk.asp).

**Directory Update:** **Tom Mauro** reminded us that the value in our directory lies in the accuracy of the information and asked that any updates be communicated to him as soon as possible. You can also submit a business card (and \$25) to put an advertisement in the directory.



**New Cub Scott Pack:** **John Oss** asked for a few more volunteers to help start a new Cub Scout pack at Highline Academy on Tuesday, September 17 at 6:30 p.m. See John for details.



Cub Scouts Wolf and Bear Den,  
Highline Academy. Pack 205.

## Upcoming Events

- ⇒ **Installation Banquet:** Do not forget the Installation Banquet to be held at Blossom's in Heather Gardens on September 28. Also, do not forget to pay **Greg Young** for the event (\$25/person).
- ⇒ **Holiday Party:** **Frank Middleton** has set a date of December 6, for the annual Holiday Party. Details to follow.
- ⇒ **CO-WY 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr. Conference:** First Quarter Board of Directors meeting will be held at the Marriott in Colorado Springs, October 4-6. See details on the District Website (<http://optimistcowy.org>).

## Weekly Drawing

As the year draws to a close, there are fewer cards in the deck, thus making the chances of winning "the big money" almost a "give me." True, but there are still decisions to be made, since taking a cup of money, valued at \$6-8, and a sure thing, has to be weighed against taking the chance of drawing the correct card which, today was worth only \$10. What to do? With only three cards in the deck, chances are pretty good, as **Cap Hermann** found out when he took a shot and won the ten bucks. Other winners included **Tom Mauro** (twice), **Tom Glazier**, **Ed Collins**, and **Donlie Smith**.



## Closing Bell



**Fear of Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>** - The fear of Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> has been called *friggatriskaidekaphobia* being the name of the Norse goddess for whom "Friday" is named in English and *triskaidekaphobia* meaning fear of the number thirteen, or *paraskevidekatriaphobia* concatenation of the Greek words *Paraskeví*, meaning "Friday," and *dekatreís*, meaning "thirteen" attached to *phobía*, meaning "fear."

Any month that starts on a Sunday contains a Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, and there is at least one Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> in every calendar year. There can be as many as three Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>s in a single calendar year; either in February, March and November in a common year starting on Thursday (such as 2009), or January, April and July in a leap year starting on Sunday (such as 2012).

The longest period that can occur without a Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> is fourteen months, either from July to September the following common year (e.g., between 2001-02, 2012-13, and 2018-19), or from August to October the following leap year (e.g., between 1999-2000 or 2027-28).

According to the Stress Management Center and Phobia Institute an estimated 17 to 21 million people in the United States are affected by a fear of this day making it the most feared day and date in history. Some people are so paralyzed by fear that they avoid their normal routines in doing business, taking flights or even getting out of bed. It's been estimated that \$800 or \$900 million is lost in business on this day. Despite this, representatives for both Delta Airlines and Continental Airlines have stated that their airlines do not suffer from any noticeable drop in travel on those Fridays. There will be another Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> this year, in December.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Speaker: John Carson**  
Douglas County School Board President

Our speaker was introduced by **Frank Middleton**. John Carson is a Colorado native who graduated from Green Mountain High School, received his bachelor's degree from University of Colorado, Boulder and has a Masters Degree from Georgetown University. John is currently serving on the Douglas County School Board and has been one of the primary proponents of the changes that have been initiated in the Douglas County School system.



educational resource, including home schooling and on-line learning sources. According to Mr. Carson, this lowers administrative costs and puts the students' needs first.

The American Civil Liberties Union filed a suit questioning the legality of the "Choice Scholarship" program. A Denver District Court judge blocked the voucher program in August of 2012, but the Colorado Court of Appeals overturned his decision. The question is now before the Colorado Supreme Court. For more information, please see: [ACLU petitions](#)

[Colorado Supreme Court to overturn Douglas County school voucher decision.](#)

According to Mr. Carson, the two primary elements of change have been a change to a "pay for performance" system for teachers and the initiation of a "Choice Scholarship" program for students.

With respect to "pay for performance," Mr. Carson said, that in the past pay was determined by credentials and longevity and had nothing to do with performance. Teachers who were in the same category received the same raise, regardless of performance level. Under the current system, which was developed by 200 teachers within the Douglas County Schools, the highest performers could receive up to a 10% pay raise and the lowest, none. According to Mr. Carson, teachers must like this, since the district had 14,000 applications for the 400 openings they had this year. The ratings are done by the school principals using measures designed by the teachers and not by higher-level administration.

Mr. Carson then took questions from the audience: Will pay for performance work in lower achieving schools, with minimal parental participation? Mr. Carson's response: Pay system is based on progress of student not a static standard (such as TCAP) and therefore will work even in situation with overall poor performance.

Are we taking potential funds from "special needs" students by allowing those funds to be spent outside the public school system? Mr. Carson's response: There are charter and private schools who currently serve "special needs" students.

How does teacher's union feel about "pay for performance?" Mr. Carson's response: The union opposed the plan. Many teachers who opposed it are no longer teaching in Douglas County. Mr. Carson also said that investigation revealed that the District was paying the salaries of teacher's union officials and that the dues paid by individual teacher to the union were being used for political purposes on a national rather than local level.

The Choice Scholarship program allocates \$4500, or about 75% percent of the amount given by the state to 500 students in the District, to be used for education at public, private, parochial institute or for home schooling. (The other 25% of the allocation goes to district administrative costs.) Students are allowed to use funds allocated to them at for any bona fide edu-



**Weekly Greeters**

Date	Greeters
9/20/13	Pat Bush & Tom Glazier
9/27/13	Eldon Strong & Joe Marci
10/4/13	Phil Perington & Steve Kady
10/11/13	Perry Allen & Tom Glazier

**Monaco South Calendar**

- Sep 20 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
- Sep 27 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Chuck Bonniwell, Glendale Cherry Creek Chronicle
- Sep 28 Sat 5:30 pm Installation and Awards Banquet, Blossoms Restaurant, 2888 S. Heather Gardens
- Oct 4 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Darren Martin, Financial Workshops
- Oct 11 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Schlessman YMCA Campaign
- Oct 16 Wed 6:30 pm Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102

**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	Randy Marcove	2011-12

**2012 - 2013 Officers**

President	Paul Simon	303-300-9940
Vice President	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Vice President	Jon Wachter	303-204-5645
Secretary	Jack Rife	303-349-1280
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

**Board of Directors**

Barry Barker	813-545-4533
Pat Bush	720-747-5482
Michael Chavez	303-960-5304
Mike McMahon	303-514-5175
John Oss	720-210-8056
Allen Pierce	303-833-8506
Michael Short	970-261-6012
Scott Walker	303-517-1862
Randy Marcove (Past Pres.)	303-667-3663

**Newsletter Committee**

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	<a href="mailto:rfinkelmeier@comcast.net">rfinkelmeier@comcast.net</a>	Ralph Petersen	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 **George Buzick**, Oct **Robert Wardlaw**, Nov **Pat Bush**

**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.