



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

October 22, 2010 – Vol. 35, Issue 4



The Optimist Club of Monaco South

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

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—George Buzick



Good Morning Optimist

Even though Halloween is still a week away, the hall was decked with spooky stuff, including witches goblins and assorted spider webs. Members were greeted by **Frank Ross** and **Fred Pasternak**, who also read the invocation and led the pledge. Way to go Fred!



Happy Birthday Marlin Kent

President Ed Collins opened the meeting by welcoming **Marlin Kent** and, since today is Marlin's 98th birthday, the group assembled provided him with the standard "Happy Birthday" serenade. Marlin commented that it sounded like the Monaco South Tabernacle Choir. **Karl Geil** pointed out that, in addition to sponsoring Karl as a member of this club (we won't hold that against him), Marlin is one of the people who initiated what is one of the premier programs of the club, *The Super Citizen Award*. Marlin is also one of the charter members of the club and is still active with both the Good Citizenship program and the administration of *GUMS*. We salute Marlin — without such people, clubs like ours would not exist.



Marlin Kent at the recent installation dinner of the Club's 35th president. Behind Marlin is **Tom Mauro**, the Club's 10th president.

Photo Dick Zolman

Happy Birthday Marlin Kent!

Welcome Back

A couple of people we haven't seen for a while showed up. **Craig Eley** welcomed back **Dick Cohen** who was away for surgery. Craig, who explained that, under the new regime, the Sergeant of Arms had authority to fine people for inappropriate behavior. Craig explained that since Dick was known to be "obstreperous," he should be aware of this in order to avoid future fines. Welcome back Dick!

Another lost soul, **Mike Miller**, was seen at the back of the room. Mike is a mere shadow of his former self, having lost 40 pounds. Mike usually shows up around this time of year in order to ensure, as he has for a number of years, that everything goes well in setting up the Christmas Tree Lot. Good to see you Mike!

Guests

Craig Eley also introduced his guest for the day, his brother Cliff, and assured all in attendance that his brother would never join a club, which would accept Craig as a member (or words to that effect).

Phil Perington announced that **Fred Daniels**, who was a guest last week after reading about the Club in the *Denver Post* "Hub," and was thoroughly indoctrinated by **Ron Cisco**, was present with application and check in hand. Welcome to our newest member!

Jim Easton introduced John Oss, who is the grandfather of one of our Super Citizen Award recipients just wanted to see what the club was all about. John said, speaking as a parent, he was thankful there were organizations like our club, who are supplying a much-needed service to our schools.

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

University Hills Optimist Club: Stu Brann of the University Hills club was also a guest and invited anyone interested to attend their meeting next Thursday morning, October 28th. They will be having a speaker, Steve Wooten, from southern Colorado explaining the United States Army's proposed acquisition of three-and-a-half million acres of Southeast Colorado to significantly expand Fort Carson. Steve Wooten is owner of the Beatty Canyon Ranch and a key member of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association. Stu circulated a signup sheet for breakfast, by our own **John Marinos**. The cost is \$7.50. U Hills OC meet in the room right next store to our meeting room at 7:00 a.m. For further details, call Stu Brann at 303-771-9190.

Thanksgiving Dinner: Donlie Smith, once again asked for volunteers, especially those who could transport food and equipment for the Thanksgiving Dinner for Boys and Girls Clubs and Girls Inc. on Tuesday, November 23rd. Be sure to sign up for this extremely important event.

Upcoming Christmas Tree Lot: Joe Marci announced that we would be putting up the power pole for the Christmas Tree Lot on Sunday, October 31st, and that he needed some strong backs to help out.

Entertainment Books: Joe also said he had 10 *Entertainment Books* left and had been promised that if he sold all ten, the club would receive a \$150 bonus. This is a no brainer, but help Joe out by buying (or selling) one of the books.

MS Bike Ride: As a perennial rider in the MS Bike Ride, **Bob Avery** presented **Don St. John** and **Bryce Slaby** with the award for the Best Rest Stop on the ride. Monaco South, together with Tamarac Optimists, has been providing this rest stop for more than 15 years. Bryce and Don have done a great job of organizing and conducting this event for the past several years, but in the interest of spreading the opportunities for growth to all members of the club, will be stepping back while **Robert Wardlaw**, **Michael Chavez** and **Howard Fry** take over the reins. Thanks to Don and Bryce for all of their past efforts!

Committee Heads: President **Ed Collins** announced that if any current committee heads wanted to remain in their position, they should let him know, as the Board of Directors is trying to line out the year's events and who will be making them happen.

3rd Annual Homespun Craft Sale

Presented by the TAMARAC OPTIMIST CLUB

Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010 from 9am to 3pm
8 Cherry Hills Drive
Englewood, CO 80113

All proceeds benefit local children's projects!

Items will include Holiday decorations, centerpieces, baked goods, food and drink mixes, photos, paintings and gifts to treasures!

Drawing

What are the odds? The Queen of Spades was the card of the day. This being only the 4th meeting of the month, there were still 48 cards in the deck. The pot was \$40. After drawing the various tickets and having no winner, the name of **John Walsh** was drawn from the famous "Wear Your Nametag" bowl. John reached into the deck and pulled out, you guessed it! The Queen of Spades — It pays to wear your name tag!



An interesting note, according to David Madore, PhD in algebraic geometry from the University of Paris the Queen of Spades is called "Pallas" on the French deck, possibly after the Greek goddess Athena. She faces left, and is seen in profile. On the English deck, she is the only queen with a scepter. She faces forward, a little to the right. So maybe that's where John's luck comes from.

A bit of Humor

- ◇ "Education is what you have left over when you subtract what you've forgotten from what you've learned"
- ◇ "If at first you don't succeed, try looking in the wastebasket for directions."
- ◇ "In order to finish first, you first have to finish."

HAPPY HALLOWEEN CARD



Bill Walters says this is the greatest Halloween Card ever. [CLICK HERE](#).

Approved for all.



Speaker

Our speaker today was Jane Howell, Executive Director of the Colorado State Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation. After asking several warm up questions, like:

- How many know which judicial district you are in? (Answer: Nobody.)
- How many lawyers in the room? (Answer: Too many!)

Ms. Howell said that, in colonial times, judges were appointed by the King and stayed on the bench at the King's whim. Subsequent to colonial times, and to avoid hassles, federal judges were appointed by the President, for life terms. State judges were generally appointed by their respective state's Governor. Some states chose to have judges elected by popular vote, which resulted in many judges being selected for their political acumen, as opposed to their excellence in jurisprudence. Our current system (at least in Colorado) is a hybrid of the two systems whereby judges are appointed by appropriate authorities, but the people in the various judicial districts get to vote on whether judge is retained.



Photo Don StJohn

Jane said that Colorado's judicial evaluation system is model and that her office gets many calls from other states on how to develop the excellence exhibited by our system. The system includes commissions for each judicial district in Colorado (22 in all). The commissions consist of both attorneys and non-attorneys, who are appointed by the Governor, Chief Justice, Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate. There are 10 members on each of the 22 commissions throughout the state. More details on the makeup of the commissions can be found on the website www.coloradojudicialperformance.gov.

In response to the observation that, rarely in the "Blue Book" or on the website, are there any judges who are not recommended for retention, Ms. Howell responded that frequently, when a judge is made aware of the fact that the recommendation of the committee is not to retain them, that judge chooses not to stand for retention and simply resigns from the bench. She also said that, the various commissions work with judges, especially newly appointed ones, on developmental plans. This is done to avail new judges of the opportunity to improve their skills, while making them aware of the need for improvement in certain areas.

Since the Commission was created in 1988, approximately 1,210 citizens have participated on commissions within their own judicial districts. Nine hundred and forty-nine names of judges have appeared on the ballot. There have been:

- 15 recommendations to not retain.
- 10 "No Opinions."
- 7 judges have not been retained by voters.

Ms. Howell reminded us of our duty to vote to ensure that "The Voice of the People is Heard."

Super Citizen Presenters for October

Day	School	Presenter
25 @ 1:00 & 2:00 pm	Samuels	Bob Avery
27 @ 1:20 & 2:05 pm	McMeen	Joe Marci

⇒ Visit Optimist Club of Monaco South webpage at:
<http://www.monacosouth.org/>

⇒ Visit Optimist International webpage at:
<http://www.optimist.org/>

Weekly Greeters

Date	Greeters
10/29/10	George Vassilaros & Elton Strong
11/5/10	Russ Paul & Keith Gallaway
11/12/10	Jack Kitchell & Terry Shroyer
11/19/10	Craig Eley & Woody Thibodeau
11/26/10	Rich Mahoney & Steve Kady

Monaco South Calendar

- Oct 22 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Colorado Supreme Court Election
- Oct 28 Thu 7:00 am University Hills Optimist Club at American Legion Hall -- US Army's Proposed Expansion in southern Colorado
- Oct 29 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - James Buckles, Executive Director, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Rocky Mountain Chapter
- Oct 31 Sun Halloween 🍊
- Nov 5 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Joe Priestler, Embracing new Optimist Members
- Nov 12 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Jim Kroll, Denver Public Library Historical Section
- Nov 13 Sat 9 to 3 pm 3rd Annual Homespun Craft Sale, Tamarac Optimist Club
- Nov 19 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
- Nov 25 Thu Thanksgiving Day 🦃

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

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

2010 - 2011 Officers

President	Ed Collins	303-905-7572
Vice President	Randy Marcove	303-667-3663
Vice President	Paul Simon	303-300-9940
Secretary	Jack Rife	303-349-1280
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

Michael Chavez	303-960-5304
Henry Fegley	303-671-7182
Les Larson	303-755-1213
Wyatt McCallie	303-759-2275
Frank Middleton	303-759-9232
Terry Shroyer	303-757-7944
Kale Smith	720-207-4363
Brian Williams	720-253-5731
Ron Cisco (Past Pres.)	303-794-0749

Newsletter Committee

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jpiccinelli@earthlink.net
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Marlin Kent	303-779-0778		Phil Perington	303-832-4578	perington@msn.com
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Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	pedersen.ralph@q.com			

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Nov **OC LARSON** ; Dec **OC LARSON**; Jan **RALPH PEDERSEN**; Feb **PHIL PERINGTON**

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.

**PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID
AT DENVER, COLORADO AND**

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