



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

July 8, 2011 – Vol. 36, Issue 40



## The Optimist Club of Monaco South

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—Phil Perington



### Good Morning Optimists

Good Morning Optimists, another day in Paradise!

#### Greeting Us Today

Greeters **Mike** (Mr. 150) **Chavez** and **John** (The Wizard) **Oss** were in fine form, merrily greeting a happy bunch of hungry Optimists..... Many of whom were adorned in festive "T", sport, and Hawaiian shirts. The list included **John Stoffel**, **Jim VanderKamp**, **Jack Kleinheksel**, **Al Gapuzan**, **Ralph Pedersen**, **Jon Wachter** and **Paul Bernard** with perhaps the most entertaining T-shirt emblazoned, "THE BLASTER PARROT PUB & SHOT SHACK- The All Night Brews Cruise," complete with a "Marlin" logo on the front. However there was no city, no country, no planet, no ship and no bail bondsman's telephone number. No clue whatsoever. Only Paul knows (perhaps)!

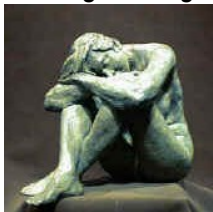
#### Where's Chef John?

Chef **John Marinos** substitutes prepared breakfast today with was monsters slices of French Toast, sliced Virginia ham, fluffy scrambled *huevos*, perfect hash browns, fresh chunky fruit compote, oatmeal, assorted doughnuts, coffee and tea. WOW! Still the best deal in town! The Marinos' crew did it again.

#### Editors Musing

Long missing member **Mike Prete** who, according to roll-master **Uncle Bob Avery**, is becoming a candidate for perfect attendance, was overheard saying his daughter had recently told him she didn't need him around the house in the morning anymore so find someplace to go. Funny girl, lucky Mike, it's good to see you brother.

Some recent MIA's also returning, included **David Lazaroff**, **Greg** (the Alaskan traveler) **Young** and **Scottie** (Walking the dogs) **Walker**. Has anybody seen **Lupe Salinas**, **Paul Simon**, (word has it, he's in Costa Rica) **Peter Dimond**,



**John Greene** or **Jason Sunahara** lately? Oh, received an email from **Paul** (Bring on the Music) **Gleditsch**, who writes,

"Greetings from the East in Hagerstown, MD. I'm out here working to help Volvo become more efficient at producing truck engines. All is well here. I miss everyone at the Optimists."

And it appears that **Don Iley** has lost something, 43 pounds to be exact. His secret? Running with the kids and actually keeping up. You're lookin' good Don! **Greg Young** reported winning \$500 on his recent trip to Alaska. When pressed on how much he netted with a big smile he answered \$480. That's why you're our Treasurer buddy. **Mike Short** is working with the Westminster Club to help find Speakers and Paul agreed to help out. Thank guys. And guess who is getting married? **Nick Newey** might just know.

#### First Bell

Once again at the crack of 7 a.m., President **Ed Collins** gavelled all to attention. **Todd** (the Tackle) **Olson** presented us with our invocation, "Optimism and words of encouragement for all" then led the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by a few shouts of Play Ball!, not Croquet! The natives are getting a little restless, this reporter included.

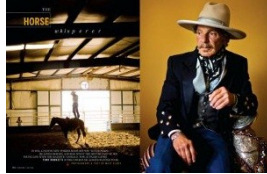


Meeting Place  
American Legion Hall Post 1  
5400 East Yale Avenue (Yale & I-25), Denver, Colorado  
Every Friday Morning, 7:00 – 8:00 am  
\*\*\*\*INVITE A FRIEND TO JOIN\*\*\*\*

## Announcements

**Brent's Place Pancake Breakfast:** Paul Bernard reminded us of the annual Brent's Place Pancake Breakfast July 24<sup>th</sup> at Washington Park (S.E. section). If you can flip a pancake with either (or both) hands this might be for you. It's great fun and the Tamarac gals will be there to make sure we do it right. This is a joint Club event that helps Brent's Place tremendously. Paul needs 12-14 volunteers, beginning at 7 a.m. Please sign up ASAP and feel free to bring your own spatula.

**Proud Papa:** Proud papa, Bryce Slaby presented us with the recent edition of *5280 Magazine* and was pleased to point out his son Matt had a feature article beginning on page 51, titled *The Horse Whisperer*. It is an excellent photo shoot and story about Colorado native Tony Brunetti. You may remember Tony from a while back, as he spoke to us about the history of shoot em' up family feud's in Southern and Northern Colorado, and other things of great interest. Tony is a very interesting fellow indeed. Pick a copy up and catch the fever. After reading give the copy to Bryce, who was really asking for copies.



**It's Back:** Cy Regan announced the ever exciting and thrilling March of Dimes Annual Mudd Volleyball Tournament, Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. We are again the parking crew and we do have fun. The day starts around 7 a.m. and the location is Majestic Commercener in Aurora (east of I-70 and Tower Road) NE side. It's a lot of fun especially after the cars are parked. As you can see lot's of bikinis.



**Call for Police Support:** Steve Kady brought us up to date on an event held at South High School last Tuesday afternoon, whereby retired Denver Police Chief Jim Collier, police personnel, officers and detectives talked about the dissatisfaction with "how political decisions are made in the Denver mayor's office that affect the safety and judgment of Denver Police operations," according to a news release.

**MS-150 Pledges:** Bob Avery reminded everyone to please remit their pledges for the MS-150. He also said anyone who didn't pay up would not be eligible to pledge next year. So please pay our pledge!

## Final Bell

**Drawing:** With all of the recent winners only \$20 in the pot. The Jack of Hearts was the lucky card. Cup winners included:

- Russ Paul
- Phil Perington
- Frank Ross
- Bryce Slaby
- Greg Young



Jack Kleinhessel and Craig Eley both drew for the Jack of Hearts but came up empty. Sorry fellas!



**Wooden Nickel Chips:** The Lucky badge wearer was Jon Wachter, but he too came up short.

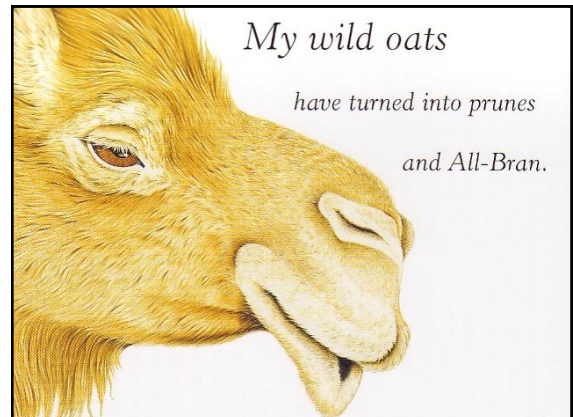
**Creed:** Former MSOC secretary, Rich Wagner then lead the Creed, "to forget the mistakes of the past...."

## A Bit of Humor

### Laws of Probability

Shared by Jim Tapp

- ◇ **Law of Gravity** - Any tool, nut, bolt, screw, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner.
- ◇ **Law of Mechanical Repair** - After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch and you'll have to pee.
- ◇ **Law of Probability** - The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.
- ◇ **Law of Random Numbers** - If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal and someone always answers.
- ◇ **Variation Law** - If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now (works every time).
- ◇ **Law of Close Encounters** - The probability of meeting someone you know increases dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.
- ◇ **Law of the Result** - When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, it will.
- ◇ **Law of Biomechanics** - The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.
- ◇ **Law of the Theater and Sports Arena** - At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle, always arrive last. They are the ones who will leave their seats several times to go for food, beer, or the toilet and who leave early before the end of the performance or the game is over. The folks in the aisle seats come early, never move once, have long gangly legs or big bellies and stay to the bitter end of the performance. The aisle people also are very surly folk.
- ◇ **The Coffee Law** - As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.
- ◇ **Law of Physical Surfaces** - The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor, are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug.
- ◇ **Law of Logical Argument** - Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.
- ◇ **Brown's Law of Physical Appearance** - If the clothes fit, they're ugly.
- ◇ **Wilson's Law of Commercial Marketing** - As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it.
- ◇ **Doctors' Law** - If you don't feel well, make an appointment to go to the doctor, by the time you get there you'll feel better. But if you don't make an appointment, and you'll stay sick.





## Our Speaker: Phil Hahn, Project Manager

For Building the Hoover Dam Bypass Bridge

Speaker; **Tom Vos** introduced guest speaker Phil Hahn, his friend and fellow engineer, of the HDR Engineering firm. Phil was here this morning to present the fascinating story detailing the construction of the Hoover Dam By-Pass Bridge, aka the Mike O'Callaghan – Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge. The project consisted of a multitude of companies, multi-national corporations and local businesses.



Photo Don StJohn

It was a wonderful presentation and everyone was consumed by the enormity of the entire project. HDR played a key role as the design and construction coordinator for the new bridge. The project commenced in 2001 after the environmental impact study project was completed. The Fed's took over from NV and AZ in 1997. The new by-pass bridge was necessary because the original highway over Hoover Dam had become a major bottleneck for traffic. Three options were considered before final site plans were approved and commenced in 2001.



The construction is a "twin rib arch" complex, with an adjacent highline system for delivering materials and construction equipment. A pre-cast cement facility was built in nearby Boulder City to expedite the manufacturing of the 10 foot pre-cast pillars used in erecting the hollow core supports. The hollow core design is to allow for the extreme heat fluctuations of the area. Cantilevers and 115 foot steel girders formed the skeletal structure.

The bridge rises to 880 feet and spans 1060 highway feet on a 1900 foot bridge deck. The roadway is 4-lane with speeds allowed up to 60 mph. Limited walking access is still available on Hoover Dam, but on a controlled basis. All major structural components are deep embedded into the existing rock and granite. The construction crews worked 24/7 from both sides of the bridge, one on the Nevada side and one on the Arizona side. When the two sides met in the middle for coupling they were within 1/2 inch of perfect, a truly remarkable feat in both engineering and construction. Kind of like the golden spike in 1869 at Promontory Utah. During the 10 years of work only one life was lost. The ribbon cutting dedication took place on October 14, 2010 and involved everyone who had worked on the project. The only wrinkle was a lone BASE jumper attempting to make history, but it was not his day and he was quietly taken away. The Bureau of Reclamation handles security and works closely with both states on security matters.

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During the Q & A period, **Wyatt McCallie** was pleased to point out that his firm CH2M was key in getting the Environmental Impact Study completed. Right on Wyatt! All in all, it was wonderfully informative and enlightening presentation. We all hope to see our guest, Phil Hahn again.

See construction photos and watch a time lapse video of the bridge being constructed @ <http://www.hooverdambypass.org/Const PhotoAlbum.htm#BridgeVideo>.

Weekly Greeters	
Date	Greeters
7/15/11	Bob Hugo & Tom Vos
7/22/11	Greg Young & Tom Charters
7/29/11	? & Jon Wachter
8/5/11	Phil Perington & James Riley

**Colorado/Wyoming District Convention**  
**Breckenridge, Colorado**  
**August 26-28, 2011**  
 For Convention Registration, see cover email  
 For Convention Agenda, see cover email

### Monaco South Calendar

- July 15 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
- July 20 Wed 6:30 pm Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
- July 22 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Andrea Mauro, Legacy Videos, A Gift for Your Family
- July 24 Sat 6:30 am Brent's Place Fund Raiser - Pancake Breakfast at Washington Park
- July 29 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Speaker TBA

### August Events

- Aug 6 Sat 7:00 am March of Dimes Annual Mudd Volleyball Tournament, Commercenter in Aurora (east of I-70 and Tower Road) NE side
- Aug 26-28 Colorado/Wyoming District Convention, Breckenridge, Colorado

## 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 (& President-Elect)	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	<a href="mailto:rfinkelmeier@comcast.net">rfinkelmeier@comcast.net</a>	Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	<a href="mailto:rzolman691@aol.com">rzolman691@aol.com</a>
Marc Goodbody	303-202-1610	<a href="mailto:mlgoodbody@gmail.com">mlgoodbody@gmail.com</a>	Phil Perington	303-832-4578	<a href="mailto:perington@msn.com">perington@msn.com</a>
Marlin Kent	303-779-0778		George Buzick	303-803-2268	<a href="mailto:gtbuzick@comcast.net">gtbuzick@comcast.net</a>
Jim Leuschner	720-851-7102	<a href="mailto:flyleusch@aol.com">flyleusch@aol.com</a>	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@g.com">pedersen.ralph@g.com</a>	Randy Marcove	303-667-3663	<a href="mailto:themarkoves@msn.com">themarkoves@msn.com</a>
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	<a href="mailto:jpiccinelli@earthlink.net">jpiccinelli@earthlink.net</a>			

**NEWSLETTER EDITORS:** Jul PHIL PERINGTON; Aug George Buzick; Sep Randy Marcove; Oct OC Larson

## 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.