



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

February 21, 2014 – Vol. 39, Issue 23



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

Editor for this Issue—George Buzick

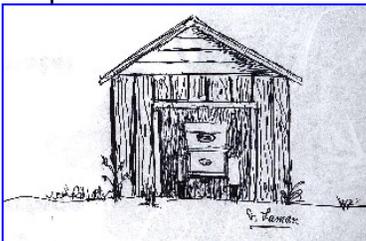
Good Morning Optimist

Pat Bush and Joe Marci were our greeters on the blustery, crisp, February morning! People seemed invigorated by the cool temperatures and were quite loquacious. As usual, our illustrious President **Jon Wachter**, rallied us up with his urging to “stand and greet your neighbors with a cheerful countenance.” He reminded us, “Our purpose as an optimist club is to utilize the tenets of the optimist creed and develop optimism as a philosophy of life.”

Wear a CHEERFUL COUNTENANCE
AT ALL TIMES and give
every living creature you meet
A SMILE.

Invocation & Pledge

On a more somber note, **Prez Jon** announced that **Gary Laman**, had died peacefully after a long illness, on Tuesday, February 18. Jon asked **Don Thomson**, a special friend of Gary’s to give the invocation in which Don affirmed that living the tenets of “*The Optimist Creed*” was important to Gary, as was his membership in the club. A celebration of Gary’s life will be



held in mid March. Gary will be remembered by some for his pencil sketches, like this one drawn during one of our Friday morning meetings in January 2010.

February Happy Birthdays

The monthly rendition of “Happy Birthday” was performed by the entire cast of the MSOC “chorale group.” Those “honored” were **Bob Avery, Ron Carlson, Craig Eley, OC Larson, Gary Miller, Russ Paul, Cy Regan, Frank Ross, Oscar Sorensen, Eldon Strong, Jim Tapp, Don Thomson, and Scott Walker.**

Presidential Announcements

Prez Jon shared a couple of pieces of correspondence that he recently received. One from State Representative Paul Rosenthal that congratulate Monaco South for having received *The National Philanthropy Day Colorado Award* and for the work with the youth of our community.

The other came from our own Jim Vander Kamp, on behalf of the *Roundup Fellowship*, of which he is Executive Director. Jim thanked the club for its continued support of this organization. The club had donated \$500 to furthering the efforts of this worthwhile organization.

Jon also announced that **Kendra Black** would be with us next week and would announce her candidacy for city council. Additionally, Jon acknowledged **Craig Eley** for his guidance and leadership in making the *Sweethearts to Breakfast* a great success. Fifty-six members attended the gala held at Citron Bistro restaurant last Friday morning. There were roses for all the ladies and all had a good time.

CO-WY Second Quarter Conference

A number of members attended the Colorado/Wyoming Optimist 2nd Quarter Conference, held in Estes Park.

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Birthday boys from left, Russ Paul, Oscar Sorensen, Scott Walker, Cy Regan, Craig Eley, Don Thomson, Bob Avery, & OC Larson, join in on the singing of Happy Birthday. Prez Jon stands in the background hoping they would sit down.

Photo John St John

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*****

Second Quarter Conference Continued

Receiving awards for last year's stellar performance were **Paul Simon**, Distinguished President; **Greg Young**, Distinguished Treasurer; and **Jack Rife** Distinguished Secretary. In addition, the Monaco South received a banner patch from Optimist International Foundation for its contribution of \$28.06 per member and **Fred Pasternak** was recognized by the Foundation for having the highest percentage of "Dime-a-Day" givers of all Foundation club representatives in Optimist International. *Good job guys!*



The fabulous band "Glass Half Empty" entertained the guests at the Stanley Hotel and was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone present, including the Optimist International Foundation Director.

Announcements

Turning 65: **Craig Eley**, who turned 65 on February 6th, shared some thoughts about incontinence and said something about "GET OFF MY LAWN!"

New Bradley Elementary JOOI Club: Prez Jon

announced that the JOOI Club has been organized at Bradley International. For those of you who are not familiar with the Junior Optimist Octagon International (JOOI) concept, the goal is to show kids in elementary, middle, and high school the benefits of sharing their talents within the community. JOOI has its own slate of International Officers, who meet coincidentally with the Optimist International Convention, held annually in July. A second goal is to develop future Optimist Club members.



Oratorical Contest: **Frank Rowe** announced that the Oratorical Contest would be held this year at George Washington High School and that we should have better participation this year, since one of the teachers at George Washington HS has made the contest a class project. Frank needs some help and will circulate a signup sheet in the near future.



King Soopers / Safeway Shopping Cards: Remember to buy reloadable cards from **Cy Reagan**, through which the club can receive a 5% commission. Since everyone has to eat at home occasionally, this is great way to feed yourself and raise funds for the club at the same time. You can also get points on you credit or debit card by purchasing the gift cards with them. You cannot beat that, even with a big stick!

Eagle Scout Awards Dinner: The annual Eagle Scout Awards Dinner will be held this evening. This event, which was started by **Donlie Smith** several years ago, recognizes the outstanding achievements of those who have attained the rank of Eagle Scout, which many of our members have done, including Donlie.

Tri Star Basketball: According to **Michael Chavez**, we have enough people to handle the Tri Star Basketball event and that it will be held on Tuesday February 25 at 4:00 p.m. at the Cope Boys and Girls Club at 808 Inca in west Denver.



Polar Plunge: If you enjoy seeing other people suffer, **Mike McMahon** invites you to Aurora Reservoir on Saturday, March 8 to watch him and several other MSOC members take the "Polar Plunge" on behalf of the Special Olympics. Mike also urges those of you who have pledged to bring your checkbooks to next week's meeting.

Super Citizen Programs: **Robert Wardlaw** reminded us of the ongoing Super Citizen programs at various schools and thanked **Rob Gardner** for his support in assuring that all schools were covered with presenters. Should you like to be part of this group, see Rob to get your name on an upcoming presentation.

Brain Bowl Finals: The Optimist Brain Bowl Championship Tournament will be held at Hamilton Middle School tomorrow, Saturday, February 22nd. **Tom Hoch** came back from Barbados just to capture the even on video. You can see his work at <https://vimeo.com/groups/85985/videos/87365631>. **Karl (Twinkle Toes) Geil** will miss the championship Brain Bowl event. Karl and Leslie will be participating in a dance exhibition over the weekend. This is the first time in many years that Karl has missed a Brain Bowl event and, while he will be greatly missed, we will all attempt to carry on in the spirit of Optimism.

OI PGI Program: A Tip from Phil: **Phil Perington**

shares a few things you can think about checking off in your PGI Passport book. Some are related to attending the 2nd Quarter District Conference.

- Level V requires attending a District Conference. Check it off!
- Level VIII requires attending two (2) consecutive Conferences.
- If you attended the 1st qtr. Conference or attend the 3rd Quarter Conference you can check it off!
- If you have attended conferences or Super Zone meetings this administrative year, you probably

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Cy Reagan takes the mike to hawk his King Soopers and Safeway shopping card wares, with the assistance of President Jon Wachter.

Photo Don StJohn

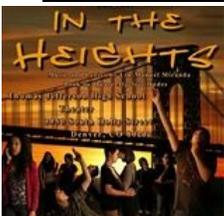
know the names designated in Level IV under "Knowledge of Organization." Check it off!

- Level I requires participation in one Club service activity and almost all regular active members have done that by now. Check it off!

Finally, you may notice that Level VII requires under "Self Development," that you serve as a Club Officer or Club officer-elect. With the Monaco South officer elections right around the corner this offers another opportunity to participate in leadership and future service within the COWY District.

Thank you all for participating in our PGI personal growth and involvement program.

Thomas Jefferson High School Musical: John



Oss shared proudly, that his granddaughter Anna Oss, a sophomore at TJ, will be the leading lady in this exciting musical, *In the Heights*, about life in Washington Heights, a tight-knit community where the coffee from the corner bodega is light and sweet, the windows are always open, and the breeze carries the rhythm of three generations of music. Anna says, "This is my fifth production at TJ and my second experience being a female lead. I am really excited for *In the Heights* and hope that many of you can see it. The musical opens on

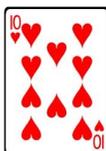
Wednesday, March 19 and runs through Saturday the 22nd. See John for more details and tickets.

The Travels of the Eley's

"This is of no particular interest, but can be used to take up space in *GUMS*, Craig writes. Cindy and I went to Tucson last weekend to visit our daughter, Laura, who is in grad school at the University of Arizona. We stopped in and had lunch with MSOC snowbirds. Pictured from left are **Kathy and Jack Rife, Roxie and Eldon Strong with Cindy and Craig Eley.**" Editor, looks like everyone is having fun at the Arizona MSOC conclave gathering. By chance did you bring home the Saguaro cactus behind you?



Drawing & Closing



The pot today was \$70, as several members attempted to draw the "10 of hearts." Both **Ron Gustas** and **Tom Mauro** had a shot, as did **Oscar Sorensen** for having his nametag on, but none was successful.

All joined in the recite the *Optimist Creed*, "Promise yourself to be"

Senior Humor



Super Citizen Presenters for February		
Feb 25 @ 1:30	Samuels	Tom Glazier
Feb 27 @ 1:00	Lowry	Frank Middleton
Feb 28 @ 9:15	Holm	Bob Avery
Feb 28 @ 12:45	McMeen	Rod Winget
Feb 28 @ 3:00	Bradley	?
Be a Super Citizen Presenter See Rob Gardner, 720-263-6203 gardnerrb@gmail.com		

Weekly Greeters	
3/7/14	George Buzick & Rod Winget
3/14/14	Tom Glazier & Mark Metavia
3/21/14	Bob Avery & Rob Gardner
3/28/14	Al Gapuzan & Jim Vander Kamp
4/4/14	Nick Newey & Tom Hoch
Need Friday morning greeters, see O.C Larson, 303-797-7432 or larson1942@comcast.net	

Monaco South Calendar

Feb 28	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Marci Elder, Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning
Mar 7	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Rod Winget, Making Movies
Mar 19	Wed	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
Mar 7	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day

**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	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	r.pedersen2658@comcast.net
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net	John Oss	720-210-8056	john.oss4us@gmail.com
Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rzolman691@aol.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: Mar **Robert Wardlaw**, Apr **Pat Bush**, May **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.