



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)



April 22, 2016 – Vol. 40, Issue 29

## Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado  
Serving Youth and the Community for 39 Years  
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012  
[www.monacosouth.org](http://www.monacosouth.org)



Editor for this Issue—Robert Wardlaw

### Good Morning Optimists



A beautiful morning today as we recognize Earth Day – we are so lucky to live in Denver, CO.

We are greeted by **Don Thomson** and **Mike White**. Don is handing out a flyer regarding the upcoming CO-WY District Optimist Golf Scramble which will be held

Tuesday May 24. This event is a fundraiser for CO-WY District Optimist Junior Golf Program. It will be held at Park Hill Golf Club. Entry fee is \$110, which includes green fees and cart, lunch, team/individual prizes, golf skills contests and a \$55 donation to CO-WY Junior Golf program.

### First Bell, Invocation & Pledge

President **Michael Chavez** rings the bell promptly at 7 a.m. **Cy Regan** delivers the invocation this morning: *“When Youth Are Present. Let us not forget that children are the hope of the future. Help each youth realize his/her potential.”* Cy then leads us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

### Guests

Guests this day are Nick Morgan, the son of **Bill Morgan**. Additionally, Dave Pierce was with us as well. Welcome Guests!

### From the Prez

**Prez Michael** announces that the Optimist Club of South Monaco will be recognized with the Helen Phelps Award from the Denver Teachers' Awards on May 12<sup>th</sup> at *The Excellence In Education Banquet*. The Helen Phelps Award recognizes both outstanding volunteers and organizations for volunteerism in Denver public schools. Award recipients are nominated by parents, teachers, school administrators, or friends.

A nominees reception was held on Thursday, April



Michael Chavez  
Photo Don StJohn

21<sup>st</sup>, at the Denver CEC Middle College, where the Club's nomination was formally announced. Those in attendance for this reception were **Michael Chavez, John Oss, Oscar Sorensen, Ralph Pedersen, Tom Mauro, John Young, Pat Bush, Greg Young, Greg Hurd, Kent Gloor, and Bob Finkelmeier**.

Those interested in attending the Denver Teacher's Award Banquet on Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at the Double-Tree Hotel, 3203 Quebec Street, at 5:30 p.m., should contact Michael Chavez and reserve a seat. Cost is \$35 per person.

**Tom Mauro** also mentioned that this is DPS' highest award and encouraged club members to attend. Tom also added that along with the Club being recognized, OCMS will award an "Outstanding Teacher Award" to a teacher from University Park Elementary School, so get out and support the club and the DPS teachers!

Gateway Optimist Club is having a Pancake Breakfast Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the Village Inn, Mississippi and I-225. Michael has tickets for all you can eat which are \$8 per person.

**Prez Michael** also shared that the memorial service for Jean Arkin, wife of **Harry Arkin**, would be today at twelve noon. **Craig Eley** reminded us that, *“Many of us who worked on the Tree Lot this past year will remember Jean Arkin playing Ms. Claus to Harry's Santa. The kids were delighted by her presence and her kind demeanor in working with Harry to deliver a never to be forgotten experience. The Club will miss Jean, as will Tamarac Optimists, where she was a valued member.”*

### Election Day

There is a lot to do this morning and with that in mind, **Prez Michael** asks **Pat Bush** to come up to the podium and begin the proceedings. It's Election Day and Pat gives us the basic rules from the Club's by-laws and starts with the nomination for President. One candidate, **Craig Eley**, has been nominated and Pat entertains a motion to approve Craig's nomination. As Pat said it, *“In the race for president, Craig Eley won*

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\*\*\*\***

in a landslide.” For pictures of this event see page 3.

For Vice President, Pat asks those nominated to step forward, identify themselves and say a few words.

**Chris Dunphy** is the first candidate to speak and tells us that there is always a learning curve when joining a new club and he has enjoyed getting to know how Monaco South Optimist Club works. He has been involved with the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration activity that will be coming up in a few months, and he will be taking a leadership role with the Holiday Party.

**Mike McMahon** disclosed that he has been a member since 2011 and has been very active in a number of club activities. Mike has been a leader with the membership committee, raised money for Special Olympics and been very active with Bradley International, serving as PTO President.

**Jim VanderKamp** reported that he joined the club in 2002 and has always enjoyed the camaraderie from membership. Jim promotes a philosophy of service, espousing the theory of asking, “*not what the club can do for you, but what you can do for the club.*” Jim focuses on the benefits of membership and welcomes the opportunity to assist.

Ballots are handed out and members are asked to vote for 2 candidates. Pat then announces, “*In the race for the two Vice Presidents spots, Chris Dunphy and Mike McMahon squeezed by Jim Vanderkamp.*”

Next are names nominated for Board of Directors were announced. Members elected to this position attend monthly Board Meetings and steer the club’s direction in entertaining new projects as well as budget and membership issues. Candidates for this position include **Rob Gardner, Wyatt McCallie, Matt Spampinato, Paul Stratton, and John Swick.**

Unfortunately Rob and Wyatt were not in attendance today so **Matt Spampinato** started. Matt is interested in starting a Robotics group for kids and becoming more involved in club activities.

**Paul Stratton** shared that he has been a member for 8 years and looks forward to serving on the board. He currently is an editor for *GUMS* and the school coordinator for Lowry Elementary Super Citizen Program.

**John Swick** said he was brought in to the club by **Bill Walters** back in 2011, and added that his involvement in club activities has done more for him than those he is helping. John said he is willing to do anything he can for the club.

After the ballots were counted **Pat Bush** announced, “*the four new Directors are, Rob Gardner, Wyatt McCallie, Matt Spampinato and Paul Stratton narrowly edged John Swick.*”

Pat Bush then shared, “*We should thank all of the candidates for sticking to the issues and running good hard fought campaigns. The election was a refreshing experience and it would be nice if the national election could be conducted with the same civility as this election. Maybe then we could actually find common ground and move forward together instead of trying to beat up the side that fell short.*”

**THANK YOU ALL FOR A JOB WELL DONE**

## Announcements

**3rd Quarter Conference:** **Paul Simon** talks about the upcoming District Convention, Saturday May 14, at Maggiano’s Little Italy, I-25 and Dry Creek. The conference will feature OI Vice President Al Clark. Also featured will be the CO-WY Oratorical contest winner and the Communication Contest winner for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Channel 9 Amelia Earhart will also speak. Registration is \$30, of which the club will reimburse you \$25, cost goes up to \$35 after April 31. You can register online at [optimistcowy.org](http://optimistcowy.org).

**District Casino Night:** **Paul** also shares that on Friday May 13<sup>th</sup> the Casino Night to benefit CO-WY Childhood Cancer will take place. The event will be held at South Metro Denver Realtor Association, 4899 S Lincoln Court. Tickets are \$35 and includes \$1,000 of play chips. Food, prizes, entertainment and a whole lot of fun. Tickets can be purchased early or you can purchase them at the door. Paul puts a plea in for volunteers to deal Blackjack, at half of the admission.

**OCMS Membership Roster Available:** **Craig Eley** tells us the new club directory is out and he invites those members to pick up a copy.

**JDRF 2016 Dream Gala:** **Ron Gustas** talks about the JDRF 2016 Dream Gala that raised \$737,784. Proceeds from this auction will help send kids with Diabetes to Camp this summer. Ron thanks those who helped out, **Dick Cohen, Gary Miller, Don Roth, Greg Young, John Oss, and Eldon Strong.**

**Special Olympics:** **Mike McMahon** tells us that Special Olympics will hold a track meet in Brighton next month and they need volunteers to help with the operation. It is called the Denver Metro Athletics Meet and will be held 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., at the Brighton High School Stadium. See Mike for details.

**Employer Reentry Forum:** **Paul Gibson** talks about the Employer Reentry Forum in Support of National Reentry Week. April 29 from 2 - 3:30 p.m., at 1225 17<sup>th</sup> Street. He says, the US Attorney John Walsh invites business owners and managers to attend the Forum to learn about the benefits of employing formerly incarcerated individuals. Topics include Work Opportunity, Tax Credit, Federal Bonding Program, and On-the-Job Training. Help assist our returning citizens so that we can keep our communities safe.

**DTC Optimist Wine Tasting:** **John Oss** announces the DTC club will host their wine tasting event May 21, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Citron Bistro, 3535 S. Yosemite Street. Pre-sale tickets are \$35, tickets at the door are \$40. Funds raised go to help the club youth events within the community. See flyer attached to *GUMS* distribution email.

**Know Brainer:** **Pat Bush** reports that the *Know Brainer* competition will be coming, April 30<sup>th</sup> at Hamilton Middle School. They are pleased to they have enough volunteers to help, but are welcome join as well. This event will be held in conjunction with Tamarac Optimist Club. Pat encourages members to come out to see what happens and the fun of getting these

## Announcements Continued

5<sup>th</sup> graders involved in a fun game setting.

### Colorado Correctional Industries (CCI) Visit:

Bob Avery confirms that Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> is the date for the tour to the CCI operation in Canon City. Members will carpool down and look at how the inmates are operating a model program that teaches them work ethic, efficiency, and business operations.

### School Supplies:

**Karl Geil** announced he has school supplies donated by Office Depot available to distribute to students who need them. **Don Thomson** stepped up and took the first box for McMeen Elementary. Thank you Karl and Thank you, Office Depot!

### Reimbursement for District Meeting:

**Greg Young** spoke up to provide clarification on the upcoming CO-WY District meeting. If you register before the end of the month the club will reimburse you \$25. So sign-up now and learn about how much more Optimism can offer you. Also, **Max Tucker** our supported student, will be in attendance at next week's meeting to deliver his speech for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Oratorical Contest. He has won the local contest and will now compete in the District competition on Saturday May 14.

**District 8 Oratorical Contest:** Lt Governor **Jon Wachter** recaps the recent District 8 Oratorical Contest emceed by past Governor **George Buzick**. Ten young men and women gave their presentations and did a wonderful job. The event was hosted by DTC and Windsor Gardens Optimist Clubs. The winners were: 1. McKinlee Ruskamp, Windsor Gardens; 2. Hayden Gray, University Hills; 3. Erika Nevarez, Tamarac.



Photo Phil Perington

**Club Banner to be Updated:** MSOC board member **Jim Easton** said he has been tasked with redesigning the Club's Banner. If you have ideas or experience to lend, please come forward and help him out, Editor: Thank you Jim for taking this on.

## Drawing

**President Michael** asks, *Do we have a drawing?*

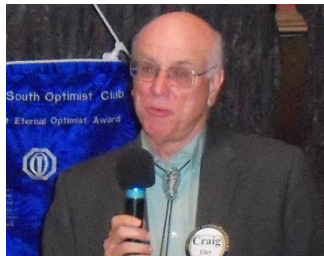
Yes, we do have a drawing this morning and there is a pot totaling \$80. The Lucky Card this week is the 6 of Hearts. Members who hold winning tickets this morning include **Phil Perington, Michael Chavez,**

**Terry Shroyer, Karl Geil, Jack Kleinheksel** who then promptly picks his own ticket. No winner of the big pot is awarded this week. **Craig Eley** then draws **Don Thomson's** name for having on his name tag, but he too cannot pick the lucky card and comes up empty!

## What OCMS Camera Catches on Election Day



Pat Bush proclaims the winners of the 2016-2017 OCMS president election.



Hearing the news the 2016-2017 president elect shows an expression of disbelief since he thought he was running unopposed.



At left are some of those members who witnessed this memorial election event demonstrating their excitement and exuberance of this successful presidential election.

Photos Don StJohn

April Super Citizen Presenters		
April 28 @ 1:00	McMeen	Dave Peck
April 29 @ 8:30	Slavens	Bob Avery
April 29 @ 3:00	Bradley	Aaron Beery

Weekly Greeters	
4/29/16	Frank Middleton & Chris Dunphy
5/6/16	Ed Collins & Allen Malask
5/13/16	Aaron Beery & Craig Eley

## Optimist Club of Monaco South 2015-2016 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Year — Chartered in 1976

Apr 29 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: Lisa Weiss, Colorado/Wyoming CCDHH  
 Apr 30 Sat 1:00 pm CO-WY District Oratorical Contest, All Saints Lutheran Church, 15625 E. Illif Avenue  
 May 6 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: Colorado State Patrol Trooper  
 May 13 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: TJHS Essay Contest Winners  
 May 14 Sat 8:00 am CO-WY 3rd Quarter Conference, Maggiano's Little Italy, 7401 S. Clinton, Englewood, CO  
 May 19 Thur 6:30 pm Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way



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

Bob Rhue	1976-77	Tom Overton	1996-97
Jerry Whitlow	1977-78	Peter Dimond	1997-98
Bill Kosena	1978-79	Ralph Symalla	1998-99
Duane Wehrer	1979-80	Cy Regan	1999-00
Curt Jefferies	1980-81	Stan Cohen	2000-01
Frank Middleton	1981-82	Don St. John	2001-02
John Young	1982-83	Jack Rife	2002-03
Pat Bush	1983-84	Karl Geil	2003-04
Bob Hugo	1984-85	Bryce Slaby	2004-05
Tom Mauro	1985-86	Donlie Smith	2005-06
Curt Lorenzen	1986-87	Paul Bernard	2006-07
Oscar Sorensen	1987-88	Greg Young	2007-08
Lupe Salinas	1988-89	Phil Perington	2008-09
Bob Avery	1989-90	Ron Cisco	2009-10
Bill Litchfield	1990-91	Ed Collins	2010-11
Bill Walters	1991-92	Randy Marcove	2011-12
Kent Gloor	1992-93	Paul Simon	2012-13
Gary Strowbridge	1993-94	Jon Wachter	2013-14
Mark Metevia	1994-95	John Oss	2014-15
Bob Safe	1995-96		

**2015 - 2016 Officers**

President	Michael Chavez	303-960-5304
Vice President	Chris Dunphy	720-297-3111
Vice President	Randy Marcove	303-840-7706
Secretary	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

**Board of Directors**

Barry Barker	813-545-4533
Pat Bush	720-254-3741
Jim Easton	720-987-7684
Tom Glazier	303-522-5214
Cap Hermann	303-587-5575
Allen Malask	303-726-3700
Bill Morgan	303-868-4384
Allen Pierce	303-883-8506
John Oss (Past Pres.)	720-210-8056

**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>	Phil Perington	303-832-4578	<a href="mailto:perington@msn.com">perington@msn.com</a>
Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	<a href="mailto:rz6267@gmail.com">rz6267@gmail.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:** Apr **Robert Wardlaw**, May **Pat Bush**, Jun **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.