



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

March 11, 2016 – Vol. 40, Issue 24



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

Editor for this Issue—George Buzick



Good Morning Optimists

March 11, the anniversary of the invention of the aluminum stepladder — see history below. In dawn light and crispy we were greeted, by MSOC members **Keith Gallaway** and **Al Gapuzan**—substituting for your editor, who totally spaced this assignment.

First Bell, Invocation & Pledge

President **Michael Chavez** opened the meeting and past president (2010-11), **Ed Collins** gave the invocation and led us in the pledge.

From the Prez

Prez Michael welcomed back our speaker chair, **Paul Bernard**, who recently had a knee replacement and is just now getting back on his feet. Welcome back Paul!

Michael also mentioned that he and **Phil Perington** had visited **Doug Morton** this past week and that next **Friday is St. Patrick's Day**, a special day for **Cy Regan** and some others who, no doubt, will be in their best singing voices. Don't miss it!

Guests

Since there were no guests, announcements were in order.


Announcements

Something LUCKY is Coming: From the Front Range American Cancer Society Optimist Club, otherwise known as FRACSOC, Facebook page: "Save the Date, May 13th, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Rumor has it that the "something lucky" is a Casino night, which will be held at the South Metro Realtors office at Broadway and mineral. Save your pennies and nickels and plan to support this fund raising event.

CO-WY Tri-Star Basketball Regionals: **John Bamford** asked for a few more people to sign up for the District Regional Tri-Star Basketball playoffs, which will be held at North High School, 2600 Speer Blvd., on Saturday, March 19. Although there are cur-

rently enough people signed up to meet our requirements, there are always those who sign up, but cannot make it. Finals will be on Saturday, April 2, before the Nuggets game.

9 Health Fair: Jon Wachter needs volunteers to

 cashier at the Channel 9 Health Fair to be held at the Schlessman YMCA on Sunday, April 17th from 7 a.m. until Noon. This is a great community event! See Jon for details.

OCMS Directory Update: **Craig Eley** once again will be taking pictures over the next few weeks to put in the semi-annual directory of members. You can put a business card sized ad in the directory for only \$25 per issue. **Tom Mauro** personally guarantees a minimum of one million dollars' increase in revenue will result by placing an ad and suggest you talk to **Oscar Sorensen** to verify that this, in fact, is true.

JDRF Gala Wine Cork Pull: On behalf of **Dick Cohen**, **Ron Gustas** reminded us not to forget to contribute wine (worth at least \$25) to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund Gala which will be held Saturday, April 16. Also Dick Cohen and Ron Gustas could use some help on Friday, April 15th in loading and unloading materials to be used at the gala. Save the date!

History of the Aluminum Ladder

During 1930, as the economy went from boom to bust, The Aluminum Company of America (ALCOA) asked project engineers to find new uses and markets for its aluminum products. Aluminum was a relatively new material and supplementary uses were not readily accepted by industry. Additionally, the depression was deepening and ALCOA was searching for more sales. The idea to manufacture an aluminum ladder originally came from a solicitation from the Oslo, Norway, Fire Department.

One of the ALCOA project engineers, Sam Carbis, submitted the idea to manufacture aluminum ladders to his superior. After discussions by the ALCOA marketing group, ALCOA decided that aluminum ladders did not fit into their corporate strategy. Thus, as the depression intensified, Sam Carbis resigned from ALCOA and created the Aluminum Ladder Company. With one customer, little money, three employees, and many ideas and dreams, Sam rented a small building in Tarentum, Pennsylvania to begin manufacturing aluminum ladders.

See the rest of the story at <http://www.aluminumladder.com/history.asp>
Retrieved from Sam Carbis Solution Group, <http://www.carbissolutions.com/>

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*****

Announcements Continued

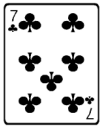
TJHS Production of Hello, Dolly: John Oss reminded us of the upcoming TJ High School production of "Hello, Dolly," which will run March 16-19, 2016 at the school starting at 7 p.m. each evening. General admission is \$10 per person. John's granddaughter Anja Oss is playing Dolly Levi.

Colorado Correctional Industries (CCI) Visit: According to **Bob Avery**, the visit to Colorado Correctional Industries (CCI) in Canyon City is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 28. If you plan on going, Bob needs your Colorado Drivers License number to get you in the gate. Bob says this will get you in but not necessarily get you out. *Due to the limited numbers allowed at any given time, Bob asks that those who have been before defer to members who have not.* To see everything CCI provides see their website at <https://www.coloradoci.com/>.

Next Week's Meeting: Although we are having a camaraderie day, **Steve Kady** mentioned he has invited **Bellamann Hee**, the Colorado State trooper who was nearly killed by a carjacker who led police on long chase in metro Denver back in March of 2014. Hee was throwing stop sticks March 12, 2014 in an attempt to stop a carjacked vehicle when the driver hit him. Steve has asked that we give him an official Monaco South Optimist greeting.

Drawing

With \$120 riding on drawing the seven of clubs, none of those who tried the drawing, including **Chris Dunphy** (twice) and **Robert Wardlaw**, who were not able to come up with the correct card. Those choosing the easy way out (a cup of money) included, **Ed Collins**, **Cy Regan**, **Jack Kleinheksel** (Duh, he won again!), **Dick Nickoloff**, and **John Walsh**.



From Former Member Bill Litchfield and originator of the Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

Hello, Hard to imagine that I have been in Charleston for nearly six years. It's a slow pace, some due to my age. I still get to the gym three days a week and an additional day with Silver Sneakers. The doctors tell me to keep doing what I've been doing; so I go home, take a nap, and follow that with a glass of wine and Hors d'oeuvres.

I joined in with a "swing" dance group last week, hoping to revive memories of my teen years. I believe I've lost a step or two, and suspect I will have difficulty finding them. Memories do come slower now. Promise yourself to be so strong

I miss Denver, old friends and the wonderful arts community. Additionally, I miss OCMS and the fun projects we all enjoyed together. Not a group like it in Charleston, however, I do work the local Optimist tree lot every year. Have you noticed the Christmas trees are getting heavier each year.

Best wishes to all my Optimist friends and hope to share breakfast with you sometime soon. Bill Litchfield

Trivia According to Your Editor

There is an old Hotel/Pub in Marble Arch, London, which used to have a gallows adjacent to it. Prisoners were taken to the gallows (after a fair trial of course) to be hanged. The horse-drawn dray, carting the prisoner, was accompanied

by an armed guard, who would stop the dray outside the pub and ask the prisoner if he would like "One last drink." If he said Yes, it was referred to as "One for the road." If he declined, that prisoner was "On the wagon."

They used to use urine to tan animal skins, so families used to all pee in a pot and then once a day it was taken and sold to the tannery. If you had to do this to survive you were "piss poor," but worse than that were the really poor folk, who couldn't even afford to buy a pot, they "Didn't have a pot to piss in" and were the lowest of the low.

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature is not just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500s: Most people got married in June, because they took their yearly bath in May and they still smelled pretty good by June. However, since they were starting to smell, brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odor. Hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

By the way, baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water!"

Remember Life Magazine

from **Steve Kady**

Steve shared this link to Life Magazine's photograph file saying that it should keep the viewer busy for more time than you really have. Take a look @ <http://time.com/photography/life/>.



Special Things About Optimists

by **John Young**

- ◇ Every Optimist feels instinctively that all the beautiful sentiments in the world weigh less than a single lovely action.
- ◇ Optimists cast the gift of a lovely thought into the hearts of friends.
- ◇ Optimists know that the luxury of doing good surpasses every other personal enjoyment.
- ◇ Optimists do all the good they can, to all the people they can, in every way they can, as often as they can and as long as they can.
- ◇ Optimists not only affirm the brotherhood of man, they live it.
- ◇ Optimists turn their faces to the sun, and the shadows fall behind them.
- ◇ Optimists find themselves refreshed by the presence of cheerful people and they make earnest efforts to confer that pleasure on others. They know that half the battle is gained if they never allow themselves to say anything gloomy.
- ◇ Optimists pull up all the weeds they find to make room for the flowers.
- ◇ Optimists know that children have more need of models than of critics, and that they need lots of love, especially when they do not deserve it.
- ◇ Optimists believe in little children as the most precious gift of Heaven to Earth. They believe that children have immortal souls, created in the image of God, with infinite possibilities for good or evil and that the kind of influence with which they are surrounded in early childhood largely determines whether or not their budding life will bloom in fragrance and beauty with the fruits of a noble God like character.
- ◇ To insure good health: eat lightly, breathe deeply, live moderately, cultivate cheerfulness, maintain an interest in life, and become an OPTIMIST!

Jeff Shoemaker

Executive Director, Colorado Parks & Greenway Foundations

Our speaker today was Jeff Shoemaker. Jeff grew up in the Wellshire neighborhood, attended Slavens Elementary and graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School. He also earned a degree in music from the University of Colorado. In the late 80's early 90's he served as a state legislator (as was his father Joe). Jeff served on the Education Committee in the Legislature at the same time our own **Tom Mauro** was a member of the Denver Public Schools Board and during that period of time when students were being bused under a court order. Jeff said he has the utmost respect for Tom and the leadership he demonstrated during those trying times.

Jeff was here at the request of **Don Thomson**, who met him while trying to get a specialized "Visit Your State Parks" license plate. Jeff is the Executive Director of the Colorado Parks Foundation (CPF), which was founded by his father, Joe who served as a state senator from 1962 to 1976.

The Parks Foundation, is an independent, nonprofit membership organization. Founded in 1985, the CPF raises funds that are placed in an endowment to carry out its mission: *To enhance Parks across the State of Colorado with annual financial support; To support and advocate for the betterment of Parks across the State of Colorado; To assist Parks across the State of Colorado in providing pleasure-packed, memorable outdoor experiences for the citizens of Colorado and our visitors.*

In the year of its founding, 1985, the foundation awarded two grants totaling, \$8,500. Since that time, the foundation has provided over 135 grants to State Parks totaling over \$835,000.

In 2007, the CPF initiated an effort create the opportunity for a license plate celebrating Colorado State Parks. After presenting the state with documentation confirming that over 3,000 Colorado citizens were interested, the legislature approved the production of the plate. By the end of 2015, over 2,150 plates have been sold for information on how to obtain these plates go to www.coloradoparksfoundation.org and click on the "License Plate" link.

Jeff is also Executive Director of the Greenway Foundation; whose mission is, "to advance the South Platte River

and the surrounding tributaries as a unique environmental, recreational, cultural, scientific and historical amenity that uniquely links our City's past and its future."

This mission will be accomplished by creating ongoing environmental and riparian enhancements; holding property, when needed, in conservation easements; utilizing the River as an outdoor and historical learning resource, hosting free cultural events promoting the relationship between the River and music, art and theatre, providing youth employment opportunities, and by promoting good stewardship through hands-on educational programs.

Since 1974, The Greenway Foundation has led efforts to:

- ◇ Reclaim the South Platte River and its tributaries from a virtual cesspool to a place of environmental and recreational pride
- ◇ Construct more than 100 miles of hiking and biking trails
- ◇ Create 20+ parks and natural areas
- ◇ Design and build numerous whitewater boat chutes
- ◇ Vastly improve the health of the South Platte River Watershed and its habitats
- ◇ Provide environmental education to more than 60,000 school children
- ◇ Employ more than 100 teenagers in youth employment programs
- ◇ Host numerous community events, and annual volunteer river clean up days
- ◇ Help create over \$100 million of green improvement to the South Platte River and its tributaries, facilitating over 10 billion in residential and commercial development throughout the Denver Metro area.

Jeff talked about some of the history of the Platte River, including the flood of 1965, the development of the Chatfield Reservoir and the general conditions in and along the Platte river basin, which were abysmal. He talked about the landfills which were adjacent to the river and the fact that *"trash in your neighborhood is trash in your water."* For more info on the Greenway Foundations, see their website at www.thegreenwayfoundation.org.



Joe Shoemaker
Photo Don StJohn



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March Super Citizen Presenters

March 16 @ 2:30	MPB	Don Ross
March 24 @ 1:00	McMeen	Bob Avery
March 24 @ 5:30	Hamilton	Curt Merrill
March 25 @ 3:00	Bradley	Aaron Beery

Be a Super Citizen Presenter
See Rob Gardner, 720-263-6203
gardnerrb@gmail.com

Weekly Greeters

3/18/16	Matt Spampinato & Jack Kleinheksel
3/25/16	Dick Zolman & Ricardo Ortiz
4/1/16	Bob Trout & ?
4/8/16	Pat Bush & Terry Shroyer

Help, Help, Help — we need
Friday morning greeters,
see Jon Wachter, 303-204-5645 or
jon_wachter@msn.com

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2015-2016 40th Birthday Year — Chartered in 1976

Mar 17 Thu 6:30 pm Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
 Mar 18 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
 Mar 19 Sat 10:30 am Tri-Star Basketball Regional Competition, North High School, 2960 N. Speer Blvd.
 Mar 23 Wed Oratorical Contest, Prairie Middle School, 122600 E. Jewell Ave., Aurora
 Mar 25 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: Craig Eley & Karl Geil, Are you smarter than the Brain Bowl Chair?



**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	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	r.pedersen2658@comcast.net
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net	Phil Perington	303-832-4578	perington@msn.com
Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rz6267@gmail.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: 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.