



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

October 28, 2016 – Vol. 41, Issue 4



Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 40 Years
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012
www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Pat Bush



Good Morning Optimist

John Oss and John Swick greeted us this morning, starting off this Halloween Weekend. What a way to end a perfect week of nice weather and great projects to be discussed later in this newsletter.



Greeters John Swick, on left, and John Oss, while Bob Avery looks on.
Photos Noel Hasselgren



Invocation & Pledge

President **Craig Eley** called upon **Jack Kleinhessel** to lead us with the invocation. He asked that we give careful thought to the decisions that must be made during this election season. We need to be mindful of all the issues involved in choosing from the fine candidates available. Editor, *"Well that pretty much eliminates this election."* He ended on an upbeat with the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

Guests

Ed Collins introduced his guest **Al Erdogmus**. Al is from Turkey and is in the granite furnishings business. **Steve Kady** introduced his guest **Frank Dreiling** who is in the kitchen business. *We welcome both Al and Frank and hope they find enough common interests with Optimism to come back again.*

New Members

Prez Craig announced that the membership applications for **Ed Leuty** and **Joe Howard** were approved at the Board of Directors meeting last Wednesday evening. President Craig welcomed both new members to the club and invited them to work on a project of their choosing in the near future to meet more members and share their experiences. Both members will be inducted once we get their membership packets from Optimist International.

From the Prez

Tamarac's Bake & Craft Sale: President Craig

mentioned that the Tamarac Optimist Club is conducting their annual bake and craft sale on Saturday. It will run from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Calvary Baptist Church. If you are hungry or need a gift idea, go by and see the ladies of Tamarac.



President Craig Eley

Tamarac Optimist Visitation: Speaking of the Tamarac Optimist Club, **President Craig** announced that we will do a visitation to the Tamarac Optimist Club membership meeting on November 17th. If you would like to see what the other clubs in the district are doing, a visitation to their club meeting is an excellent way to find out. They meet also meet at Calvary Baptist Church, 6500 E Girard Ave., NE corner Hampden and Monaco.

TJ Art & Craft Fest: The Thomas Jefferson High School Art and Craft Fest will be coming up on December 10th. **President Craig** reported that we will be seeking volunteers to help exhibitors to unload their material and find their designated locations. This is always a fun project and only takes a couple of hours.

Christmas Tree Lot Day Managers: This year, **President Craig** would like to find members to volunteer as "Day Managers" for the Tree Lot rather than having the Board of Directors do this. Day Managers work to get all of the shifts filled with staff to man the tree lot for their assigned day of the week. They will assist with the unloading, displaying, and selling of trees, wreaths, boughs, garland and accessories. This would be a good way for members who cannot lift the heavy trees involved with the tree lot.

Announcements

TJ Book Sale at Craft Fest: Tom Glazier announced that he will be conducting the Book Sale at the TJ Art & Crafts Fest again this year. He is looking for book donations. If any member has any gently

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

used books that they could donate, just bring them to a meeting and Tom will take them or you can take them to the Thomas Jefferson High School office during school hours. He will also needs help on the day of the event to set up and sell the books. If you can assist, see Tom.

Super Citizen Program: Don Thomson reported that the McMeen Elementary School Super Citizen Awards for the month of October were made last Wednesday. Those members helping with the presentations were **Mark Metevia, Mike White, Pat Bush** and himself. **John Oss** handled the photography duties.

FRACSOC Pancake Breakfast: Phil Perington commented that the Front Range American Cancer Society Optimist Club cooked up pancakes for about 3800 walkers in the Breast Cancer Walkathon last Sunday morning. Several members from Monaco South helped with the event. The walk raised over \$3,000 for breast cancer research. Monaco South members helping with the pancakes were **Wyatt McCallie, Russ Paul, Gary Strowbridge, George Buzick, Scott Walker, Barry Barker**, District Governor **Paul Simon**, Past District Gov. **Curt Merrill**, and Lt. Gov. **Nancy DeNiro** also helped out.

Dime-A-Day Program: Perry Allen reported that 43 Monaco South members have donated just over \$3,000 to the Dime-A-Day program last year. If you do the math, you will see that several members donated more than once. The Dime-A-Day contributions go to the Optimist International Foundation which supports the Childhood Cancer Campaign and other Optimist Projects. With the donation that the Public Service Credit Union made a couple of weeks ago and other non-member donations, a total of nearly \$4,000 were donated to the Dime-A-Day program last year through Monaco South. Perry will be heading back to San Diego, for his job shortly, but **Phil Perington** and **Greg Young** have agreed to accept Dime-A-Day, or the \$36.50 donation, for Perry while he is gone.

Train Show: **Greg Hurd**, now a resident news-maker, announced that the *Rocky Mountain Train Show* will soon be here. Greg a big supporter of the Train Show will have more information for us as it gets closer. Greg and his train layout has now made the cover story of *S Gaugian* magazine—the S gauge model train magazine, which he shared proudly. Greg, will also be would be featured in next months issue as well for his other layout. He offered to show members and any grandchildren, etc., his trains but you will need to pre-arrange a time with Greg. He can be reached via email @ gcahurd@msn.com.



1st Quarter District Conference: District Governor **Paul Simon**, reported that the First Quarter District



Conference was held last Saturday at Bethany Lutheran Church. **Mike McMahon** attended and said

the conferences are not just about training and business anymore. There are plenty of activities for regular Optimist Club members like informational booths and socializing with other club members. They also package meals for the [Colorado Feeding Kids project](#). Mike highly recommends that members attend the next Quarterly District Conference. For pictures from the conference see [this link to Craig Eley's pictures](#).

Halloween Pumpkin Patch: **Bob Avery** once again reminded us that Boy Scout Troup 457 is selling Halloween pumpkins at the Greenwood Community Church on the corner of Holly and Bellevue. This will be the last weekend of sales. He also told a story about how a couple of farmers who offered to take any leftover pumpkins a couple of years ago. Apparently the pumpkins help bring in the cows because they make great cow treats—"cow candy."

Membership Dues are Due: Monaco South Treasurer, **Greg Young** reminds us to pay our 2016-17 dues. Only about half of the members have paid to date and the International dues must be paid to OI shortly. If you have not already done so, please pay them now. You can pay on line with a credit card.

Reminders: Do not forget to sign up for [Brain Bowl](#) reader training. You can do so on line by going to www.optimistbrainbowl.org. Also **Chris Dunphy** corrected us and said it is [Farmer Insurance Group](#) who are collecting gently used suits for soldiers transitioning back into private life to use for job interviews. Just bring them to a meeting and give them to Chris. The Boy Scout Remembrance for **Doug Morton** has been delayed until after the first of the year. Do not go to the "For God and Country Breakfast" expecting to participate in anything but the breakfast.

Meet Ken Duffy

New member **Ken Duffy** told us a bit about himself this morning. He was born in Detroit, Michigan into a family with 8 siblings. He sent much of his childhood in foster care. Ken moved to Colorado once he became an adult and graduated from the University of Colorado in 1980. He has owned his own business for 15 years and is in the industrial adhesive business. His business card states that he is "*The Real Glue Man*." Ken was sponsored into the Monaco South Optimist Club by **Bob Avery**.



Ken Duffy

Dr. Henry Barlow

Pervasion of Social Security & Medicare

Our guest speaker this morning was Dr. Henry Barlow. Dr. Barlow spent much of his career in the field of gerontology, the study of aging and its effects on society. He has retired from his career and is now a volunteer member of the National Committee to Preserve Social Security & Medicare. They are an advocacy group working to preserve and expand the Social Security and Medicare programs in Washington D.C.



Dr. Henry Barlow
Photo Noel Hasselgren

Social Security is the sole or main source of income for 80 percent of the disability beneficiaries. One of the myths that Dr. Barlow wants to put to bed is that Social Security is a Ponzi scheme. That is not the case as Social Security has a trust fund invested in U.S. Treasury securities. Current projections show the trust funds will be depleted by the year 2034. At that time the projected tax revenue will fund only 79 percent of the projected benefits unless changes are made. The changes must increase revenue and/or cut benefits.

Dr. Barlow says Social Security is the most successful and broadly supported program in America. Most people do not think of Social Security as an insurance program but almost one third of benefits paid are for disability or survivor benefits. Currently nearly 60 million people collect some type of benefits from the program. About 71 percent or 43 million beneficiaries are retired workers or are dependents of a retired worker. The remainder is disabled workers and their dependents and survivors of deceased workers.

Currently being considered is to raise the revenue by raising or eliminating the cap on taxable wages which is currently set at \$118,500.00 and raising the retirement age from the current age of 65 to age 70. Dr. Barlow emphasizes that the problems to be solved are long term not short term problems but should be address sooner rather than later.

Some Pre-Meeting Activities



Tom Hock trying to sort out his breakfast fees with Gary Miller that were charged while he was traveling rather attending meetings. Gray brought over attorney-at-law Karl Geil to serve as judge and counselor to the negotiations.



From left John Greene, Carl Brown, Don Thomson, listening to Frank Middleton telling them who was going to win the World Series.



Joe Marci, Russ Paul, and Ed Collins get an early start on the morning coffee.

Photos captured by Noel Hasselgren

The Weeks Drawing Winners

Something that is not a Ponzi scheme is the weekly drawing. In this financial arrangement, the money paid always equals the money paid in. At left is Dr. **Bob Finkelmeier** making the pot ready for this weeks drawing.



The lucky beneficiaries this week were **Dick Zolman, John Oss, Jack Kleinheksel, Carl Brown, Perry Allen** and your editor **Pat Bush**. Those that won a chance to draw a card but were not so lucky as to draw the correct card were **Phil Perington, O.C. Larson** and **Ed Collins**.

Weekly Greeters

11/4/16	Mark Metevia & Russ Paul
11/11/16	John Oss & Dick Zolman
11/18/16	John Swick & Ken Duffy, a new member
11/25/16	Pat Bush & Ralph Petersen

November Super Citizen Presenters

Nov 10 @ 12:30	Lowry	Paul Stratton
Nov 10 @ 2:15	U Park	?
Nov 16 @ 2:30	MPB	Paul Gibson
Nov 17 @ 1:00	McMeen	Mike White

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2016-2017 40th Year — Chartered in 1976

Nov 4	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Jason Regier, Para-Olympics
Nov 11	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Nov 18	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Joe Marci, Getting Ready for the Tree Lot
Nov 25	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Brad Montgomery, Magician and Comedian
Nov 25	Fri	8:30 am	TREE LOT SETUP — all hands are needed

**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 Stowbridge	1993-94	Jon Wachter	2013-14
Mark Metevia	1994-95	John Oss	2014-15
Bob Safe	1995-96	Michael Chavez	2015-16

2015 - 2016 Officers

President	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Vice President	Chris Dunphy	720-297-3111
Vice President	Mike McMahon	303-514-5175
Secretary	Randy Marcove	303-667-3663
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

Jim Easton	720-987-7684
Allen Pierce	303-883-8506
Allen Malask	303-726-3700
Bill Morgan	303-868-4384
Rob Gardner	720-263-6203
Wyatt McCallie	303-759-2275
Paul Stratton	303-474-4358
John Swick	720-422-2733
Michael Chavez (Past Pres.)	303-960-5304

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: Nov **George Buzick**, Dec **Phil Perington**, Jan **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.