



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

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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—Pat Bush



Good Morning Optimists

Bob Avery and Kent Gloor greeted us on this cloudy and cool Friday on Memorial Day Weekend.



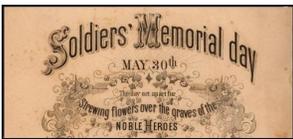
Just in case you thought Memorial Day was another excuse to have a cookout and a few beers!

Invocation & Pledge

Phil Perington gave the invocation this morning asking all members to take time this weekend to remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice to guard our freedoms and liberties. We can never give enough thanks to those who make such sacrifices. Please take some time this weekend to thank those who have served and remember those who have fallen.

Memorial Day

This weekend, we celebrate Memorial Day. It is a tradition that dates back to the Civil War. It began as Decoration Day when a group of Union veterans in Decatur, IL decided to establish a day when they would decorate the graves of fallen soldiers of the Civil War with flowers.



A Confederate version of the tradition soon sprang up but was observed on the different day. By the 20th century, the two versions had combined and eventually included honoring all Americans who died while in military service. In the south, whole families would gather to decorate the graves of their ancestors who had died in military service. These gatherings would include formal meals and serve as reunions of family members who had moved away from their roots. Today millions of Americans travel to see family and friends on Memorial Day as well as remembering our fallen soldiers. Memorial Day is considered as marking the beginning of

summer while Labor Day signals the end of summer. The most notable ceremony on Memorial Day is when the President of the United States places a wreath on the memorial of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.



MS RUN THE US

By the time you get this newsletter, Kaitlyn Morgan will have completed her 176-mile leg of the Run the US relay for Muscular Dystrophy. This morning she was at the 165-mile marker and is heading up Colfax Avenue to City Park. Monaco South is setting up a station at City Park to welcome Kaitlyn as she finishes this grueling run. Kaitlyn will have raised some \$7,000 plus for the MS Society for her efforts.



A Bill Morgan selfie and text, "We are on tenth and Wadsworth making good time, I think on time for a 11:30 arrival."



Kaitlyn makes the summit of Loveland Pass.



A proud father, Bill Morgan and wife Suzanne, who have been big supporters for their daughter Kaitlyn.

You can still support her on her MS RUN THE US page at <http://www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/Kmorgan2016/msruntheus2016relay>. Kaitlyn has been running in memory of both Pat Sorensen and Jean Arkin.



Peter Dimond Update

Peter Dimond has been moved out of the hospital and is now in the final recovery from pneumonia and hip replacement surgery. He is now at the Saint Paul Health Center, 1667 Saint Paul St. (Just south of 17th.) A card was passed around at the membership meeting for members to give their "get well" wishes and support. We look forward to seeing Peter at a meeting in the very near future. Get well!



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******

Continued on the next page

Announcements

Perington's Prognostication: Phil Perington's prognostication for the Colorado Rockies road trip (see last week's *GUMS*) was not very accurate. But ever the optimist, he said the good news was the Rockies beat the Cardinals, Pirates and Red Socks once but the bad news was each of those teams beat the Rockies twice. At least the Rockies get to look forward to the friendly grounds of Coors Field for a while.

T1DOC On-Line Auction: Ron Gustas reports that the On-Line Auction raise about \$7,500 and they will be able to fund their goal of 30 summer camp scholarships plus make a nice donation to the JDRF. This is an increase from the \$3,000 raised last year. He thanked all the members who supported the auction with bids. They will be distributing purchased items over the next few weeks. He is already looking forward to the auction next year.

Senior Golf for Junior Golf: The Senior Golf Tournament fundraiser for the Junior Golf program was held this past Tuesday. **Joe Marci** announced that the team of **Ron Cisco**, **Barry Barker**, **Lynn Jones** and **Josh Miller** took top prize with a score of 62. Second went to the team of **Joe Scalmanini**, **Paul Mott** and **Jim Magri** at 66. Closest to the Pin awards went to **Joe Scalmanini** on Hole #3, **Josh Miller** on #7, **Ralph Staudte** on #11, **Jon Wachter** on hole #15 and **Casey Funk** on #17. **Jim Grower** took Long Drive award on hole #6. **Tom Overton Jr.** (not who you think, but his son) had to Longest Putt on hole #10. **Joe Marci** took the last award of most beers consumed on hole #19. The senior tournament netted \$3,000 for the Junior Golf Championship in Palm Beach Gardens, FL.

Colorado Rockies Game: **Joe Marci** still has tickets available for the Rockies game against the Padres on Sunday, June 12th. Editor, *I understand the Rockies are favored in this game*. Tickets cost just \$15.00 of which \$5.00 goes to the Junior Golf program. Bring family and friends with you.

Jimmie Brown Perfect Attendance Awards: **Paul Stratton** announced that the Jimmie Brown Perfect Attendance Awards will be given at Lowry and Bradley Elementary Schools. Paul reports that one kid was being picked up from school by his father a little early one day but the kid refused to leave because he thought he might lose his perfect attendance qualification if he left early. (**Note:** **Leo Hagele** saw the story about the Jimmie Brown Perfect Attendance Award in last week's *GUMS* and called to say he too had perfect attendance in elementary and high school for fourteen days. He reports he is very thankful for having very little illness in his 95 years.)

Charlie Korsoski Awards: The Charlie Korsoski awards have started to be presented at each of the ten schools that Monaco South supports. **Robert Wardlaw** says the award recipients will receive a framed certificate, \$50 cash prize and have their name added to the school's Charlie Korsoski plaque. The Charlie Korsoski

Award is presented to one 5th grade student that is named the Super Citizen of the Year for each school. We congratulate each recipient at,

Bradley International School	Olivia Hernandez
Hamilton Middle School	Nubia Gomez
Highline Academy	Ulviyya Sadigova
Holm Elementary School	Alexia Codekas
Lowry Elementary School	Edward Strand
McMeen Elementary School	Nathan Gebre-Hiwot
Most Precious Blood Catholic-Samuels Elementary School	Josh Wells
Slavens Elementary School	Izquierdo-Velasco
University Park Elementary	Grace Olson
	Elaina Nederveld

Faculty of the Year: **Tom Mauro** announced that Dr. **Bob Finkelmeier** recently won the "Faculty Member of the Year" award from Argosy University. This is in addition to all of the work that Dr. Bob does for the Optimist Club of Monaco South which includes but is not limited to, Chief Editor of *GUMS* newsletter; printing all Super Citizen, Korsoski, and perfect attendance award certificates; and he runs the weekly membership drawing. Congratulations Dr. Bob and thanks for all you do!

Hugh O'Brian Leadership Conference: **Paul Bernard** is looking for optimist members to speak with young people at the Hugh O'Brian Leadership Conference. The conference will be held at the University of Denver on June 11th. Optimist member will be speaking about the value of volunteerism. If you are interested, give Paul a call or talk with him next week.

MS 150 Bike-A-Thon, Don't Just Ride, Bike MS
 Not to be outdone by Kaitlyn Morgan's Run the US Relay Run, our own **Bob Avery** announced that he will be riding in the MS 150 later this summer. Bob and many other members of Monaco South Optimist Club have been participating in this event for some 20 years. He will be passing around a pledge sheet for member donations in the weeks to come.

King Sooper's & Safeway Cards: **Greg Young** reminds all members to purchase and use King Sooper's and Safeway Gift Cards as a way of raising funds for the optimist club. The cards are reloadable and the member gets full value of the money put on the card. King Sooper's and Safeway will give between 3% to 5% back to the club. This couldn't be easier. You have to buy food; you get full value of what you put on the card and the club receives valuable funding. This is a "No Brainer" folks. If you don't already have cards, you can get them from Greg Young.

Drawing Winners

This editor bought his tickets for the drawing with **Don Thomson** and **Ron Cisco**. Not liking my numbers, I traded with Don and again with Ron. We all wound up winning with Ron doubling up on his second win. The good news is I was the owner of four winning tickets this morning; the bad news is I traded three of them away. Other lucky winners were **Lynn Jones**, **Mike McMahon**, **Craig Eley**, **John Oss** and **Steve Kady**. Don, Mike and Steve took a stab at the \$110 big pot but all drew the wrong card.



Martha Sipeki
RTD FasTracks Public Information Liaison

Our speaker this morning was Martha Sipeki with the FastTrack's program. FastTrack's is a multi-billion-dollar expansion of the Denver area's mass transit project. The voters approved FastTrack's in 2004 to build 122 miles of commuter and light rail lines; 18 miles of bus rapid transit lanes and some 21,000 new parking spots at 31 new Park-n-Ride locations. To date over 5.5 billion dollars has been committed or spent on the project.



Martha Sipeki tells about some of the changes that RTD has done with FasTracks. With Prez Michael listening.
Photo Don StJohn

through Aurora. Construction on the N-Line to Thornton and Northglenn is continuing and due to be completed in 2018 and ground has been broken on the Southeast Rail extension.

The system is a mix of commuter and light rail trains the difference being light rail is slower (55 mph maximum speed) smaller trains that are more maneuverable in tighter neighborhoods and commuter trains are larger, faster (79 mph top speed) trains that can carry larger numbers of people.

FastTrack's has created over 15,000 new full-time jobs since 2005. It is estimated that for every one dollar spent on the FastTrack's program, four dollars is pumped into the Denver Metro area economy. In 2016 five separate projects will be completed including the Flatiron Flyer rapid transit bus line between Boulder and Denver, the A-Line out to the Airport, the B-Line to Westminster, the G-Line to Arvada and Wheat Ridge, the R-Line along I-225

Projects that have already been completed as part of the FastTrack's program are the W-Line to Golden and the Union Station redevelopment project. Future projects include the Southeast and Southwest rail line extensions, the northwest line up through Boulder, Niwot and Longmont and the extension of the N-Line to Brighton.

Look Who is Here Today

Photos Don StJohn



Food for Thought

- ◇ *I had amnesia once - or twice.*
- ◇ *Protons have mass? I didn't even know they were Catholic.*
- ◇ *All I ask is a chance to prove that money can't make me happy.*
- ◇ *I'd give my right arm to be ambidextrous.*
- ◇ *If the world was a logical place, men would ride horses sidesaddle.*
- ◇ *What is a "free" gift? Aren't all gifts free?*
- ◇ *They told me I was gullible .. and I believed them.*
- ◇ *Teach a child to be polite and courteous in the home and, when he grows up, he'll never be able to edge his car onto a motorway.*
- ◇ *Two can live as cheaply as one, for half as long.*
- ◇ *Experience is the thing you have left when everything else is gone.*
- ◇ *What if there were no hypothetical questions?*

Optimist International Convention

June 30-July 2, 2016



Québec City Convention Centre
Québec City, Quebec, Canada
[Convention Centre Website](#)

Weekly Greeters

6/3/16	Ron Cisco & Casey Funk
6/10/16	Don Roth & Joe Marci
6/17/16	Jack Kleinheksel & Mike McMahon
6/24/16	Perry Allen & John Swick

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

Jun 3	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Joe Marci, Junior Golf
Jun 10	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Jun 11	Sat	5:00 pm	HOBY Leadership Seminar picnic at DU, chat with the kids about community service
Jun 17	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Jun 17	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA



**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

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NEWSLETTER EDITORS: May **Pat Bush**, Jun **Paul Stratton**, July **Phil Perington**, Aug **George Buzick**

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.