



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
Recognized as Outstanding Service Organization in Colorado in 2012

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—George Buzick



Good Morning Optimist

On this Friday, the first day of the three-day Memorial Day weekend, and in spite of the dreary, wet, crummy weather, **Barry Barker** and **Pat Bush** greeted people warmly as they entered the meeting place.

In attendance are of a number of students from East and Thomas Jefferson High schools brightened our day even more.



can do very well. We came to this decision with the boundless energy and spirit of Michael. Please contact Michael or me to join in this effort.

Dr. **Ed Fankhauser** should soon be back. His wife Jeannie reports that rides are welcome. **Greg Hurd** reports he and **Robert Wardlaw** are teaming to bring him to Friday morning meetings. Those interested to assist should make

a "checkup call," which are always appreciated. They bring opportunities to serve.

Sarah-Jane Thomson, a five time Super Citizen recipient is going to Washington with her National History Day project. She is a Hamilton Middle School seventh grader who won second place in the statewide competition, qualifying her for the national completion in College Park, MD in June. DPS has already funded her trip and she asked MSOC to sponsor her mother's trip to accompany her. The Board approved \$300.

The Story Behind the Picture

By Steve Kady

This picture was sent to the GUMS editor. When Steve was asked what it was for, here is the answer received.

I spot this person with a red nose. I get my phone off my belt, find the icon that is a camera. I activate the icon and have to hold the camera up in position in order to capture the moment. I push the button to capture the picture, exit the camera function, and activate email. After typing an email address in, I have to make up some stupid thing for the subject matter. Then I have to attach the picture to the email and send it. Now you ask me to think of a caption for the picture that I took, that I really didn't have to take, that I only took because it was different — "Freddie Pasternack the red nose!"



Do you think this brings out the blue in my eyes?

Invocation & Pledge

Phil Perington provided the invocation and lead the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States and to the republic of the United States of America. A nice reminder of "why we celebrate Memorial Day?" To see a nice reminder visit, Times, Inc. @ <http://time.com/3892630/why-do-we-celebrate-memorial-day/>. Wait for the ad to finish.

Guests

Kent Gloor introduced his uncle who is a WWII veteran, having served in the South Pacific. Welcome **Kenneth** and thank you for your service. In addition, thanks to all those who gave their lives so that we may continue to enjoy the freedoms offered this great country!

Allen Malask introduced his guest, Charles Behrend and **Randy Marcove** introduced **Kathy Sullivan**, who was here to help present the Robert Sullivan Scholarship awards.

Gary Strowbridge announced that **Mike White** returned for a second look, having been **Don Thomson's** guest last week. Welcome to all!

From the Prez

We are planning to sponsoring a new club in the Stapleton area. **George Mills** has been working on this for about four years. Lt. Gov. **Michael Chavez** presented details at last Thursday's board meeting. With the wisdom of George and our experienced members, we

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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

CCI Tour: Bob Avery reports that **Ralph and Lois Pedersen, Allen Pierce, Kent Gloor, Everett Gardner, Donlie Smith, Nick Nickoloff**, and he, ventured down to Canon City for a tour of the Colorado Correctional Industries. It was a most enlightening experience, as they visited the Tilapia Farm, fresh water lobster production, fly rod shop, goat nursery, and wild horse program. All are a part of the effort to provide training for inmates while at the same time making money for the company. Unfortunately, the furniture shop was in lockdown and they could not enter. Bob is happy to report that the whole group was let back out to arrive back home safely.

Super Citizen Programs: Hamilton Middle School held last Super Citizen Program of this year with 16 students being recognized. **Bob Avery** was the speaker and **Les Larson** the photographer. **Randy Marcove's** son Charlie, was one of the recipients.

Paul Stratton shared that the final Super Citizen assembly at Lowry Elementary was Friday, May 15. **Greg Young** and I presented the awards to 19 students. Also at Lowry, 10 kids were on pace for the Jimmy Brown Perfect Attendance Award, which Greg will be delivering to the kids on June 3. This means no absences for the whole school year. This is down from last year, when there were 18 students who were perfect. In addition, the Korsoski Award will be given out at the 5th grade continuation ceremony on June 4. This is the 11th year of Super Citizens at Lowry. Thank you to the Club for supporting the school!

Handouts at Rockies Game: **Michael Chavez** made another plea for help at the Rockies game on the afternoon of Friday, June 5th. He only has eight people signed up and needs 25 people to work—so see Michael, and sign up.

Multiple Sclerosis Bike Ride: **Michael Chavez** also said the club would, once again, staff the hydrating station at the junior high school in Longmont for the Multiple Sclerosis Bike Ride on Sunday, June 28th. Please see Michael for details.

Sponsoring a New Club: Reflecting back on the President John's announcement, **Michael Chavez** said he needs assistance with building a new club in the Stapleton area. If you are interested in helping, or know of individuals who live in that area who would make a good Optimist Club member, contact Michael at mikeart9@me.com or call 303-960-5304.

OCMS 2015-2016 Board: It was announced that being a glutton for punishment, **Greg Young** has, once again, volunteered to be the Club Treasurer. Incoming president **Don Iley** can now breathe a sigh of relief.

Colorado Symphony Presents: **Steve Kady** shared that **Megan Burt**, a young woman who entertained us a few years back at a holiday party, will be performing with the Colorado Symphony on Thursday, May 28. Megan, says that "*Jay Clifford has arranged a set worth of songs from my upcoming album for a full string section!*"



tion! They sound so amazing, I can hardly practice without weeping. Land Lines, Ian Cooke and Jay Clifford will also be performing that night." For a limited-time offer, \$20 tickets to "Turn Over The Keys" with the Colorado Symphony. Use Promo Code: MTOTK @ <http://bit.ly/1dY9tTV>.

Robert Sullivan Scholarships

Randy Marcove took the microphone to announce the recipients of this year's Robert Sullivan Scholarship. The scholarship's are worth \$1,000 and are named in honor of **Robert Sullivan**, a Monaco South Optimist Club member and an active supporter, and past president, of the Thomas Jefferson High (TJHS) School Booster Club for many years. Bob's widow, Kathy Sullivan, helped present the scholarships.



Since the award was founded in 1999, the club has awarded 175 scholarships to deserving TJHS students. The scholarships are funded with proceeds from the Christmas tree lot, which is an annual fund raising event for MSOC.

Scholarship winners were, Shawg Ahmed, Nancy Gizzelle Enrique-Arambula, Alexander Orzescu, Savannah Orth, and Austin Armstrong.



Pictured from left, Kathy Sullivan, Austin Armstrong, Gizzelle Enrique-Arambula, Shawg Ahmed, Savannah Orth, & Alexander Orzescu.
Photos Don StJohn

Each of the students was asked to identify the school they will be attending, their favorite teacher at TJ, and their favorite memory of high school. If these students are any indication, the future is bright! Unfortunately, Ms. Rena Maez, the College Advisor at TJ who selected candidates for the scholarship committee to review was unable to be here because of a pressing family matter, but our thanks go out to her for providing such fine candidates.

Drawing

With \$140 on the line and the six of hearts the card to draw, many were called, but nobody won! **Frank Middleton** and **Barry Barker** both went for the big bucks, but were unsuccessful. **Don Iley's** name was drawn from the magic jar but, alas, no cigar (or money either). Other more faint of heart ticket holders took their cups and ran. These included **Dave Peck**, **Allen Malask**, **Karl Geil**, **Allen Yockey**, **Gary Strowbridge**, and **Dick Zolman**.

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Constitutional Scholars

Tom Mauro introduced **Beth Gower**—a graduate of South High School, and yet found her way to East High School, as a teacher, and then as a dedicated volunteer—brought a group of the “Constitutional Scholars” who competed in the national competition held in Washington, DC. in April of this year. The competition, formally known as “We the People. The Citizen and the Constitution” has been held for the past 28 years. East High has



Tom Mauro introduces East High's Constitutional Scholars Volunteer, Beth Gower.
Photos Don StJohn

been present as Colorado's representative team for the past 25 years. Members of this year's team, coached by **Mark Thalhofer**, a Social Studies teacher, were **Charlie Schmidt**, **John DeMouly**, **Ethan Greenberg**, **Charlotte McClintock**, and **Remington Ruyle**.

According to the Center for Civic Education website @ <http://www.civiced.org> “Since 1987 over 30,000 students and 1,000 teachers have participated in the National Finals. Over the years, more than ten thousand parents, grandparents, friends, and neighbors have traveled to Washington, D.C., to celebrate the accomplishments of the students. In communities across America, nearly 30 million dollars has been donated to ensure the success of the events.”

“The National Finals takes the form of simulated congressional hearings. During the finals, groups of students testify as constitutional experts before panels of judges acting as congressional committees scoring the groups through a performance-based assessment. Each class is divided into six groups based on the six units of the We the People: The Citizen & the Constitution high school textbook. Each hearing begins with a four-minute opening statement by students and is followed by a six minute period of follow-up questioning

during which judges probe students' depth of knowledge, understanding, and their ability to apply constitutional principles. The format provides students an excellent opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of constitutional principles while providing the seventy-two judges with an excellent means of assessing students' knowledge and application to historical and current constitutional issues. While in Washington, D.C., students have the opportunity to explore our nation's capital, learn about government beyond the classroom walls, and meet with elected officials and other dignitaries.” Go to <http://www.civiced.org/wtp-the-program/hearings/high-school> to see some video clips of these activities.



Both Ms. Gower and Mr. Thalhofer thanked the club for continued support of this important program. At one time, this competition was partially funded with Federal funds, but because of the budget crunch, this is no longer the case. According to Ms. Gower, the cost for this year's trip was \$59,000, all raised by donations from concerned citizens, like the members of Monaco South.



Mark Thalhofer, coach of the East High School Constitutional Scholars Team.



Weekly Greeters	
5/29/15	Michael Chavez & Fred Pasternack
6/5/15	Mark Metevia & Jeff Johnston
6/12/15	Noel Hasselgren & Robert Wardlaw
6/19/15	Tom Glazier & Allen Malask
6/26/15	Nick Newey & ?
Need Friday morning greeters, see Jon Wachter, 303-204-5645 or jon_wachter@msn.com	

Super Citizen Korsoski Presentations	
Thursday, May 28	Samuels
Friday, May 29	Highline
Friday, May 29	Most Precious Blood
Friday, May 29	Slavens
Thursday, June 4	Bradley
Thursday, June 4	Hamilton
Thursday, June 4	Lowry
Friday, June 5	McMeen
Friday, June 5	University Park
Be a Super Citizen Presenter See Rob Gardner, 720-263-6203 gardnerrb@gmail.com	

May 29 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - TBA
 June 5 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Excellence in Education Presentation
 June 5 Fri Handouts at Rockies Game, see Michael Chavez
 June 7 Sun CO/WY District Optimist at the Rockies Game, see Bob Meyer, Joe Marci, or Ron Cisco
 June 13 Sat HOBY Leadership Conference, see Paul Bernard

**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	Jon Wachter	2013-14

2014 - 2015 Officers

President	John Oss	720-210-8056
Vice President	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Vice President	Don Iley	303-840-7706
Secretary	Curt Boell	303-980-1893
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

Barry Barker	813-545-4533
Pat Bush	303-750-9409
J. R. Gieck	949-636-7614
Tom Glazier	303-522-5214
Cap Hermann	303-587-5575
Jack Kleinheksel	720-938-1760
Fred Pasternack	303-758-3754
Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384
Jon Wachter (Past Pres.)	303-204-5645

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
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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: June **Robert Wardlaw**, July **Pat Bush**, Aug **Paul Stratton**, Sept **Phil Perington**

T H E O P T I M I S T C R E E D — 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.