



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

May 12, 2017 – Vol. 41, Issue 32



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—Phil Perington



Good Morning Optimists

We were all greeted by **Bob Finkelmeier** and **Wyatt McCallie** filling in for a late arriving **John Oss**, due to a traffic accident on the interstate. As you can see from the picture, it actually took **Pat Bush** and **Bob Avery**, along with Wyatt to make up for John.



Eagerly and warmly our greeters welcomed our Robert Sullivan Scholarship Award winners and their parents, guests, and teachers; in addition to the cavalcade of happy and upbeat Monaco South "clubsters." There was great glee as the ever-yummy Breakfast Burritos made their appearance on the buffet table.

Morning Musings

Fellow Optimist and Gateway Club-member, **Bob Krech**, was busy working on **Joe Marci**, **John Stoffel**, and **Cap Hermann** promoting and selling June 10th pancake breakfast tickets for Gateway's fundraiser.

Not to be outdone, CO-WY Governor **Paul Simon** was touting Casino Night tickets for the upcoming FRACSOC-Childhood Cancer District fundraiser. **Ron Cisco** roamed the room in search of players and sponsors for the upcoming CO-WY Jr. Golf Tournament to be held on Monday, June 5th. While **Tom Kramis** answered the call by presenting Ron with an entry form for a new foursome (**Middleton**, **White**, **Wachter**, and **Kramis**).

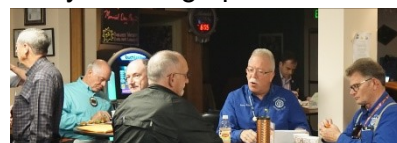
Robert Duval, **Dick Zolman**, and **Dick Nickoloff** were catching up on the important stuff. At the same time, **Eldon Strong** looking tan and rested was sharing stories about his recent 18-day cruise around the

Caribbean and through the Panama Canal. **Harry Arkin** and **Ken Duffy** were busy catching up on Club news, while a smiling **Neil Atkinson** quietly watched all the action.

Les Larsen and **Peter Dimond** who are becoming regular members again were in fine form and enjoying the morning camaraderie. **Randy Marcove**, **Paul Bernard**, and others busily helped seat students and guests to their reserved tables.

Call to Order: Invocation & Pledge

President Craig Eley gavelled the assembly to attention at 7:00 a.m. sharp. **Jack Kleinhessel** opened the meeting with a thoughtful Invocation, "...let there be hope for all future generations and bring forth a deeper understanding of the gift children bring to the world." A spirited *Pledge of Allegiance* followed with a resounding cry of "Play Ball!"



From the Prez

Update on Don StJohn: Charlene St. John informed Craig to share with everyone, Don would be returning home from the care at Clermont Park Retirement Community, the week of May 15th, perhaps as early as Wednesday. Best wishes and love to both Don and Charlene. You can call either of them at 303-757-2170, or send your best wishes their home.

Robert Sullivan Scholarship Awards: Welcome to **Kathy Sullivan**, wife of Robert and a Tamarac Optimist member, was recognized for her continued commitment to the Sullivan Scholarship Program named after her late husband. A multitude of students have benefited from this gracious act of generosity. Monaco South is proud to be a custodian, contributor, and guardian of this important youth services program.



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

Guests

CO-WY Governor **Paul Simon** introduced **Venus Sanford**, OI Vice President for the OI Southwest Region (Region 7, is one of a total of 8 regions in the United States and Canada.). She is in town for the week and touring various Optimist club meetings, attending fundraisers and participating in the 3rd Quarter CO-WY District Conference on Saturday, and promoting the upcoming OI 2017 Convention in Albuquerque, NM, July 6-8. She has been busy as a bee and a true honey of an Optimist. *A big CO-WY Welcome to Venus!*



Venus Sanford & Paul Simon
Photo Noel Hasselgren

Paul also welcomed a returning guest and the CO-WY District Secretary-Treasurer **Craig Baldwin**, noting that Craig is number one in new member recruitment in the entire district. *A big HOORAH for Craig!* He has also worked very hard with Paul and done a tremendous job keeping the District on budget.



Craig Baldwin

Robert "Bob" Krech, the Gateway Optimist Club Treasurer, Past President, and past District Lt. Governor, shared with us that Gateway founded the Brain-Bowl, annually supports the Denver Children's Home, and is taking 40+ kids on a fishing trip this Summer as part of the many youth programs their 45-year-old club engages. He also pointed out that Gateway is the home of several former Bronco players and misses a former member, our dearly departed **Fred Paster-nack**, usually a member in "good standing." Gateway meets at 7:00 a.m. every Wednesday, at the Village Inn, I-225 & E. Mississippi Ave. (SE corner). Bob was promoting Gateway's upcoming fundraiser a Pancake Breakfast; if interest in attending and supporting, contacted Bob at bobkrech@aol.com.

Announcements

National History Day: **Karl Geil** shared that the State competition for National History Day was held last Saturday, May 6th, at the University of Colorado, Denver. Over 800 students, the most ever, qualified to participate in the State contest. Unfortunately, 30 people who had volunteered to serve as judges for the event failed to show up. This caused a great deal of confusion and schedule-juggling by the organizers in order to make sure there was a team of judges for each grouping of projects. Three MSOC members did show up and serve as judges: **Everett Gardner**, **Joe Marci**, and **Karl Geil**. History Day competitors choose a topic related to the annual theme, which this year is "Taking a Stand in History," and prepare a research paper, an exhibit, a website, a documentary, or an original stage performance. The top two in each category move on to the national competition at the University of Maryland. This year, two projects from our Super Citizen partner, **Hamilton Middle School**, were sent on to national, and another entry from Hamilton was the alternate in its category.

Lowry Elementary Carnival: **Paul Stratton** asked members to please sign up for the Annual Lowry Elementary

Carnival, Friday, May 19th from 4:00 to 7:30 p.m. There are two shifts in need of volunteers one from 4 to 5:30 and another 5:30 to 7 p.m. The event will be outside.

Type 1 Diabetes Optimist Club: **Greg Young** reminded us that the TI-DOC (Type One Diabetes Club) auction opens today and offers many useful and entertaining items. The fundraising goal of \$10,000 will be used to sponsor Type-1 kids for Summer Camp. See GUMS distribution email for the flier and internet link to make bids.

DTC Optimist Club Wine Tasting: **John Oss** promoted the DTC's annual wine tasting and auction on Saturday, May 20th at the Citron Bistro, from 1 to 3 p.m. In regard to DTC auction he said, "On a sad note, there will not be any vintage or fixer-upper cars this year." John also apologized for missing History Day and will leave his punishment up to the even and fair-minded Karl Geil.

Need for Prayers: **Dick Nickoloff** shared that a month ago during "Happy Bucks" he announced his daughter Sarah was expecting twins. However, she has developed "Cholestasis," which occurs in about 1 out of 1,000 pregnancies, and is having to move up delivery to protect the twins. A C-section is scheduled for May 15th. Please keep the little ones in your hearts and prayers.

CO-WY Junior Golf Tournament Fundraiser: **Joe Marci** reports that the Junior Golf Tournament fundraiser will be supporting 66 kids and is just around the corner—both a Rockies Baseball Game on May 28th and Golf Tournament on June 5th. Apparently, a Fearsome Foursome from Tamarac has signed up for the golf tournament and has declared they would "whip everyone's you know what." **Ron Cisco** in charge of fundraising is now in charge of spreading this rumor as well. [See the Junior Golf webpage by clicking here.](#)

Colorado MS-150 Hydration Station: **Michael Chavez** is again heading up the MS-150 Hydration Station on Sunday, June 25th, so please sign up. This is a major effort, and a lot of volunteers are needed. More details will be provided in the weeks to come. Note, the Tamarac Club always comes through with a substantial number of volunteers.

Bob Avery announced with a big smile and a statement that he has finally signed his last tuition check for his son's graduation. He also reminded us on the importance of the MS-150. He has ridden since 1990, and a new drug has been discovered to help turn the tide of MS. The Hydration Station has been named the **Pat Sorensen Stop** in honor of her lifelong battle with MS.

JOI Convention: **Jon Wachter** reported on the inaugural JOI Club Convention, held last weekend, and where Monaco South provided lunch to everyone. **Randy Marcove** apparently smoked four turkeys for the sandwiches but would not disclose the process.

Need a Motor Home: **Ken Duffy** wants to travel and is looking to acquire a motor home or perhaps a van conversion. Any possibilities or leads would be appreciated. If you know of anything that is available, contact Ken.

Remarks from Venus Sanford

Venus Sanford, a member of Coronado Club Bernalillo-N.M., and Vice President of OI, said that she was pleased and encouraged to see so many Optimists in the room. To that, President-Elect **Jim Easton** pipes up and says he wants to hear a good joke. She took the bait and responded "just look around the room" touché. Laughter and hooting followed.

Venus, then went on to explain that we constantly need to think about replacing ourselves, because time marches

Continued on the next page

Venus Sanford Continued

on and sustainability is crucial to the survival of Optimist Clubs, so please help her with your ideas. Her Club in New



Venus Sanford
Photos Noel Hasselgren

Mexico engages in a Women's Homeless project, now in its 4th year. The end game is to raise \$50,000 to replace the programs small office and equipment/ fixtures with a much needed 9,000 sq. ft. of space. Their mission is helping kids graduate from high school and to have some financial literacy and culinary art skills when they

leave. There is also a "How to care for the Elderly" element included. As a single Mom, Venus shared with us that the secret to raising her daughter, a University of Denver graduate, and now becoming an active life time member of the Optimist Family is living and promoting the Optimist Creed. It works every time.

The good news Venus shared was that those attending the upcoming OI Convention will be able to get a free massages. Additionally, she shared that one of the basic elements of the Convention is the sharing of many innovative ideas and associated workshops. On Friday night there will be a fun and exciting Hospitality Suite open to the expected 1,000+ attendees from all over the world. There is more to come, and Venus is available to talk and meet with any Club. She closed by saying the CO-WY Optimists are some of the most enthusiastic and committed folks she has met. Editor: *We agree and hope to see her again soon. Thank you, V.P. Sanford!*

Honoring Sullivan Scholarship Recipients

Randy Marcove, served as emcee and asked Joe Marci to come on stage and introduce the Thomas Jefferson High School (TJHS) guests and the Sullivan Scholarship Award winners. In attendance were TJ's Principal Mike Christoff and Rena Maez, Lead College Advisor, plus family members and friends of the recipients.

In no particular order, the Robert Sullivan Scholarship Recipients are:

- ◇ Alexander Tate, also a Highline Academy Super Citizen
- ◇ Bhawana Acharya
- ◇ Brooke Moore
- ◇ Reche Mouwembe
- ◇ Kaela Martinez



Randy asked each student to share their favorite experience and teacher during their high school program, plus where they plan to go to college and what they plan to study.



TJ Principal Mike Christoff & Randy Marcove.

At left, principal Christoff, thanked Monaco South and everyone who has supported the students. He shared that about 176+ scholarships have been granted since

the start of the Robert Sullivan Scholarship program began.



Do We Have a Drawing?

With \$80 in the pot and the Queen of Spades the card to find had two winners go for the pot money, **George Buzick** and **John Stoffel**, but no winner.

Cups takers were **Lynn Jones**, **Ron Cisco**, **Alan Malask**, **Paul Gibson**, **Jack Kleinheksel**, and **Dick Nickoloff**.

For the Name Tag Drawing it was **Paul Bernard**, but again, "Sorry Charlie."

Meeting Closing Creed

The Optimist Creed was led by Venus Sanford and brought this Friday's meeting to a close.

Weekly Greeters

5/19/17	Rob Brewer & Pat Bush
5/26/17	Keith Galloway & Russ Paul

May Super Citizen Presenters

May 17 @ 2:30	MPB	Frank Middleton
May 18 @ 12:30	Lowry	Greg Young
May 18 @ 2:15	Univ. Park	?

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

See the Online Calendar @ <http://www.monacosouth.org/Events/Calendar>

May 19	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Partners in Education Award for Excellence
May 26	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Respect for Law (Word has it there will be nine guests in our audience for this presentation.)
June 2	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
June 9	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: John Wiebenga, Cancer Survivor

**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	Michael Chavez	2015-16

2015 - 2016 Officers

President	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
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

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Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rz6267@gmail.com	Paul Stratton	303-366-6375	pcstratton@comcast.net
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Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	rlawardlaw@gmail.com	Craig Eley	720-771-0866	craigceley@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: May **Phil Perington**, June **George Buzick**, July **Robert Wardlaw**

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.