



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

August 16, 2019 – Vol. 43, Issue 46



Optimist Club of Monaco South



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 43 Years
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012
www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton for Robert Wardlaw



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Good Morning Optimists

Waiting to greet a large and enthusiastic turnout for our meeting today, were our official greeters, **Phil Perington** and **Russ Paul**, who was standing in for **Ed Collins**. However, **Don Thomson** and Prez **Everett Gardner** joined in on the photo op.



From left, Don Thomson, Russ Paul, with Phil Perington & Everett Gardner in the background.
Photos Noel Hasselgren



Did You Know

On this day in 1862, was the birthday of **Amos Alonzo Stagg**, American athlete and American football pioneer and college coach in multiple sports, who was born in West Orange, New Jersey. Stagg lived to be 102, dying in March of 1965.



First Bell, Invocation & Pledge

President Everett Gardner rang the bell to start our meeting, welcomed all of our School Principals, and called on **Tom Hoch** for the invocation and pledge. Tom spoke about our commitment to adopting Optimism as a philosophy of life. He then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

Guests

Prez Gardner asked, "Do we have any guests?" The answer was a quick "YES!"

Tom Kramis introduced **Jared Madison**. Jared is a Denver native, and he and his wife of 20 years have three sons. He owns spas in Bermuda and here in Denver. He met Tom through a mutual friend



Jared Madison greeted by Robert Wardlaw

doing work on a building project. Welcome!

Tom Mauro introduced **Dick Nickoloff's** neighbor, **Rob Hoffman**. Rob is a Southmoor South resident and has been in Denver 45 years after graduating from CSU. He and his wife are both realtors. Dick arrived in time to speak well of Rob and his work on their neighborhood association board.

Thanks for joining us, Jared and Rob! And thanks for inviting and welcoming them, Tom and Dick!

Colorado Teacher of the Year

Prez Gardner again welcomed all and turned the microphone over to **Jon Wachter**. Jon introduced **Meg Cypress** from Bradley International. Meg has joined us before, having received the Colorado Teacher of the Year award. During the last school year, she asked her 5th grade International Baccalaureate students to interview members of the community about their experiences growing up, specifically around war, and any experiences with not having enough food to eat. She reached out to Monaco South, and some of our club members were interviewed by the students. Meg showed a videoclip of the results. Our own **John Oss**, **Phil Perington**, **Ron Cisco**, **Bob Avery**, and **Kent Gloor** were featured. Meg said thank you to the club for helping the students learn more about the community they live in.



Meg Cypress, Colorado Teacher of the Year, from Bradley International.

Super Citizen School Principals

Robert Wardlaw, Super Citizen Program Coordinator, kicked off today's program—our annual Principals to Breakfast meeting. Robert read the definition of citizenship, which is simply a person's conduct as a citizen. He said our club's goal is to recognize and encourage responsibility and celebrate contributions students make in their schools and in their communities. He thanked all of the principals for their attendance and asked them to share some words about their school and the program.

Steve Wera, an OCMS member and Principal from Bradley Elementary said that this year their school theme is "Superheroes." It is to promote the teachers as the "superhero." He thanked the club and in particular **Jon Wachter** for starting the Junior Optimist club (JOI) at



Steve Wera

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 next page

SC School Principals Continued

Bradley. The 5th graders feel like they are doing good, and work to make decisions on how they can help in their community. The JOI club helps them see a bigger world and larger possibilities.

Cesar Rivera from Samuels Elementary said thank you to the club for promoting volunteerism and fundraising for kids. He was a Super Citizen in his school in Pueblo growing up, and said it was the first time he felt recognized for his efforts, and it filled him with pride. He likes seeing that pride in the kids and parents at his school during Super Citizen assemblies. Samuels is working to making connections and to build optimism in their students. Last year 52 of their kids were recognized as Super Citizens.



Cesar Rivera

Colleen McManamon is the Principal at Most Precious Blood. She said the school is nearing the end of an 18-month long construction project. Colleen views this annual breakfast as a positive ritual for her during her 16-year career at MPB. She enjoys the partnership with Monaco South around building up kids, not tearing them down. Over the last three years, the school has had a program called "Leader in Me," which is a kids version of "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People," by author Stephen Covey.



Colleen McManamon

Christian Sawyer, who is the Principal at Hamilton Middle School, shared that one of his first meetings as principal was with Tom Mauro and Karl Geil who talking about the Super Citizen program and Optimism. He feels that the Super Citizen program is about good in the world. Christian said "this is why we become educators—seeing kids and families and teachers realize a dream." This year Hamilton has built a "maker space" where students can build whatever they want, and try new tools and equipment. The school is also doubling down on their already successful reading program.



Christian Sawyer

Waajid Norman is a new Assistant Principal at McMeen, and was introduced by Don Thomson. Waajid relocated from Atlanta and this is his first year in DPS. McMeen has 600 students from 30 countries and they speak 16 different languages. He enjoys the challenge that brings, and they are rolling out personalized learning programs, so that the studies are relevant to each student. The school is also excited about all new furniture in the classrooms, including desks with "white board" tops so that kids can write and draw all over them.



Waajid Norman

Weekly Greeters

Sign-Up with Jon Wachter to be a greeter, it is a good way to meet members.

8/23/19	John Young & Bill Morgan
8/30/19	Pat Bush & Perry Allen
9/6/19	Stave Kady & Robert Wardlaw
9/13/19	Roy Jarrett & Ron Cisco

Super Citizen Schools

The full list of the principals and staff at the schools we support, along with the club members who serve as the school representatives, see below:

- ♦ **Bradley International School**, Principal Steve Wera & Secretary Evonne Edwards— Rep. **Jon Wachter**
- ♦ **Hamilton Middle School**, Principal Christian Sawyer & Teacher Lesley Meyer— Rep. **Tom Mario & Karl Geil**
- ♦ **Holm Elementary School**, Principal James Metcalf & Secretary Shawna Nordlander— Rep. **Donlie Smith**
- ♦ **Lowry Elementary School**, Principal Adrienne Nault & Dean of Culture Lindsey Zilverberg— Rep. **Paul Stratton**
- ♦ **McMeen Elementary School**, Principal David Adams, Assistant Principal Waajid Norman, & Family Liaison Lilly Brown— **Don Thomson & Pat Bush**
- ♦ **Most Precious Blood Catholic School**, Principal Colleen McManamon & Secretary Susan Wyatt— Rep. **Gary Miller**
- ♦ **Samuels Elementary School**, Principal Cesar Rivera & Secretary Sharlyn Flaxer— Rep. **Kent Gloor**
- ♦ **Slavens Elementary School**, Principal Kurt Siebold & Assistant Principal Melissa Hatchet— Rep. **Tom Hoch**

Super Citizen Coordinator, Robert Wardlaw

Super Citizen Certificate Producer, Robert Finkelmeier

Our Premier Service Project, the Super Citizen Program ...

... recognizes each school nominated SUPER CITIZEN with a framed certificate signed by our Club President, Denver's Chief of Police and Mayor, and a T-shirt proclaiming them to be a Super Citizens at that school, and a letter from the Governor. Photos are taken of each child with his/her parent and/or teacher.

- This past academic year, 2018-2019, MSOC presented 598 certificates.
- Since 1988 to present, Monaco South Optimists has presented 18,939 certificates.
- For the history of the program and the **Charlie Korsoski Super Citizen Award** [Click Here](#).

Special Guest

We had another special guest speaker today, Timi Kola-Abiola. Timi is a junior at George Washington High School. As a middle school student, he earned the Super Citizen award at Hamilton. Back in April, the club donated \$400 for Timi to participate in the **Colorado Student Leader Institute**.



Timi Kola-Abiola with Prez Gardner.

Timi and the rest of the student leaders worked this summer on the "culture of contempt" and how to combat it. They discussed gun violence

and school funding with state representatives. Timi worked on ideas regarding the sustainability of Colorado infrastructure, specifically around creating energy out of waste water, and they made a short-term business plan. He wanted to come to our meeting to report on what our sponsorship meant to him, and thanked the club for supporting him. His older brother, Wakell Kola-Abiola, who is working on a degree at Arizona State University attended along with Timi. More information on the Colorado Student Leader Institute can be found at www.costudentleaders.org.

Announcements

Boy & Cub Scouts: Time was sort for club announcements, but **Frank Middleton** gave us a heads up about a project at Denver South High School. There is a Boy Scout unit at the school for kids who do not have the means to go hiking or camping. South High has a school activity day next Friday, August 23rd, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the school. Frank is looking for some help promoting the Scouts and encouraging kids to join. Please contact Frank if you can help out.

Palisade Peach Delivery: **Bob Finkelmeier** reported that we probably will not get our peaches until the end of August, since the grower indicated they are not ripening as quickly as expected. As you may know, we get peaches that are ripened on the tree before they are picked. It may even be after Labor Day, but time will tell. Everyone will be called you once they arrive.



Super Citizen Presentation Dates: Super Citizen school representatives are encouraged to contact their respective school to get the presentation dates for the 2019-2020 academic year. Once obtained, please get them to **Bob Finkelmeier** to be added to the SC Presentation Calendar.



From the CO-WY District Convention

Bob Meyer, our Club vice-president and president in waiting for 2019-2020, was in attendance at the District Convention, at the Pueblo Convention Center, Pueblo, CO. While he was there it seems he went through a transformation. The editor of the District Newsletter, Nancy DeNiro shared this photo to commentate his new look.



Breakfast with the Principals Comradery



Photos Noel Hasselgren

Words of Wisdom & to Think About

- ◇ A day without sunshine is like night.
- ◇ On the other hand, you have different fingers.
- ◇ 42.7 percent of all statistics are made up on the spot.
- ◇ 99 percent of lawyers give the rest a bad name.
- ◇ Remember, half the people you know are below average.
- ◇ He who laughs last, thinks slowest.
- ◇ Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.

- ◇ The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese in the trap.
- ◇ Support bacteria. They're the only culture some people have.
- ◇ A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
- ◇ Change is inevitable, except from vending machines.
- ◇ If you think nobody cares, try missing a couple of payments.
- ◇ How many of you believe in psycho-kinesis? Raise my hand.

Do We Have a Drawing

A relatively modest \$30 was in the pot. The **7 of Clubs** was the key to getting it.

As the ticket numbers were called safe money cups went to: **Ed Leuty, John Young, Bob Avery, Dick Nickoloff, Russ Paul, and Karl Geil.**



Ron Cisco took a shot for the \$30, but came up empty. Our last lucky ticket and draw went to **President Gardner**, and lo and behold, he pulled out the **7 of Clubs!** Winner, winner chicken dinner! Congrats to Everett!




Lucky Prez Everett finds the right card and is \$30 richer.



Don't forget invite NEW Members to breakfast.

OPTIMIST CLUB OF MONACO SOUTH
MEETS EVERY FRIDAY - 7 TO 8 AM AT THE AMERICAN
LEGION HALL, I-25 AND YALE (5400 E. YALE)

 YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

YOUR HOST: _____
Breakfast is complimentary
www.monacosouth.org

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2019-2020 43rd Year — Chartered in 1976
See the Online Calendar @ <http://www.monacosouth.org/Events/Calendar>

Aug 23	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Aug 30	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Sept 6	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: John Paterson, Volunteer Coordinator, Brent's Place
Sept 13	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Brad Appel, Founder/Executive Director, Wish for Wheels
One Hundred Percent Day			
Sept 14	Sat	7:00 am	Alzheimer's Walk to End, City Park East, 2001 Colorado Blvd.
Sept 19	Thur	6:15 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Schlessman YMCA, 3901 E. Yale, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Sept 20	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Sept 21	Sat	5:30 pm	Celebrate Your Optimism Year End Banquet, Heather Gardens Rendezvous Restaurant, 2888 S. Heather Gardens Way
Sept 27	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Uli Pappus

2018 - 2019 Officers

President	Everett Gardner	949-246-0984
Vice President	Steve Kady	303-931-1470
Vice President	Bob Meyer	303-814-5990
Secretary	Tracy Sorensen	303-886-1743
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

2018 - 2019 Board of Directors

Ken Duffy	303-880-5072
Tom Glazier	303-522-5214
Noel Hasselgren	303-475-7125
Jack Kleinheksel	720-938-1760
Tom Kramis	303-917-5299
Dan Rodriguez	303-521-5120
John Stoffel	720-837-3013
Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532
Jim Easton (Past Pres.)	720-987-7684

Past Presidents

Bob Rhue	1976-77	Lupe Salinas	1988-89	Stan Cohen	2000-01	Paul Simon	2012-13
Jerry Whitlow	1977-78	Bob Avery	1989-90	Don St. John	2001-02	Jon Wachter	2013-14
Bill Kosena	1978-79	Bill Litchfield	1990-91	Jack Rife	2002-03	John Oss	2014-15
Duane Wehrer	1979-80	Bill Walters	1991-92	Karl Geil	2003-04	Michael Chavez	2015-16
Curt Jefferies	1980-81	Kent Gloor	1992-93	Bryce Slaby	2004-05	Craig Eley	2016-17
Frank Middleton	1981-82	Gary Strowbridge	1993-94	Donlie Smith	2005-06	Jim Easton	2017-18
John Young	1982-83	Mark Metevia	1994-95	Paul Bernard	2006-07		
Pat Bush	1983-84	Bob Safe	1995-96	Greg Young	2007-08		
Bob Hugo	1984-85	Tom Overton	1996-97	Phil Perington	2008-09		
Tom Mauro	1985-86	Peter Dimond	1997-98	Ron Cisco	2009-10		
Curt Lorenzen	1986-87	Ralph Symalla	1998-99	Ed Collins	2010-11		
Oscar Sorensen	1987-88	Cy Regan	1999-00	Randy Marcove	2011-12		

Newsletter Committee

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	Paul Stratton	303-366-6375
George Buzick	303-803-2268	Pat Bush	720-254-3741
Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Phil Perington	303-832-4578	Greg Young	303-759-3921

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: August **Robert Wardlaw**, September **Pat Bush**, November, **Phil Perington**

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.