



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

February 2, 2018 – Vol. 42, Issue 18



## Optimist Club of Monaco South



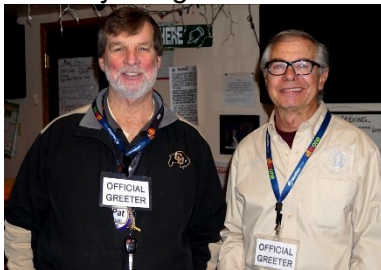
Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado  
Serving Youth and the Community for 41 Years  
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012  
[www.monacosouth.org](http://www.monacosouth.org)

Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton



### Good Morning Optimist

Today our greeters **Mark Metevia**, **Pat Bush** and **Punxsutawney Phil** saw their shadows; therefore, six more weeks of winter and six more weeks of bad jokes.



Pat Bush & Mark Metevia  
Photo Noel Hasselgren



digger". Young groundhogs may be called chucklings. Other marmots, such as the yellow-bellied and hoary marmots, live in rocky and mountainous areas, but the groundhog is a low-land creature. It is widely distributed in North America and common in the northeastern and central United States and Canada. Groundhogs are found as far north as Alaska, with their habitat extending southeast to Georgia.

### Invocation & Pledge

Past CO-WY Governor and OCMS President **Phil "Don't call me Punxsutawney" Perington** gave us a reminder to look at the sunny side of everything. He then led the *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag*.



### Guests

Today was a big day for guests! **Jack Kleinhessel** introduced **Alan Magnuson** of the Boy Scouts Denver Area Council and Eagle Scout Association. Alan chairs the Eagle Scout Recognition Banquet, which is also sponsored by our club. He knows a good number of our members and seemed right at home. Come on back, Alan!

**Andy Tont** was introduced by **John Oss**. Andy is from Western New York and has been in Colorado the last four years. Andy saw his grandson getting recognized as a Super Citizen and met John, who talked up the club and piqued his interest. Happy to have you here Andy! Come and join us!

**Phil Perington** introduced **Nate Smith**. Nate is a member of the **Englewood Optimist Club** and works at Englewood High School as their Vice Principal. He is the chairman of a fundraiser for their club, which will be a dodgeball event. This sparked a good deal of discussion regarding the wisdom of a dodgeball event, but we are sure Nate will make it fly.

### Announcements

**Dime-A-Day Program:** **Perry Allen** announced that he is going to Costa Rica for a long overdue vacation. When he returns to the States, he will be moving back to San Diego with his employer. He will be in California

Continued on the next page

Additionally, they all forgot to tell us that as of this weekend **Girl Scout Cookies** go on sale in Colorado. To find cookies, [click here](#).



### From the Prez

Since it is Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> and it is Groundhog Day, President **Jim Easton** forgot to ask if there were any guests on this Friday morning after his welcome. Instead we learned:

*Groundhog Day is a popular tradition celebrated in the United States and Canada on February 2. It derives from the Pennsylvania Dutch superstition that if a groundhog emerging from its burrow on this day sees a shadow due to clear weather, it will retreat to its den and winter will persist for six more weeks, and if he does not, due to cloudiness, spring season will arrive early.*

The groundhog (*Marmota monax*), also known as a woodchuck, is a rodent of the family *Sciuridae*, belonging to the group of large ground squirrels known as marmots. It was first scientifically described by Carl Linnaeus in 1758. [The groundhog is also referred to as a chuck, wood-shock, groundpig, whistlepig, whistler, thickwood badger, Canada marmot, monax, moonack, weenusk and red monk. The name "thickwood badger" was given in the Northwest to distinguish the animal from the prairie badger. Monax was a Native American name of the woodchuck, which meant "the



**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



until at least May. So, do not forget the Dime-A-Day Program while he is not here to remind us! Just \$36.50 gets you membership in this prestigious club. Make out a check for \$36.50 to Optimist International Foundation, with referencing "Dime-A-Day" in the memo section, and give the check to **Greg Young**.

**Monaco South Optimist Shirts & Hats:** **Greg Young** encouraged us to sign up for long-sleeve and polo shirts! You can choose to have your name on them if you like. They will be delivered in about two or three weeks. Monaco South hats are also available.

**King Soopers & Safeway Cards:** **Greg Young** also reminded us that he has \$10 reloadable gift cards for Safeway and King Soopers. Do not pay cash, use a reloadable card! See Greg and the club will get 5 percent back. You can use your credit card to load and reload these cards, thus getting your credit card points while supporting Monaco South.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter District Conference:** Coming up on Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter District Conference. Monaco South achieved Distinguished status for last year and will receive recognition. Late registration is still available at \$50, but remember the club will pay \$25 towards your registration, with a copy of the registration submitted to treasurer, **Greg Young**. Let's have big showing at this conference. It will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Ciancio's Restaurant, 9650 Sheridan Blvd. in Westminster. More details and the agenda are attached to the GUMS distribution email.

**Know Brainer:** President **Jim Easton** announced that the sign up for the Know Brainer event will be Online ONLY! The Know Brainer is sponsored by Monaco South and Tamarac clubs for 5<sup>th</sup> graders in the south-east Denver area. If you are interested in helping with this great event, then let him know.

**Colorado History Day:** **Karl Geil** is still looking for experienced History Day Judges to help whittle down the Hamilton Middle School History Day projects to the top 20 which will be entered in the regional competition. Judging will take place on Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Let Karl know if you can assist.

**Are You Smarter Than the Brain Bowl Chair?:** The date has changed for the anticipated humiliation of **Karl Geil** in this competition. It will take place at our March 9, 2018 meeting. Join **Bob Avery**, **Al Gapuzan**, and **Dick Nickoloff** to match wits with the Brain Bowl Chair. Let **Craig Eley** know if you are interested.

**Golf Exposition:** The Golf Exposition will be held at the Merchandise Mart (58th & Washington) on February 9<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup>. Optimist Junior Golf will have a table at the expo to promote the Junior Golf program. **Joe Marci** and **Bob Meyer** are looking for help in manning the exhibit. Helpers will be handing out tournament applications and infor-



mational pamphlets to juniors (boys and girls from age 8 to 18). You can also take some time to walk around the expo to see all the golf exhibits free of charge. You will get an Optimist Junior Golf shirt to wear while at the expo. What more can you ask, free admittance to the golf expo, a free golf shirt, and a chance to hang out with fellow Optimists and golf enthusiasts. Fifteen club members have already signed up so far.

**Tri-Star Basketball:** **Michael Chavez** announced that the Tri-Star Basketball competition will be held on February 15<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 to 5:30 at the Cope Boys and Girls Club. He is looking for volunteers to monitor the events for shooting, passing, and dribbling for the kids 8 to 13 years of age. The top kids will go to regionals and then to finals. Let Michael know if you can help with this local event.



**Rails in the Rockies & Rocky Mountain Train Show:** **Greg Hurd** let us know about two train shows you will not want to miss. The **Rails in the Rockies** show is sponsored by the Estes Valley Model Railroaders and will be held at the Stanley Fairgrounds, 1125 Rooftop Way, Estes Park, CO on February 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, starting at 9 a.m. More can be found at <http://railsintherockies.org/>. The second show is the **Rocky Mountain Train Show** to be held at the Denver Mart on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> starting at 10 a.m. More information can be found at <https://rockymountaintrainshow.com/>.

**Ski Day Cancelled:** **Mark Metevia** shared that **Bob Avery** had to cancel the Ski Day, that was planned for this weekend. Bob must attend a clients funeral and will rescheduling the Ski Day for later this winter. Stay tuned.



Bob Avery

**Bradley International JOI Club:** **Jon Wachter** announced the Bradley International JOI club went to a senior center to visit and to share. They did coloring and shared their meteorology reports with the senior residents. It was a successful event and they are planning to return in the near future. If you would like to join Jon and the Bradley JOI Club, let Jon know.

## Weekly Drawing

There was a drawing! Cups of easy cash went to: **Alan Yockey**, **Tom Glazier**, **Don Thomson**, **Mark Smith**, **Craig Eley**, and our speaker **Kayla Gabehart** who thanks **Jim Easton's** generosity since he shared the ticket.

The Two of Clubs was the lucky card of the week. Due to **Allen Pierce's** big win last week, a modes \$20 was in the pot. **Ron Gustas** and **Karl Geil** came up empty. From the name tag jar emerged the name of the one-and-only **Ron "The Drawing Delivery Man" Cisco**, and he plucked out the card! Cries of fraud and malfeasance greeted the Ron, yet it after an audited and verification of an up-and-up process, Ron has \$20 he can use on forever stamps. See picture of Ron's delight on the next page.





## National History Day in Colorado

Kayla Gabelhart

**Karl Geil** introduced today's speaker, the Associate Director of National History Day in Colorado, Kayla Gabelhart. Kayla is a Colorado native who has been with Colorado History Day for seven years. The program is a social studies and literacy program for middle school and high school students. The kids choose a topic related to the annual theme and then present to judges. For this academic year the theme is "Conflict & Compromise in History." Many Monaco South members have been involved as volunteer judges over the years. The five formats are:

- ♦ Exhibits: student present a tri-fold sign board
- ♦ Website: kids who like technology develop a website
- ♦ Documentaries: a chance to show off video skills
- ♦ Performance: dramatic presentations with accurate costuming
- ♦ Paper: not as popular, but of excellent quality

All the categories, except papers, can be done as individuals or in groups. This gives kids a chance to show off their history knowledge in the format that most suits them. Kayla shared a video of a powerful performance from an award-winning student, who



Kayla Gabelhart  
Photo Noel Hasselgren

performed as Maximilien Robespierre, a French lawyer and politician.

The state contest will be held on May 5<sup>th</sup> at the University of Colorado Denver, and Kayla distributed a flyer for interested judges to sign up. The other dates and locations are:

- February 24<sup>th</sup> at Crown Pointe Academy in Westminster
- March 10<sup>th</sup> at Bear Creek High School in Lakewood
- March 17<sup>th</sup> at the Anschutz Medical Center in Aurora
- April 7<sup>th</sup> at History Colorado/ Denver Art Museum

For winners this ultimately leads to the National Contest held at the University of Maryland, College Park, MD.

Find more details see <https://clas.ucdenver.edu/nhdc/> and Kayla can be reached at her email address, [kayla.gabelhart@ucdenver.edu](mailto:kayla.gabelhart@ucdenver.edu).

President **Jim Easton** thanked Kayla for her presentation and passed along a \$300 contribution to the National History Day in Colorado Program from the club, as well as an Optimist Club coffee mug for her with the Optimist Creed.

### Today's Winner

At right, Ron Cisco picked the correct card as his name was called and he had on his name tag. President Jim Easton takes all the credit, since he pulled his name from the name tag jar.

Photo Noel Hasselgren



### A Bit of Humor



SORRY, SON... THERE'S NO APP FOR THAT

#### February Super Citizen Presenters

Feb 16 @ 8:20	Holm	?
Feb 16 @ 8:30	Slavens	Michael Chavez
Feb 16 @ 1:00	Samuels	Joe Marci

#### Weekly Greeters

2/9/18	Frank Middleton & Dick Zolman
2/16/18	Les Volpe & Ron Cisco
2/23/18	Jack Kleinheksel & Jack Kitchell

**Optimist Club of Monaco South 2018-2019 41<sup>st</sup> Year — Chartered in 1976**

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

Feb 9	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Diane Martini, Marketing Director, Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus
Feb 10	Sat	8:00 am	CO-WY 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Conference, Ciancio's Restaurant, 9650 Sheridan Blvd.
Feb 15	Thur	3:00 pm	TriStar Basketball Club Competition, Cope Boys & Girls Club, 808 Inca Street
Feb 16	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Feb 21	Wed	6:15 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
Feb 23	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Maro Casparian, Director Consumer Fraud, Denver's DA's Office
Feb 24	Sat	6:45 am	Brain Bowl Championship Tournament, Hamilton Middle School, 8600 E. Dartmouth Ave.

**Past Presidents of the  
Optimist Club of Monaco South**

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

**2017 - 2018 Officers**

President	Jim Easton	720-987-7684
Vice President	Mike McMahon	303-514-5175
Vice President	Everett Gardner	924-246-0984
Secretary	Randy Marcove	303-667-3663
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

**Board of Directors**

Harry Arkin	303-941-8800
Ken Duffy	303-880-5072
Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532
Tom Kramis	303-917-5299
Rob Gardner	720-263-6203
Wyatt McCallie	303-759-2275
Paul Stratton	303-474-4358
John Swick	720-422-2733
Craig Eley (Past Pres.)	303-758-9499

**Newsletter Committee**

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	<a href="mailto:rfinkelmeier@comcast.net">rfinkelmeier@comcast.net</a>	Phil Perington	303-832-4578	<a href="mailto:perington@msn.com">perington@msn.com</a>
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	<a href="mailto:jpccinelli@earthlink.net">jpccinelli@earthlink.net</a>	Paul Stratton	303-366-6375	<a href="mailto:pcstratton@comcast.net">pcstratton@comcast.net</a>
Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	<a href="mailto:rz6267@gmail.com">rz6267@gmail.com</a>	Pat Bush	720-254-3741	<a href="mailto:pbush@bushreese.com">pbush@bushreese.com</a>
George Buzick	303-803-2268	<a href="mailto:gtbuzick@comcast.net">gtbuzick@comcast.net</a>	Craig Eley	303-758-9499	<a href="mailto:craigceley@gmail.com">craigceley@gmail.com</a>
Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	<a href="mailto:rlwardlaw@gmail.com">rlwardlaw@gmail.com</a>			

**NEWSLETTER EDITORS:** Feb **Paul Stratton**, Mar **Phil Perington**, Apr **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.