



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

February 21, 2020 – Vol. 44, Issue 21



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



OPTIMIST
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Editor for this Issue—Pat Bush

Good Morning Optimists

We did not encounter any weather problems getting to the meeting this morning, and the outlook for the next couple of days is clear and warm. Editor: "Well, I missed that it's snowing again." The smiling faces of **Jim VanderKamp** and **Craig Eley** greeted us this morning.



Jim VanderKamp & Craig Eley
Photos Noel Hasselgren

First Bell, Invocation & Pledge

President Bob Meyer called on **Tom Hoch** to deliver the invocation about giving every living creature you meet a smile. Tom then lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

From the Prez

Prez Bob started off with his list of Birthdays on this Date, which included: Tom Yawkey, Boston Red Sox Owner, born 1903; **Jack Ramsay, NBA Basketball Coach & Sam Peckinpah, Film Director, born 1925; Tricia Nixon Cox, 1946; Kelsey Grammar, pictured at left, born 1955, and Jennifer Love Hewitt, born 1979.**



Kelsey
Grammar

He then shared events on this date, which included: in 1173, Thomas Becket, aka Saint Thomas of Canterbury, was canonized; 1431, First day of interrogation of Joan of Arc; 1583, First day of Gregorian Calendar; 1848, Karl Marx & Friedrich Engels publish "The Communist Manifesto" to ; Read it [Click Here](#); in 1857, U.S. issues Flying Eagle Penny; 1878, First telephone directory published, it listed 50 individuals, businesses, and other offices in New Haven, CT subscribers; 1885, Washington Monument Dedicated; 1931, *Alka Selzer* was introduced with "Plop, plop, fizz, fizz" ad campaign; 1948, National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR) is incorporated; 1968, Basketball announces minimum annual salary of \$10,000; and in 1989, Pete Rose, meets with Baseball Commissioner leading to his lifetime ban from the game. To see the full history of "The Pete Rose Case: From the first meeting to the final penalty," [Click Here](#).

Prez Bob provided some good news this morning. Both **John Oss** and **Peter Diamond** are back home from stays in the hospital. Peter had an infection and is expected to recov-

er fully. John's health is a bit more complicated since he was diagnosed with leukemia. He starts chemotherapy treatments next week. John needs help with travel back and forth to the treatments. Your **GUMS** editor for this month, **Pat Bush**, has volunteered to help next week.

Prez Bob also reminded everyone that **Bob Finkelmeier** has announced he is stepping down as *Chief GUMS Editor* effective with the end of this Optimist year, September 31st. The Board of Directors is looking for a replacement and is in a discussion about restructuring the *GUMS* format. We will be hearing more about this as we approach the end of the year.

Guests

We had no guests this morning because **Mikko Kasko's** membership application was accepted by the Board of Directors. Welcome aboard, Mikko! We look forward to getting to know you better and working on projects with you.

New Member Induction

Nick Picucci was inducted this morning. As you may recall, Nick first joined us in October of last year. He had discovered our club through the Christmas Tree Lot. He also shared



President Bob Meyer congratulates Nick Picucci to our Club, as Frank Middleton, Nick's sponsor looks on.

that his wife received scholarship money for college via the Optimist Oratorical Contest. He indicated he was born and raised in Denver, went to South High School and Metropolitan State University and is interested in giving back to the community. Nick is a Financial Advisor with Raymond James. He was pinned by his sponsor **Frank Middleton**.

Announcements

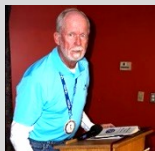
Super Citizen Programs for Ellis and McMeen: Don Thomson reported that due to the health issues of **John Oss** is having, he will be looking for a photographer for these two Super Citizen Awards ceremonies. Ellis' is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26th at 3:15 p.m. and McMeen's is on Friday, March 6 at 1:00 p.m. If you can help, give Don a call.

Brain Bowl South Regional Tournament: Karl Geil reminded us that the South Regional Brain Bowl will be held on Saturday, February 22nd at Challenger Middle School in Colorado Springs. Karl will share the results with us next week.

Continued next page

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******

Presidential Rants & Raves



I thought we had another great meeting on Friday! We inducted new member **Nick Picucci** and received a member application and check from Mikko Koski. Welcome Mikko! We continue to add new Club members each week and I continue to challenge all Monaco South members to bring a guest to upcoming meetings. Let's continue to grow the Club so that we can maintain, and build upon, our service projects and activities for youth in our community. Please remember to welcome new Club members and encourage their participation in our projects and activities.

As an added incentive for membership growth, I am offering a week at my condo in Frisco to the MSOC member who sponsors the most new members between October 1, 2019 and April 10, 2020. The week I'm offering begins on the last Friday in April 2020. My unit is a two-bedroom and loft condo that easily sleeps six (eight with a pull-out sofa sleeper). The unit has a gas fireplace and a private hot tub.

Another District-wide membership incentive is a \$50 gift card to your favorite restaurant to anyone who sponsors three new members during the year.

Michael Chavez talked about this year's first Tri-Star Basketball event at Cope Boys and Girls Club. It was my first Tri-Star Basketball event, and I enjoyed it very much. It also showed how much of my basketball "ability" (?) I've lost. It's true that white men can't jump!

It was announced that after 13 years' of publishing the weekly **GUMS** newsletter that Dr. **Bob Finkelmeier** is stepping down. Please think about this job opening. Dr. Bob will provide hands-on training. We've got more than six months to find and train a new GUMS publisher. Let's make sure we keep this fine tradition going strong!

Donlie Smith and **Bob Avery** displayed the beautiful eagle that will be awarded on Friday, March 6th at the Eagle Scout Award dinner. I'll have the privilege of making the award presentation.

Please continue to keep **John Oss** and **Peter Dimond** in your thoughts and prayers. If you're available to transport John Oss to his medical appointments, please let him know.

The South Brain Bowl was held Saturday in Colorado Springs, completing the field for the Championship Brain

Bowl to be held on Saturday, March 7th at Hamilton Middle School in Denver. If you can make it March 7th, come on out and help as the top 54 teams—six teams per grade from each of the three regional competitions—compete for the District Brain Bowl championship.

Tom Kramis announced that the tree lot netted \$52,000. That's \$ 12,000 more than budgeted, so we will be able to provide financial assistance to more service projects and activities. If you think of additional service projects that we can get involved with, please let me know.

Joe Marci announced the formation of the 2020-2021 Nominating Committee. The Committee will be making phone calls over the next few weeks to identify the slate of officers who will become our 2020-2021 Officers and Board of Directors. Please consider what position is perfect for you and let Joe and his committee know that you are ready and willing to serve in 2020-2021.

The annual Optimist Junior Golf Scramble is coming up on Tuesday, June 2nd, at Saddle Rock Golf Course. Please line up your foursome for this fun fundraiser for the District Junior Golf Program. We're sending up to 70 junior golfers to the 2020 Optimist International Junior Golf Championship to be held in mid- to late- July at Trump National Doral Resort in Miami FL. **Please register with Joe Marci**. After golf is completed, there will be lunch and a silent auction with many donated golf foursomes available for purchase.

Ron Cisco is getting ready to mail out the 2020 Junior Golf Sponsorship flyer, looking for donations to help us send 70 junior golfers to the 2020 OI Championship. You can also find the flyer on the GUMS distribution email.

We're also looking for volunteers to help out at the three District Optimist Junior Golf Qualifiers to be held in early June. For more information, please contact Joe Marci, Ron Cisco, or me. We'll be passing around a sign-up sheet at upcoming Club meetings. If you know of any non-Club members looking for volunteer opportunities for the District Qualifiers, please let me know.

I ask for your continued support as Monaco South's president. Please provide constructive criticism so that I can lead weekly Club meetings that are fun and informative.

**Yours in Optimism,
Prez Bob**

Announcements Continued

Tri-Star Basketball: Michael Chavez reported that our local Tri-Star Basketball skills contest was held last Wednesday at the Owen Boys and Girls Club at Eighth and Inca. Forty-Two contestants participated in dribbling, passing, and shooting competitions. The winners at Owen will go on to the regional competition at North High School in March. **Michael**, second from the left in the picture below, wanted to thank, **Cesar Camarena**, on far left, himself, **Bob Meyer**, **Gary Strowbridge**, **Bob Avery**, **Don Thomson**, **Mike White**, and **Andy Towt** for helping at the competition.



2020-2021 OCMS Officer Nomination Committee: The Club Policies specify that the President of the Optimist Club of Monaco South shall appoint, with the review and approval of the Board of Directors, the Officer's Nominating Committee no later than March 1st. In compliance with those policies **Prez Bob Meyer** submitting the following list of members to reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors for the 2020-2021 Officers Nomination Committee. Chair, **Joe Marci** with committee members, **Bob Avery**, **Pat Bush**, **Ron Cisco**, and **Paul Stratton**.

Joe Marci announced that they will begin their search for next year's leaders and added, "if any member is interested in running for President, one of two Vice-Presidents, or one of the four out-going Board of Directors positions, please let one of these members know of your interest.

Skin Cancer Warning: **Jack Kleinhessel** announced that he recently was treated for a mild form of skin cancer. He said that he had partied on the beach without sun protection too often in his youth. He is expecting a full recovery but wanted to implore all members to get regular screening for skin cancer in their health checks. See what to look for from the U.S. National Library of Medicine, [click here](#).

Announcements Continued

Eagle Scout Awards Banquet: Bob Avery was showing off the stunning Eagle Scout Project Award Trophy that will be presented to the best Eagle Scout Project for the past year. It will be presented at the awards banquet on Friday, March 6th. Monaco South Optimist Club has a table reserved for the banquet and still has a couple of seats unclaimed. Talk with Bob or **Jack Kleinhessel** should you wish to attend.



Bob Avery shows off the Eagle Scout Award that will be presented at the Banquet.

OCMS Ski Day: While Bob Avery had the microphone he shared that the annual Monaco South ski day last Tuesday at the Copper Mountain Ski Resort was a success. Bob reported everyone came down the slope, as pic-

tured from the left: **Mark Figley** (a friend), **Tom Kramis**, **Mark Metevia**, **Kent Gloor**, **Abigail Gloor**, **Bob**, and **Cesar Camarena**. He claimed everyone was treated to a fine breakfast, a day on the slopes, and a relaxing hot tub soak.

Final Christmas Tree Report: Tom Kramis reported that the final accounting for last year's Christmas Tree Lot was presented to the Board of Directors. It showed the tree lot raised fifty-two thousand dollars to fund our projects throughout the next year. Tom wanted to thank all of the members that helped with the lot. He will be putting in our tree order for next year in June.

Sound of Silence: Bryce Slaby was happy to announce that he no longer has to endure the sound of silence. He was recently fitted with the new pair of hearing aids. When he used to have to turn the TV up to 100% to hear it, he now finds he has to turn it down to 20% because it is too loud. The neighbors will appreciate his new hearing aids too.

Bradley International School Help: Jon Wachter is looking for some help at Bradley International School. He promised that the class raising the most money in the school's spare change fundraiser would get a pizza party for the classroom. Well, now he must deliver on his promise. He needs a couple of members to help with the party. He also mentioned he could use a couple of people for the next Super Citizen presentation, which is February 28th at 3:00 p.m.

New Member Drive: As announced several times by **Prez Bob** he will award the Monaco South Optimist Club member that sponsors the highest number of new members through the end of March with a week's stay at his Frisco time-share condominium. He said six members had sponsored one new member already this year, but we are looking for more to win make Honor Club. Ask your friends, neighbors, co-workers, church members, or relatives to join us in our service to the youth of the community.

Golf Scramble Tournament: The annual adult golf scramble tournament is set for June 6th. This is a fundraiser for our District Junior Golf program. **Ron Cisco** will be bringing his ringers again this year and challenges any Monaco South member to put a four-person team together to try to knock his team off the top of the hill.

Club level Oratorical Contest: George Buzick emailed this announcement, he needs judging help on Thursday, March 12th, at 4 p.m., in the community room at George Washington High School. He needs 3-judges, a timekeeper, and "sergeant at arms." It should take about two-hour. Please let me know if you are available by calling him at 303-985-0655 or email at gtbuzick@comcast.net.

Update OCMS Project & Assignment List: Greg Young shared an updated list that describes the various youth, community service, and organizational projects that we provide throughout the year. The list also shows WHEN the project takes place, the WHERE, the WHO, and the current CHAIR or ORGANIZER. This list is not all-inclusive, since we actively encourage our members to create or find new projects in which to get involved. To view the Project & Assignment List, download it from the **GUMS** distribution email, or it can be found on the OCMS webpage, under PROJECTS, [click here](#).

Help the American Legion, Leyden-Chiles-Wickersham Post 1

Bob Avery saw this posted at the Legion Hall and thought some of you might like to help — it reads, "Your help with donations for deployed!"

Our American Legion family has been contacted requesting our assistance by sending "We Care" pkgs to a team of 12 affiliated with the 140th at Buckley AFB who are deployed to destination 4known but with Arab Emirate mailing address.

Items suggested include: Snacks to include individual portions of nuts, crackers, pretzels, cookies (nothing that will melt-chocolate), beef jerky, hard candies (Werther's, mints, etc.), granola, power bars, spearmint or peppermint gum and anything else that ships well.

Personal items: dental floss or picks, toothbrushes with covers, individually wrapped wet wipes, chap stick, travel sized lotion in tubes (put

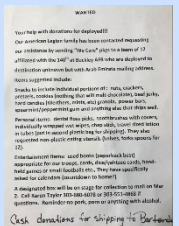
in second plastic bag for shipping). They also requested non-plastic eating utensils (knives, forks, spoons for 12).

Entertainment items: used books (paperback best) appropriate for our troops, cards, dice, Yahtzee cards, hand-held games, or small footballs, etc. They have specifically asked for calendars (countdown to home?)

A designated box will be on stage for collection to mail on March 2nd. Call Karen Taylor 303-680-6078 or 303-551-4868 if you have questions.

Reminder-no pork, porn or anything with alcohol.

Cash donations for shipping can be given to the bartender or drop off in the office."



This Weeks Drawing



This week **Kent Gloor**, **Ed Leuty**, **Ed Collins**, **Russ Paul**, **Tom Hoch**, and **Frank Ross** held the winning drawing tickets, and all took the cash. **Joe Marci** and **Dan Rodriguez** each

tried their luck with the deck of cards as did **Bob Ruhl**, as the name badge delegate, but none of them came up aces so the pot grows to \$60 next week.

Weekly Greeters

2/28/20	Mark Metevia & Joe Hamilton
3/6/20	Paul Stratton & Tom Mauro

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

Feb 26	Wed	1:00 pm	Super Citizen, Lowry Elementary
Feb 28	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Tom Mauro, Excellence in Education Program
Feb 28	Fri	3:00 pm	Super Citizen, Bradley International School
Mar 5	Thu	5:30 pm	Super Citizen, Hamilton Middle School
Mar 6	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Anna Miller, Shiloh House
Mar 6	Fri	8:30 am	Super Citizen, Slavens Elementary
Mar 6	Fri	5:00 pm	Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner, Renaissance Denver Stapleton Hotel, 3801 Quebec St.
Mar 7	Sat	7:00 am	Brail Bowl Championship Tournament, Hamilton Middle School, 8600 East Dartmouth Ave.
Mar 13	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Craig Eley, <i>Are You Smarter Than the Brain Bowl Chair?</i>
Mar 17	Thu	2:30 pm	Super Citizen, Most Precious Blood
Mar 19	Thu	6:00 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Schlessman YMCA, 3901 E. Yale, 2nd Floor Community Room

2019 - 2020 Officers

President	Bob Meyer	303-919-4532
Vice President	Steve Kady	303-931-1470
Vice President	Dan Rodriguez	303-521-5120
Secretary	Tracy Sorensen	303-886-1743
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

2019 - 2020 Board of Directors

Perry Allen	303-521-3453
Noel Hasselgren	303-475-7125
Jack Kleinheksel	303-751-3602
Tom Kramis	303-917-5299
Allen Malask	303-726-3700
Bill Morgan	303-868-4384
Mark Smith	303-691-9766
John Stoffel	720-837-3013
Everett Gardner (Past Pres.)	949-246-0984

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	Everett Gardner	2018-19
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: February **Pat Bush**, March **Paul Stratton**, April **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.