



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

February 22, 2019 – Vol. 43, Issue 21

## Optimist Club of Monaco South



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](http://www.monacosouth.org)



Editor for this Issue—George Buzick

### Good Morning Optimists

On this bleak Friday morning, with temperature in the low 20's, it is mentioned that this is "George's Day." No, not George Buzick, but George Washington, who would be celebrating his 287<sup>th</sup> birthday. The American political leader, military general, statesman, and Founding Father, who also served as the first President of the United States from 1789 to 1797, was born on this date at Popes Creek in West-



moreland County, Virginia. Washington was unanimously elected president by the Electoral College in the first two national elections. But with that reminder, members were warmly greeted by your GUMS editor **George Buzick** and cheerful **Mark Metevia**.



Mark Metevia & George Buzick  
Photo Noel Hasselgren

### First Bell & Invocation

Our part-time resident from Costa Rico, **Randy Marcove** was tapped to read the invocation for Washington's birthday, which is fitting for a guy who graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School—Jefferson was the third president of the United States. Randy also led us in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

### Guest

Guests included Sue Barcus from the University Hills Optimist Club who, at the request of **John Oss** was one of the judges for the MSOC Essay Contest. One of our more frequently attending guests, Alan Magnuson was also present, mostly to discuss Boy Scout stuff with **Jack Kleinhessel**. Jenny Lee and John Barns were also in attendance to cheer on our speaker, Mark Krekeler.

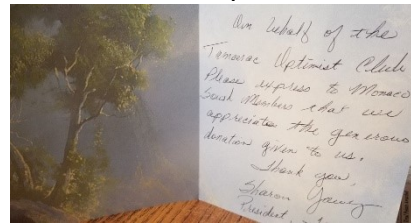
### From the Prez

President **Everett Gardner** announced that at this weeks board of directors' meeting, members approved a \$200 contribution to cover some of the expenses for

the memorial service for Sharon Young on Thursday February 28. Sharon past away unexpectedly this past month. Prez Everett than shared a Thank You card that Karen had written to us for the Tamarac's help at our tree lot.

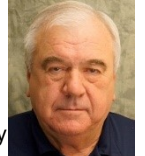


Joe Marci & Prez Sharon Young, January 24<sup>th</sup>.



At left, the Thank You card Sharon sent to MSOC on behalf of Tamarac Optimist Club working at the Christmas tree lot.

The President also presented **Bryce Slaby** a pin recognizing his sponsorship of 5 members. *Way to go Bryce!*



At right, Brice Slaby

### Announcements

**McMeen Super Citizen Presentation:** **Don Thomson** reported that the Super Citizen program at McMeen Elementary School was well attended by members including: **Mike White**, and **John Oss**, plus himself. Twenty students received the SC award following a brief presentation by Don on the history of the *Pledge of Allegiance*. Don also thanked Dr. **Bob Finkelmeier** for his support in preparing all the letters and certificates presented to the students.

**Brain Bowl Championship:** While we may still hear the words, "*The Brain Bowl is coming, the Brain Bowl is coming,*" from **Karl Geil**, this morning was his last day to say it in his capacity as Brain Bowl Training Guru. After many years on ensuring high quality reader the events, Karl is stepping down and turning the reins over to Gunnar Neumann of the DTC Optimist Club. Thank you, Karl, for a job well done! The Championship rounds will be held this Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, at Hamilton Middle School.



**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

## Announcements Continued

**Annual Optimist Odyssey:** World famous trip planner, **Craig Eley** announced that the Annual Optimist Odyssey will be heading to Ouray and Silverton September 6 through 9, 2019, so mark your calendars. Enjoying the offerings of old mining towns, riding the Durango to Silverton railroad, jeep trips to high altitude ghost towns and mining camps, sitting in mineral hot pools, and fun meals with a bunch of fun optimistic people. This annual road trip is a great way to get to know your fellow Optimists better, and is open to singles and couples. Sign up soon, since hotel space is limited. So far, **Craig & Cindy Eley, Kent & Abigail Gloor**, and **Mike & Jan White** have signed on. If you want to come along, contact Craig Eley at [craigceley@gmail.com](mailto:craigceley@gmail.com).

**TriStar Basketball Contest:** **Michael Chavez** announced that the Tri-Star Basketball went well at the Boys and Girls Club. Forty-six kids took part in the contest, with sixteen Optimists including **Don Roth, Gary Strowbridge, Mark Smith, Bob Avery** and son **Steve, Ed Collins, Jim Easton, John Greene, Mike White, Andy Towt, Allen Pierce, Greg Young, George Buzick, Don Thomson, Ron Cisco**, and **Michael** himself, keeping track of all the participants. Winners from the Club contest will go on the Regional Contest to be held at North High School on March 10<sup>th</sup>, then on to the District Final at the Pepsi Center.

**Update on Russ Paul & Lupe Salinas:** It was reported that **Russ Paul's** surgery was postponed until next week and that **Lupe Salinas**, a Past President of the club has had a knee replacement and is at home recovering.

**Denver Tech Center (DTC) Optimist:** **Tom Overton** announced that the annual DTC Wine Tasting will be held on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., at the Calvary Baptist Church, 6500 E Girard Ave., Monaco and Hampden. Ticket prices have been reduced because of the change of venue, so there's no reason to not attend at \$25 per person. See **Tom, George Buzick, Paul Bernard, Kent Gloor**, or **John Oss** for tickets.

**Memorial Service:** Tom also announced that there will be a memorial service for his mother who recently passed away at ripe old age of 100 years. Service will be at Welshire Presbyterian Church, 2999 S. Colorado Blvd. on Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, at 1:00 p.m.

**Historical Tidbit:** **John Oss** shared this historical tidbit on the book, "*Why we Fight*" by Sebastian Gorka. The book has a section on the 60 marines going to the Tripolitanian War on the USS Intrepid. The USS Philadelphia, crewed by 306 had run aground and was captured Oct 31, 1803 off Tripoli. On the night of February 16, 1804, the 60 marines of the Intrepid killed 20 pirates aboard the Philadelphia, were unable to sail it, so burned it with the Philadelphia cannons firing on the pirates on shore. This seeded fear and respect for the US. Both President Jefferson and Pope Pius VII ex-

## Presidential Rants & Raves vs. Tweets

**Hey Gang,** Here's this week's "RANT & RAVES vs. ... Tweets" for your readership ...

**PAST ...** "The BRAIN BOWL IS COMPLETED FOR 2019! Thanks to all who Read, Scored and Timed! While there are always "Opps," the strangest was Kent Gloor trying to set his reading room with Beanbag Chairs and no Tables. The situation soon was rectified using an alternate room with "Normal" desks.

On a sad but gracious note, I opened an envelope in front of those present at the meeting, from the late Sharon Young, President, Tamarack Optimist Club, thanking Monaco South for the donation given to them for their help us tagging trees at the Christmas tree lot (\$1000). The note was postmarked 29 January and I did not retrieve it from my mail until after her passing. I worked with Sharon a number of hours cashiering and conversing between sales. Just a comment on how temporal life is and to live as if there is no tomorrow and plan based on living forever.

The board meeting on Thursday was the normal taking care of business. Highlights were:

1. Tracy Sorenson is our new Secretary replacing James Docket who moved to Ohio for a promotion with the Scouts of America.
2. Orientation / Mentoring Committee (Tom Glazier & Jim Easton); Orientation meeting planned in March.
3. 2019-2020 Election Committee (Joe Marci); Please contact Joe if you're interested in being on the Board. If you are not proactive you could be drafted.
4. Year End Banquet (Jim Easton); Still in the planning stages.
5. Showed Board envelope from Sharon Young ... but waited to open / present at Friday meeting.

**HAPPENING NOW / SOON ...** After the Brain Bowl VP Steve Kady and I delivered Thank You Plaques—Made by Dan Rodriguez—to Denver Fire Stations 13 and 24 for their help unloading trees at the Christmas Tree Lot. We still have Station 22 to be delivered. We are trying to get them to our Friday meetings but the shift change at 7:30 seems to be an obstacle. Maybe we can get the Denver Fire Department to modify that schedule on Fridays.

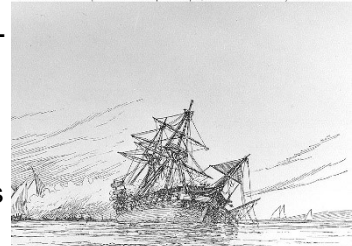
**FUTURE ...** Eagle Scout Banquet; 8 March 2019. I have been given the tentative script for the presentation.

**PS; Bring a GUEST next week .... We've all met and invited new people during Christmas tree sales! Goal; 6 Guest per meeting for February. We did have 4, including our speaker. Keep it Up!**

**Prez Everett**

pressed appreciation for the intrepid marines. This success was a partial repayment for the piracy and the million western Christians that had been taken into slavery. President Jefferson saluted Lieutenant Stephen Decatur who captained the Intrepid's historic mission. He promoted him to Captain, the youngest US Naval Captain ever to hold the rank. Pope Pius observed that the United States, though in their infancy, had done more to humble and humiliate the anti-Christian barbarians on the African coast in one night than all the European states had done.

Photo © NH7430 Capture of USS Philadelphia off Tripoli, 31 October 1803. Sketch by Fred S. Cozzani



## Mark Krekeler Training for Health

Our speaker today was **Mark Krekeler**. Mark is a body builder and personal trainer. His claim is that the greatest mystery in life is "our self." While growing up he says he was "skinny, weak, introverted and scared." According to Mark, the old adage of "showing up is 50 percent of the battle" is erroneous, in that you have to do positive things after showing up in order to succeed. Mark believes strongly that Strength Training is the "Elixir of Life" and that eating correctly is the foundation of good health. Mark said he turned his life around after having been homeless for about a year and living in his car. Mark's philosophy is now one of Personal Self Interest (PSI) which, simply stated, is putting your well-being first and "being the best You can be."



Mark Krekeler  
Photo Noel Hasselgren

Mark is a member of Toastmasters International and firmly believes that is not necessarily what you say, but how you say it, including both oral communication and body language.

Mark writes this on his LinkedIn page, "At 61 years of age, I find myself in a place I never imagined I'd be. Happy. Confident. Capable. Sure of myself as an ENFP. Oh, and along the way, I'm the strongest and healthiest I've ever been. In a sense, I've 'cracked the code.' What actions have I put into place that anyone can do, regardless of age? Discover what they are and be surprised. Some of them may not be what you think! As a personal trainer, I am

available for one-on-one work with clients, as well as speaking to groups of any size about our one and only possession!"

Mark is a trainer at [C3 Performance](#), 6440 E. Hampden Ave. Thank you Mark for sharing with us your story!

In the video clip that Mark showed us, he demonstrated what his time and experience has done for him. See <https://youtu.be/qW7ZBqIKZYs>

## TriStar Basketball Photo



We had a great time Wednesday afternoon at the Cope Boys and Girls Club. We had 45 kids participate in the contest, 29 qualified to move on to the Regional

contest at North High on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to all the volunteers who help make this years competition a wonderful success.

## Recognizing DFD, Stations 13, 22, & 24

**Prez Gardner** presented Denver Fire Dept Stations 13 and 24 this weekend, with plaques thanking them for their help in unloading Christmas trees. Both stations had the house Captains working today. Station 22 will receive their

award later next week when their Captains return. The firefighters from stations 13, 22, and 24 have helped use for the past 3 years.



Photos Steve Kady. The plaques were designed and made by Dan Rodriguez.

## Drawing

First the big winner of the Superbowl Pool and now the big winner of the famed MSOC drawing, **Greg Young** winning the first number called and then picking the 10 of Diamonds from the deck and ended up with \$220 in his pocket. *Way to go Greg! I'll be your friend! When do we go to lunch?* Others, who were only semi-lucky members were **Dan Rodriguez, Allen Malask, Bill Morgan, Roy Jarrett, and Paul Stratton**. Since there was no money left in the pot, those wearing their name tag did not



Greg Young  
Photo Noel Hasselgren

get a chance. Next week the drawing may start with \$20 in the pot if we are luck!

## Question for the Day? Where in the World is Harry Fegley?

Well, if we can read the Daily Itinerary correctly on the [Holland America cruise line webpage for today](#), February 24<sup>th</sup>, he and his wife Linda, are touring Rarotonga, Cook Island. "The island is believed to have been discovered in 1823, by John Dibbs, and the island offers a natural beauty that is characterized by sawtooth peaks and ridges that are covered by tropical jungles, separated by the island's steep valleys."



Harry Fegley

Weekly Greeters	
3/1/19	John Oss & Tom Mauro
3/8/19	Bob Avery & Jack Kleinheksel
3/15/19	Frank Middleton & ?
3/22/19	Paul Stratton & Michael Chavez

March Super Citizen Presenters		
Mar 5 @ 8:30	Slavens	?
Mar 6 @ 1:00	Lowry	Welcome Back
Mar 7 @ 5:30	Hamilton	?
Mar 19 @ 2:30	MPB	?

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

Mar 1	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Linda Williams, AmerCorps, <i>A Little Help</i>
Mar 8	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Ron Benson, OI Foundation
Mar 8	Fri	5:00 pm	<b>Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner, Renaissance Denver Stapleton Hotel, 3801 Quebec Street</b>
Mar 8	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Are you smarter than the Brain Bowl Chair?
Mar 21	Thur	6:15 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Councilwomen Black's Office, 3540 S. Poplar St, Ste. 100 lower level
Mar 22	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Mar 29	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Brad Appel, Wish for Wheels
Mar 31	Sun	12:00 pm	<b>TriStar Basketball-District Finals, Pepsi Center, 1000 Chopper Circle.</b>
Apr 5	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Apr 12	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Ryan McCullough, Our Cub Scout pack 8023

**2018 - 2019 Officers**

President	Everett Gardner	949-246-0984
Vice President	Steve Kady	303-931-1470
Vice President	Bob Meyer	303-814-5990
Secretary	James Dockter	605-216-7799
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:** Mar **Robert Wardlaw**, Apr **Pat Bush**, May **Paul Stratton**, June **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.