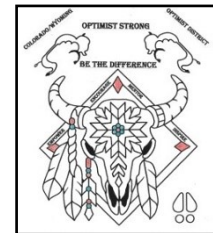




# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

February 23, 2018 – Vol. 42, Issue 21



## Optimist Club of Monaco South



**OPTIMIST**  
INTERNATIONAL

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)



**OPTIMIST**  
INTERNATIONAL

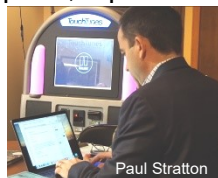
Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton

### Good Moring Optimist

**Jack Kleinheksel** and **Jack Kitchell**, caught with eyes closed, extended their (winning) hands to warmly welcome the Monaco South Optimists as they arrived on Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 for our weekly gathering. As your editor, **Paul Stratton** reports, a pair of Jacks.



Jack Kleinheksel & Jack Kitchell, got with his eyes shut, greet the arriving members.  
Photos Noel Hasselgren



Paul Stratton

### Invocation & Pledge

Our Invocation was delivered by **Ron Cisco**, who reminded us of the Optimist commitment to work only for the best. He then led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

### From the Prez

President **Jim Easton** said that our club's very extensive project list has been updated and will soon be sent to all club members. The big task of putting that together was tackled by Vice Presidents **Mike McMahon** and **Everett Gardner**. Thanks to them both!

**Andy Towt** is the newest member of our club, after being voted in on Wednesday evening at the board meeting. *Welcome Andy!* Not wasting any time getting involved, Andy was spotted at the Brain Bowl Championships Saturday morning at Hamilton Middle School.



Andy Towt

### Announcements

**Dr. Ed Update:** **Frank Middleton** gave an update on our club's founder, **Dr. Ed Fankhauser**. Ed is 93½ years old and is struggling with Alzheimer's. Frank spoke to his wife **Jeannie** who was very positive about life and how Ed is doing. He occasionally falls but has not broken any bones. Jeannie encourages visitations

between 10:00 an 4:00 p.m. Jeannie said, the Ed does well with visitors who are there while Jeannie, when he can focus better and is more stimulated. Ed is at Garden Terrace, 1400 S. Pontiac in Aurora. Jeannie's new home address is 8300 Fairmont Drive, F102, Denver, CO 80247, and her phone number is 303-322-3048.



Dr. Ed  
Photo Craig Eley

**OC Larson Luncheon:** **Don Thomson** announced that the **OC Larson** visitation and birthday celebration was a great success. The event was at Cherry Hills Assisted Living and Memory Care. OC Larson, the guest of honor, was in good spirits



From left, Kent Gloor, Oscar Sorensen, Pat Larson, guest of honor OC Larson, host Don Thomson, Jack Kitchell, Bryce Slaby, Don StJohn, and Char St.John.  
Photo Michael Chavez

with his guests: **Pat Larson, Kent Gloor, Don and Char St.John, Jack Kitchell, Bryce Slaby, Michael Chavez, Oscar Sorenson**, and Don. Many Optimist memories and stories were told. The group learned that OC's given name was actually OC, although his mother considered changing the spelling to Ocie.

**T1DOC Online Auction:** **Ron Gustas** asked OCMS members to help source donated items for the T1DOC upcoming on-line auction. This auction, to be held in May, provides funding for "Camperships" to help send kids with Type 1 Diabetes to a special near week-long camp. Auction items including travel and lodging packages, gift baskets, entertainment tickets, golf experiences, sports tickets, and memorabilia, gift cards, booze, merchandise, etc., all make great auction items. If you can help please let Ron know at [rqustas@earthlink.net](mailto:rqustas@earthlink.net). *Thanks for supporting the kids!*

**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

## Announcements Continued

### **Hamilton Middle Super Citizen: Tom Mauro** let us



Karl Geil making his presentation, with Tom Mauro and Lesly Meyer in the background.  
Photo Craig Eley

know that there was a Super Citizen assembly at Hamilton Middle School on Thursday evening. Twenty students were recognized, with **Karl Geil** leading the ceremonies and **Craig Eley** snapping the photos.

**Tri-Star Basketball: Michael Chavez** announced that the Tri Star Regional Tournament will be at North High School on Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. The event starts at 11:30 a.m., and Michael is looking for volunteers. Please sign up to help the young hoopsters!

**Ski Fest Weekend: Bob Avery** tells us, that the annual ski fest will now be held on Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. This is the Copper Mountain trip hosted by Bob. He will be serving breakfast at his condominium before heading up the mountain to face the challenge of the black slopes. The day will be topped off with a visit to the hot tub. Be sure to sign up if eating, skiing, and soaking is your thing. **Kent Gloor** is also willing to be a host, so let Bob or Kent know if you are interested.

**DTC Optimist Club Fundraiser: Kent Gloor** shared that the DTC Optimist Club annual fundraiser is coming up—“*Around the World in a Bottle.*” It will be a wine tasting and silent auction, Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at All Saints Lutheran Church, 15625 E. Iliff in Aurora. Tickets are \$25 for a chance to taste wines from Portugal, Spain, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Argentina, and France.

**Optimist Odyssey to Santa Fe: Craig Eley** invited all of us on an Optimist Odyssey to Santa Fe. He said, MSOCers and their spouses and friends are invited to the Optimist Odyssey, a trip to Santa Fe, NM which leaves Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup> and returns Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup>.



Santa Fe offers a number of activities, including the Santa Fe Opera ([Madame Butterfly](#)), a backstage tour of the Opera, the new Meow Wolf amusement facility, the Plaza Indian Market, and an Astronomy Night in the New Mexico hills. Add to this great food and shopping and the camaraderie of your fellow Optimists and an epic week-end. [See Visitors Page](#). If we have enough interest, we may rent vans or a bus so that the 6-hour trip will be as much fun as the destination.

Space is limited, and 8 members and their friends have already signed up (for a total of 16). You can indicate your non-binding interest by signing up at a meeting or contacting Craig Eley [craigceley@gmail.com](mailto:craigceley@gmail.com).

**Samuels Super Citizen: Kent Gloor** reported on the Super Citizens assembly at Samuels Elementary last week. Thirty-one (31) students received recogni-

tion, and **Everett Gardner** and **Joe Marci** joined Kent for the presentations.

**Constitutional Scholars Reception:** A reception for the winners of Colorado Constitutional Scholars Competition from East High School is scheduled for Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, at the Governor's Residence, 400 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. The reception is to honor the Colorado winners. East High School has been very successful in state as well as national competition over the last several years. Monaco South has contributed financial support to help the East High Constitutional Scholars travel to the national competition. If you would like to represent MSOC at this reception, please let Prez **Jim Easton** know.



**Eagle Scout Award Banquet:** The 2018 Eagle Scout Awards Banquet, that recognizing the Eagle Scout Class of 2017, will be held on Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, at the Denver Renaissance Hotel, starting with a reception at 5:00 p.m. Monaco South started and has supported this event since its inception. Monaco South members are now in the process of judging project entries at this time. The club also sponsors a table at the banquet and still has a couple of seats available. If you would like to attend the banquet, let **Prez Jim** know, but, these seats go quickly so do not delay.

**Lowry Elementary Multicultural Night: Paul Stratton** announced that Lowry Elementary is hosting a Multicultural Night at the school on March 7<sup>th</sup> in the evening from 5:00-6:30 p.m. The parents running the event are looking for volunteers who are interested in helping with greeting people at the door, and possibly also with food sampling. If you are able to help, please sign up with Paul or reach out to the parent in charge: Charis Sederberg, [charismarie@gmail.com](mailto:charismarie@gmail.com) or 303-503-2437. Lowry truly appreciates the support.



### **Do We Have a Drawing?**

We had a drawing! With \$40 being wrongly reported, when it should have been \$60, that was available for the lucky Optimist who found the 5 of Spades.



**Les Volpe** and new member **Andy Towt** each went for the big bucks, but the 5 of Spades eluded them. Cups of cash went to: **Jack Kleinheksel, Allen Malask, Frank Middleton, Terry Shroyer, Pat Bush, and Tom Glazier.**



For the nametag drawing, **Robert Finkelmeier's** name was called! It was reported that this was the first time in 30 plus years that the good Dr. Bob's name was drawn! You would think he was due, but alas, no luck.





**Maro Casparian**  
**Director Consumer Protection, Denver District Attorney's Office**

Our speaker today was Maro Casparian, Director of Consumer Fraud Protection for the Denver District Attorney's Office. Maro does presentations for groups about frauds, scams, and identity theft. As she started her humorous and fun-loving presentation she says the Denver District Attorney's office is seeing an explosion of scams involving fake IRS agents around Denver due to the tax season.



Maro Casparian



Photos Noel Hasselgren & Craig Eley

She says that many people who have fallen for a scam or a fraud are embarrassed to report it, but it is by these reports that scammers can be researched and people can be warned. "What all scams have in common is they put the fear in someone," Maro said. "That's what they do is catch people off guard so you're not thinking properly. And what I always say when I do presentations is hang up."

She shared "*The Five Red Flag of a Scam*," which are:

1. **Fear.** If someone calls and your first reaction is "Oh No!", then take heed.
2. **Asks for "verification" of your personal information.** Is the person asking to "confirm" your full social security number or bank account number?
3. **Pay up and Pay immediately.** Scammer will say "I can help you," but you must pay now, over the phone.
4. **Requests payment in the form of a gift card.** No reputable company, no lawyer, not the IRS or Microsoft, requires you to go to a store and

purchase some form of a gift card (could be from any store, Best Buy, Walgreens, etc.) or an iTunes card, or some sort of other card.

5. Tells you to **tell no one.**

She shared that if your Social Security card is taken, your identity can be fully stolen. Do Not carry your number or card with you. This includes Medicare cards, which contain your SSN. If you must carry it, draw a sharpie line through the first 5 digits leaving the last four. If you are asked to verify your SSN it just provide the last four digits that are needed.

Investment scams are most successful working on men between the ages of 60-80, who are well educated with more financial resources.

If you would like to receive the District Attorney's Office monthly scam alert send an email to my Maro at [amc@denverda.org](mailto:amc@denverda.org) and just put "subscribe" in the subject line and she will add your name. You can also go to District Attorneys website [www.denverda.org](http://www.denverda.org) to find fraud alerts that are easily copied—the website also allows for translation into multiple languages.



Maro will provide more tips in the come weeks, but her handout documents are attached the GUMS distribution email. See "*Resources*" to contact, "*Reduce Your ID Theft Risks*," and "*What is your ID Theft Probability Score*," along with the "*Speak up: Against Elder Abuse*" flier.



March Super Citizen Presenters		
Mar 20 @ 2:30	MPB	Phil Perington
Mar 22 @ 1:00	McMeen	Mike White
Mar 23 @ 8:20	Holm	?
Mar 23 @ 3:00	Bradley	?

Weekly Greeters	
3/2/18	Tom Kramis & Casey Funk
3/9/18	Don Roth & Joe Marci
3/16/18	Bill Blunden & Al Gapuzan
3/23/18	Perry Allen & Tom Glazier

**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>**

Mar 2	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Mar 9	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: <i>Are You Smarter Than the Brain Bowl Chair?</i>
Mar 9	Fri	5:00 pm	Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner, Renaissance Denver Stapleton, 3801 Quebec Street
Mar 16	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Mar 18	Sun	12:30 pm	Regional TriStar Basketball Competition, North High School, 2960 N. Speer Blvd.
Mar 21	Wed	6:15 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
Mar 23	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Michael Ankner, Amazing Eagle Scout, Denver Indian Center Project
Mar 25-26			Rescheduled Ski Day at Copper Mountain, See Bob Avery

**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	200Feb. 03
John Young	198Feb. 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	201Feb. 13
Kent Gloor	199Feb. 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	720-42Feb.
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	303-83Feb. 4578	<a href="mailto:perington@msn.com">perington@msn.com</a>
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	<a href="mailto:jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net">jp Piccinelli@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:rlawardlaw@gmail.com">rlawardlaw@gmail.com</a>			

**NEWSLETTER EDITORS:** Mar **Phil Perington**, Apr **George Buzick**, May **Robert Wardlaw**, June **Pat Bush**

**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.