



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)



February 24, 2017 – Vol. 41, Issue 21

## Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado  
Serving Youth and the Community for 40 Years  
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012  
[www.monacosouth.org](http://www.monacosouth.org)

Editor for this Issue—Robert Wardlaw



### Good Morning Optimists

Greeting us this morning with a smile are **Paul Stratton**, on left, and charter member **Oscar Sorensen**, who celebrated a birthday on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Now, this is how February is supposed to look! The Monaco South crowd is lively and full of energy today.



Photo Noel Hasselgren

### First Bell

President **Craig Eley** rings the bell promptly at 7 a.m. and asks **Randy Marcove** to give the invocation. Randy's prayer this morning reminds us to promote a healthy interest in government and to support a tribute to those who fought for our rights and freedoms — as Optimists to help and promote what is right and identify what is wrong. He then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

### Guest

**Rob Brewer** and his cousin, **Jesse Carter** are back this morning for another look. Their sponsor, **Mike McMahon** had presented each with an application.

**Paul Stratton** introduces **Bill Moran**, whom he has known for many years. Bill is interested in seeing what we do and says, "Thank You for breakfast."

Former member **Floyd Hussey**, is here again and glad to be back. Editor, "We hope you'll renew that membership, Floyd."

### From the Prez

**Habitat for Humanity:** Prez **Craig Eley** updates us on the next Habitat for Humanity project date, which is Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed to help with general construction duties at 2680 S. Decatur St., starting at 8:45 a.m. and wrapping up at 4:30 p.m. Come out and help the community.

**Eagle Scout Recognition Banquet:** The Boy Scout, Eagle Scout Recognition Banquet is coming up on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. This recognition dinner, now in its 18<sup>th</sup> year, was started by **Donlie Smith**. Members of Mon-

aco South review Eagle Scout projects and select one recipient from each district in the Denver Area Council to receive an award. From those seven districts, an overall council winner is also selected. To be eligible for this award, Eagle Scouts must submit a copy of their project notebook to the Denver Area Council. More can be learned by visiting [2017 Eagle Scout Recognition Banquet](#) or talking with Donlie.

**Second Honeymoon:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> Honeymoon Weekend is scheduled for September 7<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> in Glenwood Springs, Colorado at the Hotel Colorado. Fourteen couples have already signed up and if you are interested in join them, see Craig for details.

**Sweethearts to Breakfast:** Last Friday was the annual Sweethearts to Breakfast gathering, which turned out to an enjoyable "Hawaiian like," Valentine Day event. **Prez Eley** recognized **Keith Galloway**, and of course "his better half, who did a great job of organizing the gathering.



Keith & Lois Galloway  
Photo Noel Hasselgren

**Recognition for Bring In New Members:** Don Roth and Michael Chavez were called to the stage. They were being recognized for bringing in a new members to the club. Michael is also recognized for work as being Past President of a distinguished club, Lt. Governor for the Colorado-Wyoming District, and for starting a new club. *Well done Michael and Don!*



At left, President Craig with microphone calls Michael Chavez, his back to us, and Don Roth, on right, to come forth and be recognized. Both were so quick photographer Noel Hasselgren missed the best Kodak moment.

*Remember, new members are what keeps this club going! We need to build our membership; please invite those who could be additions to our club.*

Continued on the 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\*\*\*\***

## Prez Announcements Continued

**New Club Website:** The new Club website is active, at [www.monacosouth.org](http://www.monacosouth.org). To log in, which enables you to go to the "Member Area," your login is the capital first initial of your first name immediately followed by your last name with first letter capitalized. Example: CEley. Your default password is Denver76. When you log in the first time, you should go to the Member Area and change your password to something you can easily remember. If you forget your password or have trouble logging in, email Craig Eley at [craigceley@gmail.com](mailto:craigceley@gmail.com) for help.

**New OCMS Caps:** New baseball type caps are available. They are in the color blue, stylish, and modern. The cost is \$10 each. See **Greg Young**.

### February Birthday's Recognized

The Prez calls for the February Birthday's to be recognized. Those with birthday in February include: **Bob Avery, Tom Kramis, O.C. Larson, Gary Miller, Russ Paul, Cy Regan, Oscar Sorensen, Jim Tapp, Don Thomson, Scott Walker**, and of course **Craig Eley**. It was mentioned that **Prez Craig** and **Cy Regan** share a birthday along with Babe Ruth, former US president Ronald Reagan, and Richie Zisk, former Pittsburgh Pirate third baseman.



### Announcements

**Greeters are Needed:** **Jon Wachter** runs the greeter committee and gets to pass the signup sheet around for March. He says, to come early and meet members as they arrive. See Jon for more information.

**SC at Lowry:** **Paul Stratton** recaps the Super Citizen at Lowry Elementary. He thanked **Greg Young** for taking pictures and reported the occasion was enlightening and enjoyable as they have been for the past 13 years.



Photo Greg Young

**Brain Bowl Championship Tournament:** **Karl Geil** proclaims "The Brain Bowl is coming!" The final Optimist Brain Bowl tournament is finally here; tomorrow, February 25, at Hamilton Middle School. The 54 teams who made it through their regional competitions face off to determine the Optimist International



Karl Geil, serving as reader, reading at the 8th grade championship round of this weekends Brain Bowl.

Photo Craig Eley

(since we are the only District in OI which puts on a Brain Bowl competition) Brain Bowl Champs. If you signed up, please make

sure you show up. If you did not sign up; we have jobs for you. We usually are a little short of volunteers.

**History Day Competition:** While **Karl Geil** had the microphone he shared that the History Day at Hamilton Middle School was a success thanks to **Joe Marci, Randy Marcove, Tom Hoch** and himself, who joined judges from else where in the whittling Hamilton's History Day. Entries were down to 30 for this years event. The DPS Regional History Day contest will be Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at Hamilton, and the State History Day contest will be held on May 6<sup>th</sup> at CU Denver. If you would like to volunteer as a judge at the DPS tournament, contact Malinda McGurk via email at [malinda\\_mcgurk@dpsk12.org](mailto:malinda_mcgurk@dpsk12.org). To volunteer for the State competition, [CLICK HERE](#).

**Tri-Star Basketball:** **Michael Chavez** recaps that at the Tri Star Basketball competition 48 kids competed. Winners were sent on to the regional competition. Volunteers who helped included: **Allen Pierce, Ron Cisco, Don Thomson, Joe Marci, Gary Strowbridge, Greg Young, John Young, John Bamford, Mike White, Bryce Slaby, Ed Collins, Don Roth, Al Gapuzan, Donlie Smith, and Mike McMahon**. Michael reported that lots of volunteers are needed for the North High event, on Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. Tri-Star is a skills competition for 8-14 year old boys and girls. See you March 12 at noon.

**OC Larson Update:** **John Oss** tells us that **OC Larson** is welcoming visitors and is recovering.

**Samuels Super Citizen:** **Kent Gloor** reviewed the Samuels Super Citizen assembly, and thanks, **Jim Easton** for filling in at the last minute.

**Special Olympics Colorado Polar Plunge:** **Mike McMahon** reported that the Special Olympics Polar Plunge was a success and that our club raised over \$1,000. **Mark Metevia** came and jumped in as well.



At left are Mike McMahon, his two sons, Max and Nate along with Mark Metevia and the PP mascot.

**Monaco South Ski Day:** **Bob Avery** reminded us that Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup> is our Ski Day at Copper Mountain. Breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m. Participants will then spend the day on the slopes of Copper Mountain Ski Resort and finish with a relaxing soak in the hot tub. Talk or email Bob at [rlaii@msn.com](mailto:rlaii@msn.com).

**Dime-A-Day Program:** **Greg Young** calls for Dime-A-Day and needs contributions as we are behind from last year's pace. The Dime-A-Day program raises funds to fight childhood cancer. Give your check of \$36.50 to Greg.

### Statement on Political Speakers and Candidates and Political Correctness

See the attached document approved by the Board attached to the GUMS Distribution email.

## Tony Carpenter Imperial Flyers

**Frank Middleton** introduces our quest speaker, Tony Carpenter, Past President of the Wheat Ridge Optimist Club and Zone 6 Lt. Governor for the CO-WY District. Tony also serves as the fitness chair for the district.

This morning Tony talks about his involvement in the Imperial Flyers and his interests in the flying trapeze. He has been "flying" for the past 50 years.

At this point Tony strips down to his Trapeze Leotard outfit and pays homage to Jules Léotard, who was a French acrobatic performer and aerialist who developed the art of trapeze flying. He also popularized the one-piece gym wear that now bears his name and inspired the 1867 song "*The Daring Young Man on the Flying Trapeze*." When it was introduced, the trapeze also became revolutionize the circus as an act.

Tony shared that the city of Denver's involvement with the circus has a history as well, for example, on March 21, 1878, the American circus mogul Phineas T. Barnum bought 760 acres for just \$11,000, and a few years later, the Barnum subdivision was platted. Additionally, the University of Denver offered classes in trapeze starting back in 1913, which became a very popular program.

The flying trapeze made a move from the University of Denver gymnasium to the Denver Central YMCA gymnasium on 16th and Lincoln streets. It had a larger space, a much higher ceiling, and iron girders from which to hang the equipment, which was all suspended and then "flown" back into the ceiling of the gymnasium when out of use. When the flying trapeze moved, the single trapeze, double trapeze, and revolving ladder went along with it and were featured in YMCA's circuses. Bob Gray and Jimmy Kyle did the revolving ladder act, and Manny Crespín and Cheryl Cohan did the double trapeze act on the original equipment.

Alton Barber was the primary catcher in those days, and was also the head of DU's Speech Department at DU. Tony became a gymnast very early on and began to work



Tony Carpenter  
Photo Noel Hasselgren

out at the YMCA when he there saw the trapeze set up and became very interested. He did this all through high school. Trapeze was thriving, and Tony discovered he was a natural and was soon practicing with the experts. He was even hired by the Flying Lunas, and went on the road with them. For one magical year, he traveled with the circus. He

met his wife during this time and decided to retire and enjoy marital bliss. He retired and got a real job. Eventually, he went back to the YMCA and continue to train. Unfortunately after 70 years at the YMCA without an accident, one happened and the program was discontinued. Fortunately one member found some suitable property in Westminster and a trapeze rig was set up, and the Imperial Flyers were born. They currently have a full-size rig and can practice when weather allows. Ben Coleman built the rig and is still flying at the age of 88. The rig

is constructed of oil rig piping and might be the strongest rig in the world.

Tony said, when hitting the net injuries can happen. Also, the physical nature of flying can result in injuries. The world-wide web has introduced the club to the world.

He shared some interesting video clips which can be found on the Imperial Fryer's website @ <http://www.imperialflyers.org/> and on YouTube @ <https://www.youtube.com/user/susanwinker/videos>.

Tony ended his presentation by saying, many of the trapeze rigs around the world can be traced back to the Imperial Flyers club. He said come out to their Open House in the summertime, May through September and fly weather permitting. The biggest thrill is climbing the ladder, 25 feet from the ground, and is the most difficult part many consider. The Imperial Flyers, an initially small gathering of friends and family, has over the years morphed into a free Circus, one-night only show.

### Drawing

Do we have a drawing? Yes, and \$90 was in the pot. The Three of Clubs is the card this morning. A chance at selecting the right card went to: **George Buzick, Oscar Sorensen**, while cups went to: **Jack Kleinhessel - twice, Harry Arkin, Paul Gibson, and Jon Wachter**.

For having on his Nametag, **Randy Marcove** got a chance for the pot, but alas, \$90 was not in the cards for him.

### March Super Citizen Presenters

|               |          |               |
|---------------|----------|---------------|
| Mar 3 @ 1:00  | McMeen   | Mike White    |
| Mar 10 @ 8:30 | Slavens  | Tom Kramis    |
| Mar 15 @ 2:30 | MPB      | George Buzick |
| Mar 16 @ 5:30 | Hamilton | ?             |
| Mar 24 @ 3:00 | Bradley  | ?             |

### Weekly Greeters

|         |                            |
|---------|----------------------------|
| 3/3/17  | Allen Malask & Cap Hermann |
| 3/10/17 | Joe Marci & George Buzick  |

### Optimist Club of Monaco South 2016-2017 40<sup>th</sup> Year — Chartered in 1976

|        |     |          |  |
|--------|-----|----------|--|
| Mar 3  | Fri | 7:00 am  | Meeting, Legion Hall: Kendra Black, Denver District 4 Councilwoman               |
| Mar 3  | Fri | 5:00 pm  | 2017 Eagle Scout Banquet, Renaissance Denver Hotel, 3891 Quebec St.              |
| Mar 9  | Thu | 8:45 am  | Habitat for Humanity Build, 2680 S. Decatur St.                                  |
| Mar 10 | Fri | 7:00 am  | Meeting, Legion Hall: Bill Blunden, The Mosul Dam in Iraq, in Danger of Collapse |
| Mar 12 | Sun | 12:30 pm | Regional Tri-Star Basketball Competition, North High School, 2960 N. Speer Blvd. |

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

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

**2015 - 2016 Officers**

|                |               |              |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| President      | Craig Eley    | 303-758-9499 |
| Vice President | Chris Dunphy  | 720-297-3111 |
| Vice President | Mike McMahon  | 303-514-5175 |
| Secretary      | Randy Marcove | 303-667-3663 |
| Treasurer      | Greg Young    | 303-759-3921 |

**Board of Directors**

|                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Jim Easton                  | 720-987-7684 |
| Allen Pierce                | 303-883-8506 |
| Allen Malask                | 303-726-3700 |
| Bill Morgan                 | 303-868-4384 |
| Rob Gardner                 | 720-263-6203 |
| Wyatt McCallie              | 303-759-2275 |
| Paul Stratton               | 303-474-4358 |
| John Swick                  | 720-422-2733 |
| Michael Chavez (Past Pres.) | 303-960-5304 |

**Newsletter Committee**

|                    |              |  |                |              |  |
|--------------------|--------------|--|----------------|--------------|--|
| Robert Finkelmeier | 303-756-5829 | <a href="mailto:rfinkelmeier@comcast.net">rfinkelmeier@comcast.net</a>       | Ralph Pedersen | 303-759-3384 | <a href="mailto:r.pedersen2658@comcast.net">r.pedersen2658@comcast.net</a> |
| Jim Piccinelli     | 303-721-1470 | <a href="mailto:jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net">jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net</a> | Phil Perington | 303-832-4578 | <a href="mailto:perington@msn.com">perington@msn.com</a>                   |
| Dick Zolman        | 303-796-8746 | <a href="mailto:rz6267@gmail.com">rz6267@gmail.com</a>                       | Paul Stratton  | 303-366-6375 | <a href="mailto:pcstratton@comcast.net">pcstratton@comcast.net</a>         |
| George Buzick      | 303-803-2268 | <a href="mailto:gtbuzick@comcast.net">gtbuzick@comcast.net</a>               | Pat Bush       | 720-254-3741 | <a href="mailto:pbush@bushreese.com">pbush@bushreese.com</a>               |
| Robert Wardlaw     | 303-525-2532 | <a href="mailto:rlawardlaw@gmail.com">rlawardlaw@gmail.com</a>               | Craig Eley     | 720-771-0866 | <a href="mailto:craigceley@gmail.com">craigceley@gmail.com</a>             |

**NEWSLETTER EDITORS:** Feb **Robert Wardlaw**, Mar **Pat Bush**, Apr **Paul Stratton**, May **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.