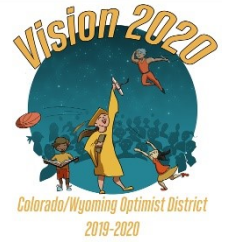




# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

January 17, 2020 – Vol. 44, Issue 16



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



**OPTIMIST**  
INTERNATIONAL

Editor for this Issue—George Buzick

### Good Morning Optimists

On this brisk, bright Friday morning, the “Merry Men”



Greeters Joe Marci & Pat Bush greet Greg Hurd and Prez Bob Meyer as these *Early Birds* get the meeting underway.  
Photo Noel Hasselgren

of the Monaco South Optimist Club were greeted by two of the finest Christmas Tree lot workers in all of South-east Denver, **Joe Marci and Pat Bush**.

### First Bell, Invocation & Pledge

In reading the invocation, **Craig Eley** reminded us of



the words of Martin Luther King Jr., the great civil rights advocate, who will be celebrated on Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. *Martin Luther King was an American Christian minister and activist who became the most visible spokesperson and leader in the Civil Rights Movement from 1955 until his assassination in 1968.* After the invocation, Craig lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

### On This Date, January 17

To get the meeting underway, President **Bob Meyer** shared some events that happened on this day in history, for example birthdays of some famous people: *Muhammed Ali, Jim Carrey, Michelle Obama, Betty White, Al Capone, and James Earl Jones.*

And for historical events that took place on January 17th, Prez Bob reported that on this is day in 1524, *Giovanni da Verrazzano begins his voyage to find a passage to China; in 1773, Captain James Cook was first to cross the Antarctica Circle; 1871, Andrew S. Hallidie received a patent for a cable car system; 1929, Popeye makes first appearance in a comic strip; 1934, Carl Hubbell, NL MVP winner, gets \$18,000 contract by the NY Giants, 1950, the Great Brinks Robbery, 11 men rob \$1.2M cash & \$1.5M securities from an armored car*

*company Brink's offices in Boston, Massachusetts; 1988, the Denver Broncos beat Cleveland Browns, 38-33 with the infamous "The Fumble," Browns' Earnest Byner at Denver 3-yard line with 1:12 remaining; and in 1971, Operation "Desert Storm" begins.*

### Guests

**Prez Bob** recognizes special guest and soon to be member, Joe Hamilton who showed up for the second time with application and check in hand. Joe is just starting his own business and would be grateful for any business sent his way. Check with Joe at the next meeting to find out his expertise in plumbing and sewer cleaning. *Welcome to the club, Joe!*

### Announcements

**Dime-A-Day & OI Foundation:** **Perry Allen**, our Club OI Foundation Representative, said that last week he received checks totaling \$1,315 for the Dime-A-Day program. While Perry modestly attributed this generosity to the presence of **Ron Benson** last week at our meeting, we all know that it is due greatly to Perry's dedication to this program and his tenacity in frequently reminding us of the importance of the OI Foundation to various Optimist funding requirements. Perry also reminded us that, in addition to the Dime-A-Day program, you can make contributions and get a special "Veterans Patch" for the club banner, by designating your contribution, "In memory of ..." or "In honor of..." a specific veteran. For details on this program, contact Perry at 303-7521-3453 or [perrypal@mac.com](mailto:perrypal@mac.com).

Remember, **Ron Benson** needs your vote for the OI Foundation Board of Directors. Vote online starting February 1<sup>st</sup> to February 29<sup>th</sup> at [www.oifoundation.org/](http://www.oifoundation.org/).

**2020 Brain Bowl Update:** In spite of stepping back as the Chief Brain Bowl Reader Trainer, **Karl Geil** is still beating the drum, and the bushes, for Brain Bowl Volunteers. Karl mentioned that there were 127 volunteers at the Central Regional Tournament, held last Saturday, and at least that many and probably more will be needed at the North Regional, which will be on Saturday, January 25, at Standley Lake High School in

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\*\*\*\***

## Announcements Continued

Westminster. The North Tournament is always the largest of the Optimist Brain Bowl tournaments, so please come out and help if you can.

The Central Regional winners were: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade - East Grand 6A (a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade team from Hamilton placed 3<sup>rd</sup> and will be competing in the Championship Tournament), 7<sup>th</sup> Grade - Powell 7B, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade - Campus 8C. The top 4 results for each grade are attached to the **GUMS** distribution email.

Of the 127 volunteers who signed in on game day, 26 (over 20%) were from Monaco South: **Joe Marci, Al Gapuzan** and his wife Donna, **Mike McMahon, Jim VanderKamp, Kent Gloor, Pat Bush, Cesar Camarena, George Buzick, Mark Smith, Don Thomson, Frank Ross, Perry Allen, Bob Avery, John Oss, Robert Ruhl, John Greene, Everett Gardner, Allen Pierce, Paul Bernard, Andy Towt, Craig Eley, Gary Strowbridge, Phil Perington, Bob Meyer, and Karl Geil.**

**Brain Bowl Food Sales:** **Ron Gustas** thanked the members who helped with food sales at the Brain Bowl. Proceeds will go to support Type-1 Diabetes Camp.

**Eagle Scout Project Awards:** **Donlie Smith** thanked those who had worked judging the Eagle Scout class of 2019 project essays. Donlie recognized **Greg Hurd, Tom Overton, Bob Avery, Phil Perington, Jack Kleinhessel,** for reading and evaluating each essay. He then read some of the remarks from the winner's essay, **Anudeep Golla.**



File photo from 2019 of the 2018 class of Eagle Scouts. On left, Prez Everett Gardner and on far right, Donlie Smith.

**Anudeep** spent over 1,300 hours on his project. An impressive young man.

The 2020 Eagle Scout Banquet will be held on Friday evening, March 6th at the Renaissance Denver Hotel, 3801 Quebec St.

**Celebration of Life for Bob Hugo:** **John Oss** reminded us of the memorial service for **Bob Hugo** on Saturday. *Editors: Bob was president of Monaco South in 1984-85 and District Governor 1989-90. More than a dozen MSOC members attended this service. An excerpt from his obituary appears below:*



*Robert Victor Hugo, 93, died December 20, 2019. Born August 5, 1926, he graduated from the University of Denver. He worked as an electrical engineer for Public Service Company of Colorado and was the co-owner of the Wayne Case Orchestra as well as being one of the original members of the John Philip Sousa Concert Band. A veteran of the Second World War, he served in Special Services. He was a former Governor of the Colorado/Wyoming District of Optimist International and Past President of the Optimist Club of Monaco South.*

**Denver Golf Expo:** **Joe Marci** reminded us that the Denver Golf Expo will be taking place Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, February 7-9. Volunteers are need

to staff the Booth for Optimist Junior Golf. Volunteers will get free admission to the Expo and will be helping to publicize our fabulous Junior Golf Program. Any funds raised will go to fund scholarships for the 70 golfers who will represent the CO-WY District in Florida this summer. Call Joe (303-847-7844) or Bob Meyer (303-919-4532) for information. Joe also mentioned he has sheet for Super Bowl pool.

**Bradley Intentional School JOI Club:** **Jon Wachter** announced that the Bradley International School Junior Optimist International (JOI) Club has raised \$1,100 and is looking for a good cause to donate to. He also shared that the Bradley PTO has donated \$500 to a good cause, the Monaco South Optimist Club. *Thank you PTO!* And thanks to Jon, for your attention to the JOI club.



Jon, shared that the CO-WY JOI District Convention will be on Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, at the Kirk Hall, Douglas County Fairgrounds Event Center, 500 Fairgrounds Drive, in Castle Rock, at 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. He also recognized **Donna Priester** from the Academy Optimist Club in Colorado Springs and CO-WY District JOI Club Chair, for her inspiration and motivation in pulling all of this together. The Academy Optimist club currently is sponsoring eight JOI Clubs.

**OCMS Ski Day:** **Bob Avery** announced the annual ski outing at his place in Copper Mountain will be Tuesday, February 18 and that in combination with **Kent Gloor's** place in Breckinridge, they can sleep 8. Breakfast will be served by Bob Avery. Let Bob know if you are interest in participating.

## Happy Bucks

Since today was a Camaraderie Day, **Prez Bob** called out the Happy Bucks spittoon receptacle and solicited for contributions and happy stories. Some of the contributor's were **Karl Geil**, who was happy with 1 Brain Bowl down and 3 more to go; **Greg Young**, happy that the MSOC books are being audited by an internal audit committee; **Paul Stratton**, happy that **Dick Nickoloff** actually gave him his winnings from last week's drawing; and **Ed Collins**, happy for both of his granddaughters! All money collected goes to support research into the causes and prevention of Childhood Cancer and assists children and their families who are undergoing treatment.



## New Member Induction

Being a Camaraderie Day, **Prez Bob** took the opportunity to induct an old but new member. **Frank**



On left, Frank's sponsor, Bryce Slaby. Prez Bob congratulates Frank Ross, center.  
Photo Noel Hasselgren

**Ross** 2004, but then moved back east. He was gone for a while, but he rejoined in October of 2018. Frank was sponsored by **Bryce Slaby** and says he is glad to be back. Welcome back Frank!



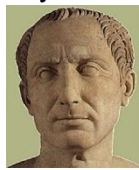
## This is a Leap Year

It is 2020 and a Leap Year! Leap days are extra days added to the calendar to help synchronize it with Earth's orbit around the sun and the actual passing of the seasons. Why do we need them? Blame Earth's orbit around the sun, which takes approximately 365.25 days. It is that .25 that creates the need for a leap year every four years.

During non-leap years, also known as a common year – like 2019 – the calendar does not take into account the extra quarter of a day actually required by Earth to complete a single orbit around the sun. In essence, the calendar year, which is a human artifact, is faster than the actual solar year, or year as defined by our planet's motion through space.

Over time and without correction, the calendar year would drift away from the solar year and the drift would add up quickly. For example, without correction the calendar year would be off by about one day after four years. It would be off by about 25 days after 100 years. You can see that, if even more time were to pass without the leap year as a calendar correction, eventually February would be a summer month in the Northern Hemisphere.

During leap years, a leap day is added to the calendar to slow down and synchronize the calendar year with the seasons. Leap days were first added to the Julian Calendar in 46 BC by Julius Caesar at the advice of Sosigenes, an Alexandrian astronomer. Little is known about him apart from Pliny's Natural History.



## Bad Jokes & Puns

Several jokes and puns were heard today from various members. Like—

- ⇒ What do you call a deer with no eyes? No eye deer.
- ⇒ What's brown and sticky? A stick.
- ⇒ When is a door not a door? When it's ajar?
- ⇒ Apple pie is \$2.50 in Jamaica and \$3:00 in the Bahamas, but only \$1:00 in Antigua. I just thought you might like the pie rates of the Caribbean!

## A Few Pictures from Around the Room



Above, we are just resting our eyes.



Left, John Oss says, "I am happy to share a Happy Buck!"

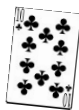
Below, George Buzick tries to capture the notes for GUMS.



## Drawing

With \$170 in the big pot and the 10 of Clubs designated as the card to draw, people were scrambling to find their tickets! **Don Thomson's** number was called first and he chose to go for the big money, he came up short. Both **Donlie Smith** and **Ed Collins** elected to take a cup, then **Ron Gustas** tried his luck at the big pot. Again he too walks away with nothing.

Following the distribution of cups to **Frank Ross**, **Bryce Slaby**, **Don Thomson**, and **Gary Strowbridge**, it was time to call for the "free, are you wearing your badge" name. Several names were called, but members were not present, then **Greg Hurd's** name was drawn, and he was wearing his name tag and, "Voila!" Greg drew the 10 of



Greg Hurd with the 10 of Clubs!

Clubs and went home with his \$170 richer. *Congratulations to Greg!* Next week a new beginning with \$10 in the Big Pot, and another opportunity to strike it rich!



Weekly Greeters	
1/24/20	Curt Boell & Dick Nickoloff
1/31/20	Bob Avery & Perry Allen
2/7/20	Phil Perington & Allen Malask

**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>**

Jan 21	Tue	2:30 pm	Super Citizen, Most Precious Blood Elementary
Jan 24	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Jan 25	Sat	7:00 am	Brail Bowl North, Standley Lake High School, 9300 W. 104th Ave., Westminster
Jan 31	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Kayla Gabehart, Colorado History Day
Jan 31	Fri	3:00 pm	Super Citizen, Bradley International
Feb 7	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Tom Mauro, Excellence in Education Recognition
Feb 7	Fri	1:00 pm	Super Citizen, McMeen Elementary
Feb 7	Fri	1:00 pm	Super Citizen, Samuels Elementary
Feb 8	Sat	8:00 am	Colorado/Wyoming 2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr. District Conference, Maggiano's, 7401 South Clinton St.
Feb 14	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Feb 18	Tue	2:30 pm	Super Citizen, Most Precious Blood

**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	720-938-1760
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:** January **George Buzick**, 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.