



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

January 24, 2020 – Vol. 44, Issue 17



## 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

President **Bob Meyer** called the meeting to order at precisely 7:00 a.m. and announced that today's greeters, **Curt Boell** and **Dick Nickoloff**, were shining examples of "give every living creature you meet and smile." He then encouraged us to meet one another and to provide an Optimist welcome.



Curt Boell & Dick Nickoloff  
Photos Noel Hasselgren

### Invocation & Pledge

Providing the invocation was **Ed Collins** who asked that we share the gift of Optimism by inviting guests to join our club which, in turn, will enhance the value of our community efforts.

### Tidbits of the Past

As has become custom, **Prez Bob** shared some tidbits of past historical events which happened on this vary date, January 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Birthdays:** Hadrian (Roman Emperor), AD 76; Ernest Borgnine (Actor), 1917; Oral Roberts (Evangelist), 1918; Neil Diamond (Singer), 1941; Sharon Tate (Actress), 1943; Mary Lou Raton (Gymnast), 1968; and are own **Jon Wachter** will celebrate his on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Events on this date include:** Connecticut Colony organized, 1639; Gold discovered at Sutter's Mill setting off the California Gold Rush, 1848; First Boy Scout troop formed in England by Robert Baden-Powell, 1908; Eskimo Pie patented by Christian Nelson, 1922; Movie "Grapes of Wrath" is released, 1940; CBS acquired the rights to televise the NFL for \$14.1 million a year, 1954; Jackie Robinson and Bob Feller elected to Baseball Hall of Fame, 1962; and George Foreman KO's Ron Lyle, 1976. Lyle had a total of 51 fights, 7 losses, 31 wins by KO's and 43 wins. He died in Denver on November 26, 2011.



Robert Baden-Powell



Ron Lyle

### Guests

**Jim Easton** introduced his friend **Josh Lapuma**, who is an HVAC specialist. **Steve Kady** introduced **Miko Kasko**, originally from Finland who is a carpenter and wood craftsman. Our newest member, **Joe Hamilton** was also introduced. *Welcome to all!*

### From the Prez

The president mentioned that the Second Quarter District meeting will be held at Maggiano's in the DTC. Greg Young followed up by inserting that the club would pay \$25 of the \$40 registration fee. Just provide Greg with a copy of the registration. Meeting will be held Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. Registration form and agenda can be found on district website:

Prez Bob also mentioned that the Cheyenne Optimist Club will be hosting a "Great Gatsby" party at the Plains Hotel. Tickets are \$150 per couple. This is a major fund raiser for the Cheyenne Club. See the flyer attached to GUMS distribution email.

**Prez Bob** also reported that he had presented a check for \$1,000 to the Tamarac ladies, for their assistance with Christmas Tree lot.

### Announcements

**Brain Bowl North Region Tournament:** **Karl Geil** made a last plea for assistance at the North Brain Bowl tomorrow, Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. It appears we have sufficient readers but could use some more assistance in other areas. Also keep in mind the Southern Regional contest, on February 25<sup>th</sup> is still short-handed, as is the Championship Tournament on Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. Brain Bowl information can be found on the dedicated webpage at [www.optimistbrainbowl.org](http://www.optimistbrainbowl.org).

**Denver Golf Expo:** **Joe Marci** reports that we need help staffing at the CO-WY District Junior Golf table at the Golf Expo, beginning Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup> and running through Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. We especially need help on Saturday and Sunday. Bring family and friends who play golf. Please contact Joe Marci, at 303-847-7844 for details.



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



After a lengthy hiatus, “**Rants and Raves**” has returned. A lot has happened at Monaco South since my last column. We’ve had another successful year at the Christmas Tree Lot. About 100 Monaco South members donated over 1,500 hours setting up, running, and tearing down the lot. Almost 1,400 Christmas trees, dozens of wreaths, hundreds of feet of garland, and many, many tree stands, tree bags, loaves of bread, bottles of honey, and tree freshener were sold while the lot was open.

I can’t thank the members of Monaco South enough for their hard work and dedication. The youth we serve throughout the year will enjoy the fruits of our labor with the many activities and projects that the Club runs and supports with the proceeds from the tree lot.

The renovation of the tree lot trailer will provide many years of additional service during future Christmas Tree lot seasons. Thanks to **Tom Kramis**, **Cesar Camarena**, and their construction crew for their hundreds of hours of work sprucing up the trailer. More thanks to Tom for his administrative duties in ordering the trees and arranging to have the ladies of the Tamarac Optimist Club assist us with tree pricing and providing cashiers. Additional thanks to **Greg Young** for working with local schools to provide students to help out at the lot.

Thank you ... thank you ... thank you all for an awesome year at the Christmas Tree Lot!

Thanks to **Steve Kady** and **Dan Rodriguez** for their taking the lead on the Channel 4 Toy Drive to benefit the Boys and Girls Club. Thanks to **Tom Overton** for being Santa that early morning at the U Hills King Soopers. Thanks to the elves who pushed the shopping carts laden with toys into the store.

As Christmas drew closer, we laughed and laughed during the White Elephant Gift Exchange. We also enjoyed the Holiday Party that Tamarac arranged.

With the turning of the calendar from December to January, we are now in the midst of Brain Bowl season. As usual, Monaco South provides more volunteers for the Brain Bowl than any other Club. There were a little less than 60 middle school teams at the Central Brain Bowl. Yesterday’s

North Brain Bowl had over 80 middle school teams in attendance. Later in February and March, we’ll have the South and Championship Brain Bowls.

The Junior Golf Committee will man a booth at the Denver Golf Expo from February 7 to 9. Come on out and spread the word about the Junior Golf Program.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter District Meeting is coming up Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. The Club will reimburse you \$25 if you sign up for the District Meeting.

In mid-February, **Bob Avery** and **Kent Gloor** will be in charge of Ski Day at Copper Mountain.

The Oratorical, Essay, and Communications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Contests will be held in February, March, and April.

The Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner will be held in on Friday evening, March 6<sup>th</sup> at the Renaissance Denver Hotel, 3801 Quebec St.

Tri-Star Basketball will be run in March and April.

Also, in April, we’ll hold Club Officer elections and the “Know Brainer” competition.

In every month, we’ll recognize Super Citizens at 8 to 10 Denver Public Schools.

In June, we’ll be running the District Junior Golf Qualifiers to identify the 70 junior golfers we’ll be sending to the Optimist International Junior Golf Championships at Trump National Doral Resort in Miami FL.

Please continue to check the calendar on the Club Website to make sure that you do not miss out on any of our projects and activities.

Optimist Dues are over due! See **Greg Young**.

Also, do not forget Dime-A-Day and the other OIF donor opportunities. See **Perry Allen**.

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.

I also 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

**Celebration of Life for Bob Hugo:** **Bob Avery** thanked all who attend Bob Hugo’s Celebration of Life service and reported that he had counted 17 MSOC members at the funeral. He said these members represented more than 50% of the people who attended. 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.*

**Lost Table:** Our Friday morning breakfast casher, **Gary Miller**, lost his table this week. No explanation was provided. Fortunately it wasn’t his box of cash!



## Did You Know



**DID YOU KNOW?**

**IF THE HUMAN EYE WAS A DIGITAL CAMERA, IT WOULD HAVE 576 MEGAPIXELS.**



**DID YOU KNOW?**

**BANANA IS A HAPPY FRUIT. EATING JUST ONE CAN HELP YOU RELIEVE IRRITABLE EMOTIONS, ANGER OR DEPRESSION.**



**DID YOU KNOW?**

**THE NSF ESTIMATED THAT OUR BRAINS PRODUCE AS MANY AS 12,000 TO 50,000 THOUGHTS PER DAY DEPENDING ON HOW DEEP A THINKER YOU ARE.**



**DID YOU KNOW?**

**THERE ARE EXACTLY 46,783,66 5,034,756,288,456,012,645 MOVE POSSIBILITIES IN A GAME OF CHESS.**

**Krista Kafer**  
**Women's Development Association**

Krista Kafer is many things: World traveler, Denver Post editorial page columnist, radio personality, beekeeper. Ah, beekeeper! She has this in common with one of our own beekeeper, **Craig Eley**, who gave her name to **Paul Bernard** as a potential speaker.

Krista did not talk about beekeeping? She opened her conversation by stating that she has been to over 40 countries; like India, South Africa, Nepal, and Egypt, and that many of them have deplorable living conditions, but none that she would describe as "grim."

On the other hand, Krista says, Lahore, Pakistan is a truly "grim" place. Lahore, the capital of the Pakistani province of Punjab, is a city which is one of the most polluted in the world, where the 98% Muslim population lives in total squalor with open sewage canals, severe air pollution, and almost no joy. The plight of women in Pakistan is desperate or, as Krista describes it "unenviable." Fewer than 45% of women can read and write and they receive minimal public education.

When Krista visited Pakistan, she found that because of their lack of education, most women work as domestics; few were able to obtain positions where they could make enough to make working worthwhile. Because of the highly patriarchal based society, women are looked upon, for the most part, as inferior to men.

Krista explained that one of the few organizations looking to improve the quality of life for women in Pakistan is the [Women's Development Association](#). "For more than 17 years, Women's Development Association has devoted its energy to passionately advocating



Krista Kafer, wearing a traditional Pakistani dress made from cloth she purchased in Pakistan.  
 Photo Noel Hasselgren

*for the illiterate, needy, and politically under represented members of our global family." The Women's Development Association states in its mission, "Since its inception in 2000, the WDA has provided basic literacy, math, and skills training to women living in the slums of Lahore. This all began with a group of 20 women and through God's guidance, fiscal responsibility, hard work, and determination. The WDA has not only managed to change the lives of 5,240 women through education and skills training, but also had the opportunity to share the love of Christ. These women are now self-sufficient and have changed the repetitive cycle from being a victim to being a leader! In 2008 the WDA also instituted a primary education program and have provided 300 children with the basic human rights of education."*

Lead by Josna Azim, one of the organizations founders, and Kristen Johnson, U.S. President of the WDA, the organization continues to work for the opportunities of advancing themselves through education of Pakistani women.

Krista stated that she is a member of the Board of Directors of WDA and the fund-raising headquarters is here in Denver Colorado. She said that to fully train a class of twenty women in Pakistan it costs \$1,320 and that they fund the organization through various small organizations, mostly churches, by participating in "alternative gift markets."

*Thanks to Krista for sharing her experiences with us and for her insight into the plight of women in Pakistan.*

**Women's Plight in Pakistan**

By **Murtaza Talpur**, Daily Times, March 7, 2019

In a related article found while writing this article, "According to Thomson Reuters Foundation, Pakistan is ranked 6<sup>th</sup> most unsafe country for women. Human Rights Watch report has highlighted how every year 1100 women

*are killed in the name of honour in Pakistan. In addition to this, in the last couple of years, dozens of women have been killed in the name of honour but were declared as suicide cases and thousands of gender based domestic violence cases went unreported."*

See Murtaza Talpur's article [Click Here](#)

**Drawing**



With the last pot being at \$170 and then being taken by **Greg Hurd**, who by the way was not in attendance today, we had very little if any go for the \$10 in it. However, on the bright side the pot goes to \$20 next week. Note, your editor was so taken back by all of this, he forgot who the cup winners where.



Oh, for wearing his name badge, **Bob Finkelmeier** got his chance to draw, but he actually knocked the winning card on the floor, while drawing a losing card.

**Better Luck next week!**



Weekly Greeters	
1/31/20	Bob Avery & Perry Allen
2/7/20	Phil Perington & Allen Malask
2/17/20	Dan Rodriguez & Frank Ross

**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 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 10	Mon	6:30 pm	New Member Orientation, Silicon Stem Academy, 4201 E Yale Ave., Suite 130
Feb 14	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Feb 18	Tue	7:00 am	Ski Day at Copper Mountain. See Bob Avery or Kent Gloor
Feb 18	Tue	2:30 pm	Super Citizen, Most Precious Blood
Feb 20	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	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:** 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.