



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

January 25, 2019 – Vol. 43, 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

Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton for Phil Perington



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Good Morning Optimists

Pat Bush and Noel Hasselgren, an oddly-familiar looking Costa Rican named **Randy Marcove** rose early



Randy Marcove & Pat Bush welcome Perry Allen as Noel Hasselgren snaps the picture.

to greet those hearty Monaco South Optimists brave enough to endure cold 15 degree temperatures in order to share warm camaraderie on this Friday morning, January 25th.

First Bell, Invocation & Pelage

President **Everett Gardner** started our meeting right on time, and asked **Bill Morgan** to deliver our invocation. Bill's message reflected on the works and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. His dream inspired many and can continue to inspire new generations, as opportunities to correct injustices continue to exist across the globe. He then led our Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests

Bob Avery introduced Alan Magnason from the Denver Boy Scouts. Alan the 2017 Outstanding Eagle Scout award winner, from the Denver Area Council, who is running the Eagle Banquet this year, and came to say thanks to our club and the members of the Eagle Award committee who are pouring over this year's submitted projects. Alan says that 20 years ago our club, and specifically **Donlie Smith**,



Alan Magnason

started a program recognizing Eagle Scouts in southeast Denver. The model Donlie created has been copied in Scout programs in all of Denver, and now across the country. So the efforts our club made have created a ripple effect throughout the country—*that's remarkable!* **A tip of the cap to Donlie Smith!** Mark your calendar the 2019 Eagle Scout Banquet is Friday, March

8th, at the Renaissance Hotel.

Randy Marcove, vacationing in Colorado, was a member/guest today,



Ed Collins & Bob Avery get the details of living in Costa Rico from Randy Marcove.
Photo Noel Hasselgren

though no one claimed to have invited him. Randy is now living in Costa Rica and chose to visit Denver in January in order to see snow for the first time. He seemed very comfortable and did

not have trouble getting to know people—he was enjoying practicing his English, which was pretty good, considering.

Announcements

Dime-A-Day Program: Perry Allen, our Dime-A-Day crusader, clarified his enticing offer. If 10 members of the club turn their dimes into dollars, therefore contributing to the OI Foundation \$365 instead of \$36.50, he will match them with his own Dollar A Day or \$365 dollars. Two club members have stepped up so far, so Perry is on the hook for \$73.00, or 2/10's of the way there...so far! Whether \$36.50 or \$365.00, consider supporting the Dime-A-Day program. Ask Perry if you would like to be reminded of the OI projects where those dimes go.

Tree Lot Donation: **Joe Marci** shared that he attended the Tamarac Club meeting this week, and presented a \$1,000 donation check from our club as thanks for the efforts many Tamarac members made helping at the Christmas tree lot. Joe reports that their club was very appreciative.

CO-WY Brain Bowl: **Karl Geil** reported that the North Region Optimist Brain Bowl will take place on Saturday, January 26, at Standley Lake High School in Westminster. If you volunteered to work, please show up, have a cup of coffee and a doughnut, and then have a seat in the auditorium (Readers should report to the library). Food and drink are not allowed in the auditorium, so please do not bring anything other than

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

a water bottle. The final count is 92 teams from 22 schools, including 4 teams from Casper, Wyoming. We are going to need all hands on deck for this one, so, if you volunteered, please show up. If you have not yet volunteered, it is not too late. Just show up on time. Then, one week later, we will be at Challenger Middle School in Colorado Springs.

Tri-Star Basketball: Michael Chavez announced that the Tri-Star Basketball skills competition is coming up on Wednesday, February 20th at the Cope Boys and Girls Club starting at 3 p.m. This event is for boys and girls ages 8-13. Kids who advance will compete at the Pepsi Center finals on March 31st, which will be about 144 kids. Michael passed around a sign up sheet for volunteers interested in helping the kids and ensuring a great event.

CO-WY 2nd Quarter Conference: John Oss reminded us that Saturday, February 9th will be the District Quarterly Conference. The venue is Hyland Hills Golf Course and their restaurant Ciancio's. Dee Clark, who has worked to help the homeless, will be the keynote speaker. A registration form and agenda are attached to the GUMS distribution email.

Update on Cy Regan: Donlie Smith reports that Cy Regan is making progress and doing well. If you want to reach out to Cy and wish him a speedy recovery, give Donlie a call.

Monaco South Ski Day: Bob Avery says that Ski Day is coming up on Monday, February 4th at Copper Mountain. See Bob to sign up. Those interested can come up on Sunday night and then breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m. Monday prior to hitting the slopes.

East High Scholl Constitutional Scholars: Greg Young shared that once again Monaco South is supporting the state Champion East High Constitutional Scholars with a scholarship of \$500. This small amount will go toward helping the team of 30 students raise \$79,000 to be able to go to the national competition in Washington D.C. in April. Learn more about this competition here at <http://www.civiced.org/national-finals-2019> and watch this [YouTube clip HERE](#).

East High School has been Colorado State Champion 29 times in 32 years, and placed nationally in the top ten 23 times, and won the National Championship 4 times. Last year they placed 6th in the nation out of 55+ teams. Anyone who wants to contribute to this effort can send a tax deductible gift to Beth Gower, East High School, 1600 City Park Esplanade, Denver, CO 80206. Make payable to East High School and indicate Constitutional Scholars. [See Beth Gower's letter included on the GUMS distribution email](#).

Update on Harry Fegley: Harry checked in with Bob Finkelmeier this past week from Cuba as he makes his way across the globe. Today Harry and Linda go through the Panama Cannel. Click on the following link and scroll down to see his itinerary: [https://cruiseweb.com/cruise-lines/holland-america-line/ship-amsterdam/113-day-grand-world-voyage-departs-fort-lauderdale-\(port-everglades\)](https://cruiseweb.com/cruise-lines/holland-america-line/ship-amsterdam/113-day-grand-world-voyage-departs-fort-lauderdale-(port-everglades))

Presidential Rants & Raves vs. Tweets

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

PAST ... "The BRAIN BOWL IS COMING ... THE BRAIN BOWL COMING" (borrowed from Karl) ... 2 tournament down and 2 to go!

It was a pleasure to meet Meg Cypress Colorado's Teacher of the Year and understand her passion for instilling a quest for learning in all of the students that get to work with her. Thanks to **Tom Mauro** for the intro and to **Mike McMahon, Jon Wachter** and **Randy Marcove** for the testimonies. When I chatted with Meg after the meeting, we acknowledged that we had previously met in the Bradley garden, where I have a plot and grow hops. Apparently, Meg took the class there and did some research on hops. I volunteered to help her the next time she has a class garden outing and enlighten the class on how food is grown.

Saturday was the second with Summit Middle Charter, Manhattan, & Summit Middle Charter in first place—see all the North Regional scores [HERE](#). Thanks to all who participated as it takes a great deal of help to orchestrate the even especially with various clubs from Colorado/Wyoming District participating. What fun it was driving in the snow then leaving as it was becoming slush. **Bob Avery** and I again had the pleasure of scoring and timing the morning sessions with **Paul Bernard & Tom Mehl**, and after lunch did the same with **Fred Margolin** for a run-off session. The winning team of that session had 22 points to win. I did hear that one of the teams scored 27 points ... that's a lot of knowledge for 6th graders.

FUTURE ... Southern Brain Bowl, February 2. Additional help is need.

PS: Bring a GUEST next week We've all met and invited new people during Christmas tree sales! Goal; 5 Guest per meeting for January. Need more guests/new members! I have a guest coming the week after next.

Prez Everett

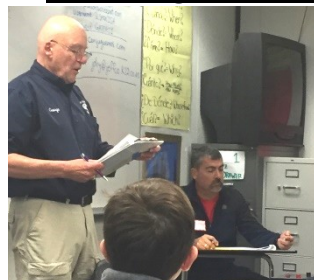
Speaking of Cuba: Jack and Kathy Rife shared

this photo this past week showing them riding to dinner in Havana, Cuba. Also, recently visiting Cuba, but on a different tour were **Eldon and Roxie Strong**.



Optimist Club of Monaco South Policies: At the January 17, 2019 Board Meeting the Club's Policies/Bylaws were updated and approved. Members can see this document attached to GUMS distribution email of [CLICKING HERE](#).

North Regional Optimist Brain Bowl: Phil Perington



shared this photo from the North Reginal saying, **Randy Marcove**, fresh back from Cost Rica, keeping time and score at the Brain Bowl 7th grade Final Round contest. Thanks to all!

Partnership in Education Award Recognizing Colorado Teacher of the Year, Ms. Meg Cypress

Tom Mauro took to the stage to introduce the Partnership in Education Award recipient. He asked club member **Steve Wera**, and principal at Bradley Elementary, to join him. Steve introduced and gave us some background on the Colorado Teacher of the Year, **Meg Cypress**.

Meg is a Colorado native, and a graduate of Bishop Machebeuf High School and bachelor of arts from the University of Northern Colorado. She has spent all of her 16 years teaching at Bradley. She spearhead the start of the IB (International Baccalaureate) program, and Steve reports she has also been a great liaison with parent organizations and assisting with fundraisers.

Steve says that Meg is all about kids and is a born teacher and a natural leader. She has a tireless work ethic and puts in countless hours. The kids in her classroom are engaged and excited. Meg is the lifeblood of the school, and the school's reputation of excellence is largely due to her. Bradley now is at student capacity as the word has gotten out about the great things happening there, and a lot of that comes from students and parents who have been wowed by Meg.

Mike McMahon took to the stage. His son Max had Ms. Cypress as a teacher and his son Nate is in her class now. When Mike served as PTO president he insisted that his boys have Meg as a teacher. After one day of 3rd grade, Max told Mike and his wife Kim that he would flunk 3rd grade, just so he could repeat the grade and have one more year with Ms. Cypress.

Randy Marcove shared that his kids were also in Meg's class. He was struck by what seemed to be chaos in the classroom, and he worried that the kids were learning bad habits. But he quickly realized that the students knew where everything was and what he thought was disorganized was actually an organized mess. Randy thinks that Ms. Cypress' class was likely the high point of his kid's K-12 years.

Jon Wachter, Super Citizen coordinator and JOI Club advisor, also spoke highly of Meg— and has been involved for 5 years in helping get the JOI club started at Bradley. Jon says she is a shining bright beacon for the school, SE Denver, and

all of DPS. She is very busy with all of her commitments but seems to always find time to help.

Meg had her turn at the microphone, and gave the club a thank you for awarding her a "huge honor." She felt it makes an important difference to her to receive the award at our meeting. Her main focus as a teacher is to encourage students to love school. Instilling that idea early carries over to middle school and high school. All kids have gifts to offer our community whether it is in our out of the classroom. Meg received her college degree in business and thought that would be her life-long career. When her

daughter started school at Bradley, she loved her first grade teacher. That teacher asked Meg to consider teaching, and she got her license through training at Stanley British Primary School.

She will go to Washington DC to meet with other teachers of the year from across the country. She will also serve on the board of the Colorado Department of Education, where she hopes to help support current teachers across the state, as well as encourage people to enter the field of education as she did.

Our President **Everett Gardner** led the presentation of the award, and Tom, Steve, Mike, Randy, and Jon all joined Meg on stage. She received a well-deserved standing ovation from some very impressive Optimists!



Steve Wear introduces Meg Cypress, Partnership in Education recipient.



Photos Noel Hasselgren

Do We Have a Drawing?

Despite the absence of **Ron Cisco**, we had a drawing! It took two people to cover for Ron, as **Craig Eley** and **Andy Towt** pitched in. The big hit was a \$180 pot and the 4 of Spades was the lucky ducat. Cups O'Plenty went to **Ed Collins**, **Roy Garrett**, **Jack Kleinheksel**, **Perry Allen**, **Greg Young**, and **Tom Kramis**.

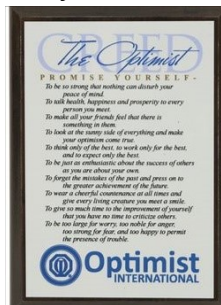


Don Thomson and **Ed Collins** (double winner!) took a shot at the big money, but came up empty.

Must be named Paul to win: **Paul Bernard** was sporting his nametag at just the right time, but failed to find the proper card. Next week the Big Pot goes to \$190.

Closing Creed

President **Gardner** asked the Colorado Teacher of the Year, **Meg Cypress**, to lead us in the *Optimist Creed: Promise yourself....*



Weekly Greeters

2/1/19	Ed Collins & Dick Nickoloff
2/8/19	Joe Marci & Dick Nickoloff

February Super Citizen Presenters

Feb 8 @ 1:00	Samuels	?
Feb 19 @ 2:30	MPB	?

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

Feb 1	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Audry Reyes, Manager Volunteer Mentor Program, Denver Kids, Inc.
Feb 2	Sat	7:00 am	Brain Bowl South, Challenger Middle School, 10215 Lexington Dr., Colorado Springs, CO
Feb 4	Mon	7:00 am	MSOC Ski Day, Copper Mountain Resort, Bob Avery
Feb 8	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: National History Day, Kayla Gabehart, Associate Director
Feb 9	Sat	8:00 am	CO-WY 2nd Qtr. District Conference, Cianco's, 9650 Sheridan Blvd, Westminster, CO
Feb 15	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: DFD Lt. Deb Thorson, Safety Education
Feb 20	Wed	3:00 pm	Tri-Star Basketball Competition, Cope Boys & Girls Club, 808 Inca St.
Feb 21	Thur	6:15 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Councilwomen Black's Office, 3540 S. Poplar St, Ste. 100 lower level
Feb 22	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Mark Krekeler, Training for Health
Feb 23	Sat	7:00 am	Brain Bowl Championship Tournament, Hamilton Middle School, 8600 East Dartmouth Ave
Mar 1	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Linda Williams, AmerCorps, <i>A Little Help</i>

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

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Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	rlawardlaw@gmail.com	Craig Eley	303-758-9499	craigceley@gmail.com
Phil Perington	303-832-4578	perington@msn.com	Greg Young	303-759-3921	gndyoung@comcast.net

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Feb **George Buzick**, Mar **Robert Wardlaw**

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.