



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

January 26, 2018 – Vol. 42, Issue 17

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

Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton, sitting in for Pat Bush



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Good Morning Optimist

On this last meeting of January 2018, **Bob Avery** and **Gary Strowbridge** turned greeting into a sublime art form, sharing good cheer and welcomes on this Friday morning, January 26th.

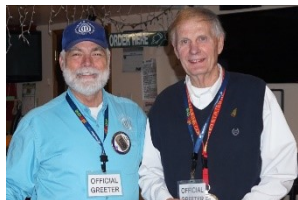


Photo Noel Hasselgren

First Bell

President **Jim Easton** began the meeting, more or less on time, with our invocation. **Paul Simon** delivered a message regarding the importance of international accord and tolerance for all, and a reminder that the actions of one effect all of us on a global scale. He then led the club in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

Guest

We had a guest! **Bob Avery** introduced first-time visitor **Charlie Winship**. Charlie's wife came to the tree lot and then encouraged him to come and see what our club is all about. Charlie and his family are new to Denver as of a year ago. Welcome Charlie—we are glad to have you. Please come back and join us!

New Member Inductions

President **Easton** led the proceedings as **Cliff Eley**, **Mark Westlund**, and **James Docktor** were formally recognized and brought into the club. Sponsors **Craig Eley** and **Tom Glazier** joined the group on stage as Jim did the honors. And with that, they are in! No backing out now, Cliff, Mark, and James!



Photo Noel Hasselgren

From left, Tom Glazier, Jim Easton, Mark Westlund, Cliff Eley, James Docktor, and Craig Eley.

Announcements

2nd Quarter District Conference: Coming up on Saturday, February 10th will be the 2nd Quarter District Conference. Sign up now! Monaco South Optimist Club achieved Distinguished status for last year and will receive awards. Remember, the club will pay \$25 towards your registration, with a copy of the registration submitted to Treasurer, **Greg Young**.

Let us have a big showing at this conference. It will be 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Ciancio's Restaurant, 9650 Sheridan Blvd. in Westminster. More details and the agenda are attached to GUMS distribution email.

Where are Hoch & Gloor?: It was reported by your editor that they were recently spotted on the beaches of Barbados—four fugitives from justice, desperate to avoid extradition. Heavily disguised to throw authorities off their scent, here they are photographed in a rare moment of respite. Looks like staying one step ahead of the law is hard work!



Left Tom Hoch & wife Laura Hoch along with Kent Gloor & wife Abigail Nicholas on the beach at Sea Foam Haciendas.

Ski Day at Copper Mountain: It is that time of year when **Bob Avery** hosts the Copper Mountain Ski Fest. This year he plans to go skiing on Sunday and Monday, February 4th & 5th. He will even serve you breakfast at his condo before hitting the slopes. Then it is off to the hot tub after skiing so do not forget your swim trunks. It is a day packed full of fun and frolic so do not miss this annual event. Bob has even thrown in an overnight lodging offer if you do not want to get up early to drive to Copper on Monday. A couple of spots are still available, email Bob to join in.

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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

Connect to OCMS Website via ClubRunner:

Greg Young reported that ClubRunner Mobile App is available for download! The ClubRunner Mobile App is your key to connecting to the [Monaco South website](#). Completely free to download and use, this app will let you access the key information while on the go. Password protected, the ClubRunner Mobile app allows you to view the OCMS member directory, contact other members, and read the latest articles posted the website. Additionally, you can learn more about upcoming events and speakers on the Club's Calendar.

The mobile app is compatible with all versions of the iPhone and iPad that have iOS 8.0 or later and with versions of Androids that are 4.0.3 or better. To download the app, use your device and go to the App Store or from Google Play, simply type in "ClubRunner" in the search bar.

The ClubRunner app currently features the following modules:

- ⇒ Member Directory – Get quick access to contact OCMS members
- ⇒ Club Calendar – Learn more about upcoming events and speakers
- ⇒ Club Details

If you have not logged on to OCMS website member area and updated your profile, now is the time. If you do not remember or have your password, please email Greg Young at gndyoung@comcast.net and he will reset it for you.

CO-WY Brain Bowl: Karl Geil reports that the Brain Bowl is still coming! The Central Region Optimist Brain Bowl tournament was held at Heritage High School, in Littleton on January 20th. Sixty-four teams, approximately 320 students, from 16 different schools, participated this year. Results can be found at <http://www.optimistbrainbowl.org/>.

Of the 133 volunteers who turned out to support the event, 36 came from Monaco South: **Allen Pierce, Paul Bernard, Gary Strowbridge, Bob Meyer, Barry Barker, Peter Dimond, Mark Smith, Michael Chavez, Pat Bush, Harry Fegley, Jim VanderKamp, Allen Malask, Mike McMahon, Casey Funk, Joe Marci, Tom Glazier, Noel Hasselgren, Greg Young, Don Roth, Don Thomson, Kent Gloor, George Buzick, Tom Kramis, Perry Allen, John Oss, Tom Overton, Bob Avery, Bill Blunden, Paul Simon** and his guest, **Mark Burns, Randy Marcove, Terry Shroyer, Bill Morgan, Paul Stratton, and Karl Geil**. And, of course, **Phil Perington** was handing out Optimist information along with Governor-Elect **Linda McDonald**.

Next up, the South tournament, on Saturday, February 3rd at Horizon Middle School in Colorado Springs.



Colorado History Day: While **Karl Geil** still had our attention he mentioned he is still looking for experienced History Day Judges to help whittle down the Hamilton Middle School History Day projects to the 20 which will be entered in the regional competition. Are you available Friday March 16th 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Some who were interested last week told him they never saw the sign-up sheet, so keep those sign-up sheets circulating, and make sure everyone at your own table sees them before sending them on to the next table.

Are You Smarter Than the Brain Bowl Chair?:

The date has changed for the anticipated humiliation of **Karl Geil** in the "Are You Smarter Than the Brain Bowl Chair?" competition. It will take place at the March 9, 2018 meeting. We have learned that it is necessary to recruit our best and brightest to try to topple Karl from his perch as last year's champion, so we have done just that: **Bob Avery, Perry Allen, Al Gapuzan, Dick Nickoloff, and Paul Stratton**, who has been on a past winning team, will sally forth to collectively match wits with the Brain Bowl Chair. Put this on your calendar—it is the intellectual apex, of course, that is not saying much, of the Monaco South year!

Greeters Needed: **Jon Wachter** is continually looking for a few bright and happy men to be greeters at the membership meetings. He does not need any more Santa's to sign up but a few Ed's, Larry's, Bill's, AL's, or any other names will help. You might even get your smiling face in *GUMS* so that others recognize your early morning efforts.

Golf Exposition: The Golf Exposition will be held at the Merchandize Mart, 58th & Washington, on February 19th through 21st. Optimist Junior Golf will have a table at the expo to promote the Junior Golf program. **Joe Marci** and **Bob Meyer** are looking for help in manning the exhibit. Helpers will be handing out tournament applications and informational pamphlets to juniors (boys and girls from age 8 to 18). You can also take some time to walk around the expo to see all the golf exhibits free of charge. You will get an Optimist Junior Golf shirt to wear while at the expo. What more can you ask, free admittance to the golf expo, a free golf shirt, and a chance to hang out with fellow Optimists and golf enthusiasts.

Tri-Star Basketball: **Michael Chavez** announced that the Tri-Star Basketball competition will be held on Thursday, February 15th at the Cope Boys and Girls Club. He is looking for volunteers to monitor the events shooting, passing, and dribbling activities. The top kids go to regionals and then to finals. Let Michael know if you can help with this local event.

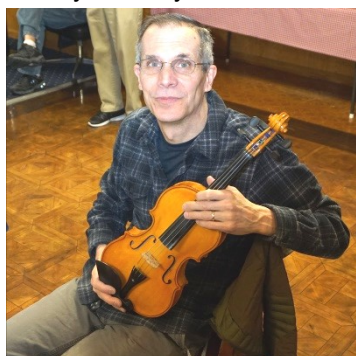
Super Bowl Squares: **Joe Marci** is up to his seasonal Super Bowl Squares activity, that is two different Super Bowl grids that are going around, one for \$2/sq. and one for \$5/sq. These are **Jr. Golf Fundraisers**, and the squares were going fast. Look for Joe next week to see if any remain.

Continued on the next page

Building Violins

Bill Morgan

Today's speaker was introduced by **Randy Marcove**. Randy recently learned a bit about an amazing art being



Bill Morgan
Photo Noel Hasselgren

practiced by one of our own members, **Bill Morgan**. So, Randy encouraged Bill to share his passion with the club.

Bill is a violin maker, and in the past taught a 16-week, 4-hour course on building violins at Red Rocks Community College.

Bill began playing the violin at age 5, trying to keep up with his sister, who started at age 4. By high school the violin began to "phase out" of Bill's life. Later, in his adult working career, Bill needed a stress reliever. He decided to start playing the violin again and looked around for a used one.

He bought one and then realized it needed a great deal of work, so decided to learn how to fix it. This then led him to start building violins from scratch himself.

Bill says 120-180 hours of labor goes into making a violin, which translates to about six months of calendar time, allowing for material collection and glue drying. The classes Bill taught included carving, wood selection, lining of the ribs, cutting f-holes, wood bending, sound posts physics, and varnishing. Maple wood is used, and the wood is then cut for with the grain to run straight before carving. Bill hands carves but there are also tools that handle it today.

Varnish or lack of varnish affect the sound of the instrument.

Violins are usually sound tested before any varnish is applied. Violin makers need flexible varnish that can be removed if necessary during tuning.

Bill did make a few violins on commission, but it is not a lucrative venture. By charging \$2,500, he feels he earned about \$4/hour.

Bill passed around examples of different phases of construction, and took some questions, including: "*What makes*



a Stradivarius a Stradivarius?" The originals and true Stradivarius were made by Antonio Stradivari, and were in the baroque style. That style does not fit the modern orchestras, so there are no real Stradivarius made today.

"*Is it true that a violin must be played regularly to keep it tip top?*" That is a myth, per Bill, yet it is a myth that many experts in Italy continue to keep alive. "*What is the difference between a fiddle and a violin?*" None! So, these two violin players are basically playing the same type of instrument.



Many thanks Bill, we all learned something today, which makes it a great day!

To hear Bill play one of his violins, [click here](#)
Thanks to Paul Simon.

Today's Drawing

With \$180 and the Queen of Spades was the object of attention for many in the drawing. **Donlie Smith** and **Jack Kleinheksel** boldly bypassed the cups of easy money and sought the Queen's company - alas, twas not to be.



Cold cups of bucks went to: **Donlie Smith** (double winner!), **Allen Malask** (also 2 wins!), **Greg Young**, **Karl Geil** and **Cliff Eley**.

Then it appeared as if the pot would thicken, but wait! **Allen Pierce's** name emerged from the name tag bucket, and not only was his name tag on his front, good fortune was on his side! He plucked the queen from amongst the lesser members of the deck and claimed his just reward. **Congrats Allen! Good show!**



Allen Pierce & Jim Easton
Even the photographer was excited, as shown.

February Super Citizen Presenters

Feb 16 @ 8:20	Holm	?
Feb 16 @ 8:30	Slavens	Michael Chavez
Feb 16 @ 1:00	Samuels	Joe Marci

Weekly Greeters

2/2/18	Bob Avery & Pat Bush
2/9/18	Frank Middleton & Dick Zolman
2/16/18	Les Volpe & Ron Cisco

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2018-2019 41st Year — Chartered in 1976

See the Online Calendar @ <http://www.monacosouth.org/Events/Calendar>

Feb 2	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Feb 3	Sat	6:45 am	South Reginal Brain Bowl, Horizon Middle School, 1750 Piro Drive, Colorado Springs
Feb 4-5	Sun		Ski Day at Cooper Mountain, see Bob Avery
Feb 9	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Diane Martini, Marketing Director, Eastern Star Masonic Retirement Campus
Feb 10	Sat	8:00 am	CO-WY 2 nd Quarter Conference, Cianiao's Restaurant, 9650 Sheridan Blvd.
Feb 15	Thur	3:00 pm	TriStar Basketball Club Competition, Cope Boys & Girls Club, 808 Inca Street
Feb 16	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Feb 21	Wed	6:15 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
Feb 23	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Maro Casparian, Director Consumer Fraud, Denver's DA's Office
Feb 24	Sat	6:45 am	Brain Bowl Championship Tournament, Hamilton Middle School, 8600 E. Dartmouth Ave.

**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	2002-03
John Young	1982-83	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	2012-13
Kent Gloor	1992-93	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	720-422-2733
Craig Eley (Past Pres.)	303-758-9499

Newsletter Committee

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Phil Perington	303-832-4578	perington@msn.com
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jpccinelli@earthlink.net	Paul Stratton	303-366-6375	pcstratton@comcast.net
Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rz6267@gmail.com	Pat Bush	720-254-3741	pbush@bushreese.com
George Buzick	303-803-2268	gtbuzick@comcast.net	Craig Eley	303-758-9499	craigceley@gmail.com
Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	rlwardlaw@gmail.com			

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Feb **Paul Stratton**, Mar **Phil Perington**, Apr **George Buzick**

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.