



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

July 14, 2017 – Vol. 41, Issue 41



Optimist Club of Monaco South



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

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

Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton for Robert Wardlaw



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Good Morning Optimist

Monaco South Optimists were greeted by **Tom Kramis** and **Mark Metevia** on this beautiful Friday morning, July 14th, the 195th day of 2017. There are 170 days left in the year.



At left, Tom Kramis and Mark Metevia greet Tim Settle. A guest of Jon Wachter, who is in the foreground.
Photos Noel Hasselgren

First Bell

President elect **Jim Easton**, right, was at the podium holding the gavel, ready to run his first meeting, in a sneak preview of our next fiscal year. President **Craig Eley** was absent. It was rumored he was on the run from the authorities. Or on vacation - one or the other.



Invocation & Pledge

Board of Directors member Dr. **Rob Gardner** presented our invocation with a “cheerful countenance” theme, and a reminder to at all times give every living creature you meet a smile. He then leads us in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Guest

Jon Wachter introduced **Tim Settle**, his neighbor returning for his second visit. This time he brought his completed application! Good news — we are happy to have you, Tim!

Tim is an attorney with Mountain States Employers Council (MSEC) and specializes in employment law. MSEC serves the human resource and employment law needs of the business community, helping em-

ployers manage all aspects of the employment relationship. Over the past 70 years MSEC has grown into the nation's largest employers association.

Happy Birthday Recognition

Members celebrating this month are **Bill Anderson, Pat Bush, Kent Gloor, John Greene, Tom Hoch, Lynn Jones, Steve Kady, Jack Kleinheksel, Jim Leuschner, Randy Marcove, Wyatt McCallie, Mark Metevia, Paul Simon, and Donlie Smith**. Those in attendance received a gift they had not asked for, yet a gift priceless and irreplaceable, a serenaded with a chorus of Happy Birthday that truly was, or is, one of a kind. *Happy Birthday, boys!*



Announcements

Grow Our Club: **Jon Wachter** started a conversation about membership. Remember that we have business card handouts to invite people to our meetings. Jon has plenty if you need some, and new cards will be printed soon. Do not leave them in your wallet! Pass them out! Meanwhile, you can also invite people to our club projects, since seeing our club in action in the community is more effective for driving membership than a free Friday breakfast. Monaco South is down 9 members for the year — we need to get 12 more by October 1st to be an honor club in Craig's term.

Jim Easton shared his story of **Fred Pasternak's** persistence in getting him here, and he has now brought members in to our club. Keep asking the right people and get them involved!

Note: All members should have recently received an email from 2016-17 Optimist International President, **Jim Kondrasuk**, saying, “Any Club that adds five Members in the 4th quarter AND achieves Honor Club status wins a free registration to the 2018 OI Ottawa Convention.”



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******

Announcements Continued

OI 2017 Convention: Paul Simon, who just returned from the OI convention in Albuquerque and has two more months as Governor for the CO-WY district reported that he was happy to see 41 members from our district in attendance at the convention. He echoed Jon's comments about Honor Club - it has been achieved many times by our club, so let us push for it, not only for Craig but for all of us. Remember WIIFM? What's in it for me? Let prospective members know all the benefits Optimist and our club.

Note: More of **Craig Eley's** pictures from the convention can be found at <https://photos.app.goo.gl/eTcYSIz3oQ2KSehB2>.



Phil Perington and Paul Simon share in the excitement of the 2017 OI Convention.

Photo Craig Eley

Rockies Handout Day: Michael Chavez reminded us that the next chance to volunteer for the Rockies game will be this Wednesday, July 19th. Those volunteering will hand out goodies before the game, it is Junior Fire Marshal Day, and the club receives \$500 from the Rockies. It is an afternoon game so folks will need to arrive at the ballpark early. Thirty-five volunteers are needed for this event and they can be family members, friends, neighbors, so please signup if you can assist. Eleven people from Englewood Club are already signed up, and Tamarac is also helping. Michael would like 12 more from our club, so signup.

Builder of Excellence Award: It was also announced that Michael received the Builder of Excellence Award at the convention in Albuquerque. The Builder of Excellence Award, is for his work starting the Englewood Club during his MSOC president role. Well done and well earned, Michael!



Photo Noel Hasselgren

Brent's Place Pancake Breakfast: Paul Bernard

announced the Brent's Place pancake breakfast is coming up on Saturday, July 29th. Brent's Place is like Ronald McDonald House for kids dealing with cancer who have compromised immune systems and health issues related to their cancer, to house them and their families. The event will be held on the campus of the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora and provides breakfast for the 1,000 participants. Both Monaco South and Tamarac will jointly be cooking and serving pancakes, sausage, and fruit to the hungry walkers. You are in early to start making pancakes for the folks and out before noon. Signup with Paul and support this wonderful cause. We have 14 signed up so far but can use a couple of more.



2016 Pancake chiefs Paul Bernard, Phil Perington, and Eldon Strong.

Photo Don Thomson

South by Southeast Event: Greg Young reminded us that Councilwoman Kendra Black, was looking for volunteers for her "South by Southeast" event, which will be held at Bible Park on Saturday, August 19th, beginning at 10 a.m. Billed as "a celebration of local food, music, and community," this should be one of the highlights of the summer in Southeast Denver. Volunteers will be working three-hour shifts, providing directions to the event participants and parking cars, and helping with making this a successful event. See Greg to get on the signup sheet. *Note: A good time to wear that new Monaco South shirt or hat!*



BUST T1D & 2017 JDRF OneWalk: Ron Gustas'



granddaughter Ellie is going to Washington DC at the end of July to lobby Congress for expanded T1D funding and would love to see a ton of support! Lil' Ricci's NY Pizzeria, 44 West Centennial in Highlands Ranch, is donating 20% of all sales from now through July 16th to support Ellie.

Ron Gustas and Mike McMahon also shared that the 2017 JDRF OneWalk is upcoming on September 10th and asked members to donate or join as a "Walker" any of the following Walk Teams. Mike's 12 year old son Max was recently diagnosed with T1D and the McMahon family has established a new Walk Team. Now there are three teams:

- ◇ Ron's Granddaughter Team, "Ellie's Diabetes Busters"
- ◇ The "Type 1 Diabetes Optimist Club-T1DOC Walk Team"
- ◇ Max McMahon's team called "Fighting Until T1 Gets Beat"

Donations can be made by cash, checks payable to JDRF, or on-line. Instructional e-mails will be sent shortly to those wanting to donate on line and receive a tax receipt. A sign-up sheet will be available at meetings the next few weeks or you can e-mail Ron or Mike for more info. Proceeds from the JDRF "OneWalk" finance research to Treat, Cure and Prevent T1D. Help turn Type One into Type None.

Ron also provided this link to the activities of the ADA Camp Colorado that OCMS supports. This camp provides a unique experience for more than 250 kids with T1D. To view go to <https://vimeo.com/224605248>. Thanks to OCMS members for helping to make this happen!



Past President **John Oss** encouraged all of us to support the JDRF walk, the TIDOC club, Mike, Max, Ron, and Ellie. Participate in the walk and meet some wonderful people while supporting a great cause.

March of Dimes MUDD Tournament: Pat Bush announced that it is MUDD season! Monaco South Optimist Club has supported the March of Dimes MUDD Volleyball Tournament for several years. The club provides traffic and parking control services for the tournament. The tournament is a major fundraiser for March of Dime and provides money for research

to prevent pre-mature births and birth defects in infants. The tournament attracts some 300 teams and 3,000 players. It raises nearly \$200,000 annually. This year, the tournament will be held at the Majestic Commerce Center, 20100 E. 32nd Parkway in Aurora, on Saturday, August 5th. We will

need about a dozen volunteers to help direct traffic and organize the parking of about 2,000 vehicles. Volunteers need to be at the site by 6:30 a.m. and will be on site until about 10:00 a.m. Donuts, coffee, and water will be available for volunteers free of charge at the site. Volunteers should bring sunblock, MSOC ball cap, and comfortable shoes that can get dirty or muddy. The parking will be in an unpaved field; so, if you are not **Scott Walker**, you will want long pants. For more information, you can contact **Pat Bush** at 720-254-3741 or pbush@bushreese.com.

Dime-a-Day program: **Perry Allen** says he will be going back to California for the winter with his employer. Therefore, he has two months left to tell us about the Dime-a-Day program this fiscal year before he departs. He said he is often asked where Dime-a-Day funds go, and how does the OI Foundation use its funds? Here is what Perry learned regarding the foundation's accomplishments in 2016:

- Paid out \$246,154 to Clubs utilizing the Club Campaign program, and added an additional \$10,175 in interest to Club Campaign funds.
- Supported the launch of the Optimist International Oratorical World Championship Contest through commitment of startup fundraising.
- Helped 269 Optimists help 5,285 children and their families by awarding 20 Club Grants across the U.S.
- Contributed \$40,908 towards Optimist International Research Fellowship in Pediatric Hematology and Oncology at John Hopkins.
- Provided \$100 grants to New Clubs with 25 members or more to help conduct a service project.
- Assisted Clubs in receiving \$247,492 in charitable contributions for their own local programs through the Pass-Through program.
- Sent 128 students to college with Optimist International oratorical, essay and CCDHH scholarships totaling \$295,500.
- Paid out \$40,472 on endowments for community projects and scholarships.
- Assisted Clubs in donating \$68,244 in charitable contributions to their own local Childhood Cancer organizations and hospitals.
- Ended the year with 178 Members to the Women's Philanthropy Council, which will fund two scholarships and two Club grants in 2017.

Perry reports that our club was the 3rd largest club raising Dime-A-Day funds last year, and we are on pace to be #3 again. But we want to be #1! Follow up with Perry if you would like to help.

Palisade Peaches: Dr. Bob Finkelmeier

announced "*The peaches are coming; the peaches are coming!!*" Same price as last year \$30. However, this year's peach delivery date is yet unknown. There will likely be a small crop this year, and Palisade peaches are in high demand due to severe weather, not only in Colorado but also in Georgia — where they have been known to grow a decent peach. Yet, the prices will be the same, with some money coming back to our club and the Tamarac Club. Sign up soon, and Bob will keep us updated on delivery dates.



Get to know Jim Easton

Our incoming president says he will want to do more "get to know a member" presentations in his term. He kicked it off by sharing some of his own background, including:



- He was born in 1967, and is a triplet (one sister and one brother).
- His parents met in Durango when his father was in the trucking business and his mother worked for the US Forest Service.
- His father passed away when Jim was five. So, he and his brother were sent to Nebraska to work on their uncle's farm and to stay out of trouble.
- He came back and attended Golden High School, but in the summers worked on a fishing boat in Alaska.
- He began snowboarding in Colorado's backcountry when it was a very new sport. He became an instructor at Cooper Mountain and then Vail. He also went to New Zealand to start a snowboarding program. While doing all of this he found time to win a national snowboarding title!

Jim ran out of time before getting to the "boring" parts, like getting a real job, raising kids, meeting Freddie ... Oh well, thanks for sharing, soon to be Prez Jim!

Drawing

We had a drawing, with \$60 in the big pot, just waiting for the Optimist who could find the *Nine of spades*.



Phil Perington earned two shots at glory, but alas, "twas" not to be. Cups went to: **Steve Kady, Ron Gustas, Russ Paul, Perry Allen, Michael Chavez, and Cy Regan**.

For the Nametag drawing, **Allan Malask** was wearing his at the right time, but came up missing on the draw. His consolation prize? He led us in concluding our meeting with the creed: "**Promise yourself....**"

Weekly Greeters

7/21/17	Perry Allen & Frank Middleton
7/28/18	Dick Zolman & ?
7/30/17	John Young & Robert Wardlaw

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2016-2017 40th Year — Chartered in 1976

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

July 21	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
July 26	Wed	6:30 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
July 28	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Harry Fegley, Exploring Bhutan
July 29	Sat	7:00 am	Pancake Breakfast for Brent's Place Kids
Aug 4	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Lynn Wells, Co-Director, The Academy for Lifelong Learning

**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	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	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	r.pedersen2658@comcast.net
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net	Phil Perington	303-832-4578	perington@msn.com
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Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	rlawardlaw@gmail.com	Craig Eley	720-771-0866	craigceley@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: August **Pat Bush**, September **Paul Stratton**, October **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.