



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)



March 1, 2019 – Vol. 43, Issue 22

## Optimist Club of Monaco South



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)



Editor for this Issue—Robert Wardlaw

### Good Morning Optimists

March 1 is the 60<sup>th</sup> day of the year (61<sup>st</sup> in leap years) in the Gregorian calendar. It is a chilly but clear start to the day as we gather this morning. Our Greeters today are Jon Wachter and John Oss.



Jon Wachter & John Oss  
Photo Noel Hasselgren

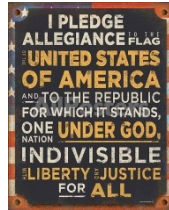
On this day in 1893, inventor Nikola Tesla first publicly demonstrated radio during a meeting of the National Electric Light Association in St. Louis by transmitting electromagnetic energy without wires. In 1962, the first Kmart store opened in Garden City, Michigan.

### First Bell

President **Everett Gardner** was on the road again and not able to be here. Vice President **Bob Meyer** took over the duties this morning, and promptly hit the starting bell at 7:00 a.m.

### Invocation & Pledge

**Karl Geil** read the invocation today. *“God our helper, let us be your vehicle to help everyone, especially our youth. Help us spread the word of peace, prosperity.”* Karl then leads us in the Pledge of Allegiance.



### Guests

Guests introduced this morning included Allan McCall, who then introduces James Wang—*Welcome!*

Also in attendance was Ev Sequeira, President of the Gateway Optimist Club. Ev shares an opportunity for an **Inter-Club Project with the Rotary Club of Aurora**. The Rotary Club of Aurora and the City of Aurora are sponsoring the development of the first playground in the Metro area that is ACCESSIBLE and INCLUSIVE to children with disabilities and their caregivers. The playground will be located at Red-tailed Hawk Park, located just east of E-470 and south of Arapahoe Road. The Rotary Club of Aurora is raising

funds for this wonderful park that will serve the youth of the area. The Rotary Club of Aurora has committed to raise \$250,000 in order to get matching grants from several foundations who are committed to this project and needs our assistance. They are hoping all clubs in the district will raise a minimum of \$500 and in addition that many members will assist on their own. It is suggested that every club that makes a contribution to the project do it on behalf of the “Optimist International, CO-Wy District.” The bigger the amount, the larger the size of the name recognition. Make the check payable to the Aurora Rotary Foundation, checks may be mailed to the Foundation at PO Box 440567, Aurora, CO 80044-0567. Wheat Ridge Optimist club has already joined the effort. Ev suggested that we take a few minutes and watch Channel 4CBS Denver’s video clip @ [“Child’s Dream To Play Becomes Reality With Inclusive Playground.”](#)

### Birthday’s Past & Future

VP **Bob** reminded us that we have not recognize members birthdays for sometime and this month **John Oss** will be the first celebrate. Happy Birthday and to all of those that we have missed ....

January BD’s	February BD’s	March BD’s
Bill Blunden, 1-2	Bob Avery, 2-26	Carl Brown, 3-6
Ken Duffy, 1-12	Craig Eley, 2-6	John Egan, 3-16
Kevin Koalenz, 1-10	Tom Kramis, 2-2	David Moore, 3-25
Bill Litchfield, 1-21	OC Larson, 2-8	John Oss, 3-5
Joe Marci, 1-28	Gary Miller, 2-21	Henry Schonewise, 3-29
Bill McGroarty, 1-4	Russ Paul, 2-10	David Telpner, 3-10
Allen Pierce, 1-14	Cy Regan, 2-6	Woody Thibodeau, 3-25
John Stoffel, 1-7	Frank Ross, 2-17	
Tracy Sorensen, 1-31	Oscar Sorensen, 2-23	
Jim VanderKamp, 1-24	Eldon Strong, 2-7	
Jon Wachter, 1-25	Jim Tapp, 2-16	
John Walsh, 1-28	Don Thomson, 2-28	



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

### **Brain Bowl Championship Tournament: Karl Geil**

that the Optimist Brain Bowl Championship is over after the tournament was at Hamilton Middle School last Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. He said the day got off to a slow start after a significant snow storm and with the school's staff leaving the organizers and many volunteers standing out in the cold before they finally arrived and let us in. On top of that, four teams, from Freemont and Wiggins, were unable to make it due to the weather, and one of the rooms we planned on using had bean bag chairs and was completely unusable. However, once we managed to get inside the school and sorted out the room problem, the day went pretty smoothly. Fifty (50) teams, approximately 250 students, from 26 different schools participated. The winners were: Stargate 6C from the North Region, Campus 7C from the Central Region, and Challenger 8A from the South Region. The top 4 at each grade level can be seen [HERE](#).

Thanks to our 96 volunteers, 23 of which were from MSOC. Special thanks to **Tom Kramis** and **Mike McMahan**, who shoveled the snow off the wheelchair ramp at the school before the school's custodial staff arrived.

**History Day Teacher of the Year:** While Karl had the floor he said, Colorado's Junior Division History Day Teacher of the Year, my wife, Lesley, would like our help next Wednesday morning, March 6<sup>th</sup>. Hamilton Middle School is allowed to send only 20 total projects to the Regional History Day competition. If you are a veteran History judge with experience in the Exhibit category, please help me judge Hamilton's 34 Exhibits and decide which 12 will move on to the Regional contest. Contact Karl at 303-549-8701.

**Are You Smarter than the Brain Bowl Chair:** Now that the Brain Bowl is over, **Craig Eley** shares that the annual "are you smarter than the Brain Bowl chair," will be at our Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Craig says, he is looking for volunteers to help and join in on this fun event pitting members against Karl Geil in a match of knowledge. This year marks Karl's last as the Director of the Brain Bowl.

**Annual Optimist Odyssey:** **Craig** also reminds us that September 6<sup>th</sup> will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Optimist Odyssey. The group will be traveling to southwest Colorado, Ouray and Silverton September 6 through 9, 2019. He says you do not need to be a couple you can attend as a single. If you want to come along, contact Craig Eley at [craigceley@gmail.com](mailto:craigceley@gmail.com).

**Memorial Service for Sharon Young:** **Bryce Slaby** shares that Sharon Young's memorial service was held last evening. Sharon was the president of Tamarac Optimist Club and died suddenly on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Bryce reported that she was an amazing person.

**Update on Russ Paul:** **Joe Marci** reports that **Russ Paul** had his heart surgery and should be out of ICU this weekend. The surgery was successful. *Hurry back Russ!*



**Regional TriStar Basketball Competition: Michael Chavez** says that regional completion will be held Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at North High School, 2960 N. Speer Blvd. Members will monitor the kids and keep score while they do three drills: passing, dribbling, and shooting. There will be about 60 kids participating and trophies will be awarded at the end. Winners will advance to the Championship to be held at the Pepsi Center on March 26<sup>th</sup>. To help out contact Michael.

**Oratorical Contest:** **George Buzick** reports that annual Oratorical Contest will be held on March 14<sup>th</sup> at George Washington High School. The contest is one of the trademarks of this club. Come on out and see what this event is all about.

**Recognizing DFD, Stations 13, 22, & 24:** **VP Steve Kady**, asks for a round of applause for **Bob Meyer** for standing in for the Prez. And then reminds us that in last week's **GUMS**, there were a couple pictures of **Everett Gardner** presenting plaques to local Fire houses for their help with the Tree Lot. A huge Thank you to these fire fighters for their help with the Tree Lot this year. And Thank You, to **Dan Rodriguez** for making these beautiful plaques!



**Update on Jim VanderKamp:** **Don Thomson** reports that **Jim VanderKamp** is home from surgery and doing physical therapy. *Hope to see you soon, Jim!*

**Where in the World is Harry Fegley?**

After this questions was asked in last weeks **GUMS**, **Harry Fegley** sends an update email on February 27<sup>th</sup>.

*"It is really great to get the GUMS letter out here while we are bobbing along at sea. You did an accurate job of reporting what is happening. The island with the long name is more commonly called Tonga and is quite nice. We had lunch at Bloody Mary's and the drinks which were good. The sandwich was a Mahi Mahi Ruben sandwich which was unbelievable. We are now in New Zealand and happy to have 4 out of the 5 days on land. The last day at sea to New Zealand was a little rough as we went through a storm that had 77mph winds. That kicked up the waves quite high.*

*The food and lectures are very good and there are a lot of nice people on the ship. We are considered new-bees as this is our first trip around the world on ship. There are only about 100 of us out of 1300 that are new-bees. Many, many passengers have been on this ship for over 5 such trips. It just goes to prove that there is always someone that is doing more than one and there are many that are doing less. That is life.*

*Say hello to the guys! I am looking forward to being back mid May. Harry*

On March 7<sup>th</sup> Harry and Linda will be cursing to Sydney, Australia and then spend the next few days visiting Townsville, Cairns, and Darwin before heading to Komodo Island, Indonesia. You can get a perspective of where they are by this map: [Click Here](#).

For those that do not know, Auckland is home to the largest Polynesian population of any city in the world, it is the largest metropolitan area in the North Island of New Zealand. Auckland is also one of the few cities to have harbors on two separate major bodies of water.

**Linda William**  
**AmeriCorps, A Little Help—helping older adults**

**Bob Meyer** welcomes our speaker today, Linda Williams from the Tamarac Club. In October, Linda joined AmeriCorps a voluntary civil society program supported by the U.S. federal government, foundations, corporations, and other donors engaging adults in public service work with a goal of “helping others and meeting critical needs in the community.” In that role she became involved with “A Little Help.” A Little Help is a nonprofit community organization that connects neighbors across ages to enhance lives and strengthen our communities.



Linda Williams  
 Photo Noel Hasselgren

Linda asks, “How many of you, know your neighbors? Very well? Or at all? Not everyone’s hand went up. She goes on and says, “As our society changes, we have changed, as did our communities and the familiarity with our neighbors has also changed.

A Little Help started in Washington Park, and focuses on trying to help older adults stay in their homes rather than go to nursing home. The organization began in 2005, and in 2011 they hired Dr. Paul Leon Ramsey as its first Director. Today the organization is serving Denver, Jefferson, Larimer, and Delta counties. The organization is trying to build community, and neighbors. Today 87% of older Adults want to stay in their home, and this group helps them do that. The video shows—Click Here—a wonderful interaction between the older residents and the younger volunteers who are getting to know each other.

“Service day” is the day when volunteers go to help clean windows, clean out gutters, etc. The major request is for transportation (dentist appointments, etc.). Linda tells about a resident of a nursing home who wants to get outside, and

she takes them on a ride for an hour. Some residents need help taking care of plants around the house. Handy work, they sometimes need help with changing of batteries, or a door knob, they also want to be able to help with these requests. Respite for care givers, sometimes care givers need a break and they try to provide this. Linda went to a home, and she read emails to a man, while his wife was able to get a break, while she knew, he was being helped. During the winter snow shoveling help is always needed.

A Little Help prefers to do things that are intergenerational, using youngsters to help is very helpful. As the population ages, the need for these type of services will increase. Plenty of opportunities exist for the chance to help. Linda is sending around a sign up sheets for a chance to sign up to either provide services, or to volunteer, to receive the newsletter, or other opportunities for her to speak to other groups. For people who ask for services, it is not free. On the application, there is a need for both, services to be performed and for the chance to help. **Bob Avery** suggested contacting local Scouts that could assist. For more information see <https://www.alittlehelp.org/>.

By the way, on Friday, April 26th, A Little Help is holding A Little Soirée their biggest party of the year! Complete with a silent auction, live music, and an open bar to raise funds and awareness to further A Little Help’s mission of enriching lives and strengthening our communities.

Thank you Linda for sharing information about this community based organization.

**Drawing**

Do we have a drawing? Yes, we do, but with the big win by **Greg Young** last week there is only \$20 in the pot. With that said it was immediately noticed that Greg was not at the meeting this morning. It was speculated that he was spending it some where.

Master of the deck of card, **Ron Cisco**, reported that the lucky card was the Queen of Spades. Members holding tickets this morning and taking a “sure thing” included, **Joe Marci, Tom Glazier, John Oss, Tom Hoch, and Keith Gallaway**, along with **Bryce Slaby**.



With all the cups gone both **Ron Cisco** and **Allen Malask** where forced to draw a card, but neither had the right touch. Once all the tickets were called, **Bob Meyer** draws a name out of the jar, and **John Stoffel’s** name is called and he has his name tag on. With the right finesse John draws the winning card and takes the \$20! We start again next week!



John Stoffel

**A Baseball Quote**

“I can’t hit when I need to.” — **Mickey Mantle**

Editor’s Note: On this date in 1969, Mr. Mantle explained the reason behind his retirement from baseball. Mantle made his debut at Yankee Stadium at the tender age of 19. Up and down between AAA and the big club that year, he hit .267 with 13 HR and 65 RBI. In Game 2 of the World Series that year, he was playing right field next to the legendary Joe DiMaggio, who was playing his last season.



Manager Casey Stengel told Mantle before the game to cover right-center, since the aging DiMaggio had lost a step. Willie Mays hit a fly ball to right-center, and Mantle took off after it ... noticed that DiMaggio was calling for it, and pulled up (“because you don’t want to run into Joe DiMaggio,” said the teenager after the game), planted his right foot ... in a drain, and went down. He was carried off the field ... and the knee would never be the same. Between that and his legendary drinking, his career stats were likely somewhat below what they could have been.

Nonetheless ... In his 18 Major League seasons, all with the Yankees, he compiled a .298 BA, .421 OBP (helped by 1,733 walks), 536 HR, 1,509 RBI, and 153 SB. Mantle was an All Star 16 seasons and MVP 3 seasons. In 1960 and 1961 he finished 2nd in MVP voting behind teammate Roger Maris, who hit a combined 100 HR in those two years. In his career Mantle got 2,415 hits, in 2,401 games played.

**Weekly Greeters**

3/8/19	Bob Avery & Jack Kleinheksel
3/15/19	Frank Middleton & ?
3/22/19	Paul Stratton & Michael Chavez

**March Super Citizen Presenters**

Mar 6 @ 1:00	Lowry	Welcome Back
Mar 7 @ 5:30	Hamilton	?
Mar 19 @ 2:30	MPB	?

**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>**

Mar 8	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Ron Benson, OI Foundation
Mar 8	Fri	5:00 pm	Eagle Scout Recognition Dinner, Renaissance Denver Stapleton Hotel, 3801 Quebec Street
Mar 8	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Are you smarter than the Brain Bowl Chair?
Mar 10	Sun	12:00 pm	Regional TriStar Basketball Completion, North High School, 2960 N. Speer Blvd.
Mar 21	Thur	6:15 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Councilwomen Black's Office, 3540 S. Poplar St, Ste. 100 lower level
Mar 22	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Mar 29	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Brad Appel, Wish for Wheels
Mar 31	Sun	12:00 pm	TriStar Basketball-District Finals, Pepsi Center, 1000 Chopper Circle.
Apr 5	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Joe Marci, District Junior Golf
Apr 6	Sat	1:00 pm	DTC Optimist Club Wine Tasting, Calvary Baptist Church, 6500 E. Girard
Apr 12	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Ryan McCullough, Our Cub Scout pack 8023

**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**

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:** Mar **Robert Wardlaw**, Apr **Pat Bush**, May **Paul Stratton**, June **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.