



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

March 31, 2017 – Vol. 41, Issue 26



Optimist Club of Monaco South



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—Pat Bush



Good Morning Optimists Greeters

On this Friday morning, also reported to be National Crayon Day, Monaco South hosted a large crowd for the long-planned visitation from the ladies of Tamarac Optimist Club. This kept our greeters **Jon Wachter** and **Tom Kramis** very busy.



Jon Wachter & Tom Kramis
Photo Noel Hasselgren

Invocation, & Pledge of Allegiance

President Craig Eley called the meeting to order and called on **Keith Galloway** to deliver the invocation and lead us with the *Pledge of Allegiance*. Keith based his invocation on the Optimist Creed line, "Make all your friends feel that there is something in them."

Welcome Guests

President Craig welcomed all of the ladies of the Tamarac Square Optimist Club. We also had a couple of other guests this morning. **Perry Allen** introduced his guest, **Matt Salas**. Matt is a fourth-generation Coloradan. **Jon Wachter** brought **Douglas Frazier**. Douglas moved to Colorado from New Mexico. Editor: *We invite both men back to visit and join us.*

From the Prez

Second Honeymoon: **President Craig** mentioned that the "second honeymoon" getaway in Glenwood Springs would be September 7th through the 11th. He expressed his apologies to the Tamarac ladies if they haven't heard about this event yet. Craig also read the 2017-18 office election notice (see below) as required by our by-laws.

Welcome Tamarac: **Craig** then called on **Abigail**



Nicholas, president of Tamarac Optimist Club for a comment. Abigail thanked Monaco South

for having built the Tamarac Optimist Club some 25 years ago, and affording all of their members the opportunity of living the Optimist life.

At right, Abigail Nicholas,
President, Tamarac Optimist
Photo Noel Hasselgren



Announcements

President Craig asked that all announcements be brief this morning to allow as much time as possible for the "Are You Smarter than the Brain Bowl Chair" event. Editor: *While the live announcements had to be brief, the editor of the newsletter does not. So, he takes the liberty of giving a few reminders of coming events in addition to the live announcements.*

Volunteer Day at the Colorado Legislature: **Paul Simon**, Governor, CO-WY Optimist District and member of MSOC, announced that he would be spending the day at the Colorado Legislature for Volunteer day. He also encourages Monaco South members to get involved with other club activities throughout the District. This includes making visitations to other club's

Continued on the next page

2017-2018 Club Officer Nominations

Currently the full slate of nominees are:

President – Jim Easton

Vice President – Mike McMahon

Vice President – Everett Gardner

Board (elect 4) – Robert Wardlaw, Tom Kramis, Ken Duffy, & Harry Arkin.

The election will be held on Friday, April 21, 2017, at the Club's regular membership meeting at 7:00 a.m. at 5400 East Yale Avenue, Denver, CO. Members may nominate others or themselves by contacting Paul Stratton (pcstratton@comcast.net) or Craig Eley (craigceley@gmail.com). Additional nominations must be made by the end of the membership meeting of April 14, 2017. Nominations cannot be made after that meeting and cannot be made from the floor during the election meeting.

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

membership meetings, supporting other club's fund-raising efforts and getting involved with the District's quarterly meetings. He mentioned that he was disappointed that no Monaco South or Tamarac Optimist members went to the Front Range American Cancer Society Optimist Club (FRASOC) chili cook-off. He then mentioned a couple of future opportunities including the District Casino Night, May 12th and the District Third Quarter Conference, May 13th. Details for both can be found on the District's webpage—[Click Here](#).

Dime-A-Day: Perry Allen reminds members that Dime-A-Day donations to the Optimist International Foundation are still being collected. Perry recaps to members they just need to make a \$36.50 donation to qualify for a stylish OI Dime-A-Day lapel pin. It also will help Monaco South Optimist Club climb upward on the International Optimist club donation list. Last year, we just missed being the top club.

Know Brainer: Do not forget the 5th annual Know Brainer Competition is coming up on April 29th. The Know Brainer is sponsored by the Monaco South and Tamarac Optimist Clubs and will be held at Hamilton Middle School from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. We need about 30 total volunteers, and Monaco South needs to supply half of them. We will be passing around a sign-up sheet over the next couple of weeks.

JDRF Dream Gala: Monaco South Optimist Club will be helping with the JDRF Dream Gala again this year. There are many volunteer opportunities. **Ron Gustas** is looking for help in moving auction items from the JDRF office to the Hyatt Regency Denver Hotel on Friday, April 14th. Volunteers should report to the JDRF office located at 2727 Bryant Street, Suite 380 (northwest quadrant of the Speer Blvd. & I-25 interchange) at noon. It usually takes about 3 hours. For more information, you can contact Ron.

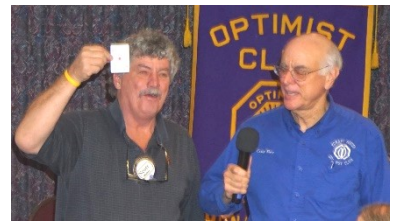
Wine Donations: T1DOC Optimist Club is also collecting wine donations for the Dream Gala Auction. They ask that the bottles of wine donated be worth at least \$25.00. You can make donations by bringing the wine bottles (preferably full and sealed) to a membership meeting where **Ron Gustas** will be collecting them.

Casino Night: The CO-WY OI District is sponsoring a Casino Night on Friday, May 12th. Tickets are just \$35 and include \$1,000 of poker chips. Editor: *You certainly can't get a deal like that in Las Vegas.* There will be food, cash bar, silent auction, prizes, and happy people. The casino is located in the South Metro Denver Realtor Association building at 7899 S. Lincoln Court in Littleton (NE corner of Mineral & Broadway). **Paul Simon** will have more information on this fundraiser for the OI Childhood Cancer Campaign.

Drawing Winners

With the Pot holding a \$140 dollars for selecting the right card everyone seemed to want in the pot this week. Drawing winners were **Gary Strowbridge, Mike**

White, actually Mike's wife and Tamarac member **Jan White, Paul Gibson, and Allen Malask** took cups of cash. **Allen Malask** (with his second winning ticket), **Barry Barker** and **Scott Walker** tried their luck at the deck of cards, and Scott pulled the right card worth \$140.00. Congratulations Scott!



Scott Walker pulls the Ace of Dimond's to be the big winner. Craig Eley participates in the celebration!
Photo Noel Hasselgren

Around the Room with Tamarac Optimist Club



Photos Noel Hasselgren

Smarter than the Brain Bowl Chair

The much anticipated event had arrived. The *"Smarter than the Brain Bowl Chair"* contest was conducted this morning. **Karl Geil**, the Brain Bowl Chairman, took on a Monaco South team consisting of Captain **Scott Walker**, **Mark Metevia**, **Al Gapuzan**, **George Buzick** and **Jim Vander Kamp**. **Wyatt McCallie** was feeling a little *"lightheaded"* this morning and withdrew from the contest. The Master of Ceremonies and reader was **Craig Eley**, game timer was **Gary Strowbridge**, **Tom Kramis** was the scorekeeper, and **Phil Perington** handled the spittoon as the Sergeant at Arms.



Karl Geil, Brain Bowl Chair, makes ready to take on the Monaco South team.

Craig kicked off the proceedings with a rather lengthy reading of the rules. They were pretty much the same as the Brain Bowl except teams only had 10 seconds to respond on the theory that if they did not know the answer in the first 10 seconds they probably would not come up with it with another 5 seconds. Another change was if a team responds correctly, Craig may give them a bonus question; if he felt they need additional chances to accumulate points (in other words if they were behind). With that said, he jumped into the questions.

The Monaco South team strategy from the outset was to be aggressive. They buzzed in quickly for the first several questions; unfortunately, their answers did not justify the tactic and it left them open for Karl's counterattack with two point scores for several questions. By the time the first ten questions had been asked, Karl had built a substantial 12 to 2 lead. At this point, our scorekeeper gave the Monaco South team a handicap of 12 points putting them in the lead, but Craig over-ruled this maneuver saying that the Monaco South team had to win this championship the old-fashioned way (they had to earn it). The Monaco South team then took a more measured attack limiting Karl's two-point opportunities and mounted a comeback rivaling the Patriots comeback in the Super Bowl. At one point, they strung together five straight correct answers. By the time, they had reached twenty questions, Monaco South had narrowed Karl's lead to 14 to 12.

The Brain Bowl Chair then went into a "four-corners pre-



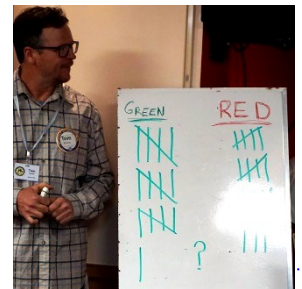
The Monaco South team consisting of Captain Scott Walker, Mark Metevia, Al Gapuzan, George Buzick and Jim Vander Kamp, watch as MC Craig Eley readies the response buzzer.

Photos Noel Hasselgren

vent defense" thus slowing down the scoring opportunities for Monaco South. At the end of regulation time, the score stood at 18 to 16 in favor of the Brain Bowl Chair. However, Craig decided to extend the competition by several questions for Karl's delay tactics. By the time, Craig ran out of questions, the Monaco South team had tied the score at 20 apiece.

Karl submitted a protest saying that the extension of questions had not been discussed in the aforementioned lengthy reading of the rules and the official score was rolled back to the 18 to 16 at the end of regulation time. However, Craig announced that he would carry the extended points over to next year's contest giving the Monaco South team a 4 to 2 head start in 2018.

Abigail Nicholas, Past District Governor and twice President of Tamarac made the trophy presentation to Karl Geil as the 2017 *"Are You Smarter than the Brain Bowl Chair"* champion. Craig said he had handcrafted several trophies in case the Monaco South team had gotten lucky and he did not want to store them for a year, so Abigail presented them to the Monaco South team as participation trophies. Good job to all of the participants for a close and entertaining event.



Tom Kramis attempts to follow the action and keep the score.

April Super Citizen Presenters

Apr 19 @ 2:30	MPB	Joe Marci
Apr 27 @ 1:00	McMeen	?
Apr 28 @ 9:00	Holm	?
Apr 28 @ 3:00	Bradley	Mark Metevia

Weekly Greeters

4/7/17	Greg Young & Don Thomson
4/14/17	Jesse Carter & Ron Cisco
4/21/17	Al Gapuzan & Perry Allen

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

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

Apr 7	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Joe Marci, Optimist International Junior Golf
Apr 14	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Michelle Jeske, Denver Public Librarian
Apr 21	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie & Election for 2016-2017 Officers & Directors (Members interested contact Paul Stratton, Chair of Nominating Committee, or Craig Eley, President)
Apr 26	Wed	6:30 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
Apr 28	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
May 5	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Marisa Atria Kruger, Optometrist, Vision Transformation

**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	Chris Dunphy	720-297-3111
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
Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rz6267@gmail.com	Paul Stratton	303-366-6375	pcstratton@comcast.net
George Buzick	303-803-2268	gtbuzick@comcast.net	Pat Bush	720-254-3741	pbush@bushreese.com
Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	rlawardlaw@gmail.com	Craig Eley	720-771-0866	craigceley@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Feb **Robert Wardlaw**, Mar **Pat Bush**, Apr **Paul Stratton**, May **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.