



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

May 10, 2019 – Vol. 43, Issue 32



## 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](http://www.monacosouth.org)



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Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton

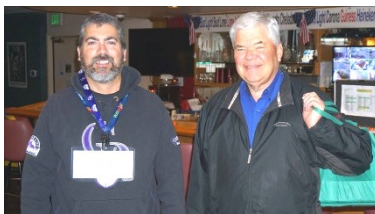
### Good Morning Optimists

On the start of this busy weekend, with today being the Transcontinental Railroad's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday or [Golden Spike day](#). The "wedding of the rails," at Promontory Point, Utah, marking the completion of the transcontinental railroad.

And Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, being [World Migratory Bird Day for 2019](#)—celebrating our hardy feathered travelers.

And Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, [Mother's Day](#)—a celebration honoring the mother of the family, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society.

Our Friday started with a greeting from **Randy Marcove**, recently exiled (or deported?) from Costa Rica. He tackled the job by being a solo greeter, and he did so with much aplomb, verve, and gusto. Each meeting attendee received his warm greetings on this Friday morning, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019.



Randy Marcove, left, with early bird breakfast cashier Gary Miller.  
Photo Noel Hasselgren

### First Bell

At the stroke of 7 a.m. President **Everett Gardner** asked **Ron Cisco** to address the group for the invocation and pledge. Ron delivered an invocation in honor of all of the mothers in the world, as this is the weekend to celebrate them—"All mothers care for us whether or not we deserve it or not." He then led us in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

### Announcements

**T1DOC On-Line Auction:** **Ron Gustas** announced that the T1 Diabetes Optimist Club (T1DOC) online auction starts at 5:00 p.m. today, May 10<sup>th</sup> and continues until a wild conclusion at 9:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. The auction goal is to raise \$10,000 to provide "Camperships" for kids with Type 1

Diabetes (T1D) to get to a special summer camp and also raise funds for research seeking a T1D cure and improved treatment options. To register for and bid in the auction go to [www.32auctions.com/t1diabetes2019](http://www.32auctions.com/t1diabetes2019). An auction flyer providing more details is included as a separate link in the weekly *GUMS*, [click here](#).

The auction will have near 130 separate auction lots including, condos, sporting event tickets, golf, wine, and other

alcohol options, exotic car packages, hotel deals, a 4-hour United Airlines flight trainer simulator package, and many restaurant and other gift cards, etc. More items will be added during the auction period so keep checking for last minute additions of other great items. For more auction information contact **Ron Gustas** or **Greg Young**.

**Hamilton Middle School Super Citizen:** **Tom Mauro** took to the stage and reported that Hamilton Middle School had their Super Citizen presentation last night. **Bob Avery**, **Stephen Avery**, and **Karl Geil** participated along with Tom as 14 kids were recognized for their Super Citizen behavior, while **Wyatt McCallie** snapped photos.

**Remembrance Kendrick Castillo:** **Tom Mauro** also took some time to talk about the selflessness of **Kendrick Castillo**, the 18 year old student from STEM School Highlands Ranch who died this week when he lunged at the shooter giving other students time to hide. Tom led the group in a moment of silence to honor Kendrick.



**Casino Night Fundraiser:** **Phil Perington** announced that the [Front Range American Cancer Society Optimist Club](#)



is having their annual Casino Night on Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup> from 6-9:00 p.m. at the American Legion Hall. Tickets are \$30, which will provide food, entertainment, and fun! Oh yeah - also \$1,000 in casino chips to test your luck on games. There will also be bingo, a silent auction, and a cash bar, with all proceeds going to Ol's Childhood Cancer Campaign. It was 6 years ago that Monaco South chartered this club—come out to support them and also to have some fun! Pre-purchase tickets by contacting Patty Hasty at [pattyhasty@msn.com](mailto:pattyhasty@msn.com).

**Colorado Rockies Handouts:** **Michael Chavez** reports that Monaco South receive \$500 from the Colorado Rockies for our efforts distributing handouts at a recent game. He thanked all of those who participated.

**Membership Directory:** **Craig Eley** reminded us that the spring edition, April 2019, of the Monaco South membership directory is now available. If you still need one, they will be available from Craig.



**Colorado Rockies Tickets:** **Joe Marci** shares he has tickets for the May 26<sup>th</sup> Rockies game. It is a Sunday afternoon game against the Arizona Diamondbacks and starts at 1:10 p.m. Sales of tickets for games benefit CO-WY Jr. Golf

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 Continued

program. MSOC has also made a generous donation for the kids. This year the Optimist Club of Monaco South is sponsoring 64 kids to compete against other golfers from around the world in Florida this summer at the Trump National Doral Resort and Spa located in Miami, Florida. Get more information on the [CO-WY District Optimist Golf qualifiers](#) here and the Optimist Tournament of Champions at <https://www.optimist.org/golf/golf-qualify.cfm>.

**Lowry Elementary Super Citizen Program:** Paul Stratton reported on a successful Super Citizen assembly at Lowry Elementary this week. Greg Young and Paul did the presenting to a group of thrilled award recipients. All are welcome to tag along to the next assembly.

**Lowry Elementary Community Volunteer Day:** Paul Stratton also reminded us that Lowry Elementary will be hosting a Community Volunteer Day on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30-12:30 p.m. renewing their outdoor garden spaces. They are hoping to gather 40 people to pull weeds, lay mulch, and refresh pathways. Staff from Singing Hills Landscape will be volunteering their time and will bring tools and materials to support our efforts. The refreshed gardens will provide a variety of outdoor spaces for students to take their learning outside. Many hands make light work and we hope that Optimist Club members will consider joining us as we work together to provide unique learning spaces for our students. The contact at the school is [Lisa Davis](mailto:lisa@denverdavis.com), the School Garden Coordinator/Parent Volunteer. Her phone number is 303-250-5769 and email [lisa@denverdavis.com](mailto:lisa@denverdavis.com).



## Union Pacific Big Boy & 150th Anniversary of the Golden Spike

Greg Hurd shared, the Union Pacific is having three historic ceremonies plus a joint ceremony with the National Park Service regarding the restoration of their Big Boy, #4014 locomotive and the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the golden spike. The UP 4014, Big Boy, is the largest steam locomotive ever built in the world and 4014 is the only Big Boy that is operable today. It has taken over 3 years to restore the



The UP #4014 arriving for Cheyenne Station ceremony.  
Photos Greg Hurd

locomotive as it was disassembled down to the frame and rebuilt.

We attended the 4014's christening ceremony May 4<sup>th</sup> in Cheyenne. Crowds in Cheyenne, Laramie, and Ogden were in the thousands. From Cheyenne 4014 and the 844, Northern, steam locos double

headed to Ogden for the UP Golden Spike ceremony. This historic run is known as the "Great Race to Promontory." A high light of the UP ceremony in Ogden was a family from London whose patriarch passed away a month ago and who was a RR engineer for BritRail. His final request was to have his ashes pass through 4014's firebox and chimney. Union Pacific honored him in the ceremony and accommodated his request privately for the family. The formal Golden Spike ceremony in Promontory, UT, was performed by the National Park Service May 10<sup>th</sup> in the morning and a second ceremony in the afternoon due to a very large attendance and sell out of tickets.

## Presidential Rants & Raves vs. Tweets

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

**PAST ... This week was working in NOCAL (Northern California), green and with allergy conditions ... then back to CO with snow the next day. Typical spring in the Rockies.**

Thanks to Greg Young and Kathy Sullivan who attended the TJ Essay Contest Winners Banquet since both Joe Marci and I "flacked out" and couldn't attend due to work and another commitment. Thanks Wyatt McCallie for emceeing the winners read at our gathering on Friday.

Thanks to Tom Mauro for your honoring of the victim of yet another senseless school shooting.

Thanks Greg Hurd for the "Golden Spike" treatise and the "Big Boy" update. Greg and I may go to Cheyanne next weekend to see the largest locomotive in the world before it starts its tour of the US.

Strung up hops in the Samuels Garden Saturday but missed my chance to plant the Optimist seed with the garden leader, Pallas Quist as she left before I had a chance to chit chat with her. However, Phil Perington told me he's "all in" to help form a new club there.

**HAPPENING NOW / SOON ... HAPPY MOTHERS DAY to all the Mom's out there!**

Board Meeting at Schlessman Family YMCA starting 18:00 Thursday 16 May. ALL are welcome!

Repeat from last week; If you have read this far, click the other links that are on the page that brought you here. Thanks to Dr. Bob's well organized and colorful email to find projects and other events that are of interest to you and a friend.

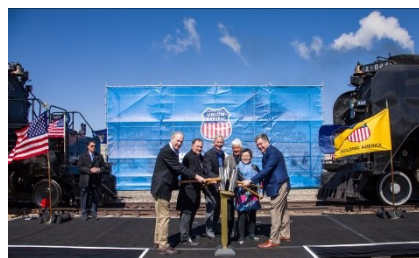
**FUTURE ... CO-WY District Strategic Growth Committee Meeting will be on MAY 18, SATURDAY, at 10:30 a.m. at the American Legion Hall, 5400 E. Yale Ave. AVE. Come one, come all! Chaired by our own Phil Perington.**

**Prez Everett**

**PS — Bring a GUEST next week. Follow-up on new and old contacts! Have a non-member help with upcoming Projects. The May Goal is 8 Guests per meeting. We had a 1/2 bunch associated with TJ's Essay Contest and the winner.**



Christening ceremony with Lance Fritz, UP CEO and wife Nancy.



The UP golden spike ceremony in Ogden, UT May 9th.

Greg told us about many of the celebrations and events around the 150th anniversary of the connecting of the Central Pacific and Union Pacific railroads. The first Transcontinental railroad opened for through traffic on May 10, 1869 when Central Pacific Railroad Company of California President Leland Stanford ceremonially drove the gold "Last Spike" (later often referred to as the "Golden Spike") with a silver hammer at Promontory Summit.

The coast-to-coast railroad connection revolutionized the settlement and economy of the American West. It brought the western states and territories into alignment with the northern Union states and made transporting passengers and goods coast-to-coast considerably quicker and less expensive.

## Optimist Club of Monaco South Essay Winners Wyatt McCallie

Our guests today were Thomas Jefferson High School students and their parents, plus two TJ officials. **Wyatt McCallie** started us off with a bit of history on the Optimist Essay contest. Our clubs involvement dates back to the 1980s, when **Joe Marci** coordinated efforts between the club and the school. Wyatt took charge during the 1990s, and **Jack Kleinheksel** since approximately the year 2000.

### How it works:

1. Optimist International sets the topic.
2. TJHS provides their best essays.
3. Wyatt receives the essays and makes copies for the judges, being sure that the student writers are not identified on the copies.
4. Jack gets three judges, usually members of the club. This year's judges were **Pat Bush**, **Craig Eley**, and **Susan Barcus**, a TJHS alumna.
5. Jack informs Wyatt of the winner by the numbers on the essay.
6. Wyatt translates the numbers back to names and informs TJHS, then submits the highest ranking essay to the district competition.

The top three TJ students this year were Malia McDorman, Matthew Bulger, and Anthony Capra. Anthony had a conflict, but Malia and Matthew were able to join our meeting,



From left, Wyatt McCallie; Malia McDorman, first place winner; and her parents, Leanne and Ryk McDorman.

Photos Noel Hasselgren

ing, as were Malia's parents Leanne and Ryk, and Matthew's father Tom.

As the first place finisher, Malia read her winning essay. This year's topic was: *"When all the world's problems are solved, is optimism still necessary?"* Malia started with an apt analogy,

using the continued care needed for a healthy flower as an illustration of the continued attention and optimism that would

be require to maintain a world without problems. She spoke of optimism as "the contagious nature of a hopeful mindset." It was an excellent and powerful bit of writing! [Her essay can be found here](#). Also, see [Malia's Up with People Fund](#).

It turns out that Malia and Matthew were not only #1 and #2 in the essay contest, they are both seniors who will be co-valedictorians at TJ this year. Matthew will be attending Arizona



From left, Wyatt McCallie; Matthew Bulger, second place winner; and his dad, Tom Bulger.

State and studying Computer Sciences, and Malia will take a gap year and go on tour with [Up With People](#). Upon her return, she also will be attending ASU, studying biological sciences with a pre-med focus. Very impressive students!

Amber Wilson, Senior Team Lead and English Literature teacher at TJ, spoke for a bit on the program from TJ's perspective. She had previously been the official coordinator working with our club, but that job is now held by Lauren Palek.

Thomas Jefferson's principal Mike Christoff was also in attendance, and gave us a quick TJ update. TJHS has approximately 1,100 students and currently have a waiting list of kids from out of district who want to attend. Eighty-six percent of graduates go to a two or four year college, while others go into a military program or a trade. They have 400 kids enrolled in Advance Placement classes, and the *US News and World Report* magazine recently ranked TJHS in the top five percent of high schools in the country.



TJHS Principal, Mike Christoff

## Drawing

WE HAD A DRAWING! The eight of diamonds was the magic card, and \$120 awaited.



**George Buzick** and **Wyatt McCallie** drew for the big bucks, but *fortune* did not smile on them. George also grabbed a cup later



on, as did **Allen Malask**, **Bob Meyer**, and **Ed Collins**.

**Tom Hoch** had his nametag on at just the right time, but \$120 was not in the cards for him today.

## Big Boy & Anniversary of the Golden Spike

You can watch many videos and see many photos of all of the events at the following websites [unionpacific.com](http://unionpacific.com) & go under the "Heritage" tab. Also see, [Worlds largest steam locomotive is back!](http://Worlds largest steam locomotive is back!)



[Big Boy 4014 hits the main line.](http://Big Boy 4014 hits the main line.)

Or, do some internet searches on "Union Pacific 4014," "Great Race to Promontory," "UP Golden Spike 2019," and "[150th Celebration Website.](http://150th Celebration Website.)"

### May Super Citizen Presenters

May 17 @ 8:15	Holm	?
May 17 @ 1:00	Samuels	?
May 21 @ 2:30	MPB	?
May 23 @ 1:00	McMeen	?

### Korsoski Award Presentations

May 24 @ 9:00	Holm	At Hamilton
May 29 @ 6:30	Hamilton	At GWHS
May 29 @ 6:30	Slavens	At Slavens
May 30 @ 8:30	MPB	At MPB
May 30 @ 5:30	McMeen	At McMeen
May 30 @ 6:00	Bradley	At Bradley
May 30 @ 6:00	Lowry	At Lowry
May 31 @ 9:00	Samuels	At Samuels

### Weekly Greeters

5/17/19	Robert Wardlaw & Phil Perington
5/24/19	Don Thomson & Mike White

**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>**

May 16	Thur	6:15 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Councilwomen Black's Office, 3540 S. Poplar St, Ste. 100 lower level
May 17	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
May 18	Sat	8:30 am	Lowry Elementary School-Garden Cleanup
May 24	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: CDOT, Central 70 Project Explained and Detailed
May 27	Mon		Memorial Day
May 31	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: East High School Constitutional Scholars
May 31	Fri	5:30 pm	Casino Night Fundraiser for Childhood Cancer, American Legion Hall, 5400 E. Yale
June 4	Tue	7:30 am	Junior Golf Adult Tournament/Auction, Saddle Rock Golf Course, 21705 E Arapahoe Rd
June 7	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Scott Henke, How to Avoid a Scam
June 7	Wed	7:30 am	Junior Golf Tournament, Boys 10-15, Overland Golf Course, 1801 Huron St.
June 12	Wed	7:30 am	Junior Golf Tournament, Girls 10-18, Meadow Hills Golf Course, 3609 S Dawson St.

**2018 - 2019 Officers**

President	Everett Gardner	949-246-0984
Vice President	Steve Kady	303-931-1470
Vice President	Bob Meyer	303-814-5990
Secretary	Tracy Sorensen	303-886-1743
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:** May **Paul Stratton**, June **Phil Perington**, August **George Buzick**, August **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.