



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

May 17, 2019 – Vol. 43, Issue 33



## 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)

Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton



**OPTIMIST**  
INTERNATIONAL

### Good Morning Optimists

Greeters **Phil Perington** and **Ken Duffy** were quick with salutations and well wishes for the men of Monaco South on this Friday, May 17, 2019. Not sure where Ken Duffy was when the photo was taken. By the way, did you know that Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, was **Armed Forces Day**?



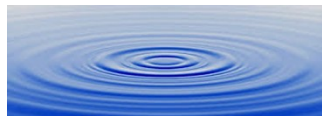
Phil Perington assisted by Allen Yockey  
Photo Noel Hasselgren



This is a day we should be paying tribute to those serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, including those in the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard, as well as those in the National Guard and Reserve.

### First Bell, Invocation & Pledge

President **Gardner** called upon **Eldon Strong** to deliver



the invocation. Eldon spoke of the long lasting impact of good deeds and action that can be illustrated by a pebble dropping into water, and the ripples that creates. He then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag.

### Guests

**Jon Wachter** introduced his guest, **Jeff Wolz**. Jeff is a chemical engineer in the solar industry. Jon and Jeff met at an Open House last weekend. Thanks for joining us Jeff, and we hope to see you again soon!

**Phil Perington** introduced a visiting Optimist, **Bob Kratch**. Bob is a member of the Gateway Optimist Club. He announced that their annual Pancake Breakfast is coming up on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Slightly different location this year—it will be at the IHOP on Iliff and Chambers.

### Announcements

**Super Citizen Korsoski Awards:** **Robert Wardlaw** reminded all of us that it is the end of the school year and time for the **Charlie Korsoski Awards**. Super Citizen school representative, please see **Greg Young** for a crisp clean \$100 bill to present to the honored students and see Robert for the plaques. For the schedule of these end-of-year presentations see page 3. The history of the Charles Korsoski Memorial Award see the **GUMS** distribution email.

**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 pm at the American Legion. 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 OI'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 [pat-tyhasty@msn.com](mailto:pat-tyhasty@msn.com).



**T1DOC On-Line Auction:** **Ron Gustas** announced that the T1 Diabetes Optimist Club-(T1DOC) online auction will conclude at 9:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>—that's today. To register and bid, [CLICK HERE](#). 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. Ron says they are 80 percent to goal! Thanks to those Monaco South members who have supported T1DOC!



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

**CO-WY Junior Golf Tournaments:** **Joe Marci** is also looking for hole sponsors for the local Jr. Golf tournaments. To see all of the Junior Golf events, [CLICK HERE](#). If you have already signed up to be a sponsor, please get your check to **Ron Cisco**. Please also see Joe to sign up to be a tournament volunteer.

**Remembering Les Sitter:** **Karl Geil** announced the recent passing of **Les Sitter**, a friend to many in our club. Please see the following announcement from **Linda McDonald**, OI District Governor:

*I am sad to report the passing of a great Optimist, who was known and loved by many in the District. Lester Sitter died peacefully in his sleep, Saturday, May 11, 2019 at the Sunrise Hospice*

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

after a long illness. [See Obituary.](#)

Les has a long Optimist 'resume' beginning in 1986, and was a life member at the time of his death.

He joined Littleton Breakfast OC in 1996 and the DTC OC in 2006 with his wife Clara.

Les held many positions in the CO/WY District including being a Distinguished and Honor Governor 2004. He also served as a Lt Governor in 2001 & 2009, and received the Builder of Excellence Award for the chartering of the Castle Rock OC in 2005. Many remember Les as the OI Convention District Ambassador from 2007-2015.

In addition, he was president of the DTC OC in 2011-12, and had served as their Foundation Rep from 2009-2014.

Les Sitter was the epitome of Optimism and will be missed. He was a fantastic Colorado/Wyoming Governor and I fondly remember his successful year at the helm with his Optimist wife Clara by his side. Les was a true Southern gentleman and devoted family man. On behalf of the Colorado/Wyoming Optimist District, I tip my hat to a lovely man and a life well lived.

He is survived by his wife, Clara; daughter, Susan Elizabeth Sitter; son Scott Douglas Sitter (Michelle) and 6 grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at the Littleton United Methodist Church (5894 South Datura Street, Littleton, CO 80120) on Thursday, May 30, at 2:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers donations can be made in his name to the Optimist International Foundation (CO-WY District Youth Activities Fund) 4494 Lindell Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63108.

**Membership Directory:** Craig Eley asked if anyone still needed a new directory. John Stoffel requested one, and Craig asked that the record be noted that he did hand one to John on Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7:23 a.m. Craig seemed concerned since he feels he has given John several by now.



**MSOC History Documentation:** Craig Eley also announced that the Club is getting close to its Fiftieth Anniversary Year and he wants to update the history of the club. He is looking for photos and old newsletters or scrapbooks. His plan is to organize and digitize these memories. He is also looking for 3 or 4 people to help collect things, so please reach out to him if you can help.

**A New Author:** Jim VanderKamp let us know that he published a book now available on Amazon. It is a documentation of Jim's family history. Jim encouraged us to do the same, whether it ends up as a published book or not. It is an important effort to gather and save family memories. Plus, Jim has a grandchild that was able to help him format the book. Congrats Jim! From now on, Jim prefers to be referred to as "Noted Author, Jim VanderKamp."

**Donate Blood:** John Oss announced that a blood drive is coming up at [Vitalant Blood Bank](#) (formerly Bonfils Blood Center) is looking for donors. John says, "Michelle Lowry, Donor Recruitment Representative, at 720-333-0632, is our contact. I am a father to four sons, after our first, Ruth needed five units of blood. No amount of money could pay for or repay the donor organization or the donors."

**A Top Donor:** Jon Wachter followed John Oss to the stage and said that our own Randy Marcove has been honored as one of the top blood donors in Colorado.

**Bradley International, JOI Club:** Jon Wachter also had an update from the Bradley Elementary, Helping Hands JOI Club. The students have been interviewing seniors' citizens at nearby retirement communities. They are looking for some club members to be interviewed by the 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Bob Avery and Kent Gloor** are going next Monday. Jon is looking for a couple of more "senior citizens" at either 9:00 - 12:00 or 1:30 - 3:30. Reach out to Jon if interested.



Les Sitter

## Presidential Rants & Raves vs. Tweets

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

**PAST ...** Finally two new members are "official" and six to go for MSOC induction. And from the Board meeting, Membership Chair Tom Glazer is setting up an Orientation get-together scheduled for Monday evening, June 17<sup>th</sup> at the STEM Academy on Yale. If anyone wants more info on MSOCs community involvement, "Come ON Down." BTW where was Frank Middleton to hand out the Mix-it-Up cards for our Comradery Day today?

CO-WY District Strategic Growth Committee Meeting was held Saturday and a highlighted topic was Mentorship of new members. Jim Easton, our Mentor Chair, will be contacting various members to Mentor our newest members. Again, the District Meetings are open to all and being the largest club in the District we could use a bit more participation.

Talking about last weeks Golden Spike and "Big Boy," I was in Cheyenne on Friday, hoping to see the engine only to find that it was going to be in Laramie. So, I drove over there and found that UP runs on its own time but 4014 finally came down the track at 2:30 (scheduled @ 12:45) double heading with UP844 (the engine that pulls the Frontier Days train).



**HAPPENING NOW / SOON ...** Get your Rocky tickets from Joe Marci. to support Jr. Golf. Its Baseball season out there Folks. Take a friend who wants to help Kids.

**FUTURE ...** Check the meeting schedule on page 4 for next week; CDOT, Central 70 Project Explained and Detailed. It should be interesting to understand our tax \$\$ at work. This presentation was a side discussion at yesterday's District meeting mentioned above. Some very interesting antidotes with community interactions.

**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.

**Bradley International, Korsoski Award:** Jon Wachter shared that the Charlie Korsoski award presentation will be at Bradley Elementary next Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. Please let Jon know if you would like to join him for the presentation and fun.

**Destination Imagination Finals:** Tom Mauro shared that he is going to Kansas City next week for the Destination Imagination global final tournament. Tom has two grandkids who will be competing, representing [Ben Franklin Academy](#) in Highlands Ranch. He also mentioned that [Slavens Elementary](#) will be sending six teams this year! They had the overall winning team last year. And, [Bradley International](#) has a team in the completion as well featuring **Mike McMahon's** son Max.

Speaking of Slavens Elementary, **Bob Finkelmeier** received a nice email from Slavens Principal, **Kurt Siebold**, a MSOC member we do not see frequently. The email thanked us for all we do with their Super Citizen program. **Tom Hoch**, who is currently in Wisconsin, serves as Slavens' Super Citizen representative.



## Announcements Continued

**Annual OCMS Banquet & Officer Installation:** Past president **Jim Easton** announced the end of the year banquet will be held on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at Rendezvous Restaurant at Heather Gardens, 2888 S. Heather Gardens Way, Aurora. There will be entertainment in addition to the fine food and program, so mark your calendar. Cocktails at 5:30 p.m., with dinner at 6:00 p.m., more details to come.

## Member Induction Ceremony

**President Everett Gardner** led a New Member Induction ceremony. **Stephen Avery** and **Tracy Sorenson** were officially brought into the fold! Tracey's sponsor **Jim Easton** joined him on stage. Stephen's sponsor is his dad, **Bob Avery**, who was out of town and unable to attend. Congratulations gentlemen! We are happy to have you on board.



From left, Tracy Sorenson, Jim Easton, Prez Everett Gardner, & Stephen Avery

Photo Noel Hasselgren

## Camaraderie Day

As this was that day of the month, camaraderie ensued! Along with the traditional banter and story telling, wagers



were seen being made regarding the Destination Imagination tournament. By 8:00 a.m., it looked like even money on **Mike McMahon's** son vs. **Tom Mauro's** grandkids. Tune in next week to hear the results!



## Lowry Elementary Community Volunteer Day

On Saturday May 18<sup>th</sup> Lowry Elementary held their spring clean up day. Your GUMS editor, orchestrated several MSOC member and Lowry Elementary parents to assist in this endeavor.



From Left: Lisa Davis, Lowry parent & volunteer coordinator; Stephen Avery; Lowry Principal Adrienne Nault; Al Gapuzan; Tom Kramis & his employee Megan.



From Left: Cooper Kramis (Tom's son), Stephen Avery, Paul Stratton & Mark Metevia.

Thanks to **Mark Metevia**, **Ken Duffy**, **George Buzick**, **Al Gapuzan**, **Stephen Avery**, and **Tom Kramis** (who brought his son Cooper and his employee Megan) for coming to Lowry Elementary Saturday morning for Community Volunteer Day. We pulled a LOT of weeds and prepped the ground to lay mulch. The work was very needed, long overdue, and much appreciated!

## Memorial Day, May 27th

With Memorial Day coming up on Monday, May 27, 2019 it is time to show your patriotism or national pride and display the American Flag. For the rules and customs on doing that see the article at the bottom of the **GUMS** distribution email. It has the [United States Flag Code](#).

## Drawing

With \$120 in the pot o' plenty, and the luck card **Lucky 7** being the Seven of spades lots of tickets were in the drawing this week.



**Dan Rodriguez** and **Jon Wachter** took a shot for the big money but came up short.

Cups of cash went to **Bud Black**, **Ron Cisco**, **Phil Perington**, **Mark Metavia**, and **Kent Gloor**. If you were ticket holder 779 and left the meeting early, you missed out!

Phil Perington was overheard complaining about the presence of pennies in his cup.

*"Hey, that's legal tender Phil!"*



Nametag drawing: **Don Thomson** had his name drawn, but could not find the Lucky 7 of Spades. The pot keeps growing!

## Optimist Creed

Our creed was started off by **Bill Morgan**: "Promise Yourself to be ...."



## May Super Citizen Presenters

May 21 @ 2:30	MPB	?
May 23 @ 1:00	McMeen	?

## Korsoski Award Presentations

May 24 @ 9:00	Holm	At Hamilton
May 30 @ 6:30	Hamilton	At GWHS
May 29 @ 7:00	Slavens	At Slavens
May 30 @ 8:30	MPB	At MPB
May 30 @ 5:30	McMeen	At Hill Middle
May 30 @ 6:00	Bradley	At Bradley
May 30 @ 5:00	Lowry	At Lowry
May 31 @ 9:00	Samuels	At Samuels

## Weekly Greeters

5/24/19	Don Thomson & Mike White
5/31/19	John Oss & Keith Galloway

**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 24	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: CDOT, Central 70 Project Explained and Detailed
<b>May 27</b>	<b>Mon</b>		<b>Memorial Day</b>
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.
June 14	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Neil Alderson, YMCA Update
June 14	Wed	7:30 am	Junior Golf Tournament, Boys 16-18, Flatirons Golf Course, 5706 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder
June 20	Thur	6:15 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Schlessman YMCA, 3901 E. Yale, 2nd Floor Conference Room

**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.