



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

September 1, 2017 – Vol. 41, Issue 48



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—Paul Stratton



Good Morning Optimist

It is Friday, September 1st, and **Bob Avery** and **Dick Zolman** are greeting one and all. We had a great showing for this weeks meeting of the Optimist Club of Monaco South.



Bob Avery & Dick Zolman welcome Donlie Smith as he arrives for the meeting.

Photo Noel Hasselgren

Invocation & Pledge

Donlie Smith led our invocation, and asked that we keep the people of the Houston and Gulf Coast in our thoughts as they struggle with the aftermath of hurricane Harvey. He then shares a message on Labor Day before leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Editor: AccuWeather has estimated that Hurricane Harvey could be the costliest natural disaster in U.S. history with a potential price tag of \$190 billion. This is equal to the combined cost of Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy, and represents a 1% economic hit to the gross national product.

Guests

Allan Russell attended as a guest of President **Craig Eley**. Allan is a Denver native who is retired after a career as a driver for the Aurora school district. By the end of the meeting, he had filled out an application!

Frank Middleton introduced **James Dockter**, the Frontier District Director for Boy Scouts of America, returning for a second time with a check in hand - dues for this year and next! Welcome! *Editor: James will be a great resource for helping support our efforts with Cub Scout packs.*

Todd Sterling was guest of **Tom Glazier**. They are longtime friends reunited recently. Todd has been in town 4 years, having arrived from the great state of Indiana. Todd owns a small construction company. Thanks Todd (and Tom!).

Mark Smith, an Ohio native, was a guest of **Dick Nickoloff**. Mark recently retired from the financial industry. He and Dick became friends after meeting at 24 Hour Fitness. Welcome Mark!

Ross Parrent, Keyboard player for the **Glass Half Full band**, as well as a member of the Wheat Ridge Optimist Club, was a visitor once again. He is promoting their 60th anniversary celebration, called Founder's Day, which will be held on Saturday, September 30th from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. — see the attached flyer.

Phil Perington followed Ross and complimented the **Glass Half Full band**. Saying, "We are the only Optimist District that has its own band! Phil also shared that he was wearing his T1DOC shirt at DIA waiting for a flight recently, and a man from Texas struck up a conversation about Optimism. They chatted and made a great connection. ***Wear your shirts and talk up Optimism!***

From the Prez

President Craig Eley began his comments with a challenge to the club. "**One A Day**" - He announced a 30-day membership drive he called "One A Day." He asked that each of us ask one friend a day to come to an MSOC meeting. He said, "*Many may turn us down, but if you do not ask, the answer is always 'No,' but those who agree to attend a meeting will experience the fun and camaraderie of the Club and become members.*" Some members complained that they did not have 30 friends. Craig asked them to just do the best they can!

Welcome to Two New Members: **Allan Russell** and **James Dockter** turned in their membership applications at the meeting. **Craig Eley** and **Frank Middleton** sponsored them, respectively. Frank announced that James even paid a year's dues in advance! Craig commented that, even though he is an Optimist, at age 68 he is not paying anything a year in advance.

Yesterday at **Kentucky Circle Village**, a nearby affordable-housing retirement residence, in setting up



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*****

Continued on the next page

From the Prez Continued

for an outdoor event celebrating the end of a multi-million dollar improvement project. He reported that **Jon Wachter, Tom Glazier, Allen Malask, and Tom Kramis**, along with himself, teamed up to lend a hand. President Eley thanked them for their assistance. He added, "The weather held, the event was successful, and Craig even snagged a new member for the Club!"

Upcoming Garage Sale: Craig reminded us that **Harry Arkin** needs help getting organized to host a garage sale. No date has been set, but Harry has asked that if anyone could help him with this project he would greatly appreciate it. "Since our motto is "Friend of Youth," helping Harry would fall right in line with that -- Betty White is 96, and Harry is far more youthful than that!"

Get Well John!: Craig Eley informed us that **John Young** has had an episode of blood clots in his lungs, and spent about 5 days in the hospital. He is back home but needs to have supplemental oxygen for a couple of weeks. A day after the meeting, Craig contacted John's wife, Claire, and learned that they had been out to breakfast and doing some shopping, so it was good to hear that John is up and around. Give John a call at 303-692-8202 and wish him well!

Membership Story: President Craig reminded us that last week, Governor **Paul Simon** presented **John Young** with a certificate from Optimist International commemorating John's sponsorship of 75 members, including himself. However, Craig related that John was not an easy sell. He was asked by a friend to attend an Optimist meeting, and John half-heartedly agreed. When the morning of the meeting arrived, John elected to stay in bed. Nevertheless, the doorbell rang, and his friend was there to pick him up for the meeting. John threw on some clothes, and became a charter member of Monaco South, a President of the Club, the sponsor of all those members and one of the founders of the **Optimist Club of Tamarac**, which is now the second largest Club in the district. This happened all because a friend of his asked him to a meeting.

Late Email Note

Go, Ruthy!: In an email, President Craig reported, "*Right after Friday's meeting John Oss' better half, Ruthy, had a health scare and is spending a couple of days in Swedish for observation. Room T329. She is eating hospital food, but is otherwise doing fine.*" All the best Ruthy and John!

Announcements

Hurricane Relief Fund: **Eldon Strong** reported that his son **Ryan** lives in Cypress, Texas. His church, **Good Shepherd United Methodist Church**, is currently housing 25 families in their classrooms. They have begun a relief fund to help those affected by flooding and loss of shelter. Eldon asked us to consider contributing gift cards—not money—for stores like Home Depot, Lowes, Target, or Walmart, to buy building and household supplies. Good Shepherd Church will distribute them directly to families in need. If you wish to donate, bring your cards to Eldon over the next couple of meetings and he will bundle them and send them to Houston, or you can mail them to:

Good Shepherd United Methodist Church Relief Fund c/o Ryan Strong, 14719 Blue Egret Drive, Cypress TX 77433.

They are hoping for support now, but also in the future, since this will be a long, long recovery for that region.

Update on OC Larson: **Don Thomson** reports that **OC Larson** is at the Brookdale Senior Living and Memory Care

facility off Arapahoe. He is looking much better and back to regular diet. He should be moving to assisted living soon.

Celebrate Optimism Banquet: The Celebrate your Optimism banquet is coming up on September 16th. **Michael Chavez** excitedly encouraged us sign up on line via our website. We will be installing our new President and enjoying some camaraderie. It will be at Heather Gardens from 6:00 - 9:00 pm. Tickets are \$25 and London Broil will be served.

Budget Time: Treasurer **Greg Young**, said, "Our fiscal year runs from October 1 until September 30th. We will be preparing the annual budget on September 20th, so all project managers please get your budget request in to Greg Young ASAP. The same goes for anyone wanting to do a new or expanded project. If we do not hear from you, your project will risk being cut and not funded for next year. Budget requests can be in writing or by email to Greg at gndyoung@comcast.net.



Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation: **Ron Gustas** thanked OCMS members for their financial support of his Granddaughter Ellie's Team (<http://www2.jdrf.org/goto/ElliesDiabetesBusters>); **Mike McMahon's** sons team (<http://www2.jdrf.org/goto/FUT1>); and the T1DOC Team (<http://www2.jdrf.org/goto/T1Optimistclub>). Members were also thanked for signing up to load a truck from the JDRF office (near North High) on Friday, September 8 at 1 p.m. and helping to set up the "Walk" site at Jeffco County Fairgrounds starting at 11 a.m. on September 9th. Saturday has enough volunteers but Friday truck loading could use a couple more guys. Let Ron know (rgustas@earthlink.net) if you can help on Friday. An email will be sent to volunteers next week with more details for both Friday and Saturday.

Check-in for the 5K "Walk" on Sunday, September 10th starts at 8 a.m. with the "Walk" beginning at 10. Members are encouraged to still sign-up with any of the Teams to either "Walk" or to make a donation to help fund research seeking improved treatment for and ultimately cure of Type 1 Diabetes. Again Thanks To All For Helping the Kids Live a Better Life.

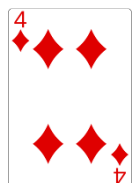
Second Wind Fund: **Tom Mauro** gave us a Second Wind follow up — remember last weeks speaker? Tom asked how much for a counseling session costs for one of the kids, and learned it is \$75. Consider making a (tax deductible) contribution - this organization has helped 4,495 kids. Checks are payable to the Second Wind Foundation.

Directory Update: **Tom Mauro** also let us know that it is time to reprint the club directory. He is looking for advertisers to help cover the cost of printing. Tom reiterated his guarantee of \$1 million dollars of future gross sales that will come to those smart enough to place an ad.* A business card ad costs a mere \$25 for 6 months. Also, if you have updates to your listing in the directory (address, phone, email, etc.), get those to Tom.

Editor's note: *As a multi-year advertiser who has complete faith in Tom, and who knows how to calculate compounding interest, I am so excited for the multi, multi million dollars in business coming my way any day now. Thanks Tom!*

Drawing

This week's drawing found a mere \$20 in pot; with only five cards remaining — a good chance of finding the Four of Diamonds. Even those strong odds did not keep the following men from taking the easy money cups: **Gary Strowbridge,**



Bob Meyer & Holly Champion OI Junior Golf Update

Joe Marci introduced today's speaker, **Bob Meyer**, who give us an overview and update about this year's OI Junior Golf Tournament.

Bob says that 3,500 kids between ages 10-18 competed in 57 district qualifiers across the globe. Seven hundred golfers from 25 countries went to Florida and the PGA National Course for the Championship. Fifty-eight of those 700 came from Colorado, the largest representation from any state. The golfers staying in a world-class resort, had college scouts observing them, and played on the same course where the pros play the Honda Classic. 16-18 year old kids play from the tips and use the same pin placements on Sunday as the pros. There was a Parent/Child tournament and Colorado kids finished 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. Bob shared lots of other highlights and also read some thank you notes from kids and parents.

Much of the growth of our local program has come from the Junior Golf Alliance of Colorado, which began promoting our qualifiers starting in 2016. This has increased exposure and participants, and the Alliance has helped with the events.



Bob Meyer
Photo Noel Hasselgren

The number of golfers has grown:

2015: 135
2016: 190
2017: 228 with waitlist
2018: qualifiers may move to three days and three sites to accommodate more kids.

Bob Meyer then introduced **Holly Champion**, Junior Golf Director, Colorado Section of the PGA and Chair of the Golf Alliance of Colorado. Holly said thanks to the club for our support of our CO-WY Jr. Golf program.



The Alliance started in 2016 and has grown to 830 members. She has gotten to know a lot of the kids and the families, and they love the tournament and give her great feedback. She appreciated the chance to come to our meeting, and was rewarded with a Monaco South coffee mug from President Craig.

Second Wind Fund

*After the Ken Wiig and Chris Weiss presentation, **Tom Mauro** asked the speaker how much a single counseling session costs. The cost is \$75.*

Tom then reported to the editor that he would be collecting checks next week at the meeting for anyone who wishes to contribute. Make checks payable to Second Wind Fund for any amount or in increments of \$75. Tom will get the checks, which are tax deductible, to the organization. Thank you!

Drawing Continued

Bryce Slaby, Jack Rife, Donlie Smith, John Oss, and Dave Moore. Kudos! Michael Chavez was not given a choice, so he boldly stepped up and drew big money card! \$20 to Michael — Congrats!

Since Michael walked off with the pot, there was no nametag drawing this week.



Michael Chavez and his winning card, with President Craig Eley.
Photo John Oss



The CO-WY Junior Golf Committee, Chair Bob Meyer, Joe Marci, & Ron Cisco, with Holly Champion.

Photo Noel Hasselgren

Closing Creed

Our creed was started off by board member **Bill Morgan**: *Promise yourself*

Weekly Greeters

9/8/17	Jack Kleinheksel & Karl Geil
9/15/17	Mark Metevia & Don Roth
9/22/17	Tom Glazier & Perry Allen

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

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

Sept 7-9	Second Honeymoon Getaway to Glenwood Springs, CO
Sept 8 Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Barb Babby, Alzheimer's Walk
Sept 15 Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Sept 16 Sat 7:00 am	Alzheimer's Walk to End, City Park East
Sept 16 Sat 5:00 pm	Celebrate Your Optimism & New Officer Installation, Rendezvous at Heather Gardens

**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
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: 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.