



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

September 13, 2019 – Vol. 43, Issue 50



## 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—Pat Bush



### Good Morning Optimists

On this Friday, it is not only Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> with an expected full moon it is also, "**One Hundred Percent Day!**" We had a nice turnout for this special day—the editor's estimate is about 50% of our members were in attendance, but the good news was we saw several members we have not seen for a while.

As far as the full moon, this rare occurrence happens this evening. According to the *Farmer's Almanac*, see <https://www.farmersalmanac.com/friday-13th-harvest-moon-36362> we have not seen a combination like this since October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2000 and it will not happen again until August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2049.



### Greeter



**Ron Cisco** was our only greeter this morning, but he was as dependable as ever. He would have made the Postmaster General proud.

### One Hundred Percent Day!

For this **100 Percent Day**, **Jack Kleinheksel** was back after an extended absence recovering from a bad fall. He broke 13 ribs and had a collapsed lung. Jack said he was off the opioids and is just taking Tylenol for the pain. He also pointed out that he went through times of great despair and depression while he was in the hospital and he thought that he might never get back to an Optimist meeting. But he set a goal to get back for 100% day and here he is, with a smile.



Another member back was **Jack Kitchell**, who was getting around pretty good after his leg problems. His ankle and knee are still pretty swollen, but he is able to walk with the assistance of a cane.

**Randy Marcove** came the longest distance to at-

tend. He came back from Costa Rica.

Also in attendance saw **Woody Thibodeau**, **David Telpner**, and some guy your editor did not know.

### Invocation & Pledge

Even **President Everett Gardner** was in attendance, back from his work travels who called on **Russ Paul** for the invocation about thinking of the best, working for the best and expecting the best. Russ also lead us with the *Pledge of Allegiance* to our flag.

### Guest

**Greg Young** introduced our only guest, **Wakeel Abiola**. Wakeel mentioned that he had joined us with his brother, **Timi Kola Abiola**, on September 16<sup>th</sup>. His brother had received a \$400 donation from Monaco South so that he could participate in the Colorado Student Leader Institute. Wakeel wanted to share how the award really impacted his brother and how Timi went on to win several other honors at Thomas Jefferson High School.



### Missing 100 Percent Day

Missing 100% Day was **Curt Boell** who has been traveling in East Africa. Curt sent this email note, "Had a wonderful time in Tanzania heading for Kenya. In Maasai Mara National Park, we saw fifteen thousand wildebeests cross the Mara river, it took them 45-minutes. Saw the big five Cape buffalo, elephants, lions, leopard, and rhino. He shared these pictures for **GUMS**."



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

**Sharing a Thank You:** Bryce Slaby wanted to thank all the members of Monaco South that do the little things that keep the club running. Members that he said, "get little recognition for their work." He specifically mentioned **Gary Miller** for collecting the breakfast money each week. **Noel Hasselgren** taking the club photographs, **Joe Marci**, **Russ Paul**, **Gary Strowbridge**, and others that setup and tear down the room for the weekly membership meeting. He also included the **GUMS** monthly editors, **Pat Bush**, **Paul Stratton**, **Phil Perington**, **George Buzick**, **Robert Wardlaw**, and Dr. **Bob Finkelmeier** that put the newsletter together. He specifically indicated that Bob pulls **GUMS** together each week and gets it out to us weekly. He recognized **Bob Avery**, the attendance taker, to name just a few. If you do little chores that help this club run, Bryce would like to say that we all appreciate the little things you do that most of us take for granted.

**Fall is in the Air:** Bob Avery told us that when the temperatures start to drop at night, plus football is gearing up, and we are dusting off the skis, we need help to start getting into shape by unloading a couple hundred pumpkins for the Boy Scouts annual pumpkin sale. Bob



Avery let us know that Troup 457 will be unloading a semi-trailer truck full of pumpkins on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> and they would surely appreciate our help. They will be at the Greenwood Community Church on the corner of Bellevue and Holly starting at 9:00 a.m. If you can help, let Bob know over the next couple of weeks.

**New Promotional Aides:** Dan Rodriguez had some promotional items made for the club. He showed us a small A-frame sign that will fit on a table. We can change the sign by simply printing an 8½ x 11 advertisement and inserting it into the sign stand. He also showed us a table apron with the Monaco South club name and logo printed on it. These will come in very handy for our information tables at the Brain Bowl and various other projects. *Thanks, Dan, for your work on this. We can never have enough publicity for the club.*



**JDRF Diabetes Walk:** Michael McMahon wanted to thank all of the members that have pledged financial support to any or all of the three walk teams that Monaco South has a connection for the JDRF's Walk One. He says it still isn't too late to donate. Just go to any of these websites: Ellie Knox's team is at <http://www2.jdrf.org/goto/ElliesDiabetesBusters>; Max McMahon's team can be found at <http://www2.jdrf.org/goto/FUT1D>; and the T1DOC team at <http://www2.jdrf.org/goto/T1DOC>. All the team's would love you to help them reach their fundraising goals. The walk will be held this Sunday morning September 15<sup>th</sup> at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

**Ron Gustas** reminds us that they will be helping to set up the team tents, signs and tables Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. He would like those helping to arrive by 10 a.m. in the morning. Since the walk will be held at Jefferson County Fairgrounds, that is where we will be setting up the tents.

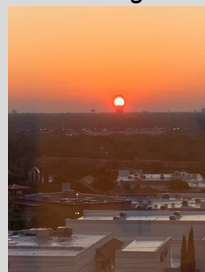
**September Super Citizen Presentations:** Robert Wardlaw reported that we have four Super Citizen presentations coming up at Holm, McMeen, Most Precious Blood, and Slavens Elementary. Robert said we still need presenters for these awards ceremonies. As Wakeel just testified to, they really leave an impression on these kids. We get several adults at the tree lot each year that say they were a

## Presidential Rants & Raves vs. Tweets

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

**PAST ...** I made it for 100% Day! Phil Perington and I attended the District Growth Committee meeting yesterday (Saturday) with Governor Elect Tony Carpenter presiding and expanding his theme for the coming year of "Vision 20/20" and laying plans for District Expansion.

Here are area pix from this past week in Dallas where I was looking at F-16 instrument panels.



Left, a Dallas Sunrise at 7:15a.m.  
Above, Blistered Shishito Peppers, mild and tasty.



Above, one sink must be from Pirated of the Caribbean.

### HAPPENING NOW / SOON ...

**NEED MORE PARTICIPATION IN THIS YEAR'S END BANQUET** - 21 September ... See Jim Easton's Check the Calendar link, <https://www.monacosouth.org/events/calendar>

### FUTURE ...

**NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION: this MONDAY September 16, 2019**

**BOARD MEETING: this THURSDAY September, 19 Prez Everett**

**PS ... Never too late to bring a GUEST ...** Follow-up on new and old contacts! Have a non-member help with upcoming Projects. September Goal is 8 Guests per meeting.

Super Citizen award winner when they were in grade school. Please volunteer to be a presenter. You will definitely make an impression on a youngster.

**Celebrate Your Optimism Banquet:** Jim Easton announced that last week the newsletter editor misquoted the ticket price for the Monaco South Optimism year end banquet. The ticket cost is \$30 per person. The banquet will be held at Rendezvous Restaurant in Heather Gardens on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 2888 S. Heather Gardens Way, Aurora. To date, we only have 24 members signed up. If you missed the signup sheet, give **Greg Young** a call at 303-759-3921 or [gndyoung@comcast.net](mailto:gndyoung@comcast.net) immediately. That cost includes a buffet dinner, entertainment by Brad Montgomery, great socializing with your friends not to mention a first-rate officer installation ceremony. Please get a check, made out to OCMS (Optimist Club of Monaco South), for the number of tickets that you want to Greg by next Friday. If you cannot make the membership meeting, mail the check to Greg at 3983 S. Olive Street, Denver, Colorado 80237.

**Northwest Denver Optimist Club:** On behalf of Ernie Romero, **Randy Marcove** announced that the Optimist Club of Northwest Denver is committed to providing support to the children of Northwest Denver. With your generous support the club has provided \$16,000, plus lots of people power for the past year. They have support things like Community Honors Awards, Teacher Grants, Reading is Fundamental (RIF), North and Citywide Chess Tournaments, etc.

The reported that their funding is provided through an annual Raffle. We issue only 300 tickets at the low cost of \$100 each. It is a reverse raffle—last ticket in the drum wins \$10,000! There are six additional \$200 prizes: 1<sup>st</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 100<sup>th</sup>, 150<sup>th</sup>, 200<sup>th</sup>, 250<sup>th</sup> tickets pulled. Plus, everyone gets

## Announcements Continued

a fabulous spaghetti dinner (wine and beer included). A gambler's delight. Of course, the real winners are the children. If interested in getting in on the raffle see Randy.

**\$10,000 GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE**  
 Plus 6, \$200 additional Prizes  
 Optimist Club of Northwest Denver  
 \*Celebrating 31 years of Service to the Youth of NW Denver  
 Saturday - November 2, 2019  
 Sons of Italy hall  
 5925 W. 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave  
 Wheat Ridge, CO 80212  
 Dinner @ 6:00 pm and Raffle @ 7:00 pm  
 ALL Tickets \$100.00  
 Reverse Drawing  
 License #2019-14205  
 Winner need not be Present  
 Split Y / N  
 Unless indicated on ticket the last 2 tickets will split the grand prize

Less than 5% of proceeds are used for administrative cost.

### Membership Directory Update: Tom Mauro

announced that the membership directory update will be published in October. Tom is looking to incorporate any changes to member's contact information for the new directory. But he needs your help. Corrections cannot be made unless he knows about them. He says we do not want to publish any fake information so if you have changes to your contact listing, get it to him in the next couple of weeks. Tom also reminded us of the opportunity to generate at least a million dollars of revenue by publishing a business card ad in the directory for the small sum of \$25. Do not pass up this amazing business opportunity.

**Tree Lot Trailer:** Tom Kramis checked on the tree lot trailer and reports that there was nobody living in it. He is putting together a crack team to help renovate and make some improvements to the trailer for the upcoming Christmas Tree season. He just needs a couple more guys that are handy with tools to help out. Let Tom know if you are interested on helping with this project.

**Dime-A-Day Donations:** Perry Allen provided a last-minute reminder that Dime-A-Day donations are being ac-

cepted before the end of this Optimist year on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Help us to make the Colorado/Wyoming District number one in Dime-A-Day. Just write a check out for \$36.50 to the OI Foundation and give it to Perry Allen. Your support will be recognized with a stylish lapel pin.

**Budget Time Again:** Greg Young, the OCMS treasure, will be doing the budget for next fiscal year (October 1, 2019 through September 20, 2020). All project managers are asked to send Greg Young, [gndyoung@comcast.net](mailto:gndyoung@comcast.net), the budget requests for their projects. In light of a declining economy, we will be doing a tight and conservative budget, so not all projects may be funded. Time is running out!

## Member Updates

**Don Thomson** reported that **John Greene** had a stay in the hospital. He had some blood clots in the lungs which led to pneumonia. John has now been released and is back at home recovering.

**Mark Metevia** told us that he saw **Cy Regan** and tried to get him to 100% day, but the meeting time is just too early for Cy. Mark also said he visited **Don StJohn** a week ago and Don is moving slow. His wife Char, said she is transitioning him to assisted living.

**Greg Young** received an email from **Jeff Larson**, **OC Larson's** son, saying that OC is at Brookdale Greenwood Village, recovering after being hospitalized for a bad case of pneumonia and rhino virus. He is very weak and will need physical therapy before he can return to Cherry Hills Assisted Living. The address is 6450 S Boston St. Greenwood Village 80111. He is in room 2227 and his direct line to his room is 303-268-4127, should you want to visit or call.

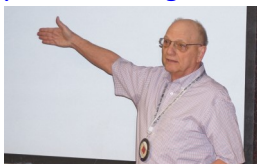
## Greg Hurd

### Union Pacific "Big Boy" - The Largest Steam Locomotive Built

**Greg Hurd** was our speaker this morning. Greg talked about the state of rail travel during the World War II era. In anticipation of the U.S. entering World War II, and the need to ship men and materials across the country quickly outgrew the existing capacity of the railroads. Several options were tried to increase shipping capacity including building more rail lines and adding more trains, but, for various reasons this just lead to gridlock of the system. The ultimate solution was to run longer trains at higher speeds, but this required bigger and more powerful locomotives.

The birth of Union Pacific's "Big Boy," classified as the largest steam locomotive in the world based on its overall size, tractive effort, speed, and firebox capacity. So why did they build such a large locomotive? The Big Boy locomotive was Union Pacific's (UP) answer to achieve the results the U.S. Government required. There was a shortage of locomotives, total congestion on existing mainline trackage and a shortage of flat cars and tank cars to name a few of the war support issues.

The Big Boy was created to haul 120 freight cars at 60 mph which had not been accomplished before by any railroad. One Big Boy could replace 5 Pacific type locomotives (4-6-2 wheel arrangement)



which were the most popular type in 1941. Big Boys were operated from Omaha to Los Angeles which were not the original plan of the UP but resulted from restrictions by the government preventing manufacturing of diesel locomotives as diesel fuel had to directly support military vehicles and ships. There were issues of running these large locomotives on existing trackage as they were heavy, required large "wye" track configurations or turntables to reverse their direction, consumed large quantities of coal and water, all of which restricted where they could be operated.

You can check out three videos that are excellent from the Arapahoe Library District or ask the Denver libraries to have them loaned from the Arapahoe Library the subject being the inaugural run of UP Big Boy 4014 that took place in May of 2019 for the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration of the Golden Spike. Prez Everette is presented in the Trains video listed. He said if you purchase a copy, he will autograph it for a large fee. The videos are: "Big Boy Back In Steam" by Trains Magazine, "Big Boy Returns To Steam" by Pentrex, and "Return Of The Big Boy" by 7 Idea Productions.

See <https://www.up.com/heritage/steam/4014/index.htm>

### Weekly Greeters

9/20/19	Frank Middleton & Jon Wachter
9/27/19	Michael Chavez & George Buzick

**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>**

Sept 17	Wed	2:30 pm	Super Citizen: Most Precious Blood School
Sept 19	Thur	6:15 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Schlessman YMCA, 3901 E. Yale, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Sept 20	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Sept 21	Sat	5:30 pm	Celebrate Your Optimism Year End Banquet, Heather Gardens Rendezvous Restaurant, 2888 S. Heather Gardens Way
Sept 17	Wed	1:00 pm	Super Citizen: McMeen Elementary School
Sept 27	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Uli Pappus, Post World War II Experience
Sept 27	Fri	8:30 am	Super Citizen: Slavens Elementary
Oct 4	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Mary Jo Heins, Medicare Update
Oct 5	Sat		CO-WY District First Quarter Conference

**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:** September **Pat Bush**, October **Paul Stratton**, November **Phil Perington**, December **George Buzick**,

**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.