



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

October 23, 2015 – Vol. 40, Issue 4



## Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado  
Serving Youth and the Community for 39 Years  
Recognized as Outstanding Service Organization in Colorado in 2012

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

Editor for this Issue—George Buzick

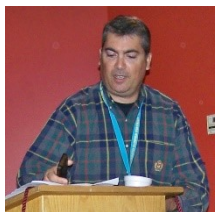


### Good Morning Optimist

An overcast Friday morning on the outside, but thanks to the cheerful greetings of both **Nick Newey** and **Casey Funk**, the inside greeting was bright and made it “a bright sun-shiny Day!”

**It's gonna be a bright, bright, sun-shiny day.**

### First Bell



In the absence of president **Don Iley**, past president and now vice president **Randy Marcove** called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m.

At left vice president Randy, looks for the gavel to call the meeting to order.

Photo Don StJohn

### Invocation and Pledge

**Lynn Jones** gave the invocation and led us in *The Pledge of Allegiance* to our flag and country.

### From the Vice Prez

Vice president **Randy** reminded us that **Ken Gardner**, immediate past president of Optimist International, would be here next week to induct five new members. Ken is from the Optimist Club of Fort Worth-Breakfast East, Texas.



### Guests

Past president and CO-WY governor elect **Paul Simon** introduced his guests for the day—Past CO-WY Governor **Bob Hartwig** and his wife **Carolyn**. Bob was the Colorado/Wyoming District Governor for 2013-2014 Optimist year. He and Carolyn have since moved to Texas, where he is currently serving as a Lt. Governor in the South Texas District. Bob and Carolyn are both active members in the Optimist Club of Fredericksburg, TX. They are here for a visit. For those not familiar with Texas, Fredericksburg is 78



miles west of Austin and 70 miles north-west of San Antonio, TX. What was not mentioned was that the Optimist Club of Fredericksburg annual fund-raiser is the Hill Country Run Motorcycle Rally. For those interested, visit Hill Country Run Motorcycle Rally's webpage @ <http://www.hillcountryrun.com/index.html>.

### Announcements

**Hamilton Super Citizen Program:** **Tom Mauro** said that the first Super Citizen program for this school year at Hamilton Middle School was held Thursday, October 22, and as usual, a great success. With **David Peck** as featured presenter and backed by **Karl Geil** and Tom. The program centered on eliminating “Bullying and Cyber Bullying.”

**Book Drive:** **Steve Kady** said that the flyers he



had prepared have been distributed to most of the schools, which participate in our Super Citizen program, and that arrangements will be made to pick

up the books in time for distribution at the Boys and Girls Club Thanksgiving dinner on Tuesday, November 24. (Editor, the flyer is attached to the GUMS distribution email.) You can still bring gently used books to the club meetings through November. See related story on page 2.

**Pay Your Dues by Credit Card:** Treasurer **Greg Young**, shared that “You can now pay your dues by credit card.” Greg said club would now accept credit cards for paying dues. To pay online, just [Click Here](https://squareup.com/market/Optimist%20Club%20of%20Monaco%20South/dues-payment)

[https://squareup.com/market/](https://squareup.com/market/Optimist%20Club%20of%20Monaco%20South/dues-payment)

[Optimist Club of Monaco South/dues-payment.](https://squareup.com/market/Optimist%20Club%20of%20Monaco%20South/dues-payment)

Additionally, if you want to pay at a meeting, just see Greg and he can run your card on his handy dandy credit card SQUARE. So now, there is no excuse for not paying your annual dues right away. Sorry, due to the merchant fees, there will not be a discount for paying by credit card. A \$5.00 discount can be taken

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**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



Only if paying by check or cash by November 30<sup>th</sup>. Thanks for paying promptly!

Greg also reminded us that the King Soopers & Safeway gift cards are an easy way to raise funds for the club and can be purchased from **Cy Regan** for only \$10. Good for both groceries and gas at your local market, reload them with your rewards card and benefit both yourself and provide the club with some additional income.



### Ralph Pedersen Update: Frank Middleton



shared that he has been in telephone contact with **Ralph Pedersen**, a charter member of the club, who took a nasty fall, was hospitalized with back injuries, and is currently undergoing physical therapy. Because of his injuries, Ralph has not been able to come to meetings, but would be up for a telephone conversation, or even home visitation. Give Ralph a call at 303-759-3384 or e-mail at

[r.pedersen2658@comcast.net](mailto:r.pedersen2658@comcast.net).

### Colorado First Lego League: Ralph Parrent, one



of the supporters of First Lego League is looking for judges for a robotics contest. Ralph was our guest several weeks ago, but chose to join the Wheat Ridge Optimist Club, since he lives in Arvada. The volunteer link is: <http://fill.coloradofirst.org/volunteer>.

Colorado First Lego League holds 12 Qualifying Tournaments in November and one Championship Tournament in January for children aged 9-14 on teams engaged in the global FIRST LEGO League robotics challenge. The challenge includes research, innovation, engineering, programming, and most especially, team work and communication. Teams rely on the experience of Coaches and Youth Mentors to navigate through the complex competition season beginning in early September. The Optimists applaud these Youth Mentors in their dedication to younger children and their support to FIRST values and objectives to encourage our next generation of science and technology leaders.

**Update on Book Drive:** The 1<sup>st</sup> Bruton Book Drive Report from **Steve Kady**. All systems are GO and we have just received our first donation of books. Thanks to **Jon Wachter, Bob Avery, Michael Chavez, Don Thomson, Kent Gloor, Donlie Smith, Randy Marcove, Gary Miller, Tom Mauro, and Jim Easton** the collection boxes have been put in place at their schools and the flier has been emailed to parents.

The David Bruton Foundation has furnished collection boxes have been placed in the schools where we give out Super Citizen Awards. Both principals and teachers have pledged to help achieve our goal of 750+ books for *The Boys and Girls Club Thanksgiving dinner*. Club members are asked to check out their basements, attics, any place you might have some

children books that are not being used. We prefer K-5th grade. This is a large undertaking for us, but I know we can do it.



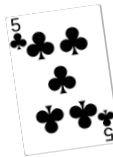
Photo Steve Kady

On Saturday, **Don Thomson** (on far right), and his wife, **Joyce** (on far left), had gathered 469 books for our drive. They had the help of his son-in-law, **Mark Butler**, **JoAnn Gagnet**, his granddaughter **Cara Butler**, and **Karen Somes**, who assisted in sorting the books into age groups. **Gary Strowbridge** also assisted but is not pictured. Joyce, JoAnn Gagnet, and Karen Somes are members of the Tamarac Optimist Club.

Thank you everyone for pitching in and helping!

## Drawing

For fifty cents, you can buy a ticket to win big bucks. In today's case, "*big bucks*" were at \$50. All you need to do is be lucky enough to have your number called from the 100-150 tickets sold and then draw the right card from the deck. In this case, the 5 of Clubs. Sounds easy, but it rarely happens, especially at the beginning of the year. Each week, a card is removed, so as time goes on the odds of winning go up. Get your drawing tickets from "**Dr. Bob Finkelmeier**" and, you too can make a weekly contribution, and maybe win some small jackpots, or even the big one. For this week, as well as for the past 4 weeks, there was no



Our guest, Cynthia Coffman, under the watchful eye of Michael Chavez picked the first ticket and called the numbers.

Photo Don StJohn

big winner. The only winners were those that took a cup of about \$6 to \$7 bucks.

## A Bit of Humor



A photographer catches a picture of what is known as Colorado Potholes. From what has been reported these potholes are bring in more visitors than those found on city streets. Photographer and location unknown.

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**Cynthia Coffman**  
Attorney General for the State of Colorado

**Frank Middleton** introduced our speaker for today. Cynthia Coffman is the Attorney General for the State of Colorado. Coffman graduated from the University of Missouri and received her law degree from the Georgia State University College of Law. She began working in the office of the Georgia Attorney General in 1993. In 1996, she became a lawyer for the 1996 Summer Olympics, held in Atlanta. Following the Centennial Olympic Park bombing, Coffman served as a liaison to the families of the victims. Coffman moved to Colorado in 1997, and worked for the legislative council of the Colorado Legislature. She served as legal counsel for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment from 1999 through 2004. She then served as legal counsel for Bill Owens, the Governor of Colorado, from 2004 to 2005, and as chief deputy attorney general under John W. Suthers, the Attorney General of Colorado from 2004 through 2014.



Cynthia Coffman  
Photo Don StJohn

In 2012, Law Week Colorado named Coffman their Best Public Sector Lawyer. She is married to Mike Coffman, who represents Colorado's 6<sup>th</sup> congressional district in the United States House of Representatives.

Cynthia is the head of what she claims to be "*the largest law firm in the State of Colorado*," with 280 lawyers and a total staff of 500 employees. The mission of the Attorney General is to act as counsel to state judges, state employees, and any other state functions.

She does not report to the Governor, but answers to "the people," and her agency is funded directly through the state legislature, thus can give independent counsel to the people she serves, without regard to politics.

Her most recent involvement has been in protecting the interests of Colorado after the "blowout" of the Gold King Mine in San Miguel County, which spilled millions of gallons of contaminated water into the Animas River. The EPA has recently announced that they are assuming responsibility for the incident. There is still leakage at the rate of 550 gallons/

minute. It will probably take some time to determine how this case will be resolved. Attorney General Coffman said that Attorney General's from several states sometimes band together to preserve their rights under the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, as is the case regarding "Fracking." Many states are saying that the states have the right to regulate fracking and that the federal government should back off. There is also the case of "Waters of the United States" (WOTUS), as the several states are contesting the rights of the federal government to regulate "non navigable" bodies of water.

Ms. Coffman spoke briefly on the current status of marijuana in Colorado and how her obligation to uphold the laws of the State must take precedence over her personal views on the subject. When asked about accounting for the value of marijuana, she stated that, because marijuana is illegal under federal law, most growers and retail outlets cannot put their money in federally regulated banks and it is, therefore, extremely difficult to get an accurate accounting.

She also explained that because it is cheaper to grow marijuana in Colorado, many of the Mexican cartels, which previously supplied marijuana, are actually trading heroin for marijuana, thus compounding the issue. (273 tons of heroin were recently confiscated in "Operation Chump Change"). Nebraska and Oklahoma have recently joined in a suit alleging that Colorado's legalization of marijuana is impinging upon their rights and requesting that the federal government step in. She explained that there are still many questions yet to be resolved.

An interesting and informative presentation regarding this State office. Thank you!

For more information on the Colorado Attorney General's Office and Department of Law go to:

<http://www.coloradoattorneygeneral.gov/>.

Weekly Greeters	
10/30/15	John Bamford & Paul Stratton
11/6/15	Noel Hasselgren & Pat Bush
11/13/15	Don Iley & Steve Kady
11/20/15	Frank Middleton & Robert Wardlaw
<b>Help, Help, Help — we need Friday morning greeters, see Jon Wachter, 303-204-5645 or <a href="mailto:jon_wachter@msn.com">jon_wachter@msn.com</a></b>	

October Super Citizen Presenters		
Oct 29 @ 1:00	McMeen	?
November Super Citizen Presenters		
Nov 4 @ 8:00	Highline	?
Nov 12 @ 1:00	Lowry	Michael Chavez
Nov 13 @ 8:15	Holm	?
<b>Be a Super Citizen Presenter See Rob Gardner, 720-263-6203 <a href="mailto:gardnerrb@gmail.com">gardnerrb@gmail.com</a></b>		

**Optimist Club of Monaco South 2015-2016 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Year — Chartered in 1976**

Oct 30	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Boys & Girls Club
Nov 6	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Ross Parrent, Colorado First Lego League
Nov 13	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - TBA
Nov 18	Thur	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's Home, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
Nov 20	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Joe Marci, <b>Tree Lot Orientation</b>



**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 Stowbridge	1993-94	Jon Wachter	2013-14
Mark Metevia	1994-95	John Oss	2014-15
Bob Safe	1995-96		

**2015 - 2016 Officers**

President	Don Iley	303-840-7706
Vice President	Michael Chavez	303-960-5304
Vice President	Randy Marcove	303-840-7706
Secretary	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

**Board of Directors**

Barry Barker	813-545-4533
Pat Bush	720-254-3741
Jim Easton	720-987-7684
Tom Glazier	303-522-5214
Cap Hermann	303-587-5575
Allen Malask	303-726-3700
Bill Morgan	303-868-4384
Allen Pierce	303-883-8506
John Oss (Past Pres.)	720-210-8056

**Newsletter Committee**

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Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	<a href="mailto:rlawardlaw@gmail.com">rlawardlaw@gmail.com</a>	Craig Eley	720-771-0866	<a href="mailto:craigceley@gmail.com">craigceley@gmail.com</a>

**NEWSLETTER EDITORS:** Oct **George Buzick**, Nov **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.