



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

January 29, 2016 – Vol. 40, Issue 18



Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 39 Years
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012
www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton



Good Morning Optimists

Strong wind and friendly faces met the men of MSOC on Friday, January 29, 2016. Our greeters was **Ed Collins**, and then **Allen Malask** came in late to join him. Ed Collins was also noticed flying solo as a roaming greeter and was going table-to-table with a smile when your editor arrived. **Curt Boell** stepped up and welcomed me - thanks to all!

For those who can remember...

on this day in 1936 the US Baseball Hall of Fame elects its first members in Cooperstown, New York: Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Honus Wagner, Christy Mathewson, and Walter Johnson.

The Hall of Fame actually had its beginnings in 1935, when plans were made to build a museum devoted to baseball and its 100-year history. A private organization based in Cooperstown called the Clark Foundation thought that establishing the Baseball Hall of Fame in their city would help to reinvigorate the area's depression-ravaged economy by attracting tourists. To help sell the idea, the foundation advanced the idea that US Civil War hero Abner Doubleday invented baseball in Cooperstown. The story proved to be phony, but baseball officials, eager to capitalize on the marketing and publicity potential of a museum to honor the game's greats, gave their support to the project anyway.

Invocation & Pledge

Dr. **Rob Gardner** delivered an invocation focusing on our opportunities to serve as mentor to youth. He then started off our *Pledge of Allegiance*.



Announcements

Wives & Friends to Breakfast: **Craig Eley** was first in line to once again announced that Wives and Friends to breakfast will be Friday, February 12th at the Citron Bistro—see the box above. Forty have signed up so far! Remember, if you show up at the American Legion you will be lonely and hungry.

Wives & Friends to Breakfast
Friday, February 12

Annual Wives & Friends to Breakfast, Friday, February 12. Citron Bistro, 3535 S. Yosemite St. Doors open at 6:30 a.m., buffet begins at 6:45. You don't need to bring a wife or a friend, singles are welcome! The tab is \$16 each. Bring a check payable to the Club to a Friday meeting and give it to Greg Young. Or, bring a credit card to a Friday meeting and see Greg Young. You can also mail a check to Craig Eley at 3800 S. Peach Way, Denver 80237 in time for it to arrive by February 8th.

Pay online by clicking here [https://squareup.com/market/Optimist Club of Monaco South](https://squareup.com/market/Optimist%20Club%20of%20Monaco%20South). Go to "Event Payments" and click on "Valentine's Breakfast."

If you have special dietary needs, email them to Craig Eley at craigceley@gmail.com.

FRACSOC: That is Front Range American Cancer Society Optimist Club. **Phil Perington** announced that FRACSOC has received a Distinguished Benefactor Club designation, which means they have raised \$5,000 for Optimist International. MSOC sponsored this club so we should be very proud.

Phil went on to announced that FRACSOC is having their 4th annual **Chili Cookoff** at the VFW on 2680 West Hampden off of Federal on Sunday, February 24th from Noon - 3 p.m. Enter your best chili—prizes for best green, red, and mystery chili. It is \$10 to attend, so come on down! See the Chili Cookoff flyer linked to the GUMS distribution email.



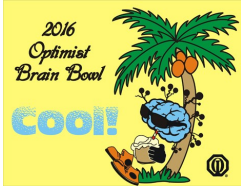
Special Olympics Polar Plunge: **Mike McMahon** said his plunge is 3 weeks away. Right now, Mike is #1 fundraiser in the state. He is very appreciative for all of the pledges he has received from the club, and asked that you contribute via checks or cash to him, or by going on line. Mike did express surprise, however, that no one has signed take the plunge with him. There is still time to jump in! See Mike for details.

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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

Brain Bowl: Karl Geil announced that by the time you read this, there will be two Brain Bowls down!



There are two more tournaments to go: South Regional on February 6 at Horizon Middle School in Colorado Springs, and the Championship tournament on February 20 at Hamilton Middle School.

Karl also shared the following experience regarding our club's impact:

Sometimes I think we wonder, or at least I wonder, whether what we do really makes a difference to anyone. I was reminded recently that it does. Back around Christmas time I was buying some office supplies in a local Office Depot, when I heard someone behind me say: "Excuse me, Mr. Geil?" When I turned around, a young, African-American man held out his hand to me and said: "I don't know if you remember me. My name is Enoch Arthur-Asmah." I certainly did remember him.

Back in the early part of this century I was our Club's Oratorical Contest Chair. One year we were in the middle of conducting our Club's Oratorical Contest when a 6th grader by the name of Enoch Arthur-Asmah entered the room. I did not know in advance that he was coming. He had all the required materials with him, so I let him compete. He was exciting, dynamic and personable. Unfortunately, his speech was so short, that the penalty points assessed put him in last place. I spoke with him after the contest, explained the rules to him, told him I thought had had written and delivered a good speech, but that he needed to familiarize himself with the contest rules and prepare with those rules in mind, and I encouraged him to come back next year.

The following year, and the two years after that, he won both our Club and our Zone Oratorical Contests. In high school he went on to become an award-winning member of George Washington High's speech and debate team. When he recognized me in the Office Depot, he wanted to thank me for the encouragement I gave him all those years ago, and to tell me that he had recently graduated from Yale University and was waiting to hear on his applications to MBA programs.

So, just in case you were wondering, what we do as Optimists does make a difference to people, and the people to whom we make a difference remember us.

2016 Eagle Scout Recognition: Donlie Smith thanked all those great Optimist that help with this project each year: **Bob Avery, Kent Gloor, Greg Hurd, Jack Kleinhessel, Frank Middleton, Tom Overton,** and **Phil Perington.** This is a dedicated group!

The awards will be made at the annual Eagle Scout Banquet, February 19th. This will be the 17th year of these awards made by Monaco South Optimist Club. Over 500 people will be at the banquet. **Phil Perington** will display our Banner on the podium and Prez **Michael Chavez** makes the presentations.

The Council Award recipient this year is Anurag Golla. Anurag landscaped an area of his Stargate

ATTENTION PLEASE

Due to a large influx of new members the name badge box is being updated. Check the Chart on the Lid of the Box for the New Location of Your Badge. If your badge is not there, then either you have kept it in your possession, or it is lost. If it is lost, please contact **Jon Wachter**, at jon_wachter@msn.com and he will make you a new badge. As new members are added, their badges will be placed at the end of Box 2 until the boxes are once again updated.



Charter School with 44 tons of rock, built an outdoor all metal ping pong table, and conducted a ping pong tournament that raised \$1,300 to pay for the project. He personally spent 155 hours in planning and executing the project which logged 933 hours. Anurag is from Gateway District. Needless to say, he is also an "Outstanding" student and citizen.

Membership Roster Update: Tom Mauro let us know that the new version of the member directory is coming up in April. Tom is looking for a connection for copier services and a whole or partial donation to reproduce the roster. Let Tom or **Craig Eley** know if you have any leads.

CO-WY Junior Golf: Joe Marci said that there are a number of events underway to support the Colorado-Wyoming Junior Golf program. More details forthcoming. He also shared that the Broncos win over the Patriots resulted in three members winning a square. They were **Paul Stratton, Ron Cisco, and Joe Marci.** New opportunities exist for the Super Bowl brackets. Contact Joe if you'd like to participate. The cost is \$2 per square.

After the Broncos/Patriots Game: Tom Brady wanted to know ...



Denver Golf Expo: Joe Marci also said on February 19, 20 and 21st, the Denver Golf Expo at the Merchandise Mart will take place. We have a booth to promote the Optimist Jr. Golf program and need volunteers to work each day. Let Joe know if you would like to help out.

Rockies Baseball: On Sunday, June 12th, the Rockies will take on the Padres, and **Joe Marci** has 200 tickets held for Optimists. Cost for seats on the first level is \$15 for the afternoon game. Let Joe know if you would to attend.

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From the Prez

Prez **Michael Chavez** let us know that Ken Duffy joined us for a 3rd visit. Today, he brought along a completed application! *Welcome aboard, Ken!*

Prez Michael also gave a special welcome to a few men we have not seen in a while: **John Swick, Wyatt McCallie, Rob Gardner, Mike Prete, and JR Gieck.**

Additionally, he mentioned to "Mark your calendars!" Our speaker on Friday, March 4th will be Wayne Williams, the 38th Secretary of State for Colorado. Thanks to **Frank Middleton** for extending the invitation. This should be a good one, so do not miss this meeting.

Drawing

We had a drawing! The 10 of Diamonds was the card, with \$60 in the pot.

Cups were collected by **Steve Kady, Karl Geil, John Oss**, our speaker John Barry, **Ed Collins** and **Russ Paul**. Dr. **Rob Gardner** and **Russ Paul**, a 2 time winner went for the big bucks, to no avail.

A Nametag draw went to **Wyatt McCallie** who was wearing his, but the 10 of Diamonds eluded him also.

Closing Creed

Ron Cisco led us by starting off the Optimist Creed: "*Promise Yourself....*"



John Barry

President & Chief Executive Officer, Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Denver

Pat Bush introduced our speaker, John Barry, the CEO of the Boys and Girls Club of Metro Denver. John had previously served as the superintendent of the Aurora Public Schools for seven years, and prior to that spent 30 years in the USAF, retiring as a two-star major general. He brought with him a thank you gift for the club's efforts with the Thanksgiving Dinner and the Toy Drive benefiting the Boys and Girls Club.



John Barry, left, presents Michael Chavez a Thank You plaque for MSOC support. Photo Don StJohn

gram sites, including: 15 Clubs, 9 free-standing and 6 school based sites; plus 1 summer camp in the mountains near Ward, CO; and 3 PACE Programs in Denver middle schools operating during the day.

The Clubs recognize the need to support the whole child for success in school and in life. The approach and extent of services allows them to focus on each child's unique needs.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America had its beginnings in 1860 with three women in Hartford, Connecticut: Mary Goodwin, Alice Goodwin, and Elizabeth Hammersley. They believed that boys who roamed the streets should have a positive alternative and decided to organize the first Club. A cause was born. In 1961, Boys Clubs of Denver was started at the Lincoln Park site by Bill Cope.

Today, Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Denver has 16 pro-

The scope ranges from "out-of-school-time" programs during the after school hours and throughout the summer to specialized programs like behavioral intervention and extended learning opportunities in addition to a summer camp.

John spoke about the club's ability to help kids realize that they have choices, and to expand their time frames in order to see beyond the near term and to imagine their future in college and beyond.

February Super Citizen Presenters

Feb 12 @ 8:15	Holm	Don Thomson
Feb 17 @ 8:00	Highline	?
Feb 17 @ 2:30	MPB	?
Feb 18 @ 2:15	Univ. Park	?
Feb 24 @ 1:00	Samuels	?
Be a Super Citizen Presenter See Rob Gardner, 720-263-6203 gardnerrb@gmail.com		

Weekly Greeters

2/5/16	John Oss & ?
2/12/16	Robert Wardlaw & Ricardo Ortiz
2/19/16	Bob Avery & ?
2/26/16	John Stamford & Jim Vanderkamp
Help, Help, Help — we need Friday morning greeters, see Jon Wachter, 303-204-5645 or jon_wachter@msn.com	

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2015-2016 40th Birthday Year — Chartered in 1976

Feb 5	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Celeste Archer, Colorado Student Leadership Institute
Feb 6	Sat	7:00 am	Brain Bowl, South Regional, Horizon High School, 1750 Pinos Drive, Colorado Springs
Feb 12	Fri	7:00 am	Valentine's Day Wives' to Breakfast: Citron Bistro, 3535 S. Yosemite St. ♥
Feb 17	Wed	4:00 pm	Monaco South TriStar Basketball: Cope Boys and Girls Club, 808 Inca St.
Feb 18	Thu	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way
Feb 19	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Dianne Tramutola-Lawson, Colorado-CURE
Feb 20	Sat	7:00 am	Brain Bowl Championship, Hamilton Middle School, 8600 E. Dartmouth Ave.
Feb 26	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Feb 27	Sat	8:00 am	CO-WY 2nd Qtr District Conference, Denver Bookbinding Event Ctr, 1401 W. 47 th Avenue



**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		

2015 - 2016 Officers

President	Michael Chavez	303-960-5304
Vice President	Chris Dunphy	720-297-3111
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

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: Jan **Paul Stratton**, Feb **Phil Perington**, Mar **George Buzick**, Apr **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.