



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

November 4, 2016 – Vol. 41, Issue 5



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

Editor for this Issue—George Buzick



### Good Morning Optimist

It is Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup> and still no snow for the Denver area. Cubs win the World Series and the Colorado Buffs win against UCLA Bruins 20 to 10!

Our greeters today are **Russ Paul** and **Al Gapuzan**, standing in for **Mark Metevia**, both of whom are among the more active members of our club.



Russ Paul  
Photo Noel Hasselgren

### First Bell, Invocation & Pelage

President **Craig Eley** banged the gavel at precisely 7:00 a.m. and calls on **Paul Gibson** to read the invocation and lead the pledge.

### Guest

Craig then asks if there are any guests at today's meeting. **Steve Kady** announced that his guest **Franklin Crosby** is back for a second visit. Editor, "Methinks this portends a brand-new member."

**Bob Avery** introduced **Matt Gibson**, who is a teacher at Lowry Elementary and a great supporter of the Super Citizen program at Lowry.

**Craig Eley** introduced his neighbor **Bill Blunden** who says that he recently retired from his job as a mechanical engineer and is looking for things to do.

And last, but certainly not least, **Mark Defee**, who was invited to attend by **John Young**, shows up, but John does not. Matt was well taken care of by other members. (Editor: Congratulations to those of you who have invited guests to join us. New members are the lifeblood of our civic organizations).

### Happy Birthday to November Members

In the true tradition of "The Optimist Club of Monaco South," a rousing rendition of *Happy Birthday* helps recognized those with birthdays in November. They are: **Mark Andringa**, **Michael Chavez**, **Jack Kitchell**, **Mike McMahon**, **Tom Overton**, **Jack Rife**, **Don Roth**, **Steve Wera**, and **Brian Williams**.

### From the Prez

**Prez Craig**, shared that due to Thanksgiving, the OCMS Board Meeting will be a week earlier, on Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. at **Randy Marcove's**, 4103 South Rosemary Way.

### Announcements

**Tamarac Optimist Visitation:** The date previously announced for the Tamarac Optimist Visitation has been changed to Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, rather than November 17<sup>th</sup>, as was previously announced. Plan to attend if you would like to see what other clubs in the district are doing — a visitation to their club meeting is an excellent way to find out. They meet also meet at Calvary Baptist Church, 6500 E Girard Ave., NE corner Hampden and Monaco at 7 a.m.

**Looking for Santa's:** If you act now, you can snag the best job at the Tree Lot! Yes, Santa Claus! A limited number of 2-hour shifts are available, and you can get a couple or three by [CLINKING HERE](#). Or, you can wait until the next meeting for **MSOC Santa Wrangler Craig Eley** to pass a sign-up sheet around (but the choice shifts may be gone by then). In the alternative, Craig can sign you up if you contact him at [craigceley@gmail.com](mailto:craigceley@gmail.com).

*Why is being Santa the best job?* Well, you make a lot of kids, adults and dogs happy! Also, you do not have to schlep trees, plus you get to sit on a big chair for your entire two-hour shift. Did we mention in the nice, warm Santa Haus? And all the candy canes you can eat? And look at the guy in the photo—you can even sleep while you work!



The Club provides the suit, beard, wig, gloves, hat and boots (even a belly, on the off chance you need one). The shifts are only on Saturdays and Sundays, beginning at 10 a.m. and ending at 6:00. *Ho, ho ho!*

Continued on the 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

**TJ Art & Craft Fest:** Craig also mentioned the Thomas Jefferson High School Art and Craft Fest will be coming up on December 10<sup>th</sup>. Work consists of assisting in parking cars and helping artisans carry their crafts into the gym. We start at about 6:30 a.m. and are normally finished by 9:00. Coffee and donuts will be available.

**Tom Glazier** also asked for a few volunteers to help him set up his book sales at the Art Fest from about 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.

**Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner:** **Michael Chavez** announced this year's Thanksgiving dinner for the Boys and Girls Club and Girls Inc. will be held on Thursday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is a major undertaking as we serve between 800-1000 kids and parents. Set aside this date, from about 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. More details will follow.



**Entertainment Books:** **Joe Marci** still has some Entertainment books for sale in support of the Sullivan Scholarship fund. Last year we were able to give 6 one thousand dollar scholarships to students from Thomas Jefferson High School. Books are \$35, see Joe.

**Update on Les Larson:** **Ed Collins** reported that **Les Larson**, who is suffering from sciatica is looking forward to coming back to meetings and his condition is improving.



**Club Dues:** **Ron Gustas**, subbing for **Greg Young**, asked members to pay dues as soon as possible. Dues for 2016-17 were due on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Southmoor Elementary Project:** **Randy Marcove** reports that Southmoor Elementary is attempting to upgrade their walking track. Randy needs 15 members to participate. Contact Randy for more information.

**Thanksgiving Basket Deliveries:** **Jim Easton** and **Allen Pierce** are heading up the Thanksgiving Basket deliveries again this year. Delivery date will be Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. Baskets will be available for delivery starting at 8:00 a.m. Recipients generally come from our Super Citizen schools, so you will not have to drive far for making these deliveries.

**Suits for Soldiers:** **Chris Dunphy** reminded us once again that **Farmers Insurance** needs gently used suits, sports coats, and other business attire to provide returning veterans with suitable clothing for job interviews. Bring them to the meeting or drop them by his office at 7395 E. Orchard Rd #400.

**Know Brainer Planning:** **Pat Bush** announced the **Know Brainer** — a sort of mini version of the well-known Brain Bowl — is looking for a few good men to serve on the planning committee for this event. If you are interested check with Pat.

## Weekly Drawing

First number drawn belonged to your editor, who took a cup. Perennial winner **Terry Shroyer** also took a cup. Short story — nobody drew the right card even

though **Allen Yockey** had two chances. Other winners were **Mike Miller**, **Tom Overton**, **Al Gapuzan** and our guest **Mark Defee**.

## Unwanted Wisdom from the Editor

In the heyday of sailing ships, all war ships and many freighters carried iron cannons. Those cannons fired round iron cannon balls. It was necessary to keep a good supply near the cannon. However, how to prevent them from rolling about the deck? The best storage method devised was a square-based pyramid with one ball on top, resting on four, which rested on nine, which rested on sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. There was only one problem, how to prevent the bot-



tom layer from sliding or rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate called a "Monkey" with 16 round indentations. However, if this plate were made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make "Brass Monkeys." Few landlubbers realize that brass conducts much more and much faster than iron when chilled. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannonballs would come right off the monkey. Thus, it was quite literally, "Cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey."

*"All this time, you thought that was an improper expression, didn't you."*

## Pictures from the Photographer

Photographer **Noel Hasselgren** captures some before meeting moments.



Paul Gibson, right says, "Quick, help me Ron Gustas, I have to give this mornings invocation."



On left, story tellers Barry Barker and Harry Fegley share some thoughts. While on the right, Ron Cisco tells guest Bill Blunden why it is the right time to be a Monaco South Optimist member.

## Jason Regier

Paralympian, Wheelchair Rugby

Our speaker today was Jason Regier. Jason is a native of Denver and graduated from George Washington High School. Jason was an excellent soccer player and attended college at Oregon State University.

In September of 1996, while driving back to Oregon for school, Jason flipped his jeep and sustained a crushed C6 vertebrae, leaving him paralyzed from the neck down. Jason was sent to Craig Hospital in Denver and through a lot of hard work and excellent therapy was able to overcome some of his paralysis and currently has 10 percent function in his arms and hands, and is confined to a wheel chair.

It was at Craig that Jason first encountered the sport of wheel chair rugby. Through constant pushing (literally, in his wheel chair) Jason was able to make the wheel chair rugby team for the Paralympics in Beijing, where the U.S. team won the gold medal, and has participated in several other Paralympics, the most recent by those in Rio De Janeiro,



Jason Regier with Fluffy  
Photo Noel Hasselgren

where the U.S. lost by one point. Jason was the captain of the team in Rio and had hopes of retiring with a last gold medal.

Jason currently lives in Denver with his wife Angela, who is on the staff a Craig Hospital and his son, Beckett, who 10 months old. Oh, and don't forget Fluffy, his companion dog, who helps propel Jason's wheel chair and is his constant companion and friend.

Jason also has also has a Monaco South connection. Jason was living with his parents in southeast Denver while rehabilitating at Craig. His parents' home needed modification to accommodate wheel chair access. Members of

Monaco South built a wheel chair ramp for the family some twenty-years ago. For more information on Jason, check out this Denver Post article of September 6, 2016 @ <http://www.denverpost.com/2016/09/06/jason-regier-wheelchair-rugby>.

## U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Data



Sport: Wheelchair Rugby  
Classification: 0.5  
Height: 5-10, Weight: 142  
DOB: 2/8/1975  
Birthplace: Denver, Colo.  
Hometown: Centennial, Colo.  
High School: George Washington High School (Denver, Colo.) '93  
College: Oregon State University, '97, Philosophy; University of Colorado, Denver

'04, Business Administration

Paralympic Experience

- Three-time Paralympian (2008, 2012, 2016)
- London 2012 Olympic Games, bronze

- Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, gold
- World Championship Experience
- Most recent: 2014 – bronze
- Years of participation: 2006, 2010, 2014
- Medals: 3 (2 golds, 1 bronze)
- Gold – 2006, 2010
- Bronze – 2014

Personal: Regier was paralyzed from the neck down in a car accident in 1996, Son of Clayton and Ariet Regier. Has one brother, Jeff. Hobbies include reading, handcycling and watching soccer. Says rugby has been the biggest influence in returning to an active lifestyle and recapturing life after his injury.

## Editors Historical Insights

In the heyday of sailing ships, all war ships and many freighters carried iron cannons. Those cannons fired round iron cannon balls. It was necessary to keep a good supply near the cannon. However, how to prevent them from rolling about the deck? The best storage method devised was a square-based pyramid with one ball on top, resting on four resting on nine, which rested on sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. There was only one problem, how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding or rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate called a 'Monkey' with 16 round indentations. However, if this plate were made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make 'Brass Monkeys.' Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts much more and much faster than iron when chilled.. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannonballs would come right off the monkey; Thus, it was quite literally, 'Cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey.' (All this time, you thought that was an improper expression, didn't you.)

### Weekly Greeters

11/11/16	John Oss & Dick Zolman
11/18/16	John Swick & Ken Duffy, a new member
11/25/16	Pat Bush & Ralph Petersen

### November Super Citizen Presenters

Nov 10 @ 12:30	Lowry	Paul Stratton
Nov 10 @ 2:15	U Park	Pat Bush
Nov 16 @ 2:30	MPB	Paul Gibson
Nov 17 @ 1:00	McMeen	Mike White
Nov 18 @ 3:00	Bradley	Jon Wachter

### Optimist Club of Monaco South 2016-2017 40<sup>th</sup> Year — Chartered in 1976

Nov 11 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA  
Nov 16 Wed 6:30 pm Meeting, Legion Hall: Board Meeting, Randy Marcove's, 4103 S. Rosemary Way  
Nov 18 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: Joe Marci, Getting Ready for the Tree Lot  
Nov 25 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall: Brad Montgomery, Magician and Comedian  
**Nov 25 Fri 8:30 am TREE LOT SETUP — all hands are needed**

**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	Michael Chavez	2015-16

**2015 - 2016 Officers**

President	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Vice President	Chris Dunphy	720-297-3111
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	<a href="mailto:rfinkelmeier@comcast.net">rfinkelmeier@comcast.net</a>	Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	<a href="mailto:r.pedersen2658@comcast.net">r.pedersen2658@comcast.net</a>
Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	<a href="mailto:jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net">jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net</a>	Phil Perington	303-832-4578	<a href="mailto:perington@msn.com">perington@msn.com</a>
Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	<a href="mailto:rz6267@gmail.com">rz6267@gmail.com</a>	Paul Stratton	303-366-6375	<a href="mailto:pcstratton@comcast.net">pcstratton@comcast.net</a>
George Buzick	303-803-2268	<a href="mailto:gtbuzick@comcast.net">gtbuzick@comcast.net</a>	Pat Bush	720-254-3741	<a href="mailto:pbush@bushreese.com">pbush@bushreese.com</a>
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:** Nov **George Buzick**, Dec **Phil Perington**, Jan **Paul Stratton**

**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.