



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

March 18, 2016 – Vol. 40, Issue 25



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—George Buzick



Good Morning Optimists A Spring Weekend Greeting

In spite of the slick streets, snowy weather and darkness, a good turnout of robust MSOC members were greeted by **John Scarborough** and **Matt Spampinato**, two of our newer members and principles of the Silicon STEM Academy. You can become familiar with the Academy @ <http://siliconstemacademy.com/>.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance



The meeting started off with the usual invocation and pledge to the flag, led by Colorado/Wyoming District Governor **Curt Merrill**.

St. Patrick's Day Greeting

With the luck of the Irish, **Craig Eley** introduced the "Silverado Chorus" and stated that he was "given to believe that they had actually rehearsed this morning's program." **Cy Regan** gave his usual outstanding solo rendition of the traditional Irish song, "Danny Boy." **John Young** performed solo, singing "Mother McCree" another old Irish song. The two were accompanied by the John's wife, **Claire Young**, on the piano and backed up by a bevy of hummers (they didn't know the words and Cy forgot the song sheets), including (as pictured, L-R) **Tom Hoch**, **Don St. John**, **Jim VanderKamp**, **John Oss**, **John Young**, **Gary Strowbridge**, **Claire Young**, and **Cy Regan** at center stage.



Photo Craig Eley

Guests

Guests today included **Ian Dix**, introduced by **John Scarborough**. Ian is with CenturyLink (no, he cannot fix your cable problems), has a wife who runs "Ms. Lee's Music Time," and two daughters, one of whom (Rachael) is a bomb dog trainer for the Israeli Army, and Bridgette, who is an accomplished pianist. Hope to see Ian back soon—he fits in well with this group!

Gary Strowbridge introduced his brother-in-law, **Dick Buban**, who is visiting from back east and loves to get up early, especially when it's snowing and dark.

A pseudo guest, in the guise of **Marta Sipeki** of *The Interpro Group*, that does the marketing for this weekends *Denver Auto Show*, see denverautoshow.com/. Marta was here specifically to hand out free tickets to the show. It turns out she and her partner, James Czupor are good friends of **Steve Kady**, with whom she used to work with when he was at Channel 7. She explained that the show has something for everyone, including a \$2.5 million car, and a Jeep Cherokee course on which you can ride on a simulated jeep trail. The show is the third oldest in the country, dating to 1902, even before Henry Ford invented the Model A.



From the Prez

President Michael talked about the most recent board meeting and said that the board has approved some scholarship money for the Silicon STEM Academy, where **John Scarborough** and **Matt Spampinato**, two of our new members, are prime movers. Silicon STEM Academy is a much needed new concept in after-school courses to better meet the needs of tech-interested kids where their schools often fall short. Their mission is to provide real-world technology skills in a fun, hands-on, and collaborative workspace for students interested in technology. Tech programs and STEM courses include computer programming, coding, robotics, Arduino electronics and circuitry, and digital media.

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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*****

From the Prez, continued

While geared mostly toward middle and high school students, they also offer classes for adults, "girls only" courses, "father/son" workshops, and more. This looks like a perfect match for our club. Editor: *I'm sure we will be hearing a lot more from John and Matt in the near future.*

Save the date: Prez **Michael** also asked us to save the date of Saturday, September 24th, when we will be celebrating the 40th Anniversary of our Club's founding in 1976. This will be an afternoon affair, to be held at Maggiano's Little Italy, 7401 South Clinton, in DTC. More details will be forthcoming.

Installation

With the Prez's updates out of the way, Prez **Michael** called up **John Scarborough**, with his sponsor, **Matt Spampinato**, to be formally inducted into the Club.



From left: Matt Spampinato, John Scarborough, with President Michael Chavez conducting the induction.
Photo Don StJohn

Editor: Welcome John! We know you will bring a great deal of energy and look forward to working with you and the Silicon STEM Academy!

Announcements

Friday Morning Breakfast Service: **Greg Young** and **Craig Eley** reported that the Club has been informed that the caterer who provides breakfast will be retiring at the end of April. Since the number of breakfasts purchased has been decreasing lately, the Monaco South Board is considering whether it is worthwhile for the Club to continue providing a breakfast option at meetings. If you have an opinion on the subject, contact Club Treasurer Greg Young. Greg can be contacted at meetings, via email: gndyoung@comcast.net, or cell phone: 303-866-1110.

Club Election—Call for Officers: **Pat Bush** reminded us that elections for club officers will be held at the meeting on Friday, April 22nd. If you are interested in being a club officer, check with Pat to get your name on the ballot.



CO-WY Optimist Oratorical Contest: **Curt Merrill**, current Governor for CO-WY announced that the South Metro Chamber has provided \$750 to support the Districts Optimist Oratorical Contest, thanks to the persuasive talents of former governor, **Abigail Nicholas**, wife of **Kent Gloor**.

JDRF Gala Wine Cork Pull: On behalf of **Dick Cohen**, **Ron Gustas** once again reminded us not to forget to contribute wine (worth at least \$25) to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund Gala which will be held Saturday, April 16th. Also Dick Cohen and Ron

Gustas could use some help on Friday, April 15th, around 11 a.m. in loading and unloading materials to be used at the gala. Contact Dick at 513-600-9961, or Ron at 303-770-9640.

Support for CSU Student: **Tom Hoch** reports that **Kaylee Schaff**, a student at CSU, is raising money for a trip to Africa by collection shoes for recycling. The shoes are sent to third world countries where they are reconditioned by locals who start a business and sell the shoes locally. Bring your shoes and those of your family to next week's meeting and **Tom** and **Steve Kady** will get them to Kaylee.

History Day Contest: **Joe Marci** said he had a great time judging the local History Day contest last week. If you would like to judge at the State History Day contest this year, here is the information: Colorado State Contest Saturday, April 30, 2016, Location: University of Colorado Denver, on the Aurora campus in downtown Denver. To register to judge, please go to the state contest website by [Clicking Here](#).

OCMS Directory Update: Last chance to get an update in the upcoming club directory. See **Tom Mauro**. Also check with **Craig Eley** if you want a new picture. For those of you who may not be aware, the directory is used by many members when looking for services, so it pays to advertise. For a mere \$25 you can get a business card published for all to see.



A New Presidential Candidate: **Jack Kleinhessel** announced that he was throwing his hat in the ring for President of the United States, to which **Craig Eley** responded that, Jack has spent no money in campaigning and, yet, is only a few delegates behind Marco Rubio.

Smarter than Brain Bowl Chair: **Craig Eley** reminded us that several members who believe that they are smarter than the Brain Bowl Chair, namely **Karl Geil** will challenge him at next week's meeting. Members of this brain trust include **Jon Wachter**, **Scott Walker**, **Al Gapuzan** and **Ron Cisco**.

Colorado Correctional Industries (CCI) Visit: In the absence of **Bob Avery**, **Phil Perington** announced that the visit to the Colorado Correctional Industries is still on for Wednesday, April 20th. Editor: *Hope that is right, since last week it was tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 28th.* Bob will confirm; however, if interested, please provide Bob with your Driver's License Number for security check. You can reach Bob via email him at rlaii@msn.com or at 303-550-5433.

The Significance of March 23rd: During the course of all of these announcements, we were significantly reminded by **Tom Hoch** that he had a flight to catch on March 23. Editor: *I think there is a subliminal message in there somewhere. I'm just not sure where!*



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Weekly Drawing

Yes, we have a drawing – and a winner! **Matt Spampinato** became the big winner of \$130 by drawing the 10 of clubs. Congratulations to Matt! Editor: *The excitement was so great the names of the other opportunist was missed. However, you know who you all are—we hope!*

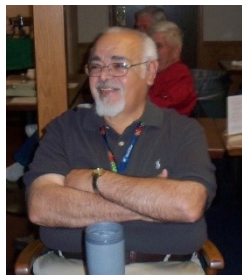


Some Other Friday Pics



Left, John Young performing his solo, and Claire providing the accompaniment.
Photo Craig Eley

Below the Cy Regan and the "Silverado Chorus"
Photo Don StJohn



Ron Cisco



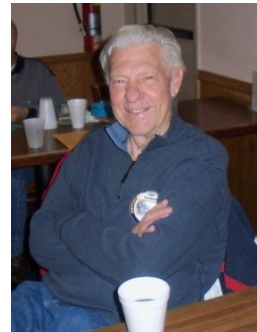
Mike McMahon



From top: Scott Walker, Phil Perington, Ron Gustas, Allen Yockey
In front: Greg Young & Noel Hasselgren



Jack Kleinheksel, Marta Sipeki & John Stoffel



Oscar Sorensen



Ricardo Ortiz



Al Gapuzan

March Super Citizen Presenters

March 24 @ 1:00	McMeen	Bob Avery
March 24 @ 5:30	Hamilton	Curt Merrill
March 25 @ 3:00	Bradley	Aaron Beery

Be a Super Citizen Presenter
See Rob Gardner, 720-263-6203
gardnerrb@gmail.com

Weekly Greeters

3/25/16	Dick Zolman & Ricardo Ortiz
4/1/16	Bob Trout & ?
4/8/16	Pat Bush & Terry Shroyer

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

Mar 23 Wed		Oratorical Contest, Prairie Middle School, 122600 E. Jewell Ave., Aurora
Mar 25 Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Craig Eley & Karl Geil, Are you smarter than the Brain Bowl Chair?
Apr 1 Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Apr 8 Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Elizabeth Smith, Anadarko Petroleum
Apr 15 Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Brittany Saunier & Mike McMahon, Special Olympics



**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: Apr **Robert Wardlaw**, May **Pat Bush**, Jun **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.