



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

January 8, 2010

Vol. 34, Issue 15

The Optimist Club of Monaco South

Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado

Serving Youth and the Community for 34 Years

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Brian Williams



GUMS Welcomes 2010

As mentioned last week welcome a new GUMS editor and member—**Brian Williams!**

Good Morning Optimists!

We rang in the New Year with a great meeting today January 8, 2010. Our greeter this week was **Dick Cohen.**

Invocation and Pledge

Your editor was asked to do the invocation this weeks invocation and to led us in the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Welcome Guests

We had several guests attend today. **Bryce Slaby** introduced Greg Erickson, the General Manager for Tuff Shed. **Kent Gloor** introduced both Bill and Reed. They were in town to celebrate the life of Dorothy Clark, Abigail Nichols mother. Abigail is the Colorado/Wyoming Lt. Governor Denver Southeast and wife of Kent Gloor. And **Gary Strowbridge** introduced Jim Tapp. Gary assisted Jim at the tree lot, who has purchased trees from us for about ten years, and invited him to join us. All the visitors are prospects to be new MSOC members.

Utterings from Prez Ron

The Optimist Tree Lot was a huge success this year! We logged over 2,300 hours this year. Thank you to all that participated. A special thank you goes out to **Joe Marci** and **Mike Miller!** We couldn't do it

without you guys! And of course those who posted the most hours worked on the Tree Lot. The top 10 were:

Russ Paul

Steve Kady

Les Larson

Paul Simon

Oscar Sorensen

Gary Strawbridge

Greg Young

Harry Fegley

Phil Perington & K9

friend Checker

Joe Marci added, we are thankful for the 92 MSOC members who helped make this year a successful fundraiser for our club. We also appreciate the wonderful support we received from the community as we sold 1,304 trees an increase of 114 over 2008.

We received a "Thank You" letter from Roundtable Fellowship for our \$500 donation to improve the kitchen training area at the Roundtable School.

Support Tamarac Optimist Club
with Nike and there

Recycle Your Tennies project



Donate your old tennis shoes! They will be recycled into a playground surface.

No shoes should:

- Contain metal
- Have cleats
- Be wet or muddy



Bring your old tennis shoes in on January 15th or 22nd and give to **Don St.John.** Learn more about this recycling process at: <http://www.nikereuseashoe.com/>.

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

Presentation: Bryce Slaby presented Greg Erickson from Tuff Shed a certificate for our appreciation for donating the Santa Shed for the Tree Lot.



Photo by Don StJohn

Opera Colorado: Bill

Litchfield is looking for a few good men to perform at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House. Please call Bill at 303-782-0465 for more information.

Tamarac Optimist, Recycle Your Tennies project: Char St. John talked about the sneaker recycle program. All donated shoes will be recycled, ground up, and used in all types of sports surfaces by Nike's Reuse-A-Shoe program. Bring your unwanted to shoes to the January 15th or January 22nd meeting. The more the better!

Ski Day: Howard Frye is in charge of the *Optimist Winter Park Ski Day*. We will be meeting at the Colorado Arlberg Club, 1930 Mary Jane Road, Winter Park, CO on January 20th for breakfast before hitting the slopes. If you are interested, **Jack Rife** offered to have people stay at his place on the evening of January 19th. More information to follow.

McMeen Science Fair: Don Thomson needs 5 to 8 judges for the McMeen Elementary Science Fair, January 21st from 9:00 am to noon. Please call Don at 303-757-4273 if you are interested. Spouses are welcome to participate as well.

Broken Ribs, but don't make me laugh: Bill Anderson is back from a ski injury. We are all happy to see you back! Bill will be sharing pictures at an upcoming meeting.

Tree Lot Santa's: A special thank you to all the Santa's that worked at the Tree Lot. These stalwart Santa's were **George Vassilaros, Howdy Fry, John Young, Ed Collins, Tom Hoch, Don Thomson, Todd Olson, Nick Newey, Gary Strowbridge, Kent Gloor, Russ Paul and Don Iley.** (See page 3)

Denver Police District 3 Annual Crime Summit;

The 4th Annual Crime Summit will be held on Saturday, February 6th from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. The meeting will be held at the District Three Police Station, 1625 South University Boulevard. In this all day summit you can learn more about Crime and Narcotics, Pattern Crimes, DNA, Gang activity, Nuisance Abatement, and Traffic Enforcement. Please RSVP with



Police Technician Cari Jimenez at 720-913-1300 to reserve your seat by February 1st.

Super Citizen Presenters for January

Day	School	Presenter
20 @ 2:30 pm	MPB	Ed Collins
22 @ 9:10 am	Holm	Ron Cisco
28 @ 1:20 & 2:05 pm	McMeen	Joe Marci
29 @ 3:00 pm	Bradley	Paul Bernard

2010 Census to Begin

Shared by Bill Walters

WARNING: 2010 Census Cautions from the Better Business Bureau—Be Cautious About Giving Info to Census Workers by Susan Johnson, BBB.

With the U.S. Census process beginning, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) advises people to be cooperative, but cautious, so as not to become a victim of fraud or identity theft. The first phase of the 2010 U.S. Census is under way as workers have begun verifying the addresses of households across the country. Eventually, more than 140,000 U.S. Census workers will count every person in the United States and will gather information about every person living at each address including name, age, gender, race, and other relevant data.

The big question is - how do you tell the difference between a U.S. Census worker and a con artist? BBB offers the following advice:

- If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door, they will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions. However, you should never invite anyone you don't know into your home.
- Census workers are currently only knocking on doors to verify address information.
- Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U.S. Census. **REMEMBER, NO MATTER WHAT THEY ASK, YOU REALLY ONLY NEED TO TELL THEM HOW MANY PEOPLE LIVE AT YOUR ADDRESS.** Be sure the answers you give are correct. That is very important for genealogy.
- While the Census Bureau might ask for basic financial information, such as a salary range, **YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER ANYTHING AT ALL ABOUT YOUR FINANCIAL SITUATION.**
- The Census Bureau will not ask for Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers, nor will employees solicit donations. Any one asking for that information is NOT with the Census Bureau.
- **AND REMEMBER, THE CENSUS BUREAU HAS DECIDED NOT TO WORK WITH ACORN ON GATHERING THIS INFORMATION.** No Acorn worker should approach you saying he/she is with the Census Bureau. Eventually, Census workers may contact you by telephone, mail, or in person at home. However, the Census Bureau will NOT contact you by Email, so be on the lookout for Email scams impersonating the Census. Never click on a link or open any attachments in an Email that are supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Brain Bowl

Karl Geil presented on the Brain Bowl. The Gateway Optimist Club started it in 1983. It is an academic competition for both private and public schools grades 6 through 8. There are 3 teams per grade and 3 tournaments. Application must be submitted by December 1st 2009. The team fee is \$35.00. Optimists, including MSOC members, are need to perform the following duties:



Photo by Don StJohn

- Readers
- Proctors
- Runners
- Time Keepers
- Score Keepers
- Data Entry

READER TRAINING: All Readers must attend a training session this year before serving as a Reader. Once again, there will be a “fast track” for veteran Readers. According to the teachers who serve as Brain Bowl coaches, our Readers have been much better prepared, and have provided a much better experience for the kids, ever since we have required Readers to attend training prior to “game day.” Thanks to all of you for helping us provide the best possible experience for the kids.

The Training Dates are:

- Saturday, January 16, Valmont Presbyterian Church, 3262 North 61st Street, Boulder, CO 80301 Boulder, 9-11+ a.m.
- Tuesday, January 19, Overland High School, 12400 East Jewell Ave., Aurora, CO 80012, 6:30 – 8:30+ p.m.
- Saturday, January 30, Overland High School, 12400 East Jewell Ave., Aurora, CO 80012, 9-11± a.m.

The upcoming Tournaments Dates are:

- Saturday, January 23, 2010, Monarch High

School – Louisville, CO

- Saturday, February 6, 2010, Overland High School – Aurora, CO
- Saturday, February 20, 2010, Harrison High School – Colorado Springs, CO

To learn more contact **Karl** or **Paul Simon** or visit www.optimistbrainbowl.org.

Super Market Sales

Cy Regan announced that King Soopers sale this week were \$1,425.00, while Safeway was at \$0. Remember, at each weekly meeting, gift cards usable at King Soopers and Safeway are available for sale to members. These are available in multiples of \$25.00, with no maximum. The member uses the card like a debit card for groceries and gasoline at dozens of stores associated with King Soopers or Safeway (see the list on the back of the card). The member gets full value for the card, but the club buys them for 95% of face value, thereby earning 5% of the face value as a fundraiser for Monaco South. King Soopers and Safeway have some of the best-discounted gasoline around, and everyone buys groceries each week, so it's a win-win proposition for the club and the members. Buy yours today!!

Tree Lot Santa's

As mentioned on page 2, all the Tree Lot Santa's were recognized by **President Ron** with a Thank You and a new MSOC hat. Here is a picture of **George Vassilaros** who while serving in his official Santa role recognized President Ron in front of one of his next door neighbors children. The child looked at Ron and asked, “Does Santa know you?” To witch he replied, “Why Yes!” This made our president feel like a million dollars!



Photo by Don StJohn

Monaco South Calendar

Jan 15	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Jan 16	Sat	9:00 am	Brain Bowl Training, Valmont Presbyterian Church, 3262 North 61 st Street, Boulder
Jan 19	Tue	6:30 pm	Brain Bowl Training, Overland High School, 12400 East Jewell Ave., Aurora
Jan 20	Wed	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
Jan 22	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Robin Finegan, Director of Consumer Services, Denver DA's Office
Jan 23	Sat	8:00 am	North Regional Brain Bowl, Monarch High School in Louisville, CO

Past Presidents of the Optimist Club of Monaco South

Bob Rhue	1976-77	Gary Strowbridge	1993-94
Jerry Whitlow	1977-78	Mark Metevia	1994-95
Bill Kosena	1978-79	Bob Safe	1995-96
Duane Wehrer	1979-80	Tom Overton	1996-97
Curt Jefferies	1980-81	Peter Dimond	1997-98
Frank Middleton	1981-82	Ralph Symalla	1998-99
John Young	1982-83	Cy Regan	1999-00
Pat Bush	1983-84	Stan Cohen	2000-01
Bob Hugo	1984-85	Don St. John	2001-02
Tom Mauro	1985-86	Jack Rife	2002-03
Curt Lorenzen	1986-87	Karl Geil	2003-04
Oscar Sorensen	1987-88	Bryce Slaby	2004-05
Lupe Salinas	1988-89	Donlie Smith	2005-06
Bob Avery	1989-90	Paul Bernard	2006-07
Bill Litchfield	1990-91	Greg Young	2007-08
Bill Walters	1991-92	Phil Perington	2008-09
Kent Gloor	1992-93		

2009 - 2010 Officers

President	Ron Cisco	303-794-0749
Vice President	Howard Fry	303-601-5088
Vice President	Frank Ross	303-713-1008
Secretary	Robert Wardlaw	303-759-0360
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

Board of Directors

George Buzick	303-803-2268
Michael Chavez	303-960-5304
Jim Easton	303-300-2431
Don Iley	303-840-7706
O.C. Larson	303-755-1213
Randy Marcove	303-667-3663
Gary Miller	303-751-0838
Terry Shroyer	303-757-7944
Kale Smith	720-207-4363
Phil Perington (Past Pres.)	303-832-4578

Newsletter Committee

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net
Marc Goodbody	303-202-1610	mlgoodbody@gmail.com	Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rzolman691@aol.com
Marlin Kent	303-779-0778		Phil Perington	303-832-4578	perington@msn.com
Jim Leuschner	720-851-7102	flyleusch@aol.com	George Buzick	303-803-2268	gtbuzick@comcast.net
Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	pedersen.ralph@q.com	Brian Williams	720-253-5731	bdw6688@yahoo.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Jan. **BRIAN WILLIAMS**, Feb: **O.C. LARSON**, Mar. **RALPH PEDERSON**, Apr. **PHIL PERINGTON**

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.

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID
AT DENVER, COLORADO AND

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