



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

January 30, 2009

Vol. 33, Issue 18

## The Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 Denver, Colorado

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

Editor for the month—Robert Wardlaw



### Good Morning Optimists!

#### Today's Greeters

**Woody Thibodeau, Lynn Jones, and Robert Wardlaw** (your GUMS editor) greeted members this morning. It is a beautiful morning in the Mile Hi City.

#### Invocation and Pledge

President **Phil Perington** called the meeting to order. **Al Gapuzan** delivers the invocation this morning wishing for help in forgetting the mistakes of the past and to press on to the greater achievements of the future. This ability will help us let go of those thoughts that cause us to worry over decisions that have turned out poorly. Help us to see that better days and decisions will improve our lives. Al then led us in the pledge of allegiance.

#### Guests

No Guests were announced this morning. We did learn that **Mike Chavez** has submitted an application and a check to become a new member. Welcome Mike!

#### President's Trivia

On this day in history, Liz Taylor divorces for the first time (another 7 come later). The first baseball hall of fame class inducted Babe Ruth and Ty Cobb. In 1933, the first episode of the Lone Ranger radio program was broadcast in Detroit. At one point during the President's remarks, many in attendance

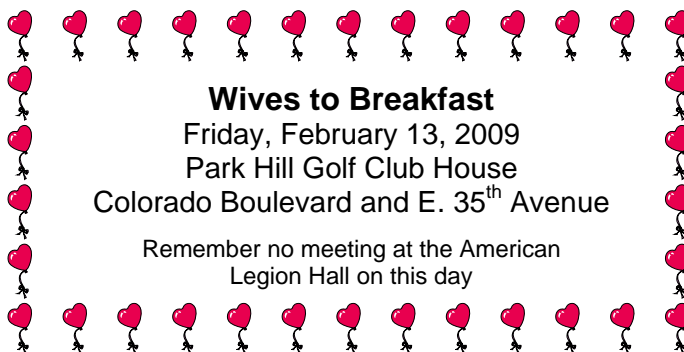
break out in song, "Oklahoma" never sounded better. And finally, "You can't trust dogs to watch your food."

#### Announcements

**Jack Rife** started off member announcements by talking about the **Tri Star Basketball** competition coming February 17<sup>th</sup> at Cope Boys and Girls Club, 808 Inca Street. Jack expects about 100 kids on this first day. Volunteers are needed to help officiate. About 25 local clubs will put on a skills competition, with winners advancing to the next round February 28<sup>th</sup> for regional competitions. The winners there will attend the Nuggets game on March 14<sup>th</sup>, with winners announced before the game. Jack will also be selling tickets to that game for \$20, a great price for a hot team right now.



Announcements continued on next page



#### Wives to Breakfast

Friday, February 13, 2009

Park Hill Golf Club House

Colorado Boulevard and E. 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Remember no meeting at the American Legion Hall on this day

Meeting Place  
American Legion Hall Post 1  
5400 East Yale Avenue (Yale & I-25), Denver, Colorado  
Every Friday Morning, 7:00 – 8:00 am

## Announcements Cont.

Many thanks to the MSOC members who participated in the North Region Brain Bowl tournament on January 24<sup>th</sup>: **Jack Kitchell, Russ Paul, Craig Eley, Paul Simon, George Buzick, Greg Young, Howard Fry, Frank Ross, Mike Chavez, and Karl Geil.** The next round happens Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup> of February, so join the fun and call Karl with questions. This year, all teams that signed up for the event actually showed up. Karl reported a wonderful turnout for the first round.

**Don Thompson** announced the schedule for the Super Citizen Program at Bradley International today. He added that there are many volunteer opportunities for others and that wives who are interested are welcome to help and add their talents. See **Joe Marci** to be a presenter at one of the programs.



**Ron Cisco** needs 6 volunteers to help man the phones for the Children's Miracle Network, a fundraiser for Children's Hospital. If you can help out between 11:30 am and 2:00 pm, on February 11<sup>th</sup> please call Ron. He also announced that he may have two Bronco season tickets that he has owned since the team started, for sale starting next season.

**Greg Hurd** give some helpful hints for racking up valuable points with your better half. Start off the Valentine's weekend with Wives to Breakfast, at Park Hill, where for \$24 you can treat your love to a good breakfast and a great time. Also consider the train show, *Rails in the Rockies XII*, in Estes Park, February 14 & 15<sup>th</sup>, Valentine's weekend, and take the kids or grand kids, for giving your wife some quality quiet time.

If you plan to help out at the Golf Expo let **Joe Marci** know, so they can get a nametag made for you. Joe was also seen signing up members for the Super Bowl pool, the page looked full at last glance.

**Don St. John** asks that the person who borrowed the key to the warehouse a few months past, please return it.

**Bob Avery** recapped a great Ski Day at Winter Park, with several members partaking in the fun. A follow-up trip is hoping to take place February 18<sup>th</sup>, at Copper Mountain.



No winners were announced for the \$60 weekly pot, which grows for next week's meeting.

**Cy Regan** reported \$1,000 for Grocery Card sales this week. He's considering a "stimulus package" that won't make us any money but will make us feel better about ourselves. Wise words from Cy!

## Idle Thoughts of a Retiree's Wandering Mind

- I planted some bird seed. A bird came up. Now I don't know what to feed it.
- I had amnesia once—or twice.
- I went to San Francisco, I found someone's heart. Now what?
- Protons have mass? I didn't even know they were Catholic.
- All I ask is a chance to prove that money can't make me happy.
- If the world were a logical place, men would be the ones who ride side saddle.
- What is a "free" gift? Aren't all gifts free?
- Someone told me I was gullible and I believed them.
- Teach a child to be polite and courteous and, when he grows up, he'll never be able to merge his car onto the freeway.
- Experience is the thing you have left when everything else is gone.
- One nice thing about egotists: they don't talk about other people.
- My weight is perfect for my height—which varies.
- I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not sure.
- The high cost of living hasn't affected its popularity.
- How can there be "self-help groups"?
- If swimming is so good for your figure, how do you explain whales?
- Show me a man with both feet firmly on the ground, and I'll show you a man who can't get his pants off.
- Is it just me -- or do buffalo wings really taste like chicken.

**One of Life's Lesson:** Always check your child's homework before it gets to school!



A note sent the next school day with 1st grader...

*Sorry, Ms. James. That's NOT a dance pole onstage in a strip joint! I work at Home Depot and that's me selling a shovel. - Mrs. Smith*

## Speaker for Today

Our speaker today was Doug Smith, CEO of Rocky Mountain Communities (RMC). RMC's

mission is to develop, own, and manage affordable housing and provide support services to help individuals succeed in life. Doug noted how impressed he was with the programs MSOC has for kids.



He believes that the current economic conditions, as dire as they may be, will result in making us stronger as a country after this crisis is endured. The question is, how do to make these positive steps to move forward with these much needed programs.

RMC began in 1992; they target individuals and families who earn 30-80% of average income earned by Americans. These families and individuals face a variety of challenges, many working more than one job for the opportunity to live here. Many residents feel that once they have a secure, safe place to live, other things can be addressed in a less stressful manner.

Doug mentioned that RMC has approximately 1,000 units they currently are trying to match up with prospective candidates. The company operates units in Grand Junction, Denver, Westminster, and Ft. Morgan. They are constantly trying to meet the demand for these properties. In one complex its residents speak over 23 different dialects. In many cases the kids are responsible for translating for their parents. Many of these legal immigrants are astounded by the opportunities present in our country, and are eager to work for the rewards.

One non-profit agency RMC works with is the "I have a Dream" program, which works with kids to prepare them for college. In one program all 14 students eligible for college tuition assistance have stayed in the group. One resident from Senegal, completed his education and now has returned to help local kids with math and is a board member of RMC.

Doug mentioned that RMC has a lengthy waiting list, and demand is high. Some estimates list 60,000 units as the number to house the state's working class. In a successful year RMC might place 2,000 units with tenants, illustrating the number that is needed for everyone.

Current conditions present formidable challenges to all in our society. Those challenges are even more intense for those struggling to acquire adequate housing with limited means. By offering rental rates below market value, RMC provides deserving families the opportunities to live in attractive and affordable communities. More can be found on this non-profit at: <http://www.rockymountaincommunities.org/>. RMC is located at 225 East 16<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1060.

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After Doug's presentation, **President Phil** recognizes **Lynn Jones** for his help this morning after joining the club just a couple weeks ago. Also, it is great to see **Dan Hugo** in attendance.

***We leave the meeting on a positive note and ready to take on the challenge of the day!***

## Monaco South Calendar

Feb 6	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Jill Lysengen, <i>Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation</i>
Feb 6	Fri	10:30 am	Super Citizen, Slavens Elementary School - Joe Marci
Feb 7	Sat	7:00 am	Brain Bowl, Overland High School
Feb 11	Wed	1:15/2:00 pm	Super Citizen, McMeen Elementary School - Howard Fry
Feb 11	Wed	1:15/2:00 pm	Super Citizen, Samuels Elementary School - Gary Strowbridge
Feb 13	Fri	7:00 am	<b>Wives to Breakfast, Park Hill Golf Course Restaurant</b>
Feb 17	Tue	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
Feb 18	Wed	2:30 pm	Super Citizen, Most Precious Blood - Gary Miller
Feb 20	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Feb 20	Fri	9:00 am	Super Citizen, Holm Elementary School - Bill Litchfield
Feb 26	Thu	1:00/2:00 pm	Super Citizen, Lowry Elementary School - Greg Young
Feb 27	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Congresswoman Diana DeGette

**Past Presidents of the  
Optimist Club of Monaco South**

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

**2008 - 2009 Officers**

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Vice President	Al Gapuzan	303-770-0499
Vice President	Frank Ross	303-713-1008
Secretary	Rich Wagner	303-362-5328
Treasurer	Ron Gustas	303-770-9640

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Dick Cohen	303-320-1767
Jim Easton	303-300-2431
Howard Fry	303-300-4466
Les Larson	303-755-1213
O.C. Larson	303-797-7432
Mike Snipes	303-699-9161
Gary Miller	303-751-0838
Greg Young (Past Pres.)	303-759-3921

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**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.

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