



July 18, 2008  
Vol. 32, Issue 42



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

Optimists Bring Out the  
Best in Children



## The Optimist Club of Monaco South

Founded in 1976 Denver, Colorado

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

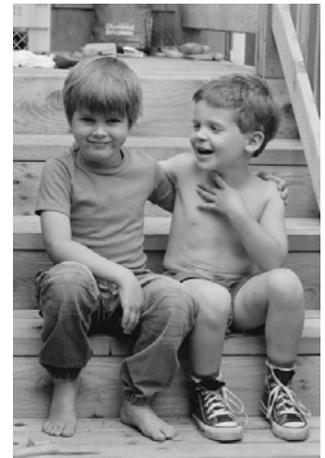
Editor for this Issue—Robert Wardlaw

### July Camaraderie Day: spirit of friendly good-fellowship

Greeters for today's meeting were **Eldon Strong** and **Jim Vander Kamp**.

President **Greg Young** called the meeting to order. **Cy Regan** gave the invocation asking for help to not act in anger and take time before reacting. Taking time to reflect will help us see the situation more clearly and make us better able to make wise decisions. Cy then led us in the pledge of allegiance.

**Freddie Pasternack** introduced his guests today. He brought Karl Stout and Paul Martin. Fred met Paul last week when Paul towed Fred's Porsche after he had developed mechanical problems on his way to Friday's Optimist meeting. Paul enjoys making wine in his spare time. **Jim Easton** introduced his son Ethan, who is six and was glad to be here (more on that later).



**Greg Young** quizzed members on a couple of items. "Which state has the most percentage of residents who walk to work?" The answer is Alaska. He also told us that it is impossible to lick one's own elbow. To which **John Young** imparted, "Why do we need to know that?" Good thoughts Greg!



Those enjoying birthdays during the month of July were serenaded to a stirring rendition of Happy Birthday.

**Meeting Place**  
**American Legion Hall Post 1**  
**5400 East Yale Avenue (Yale & I-25), Denver, Colorado**  
**Every Friday Morning, 7 - 8 a.m.**

## Member Announcements

**Bryce Slaby** had sad news about a funeral for a young lady he had come to know. She was killed in a motorcycle accident last weekend. Bryce reported that she had lived a full and loving life and it ended much too soon.

**Jim Vander Kamp** invited members to a picnic on August 2<sup>nd</sup> celebrating the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Roundup Fellowship*. It will be at Westland's Park, see Jim for details.

Two weeks until the fun with parking event at MUDD Volleyball led by **Cy Regan**. Members can meet at the American Legion Hall at 5:30am and drive to the location together. After parking, Cy will treat volunteers to breakfast and tales of wisdom.

**Freddie Pasternack** reports that **Ron Carlson** reminded him of Bronco training camp opening later this month. He looks forward to a very successful season for the squad. If only the team could match his enthusiasm!

**David Lazeroff** had two items to announce. The first was the University Hills Neighborhood Association Picnic happening on July 27<sup>th</sup>. He can fill you in on details. Also, he has some renovations planned for the residential care facility he operates called "Tomorrow's Flowers," which will be substantial. He asks for any help from members with experience in planning and implementing major renovations. Give David a call if you can offer any assistance.

**Howard Fry** reminded us of the upcoming Optimist picnic at Eisenhower Park on August 9<sup>th</sup>. Also on the bill is a baking contest, anyone interested is invited to bring along a home baked item for judging. Makes me hungry to think about it!

**Bob Avery** was able to locate the list for donors who signed up to support riders during the MS Bike tour last month. Please get your pledges in soon and get behind this worthwhile event. He also announced an application for a new member! Well-done Bob!

**John Young** has the sign up sheet for dinner and entertainment provided by the Country Dinner Playhouse singers to be held on

Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>. Couples can enjoy this evening of fun for \$55. That's a bargain!

Claire Young from *Tamarac Optimist Club* called our attention to a wonderful opportunity to advertise our business or our selves in their directory for \$20. This is a great chance to get the word spread to another motivated audience.

Today is camaraderie day! **Ralph Pedersen** shared stories with my table about the recent trip he took to Yosemite and the beautiful sights he witnessed. Our guest Karl Stout and member **Jim Easton**, former neighbors, talked about recent happenings in their neck of the woods. Lots of stories and laughter were heard. This was an excellent chance to catch up with what is happening with fellow Optimist members and the lives they lead.

We had a drawing! **Allen Yockey** fills in for **Bob Finkelmeier** this morning and **President Young** calls out the numbers for young Ethan Easton who wins the first cup! He then calmly and with poise calls out the next number. Great job Ethan!

Later, **Don Thomson** strolls over and picks the winning card, the 10 of Clubs; see Bob next week for your winnings Don! I think it's \$60 bucks this week. And of course, it is back to building up the pot once again for the next around!



**Cy Regan** announced that he sold \$1,045 in grocery cards. A good showing for this meeting!

**Jim Easton** led the club in the Optimist Creed!

We leave ready for another summer day in the Mile High City.

## Update from Don StJohn on MS Bike Ride

I left out **Curt Jefferies** on the list of those who helped with the Bike MS Colorado's Ride. **Curt** used his RV to power the "Optimister," which helped the riders keep their cool. Curt had another function scheduled for that weekend, but chose to help his Optimist Club provide comfort and relief from the heat to the dedicated riders of Bike MS Colorado's Ride. Thanks Curt!

## Mowing Grass from Dick Zolman

I hope the picture will go through for you - of this Army soldier in Iraq with his tiny plot of grass in front of his tent. It's heartwarming! Here is a soldier stationed in Iraq, stationed in a big sand box. He asked his wife to send him dirt (U.S. soil), fertilizer, and some grass seed so that he can have the sweet aroma, and feel the grass grow beneath his feet. When the men of the squadron have a mission they are going on, they take turns walking through the grass and the American soil to bring them good luck.

If you notice, he is even cutting the grass with a pair of a scissors. Sometimes we are in such a hurry that we don't stop and think about the little things that we take for granted.



### Help Wanted:

#### Do you want to become famous amongst your MSOC friends?

As we move into **Phil Perington's** presidential year we could use a few additional GUMS editors. Come join this elite group of writers who captures the professional happenings of each weekly meeting and adds his personal humor to all of the tomfoolery that takes place. Please let Phil know if you are interested.

### Something's to Ponder

- I had amnesia once—or twice.
- 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 horse sidesaddle.
- What is a "free" gift? Aren't all gifts free?
- They told me I was gullible and I believed them.
- Teach a child to be polite and courteous in the home, 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 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 me, or do buffalo wings taste like chicken?

### Monaco South Calendar

July 25	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Fred Clifford: <i>Weathering stormy financial times</i>
Aug 1	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Lisa Betchey, Donor Relations Manager, Mile High United Way
Aug 8	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Noel Cunningham: <i>Ethiopian Kids</i>
Aug 9	Sat	11:00 am	Zone Picnic - Eisenhower Park
Aug 15	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Aug 19	Tue	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
Aug 22	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Second Wind, <i>Teen suicide resources</i>
Aug 29	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Judith Stucky, <i>Cochlear Kids Camp</i>
Sept 5	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Sunne Reif, <i>Donor Alliance</i>
Sept 12	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Kris Kroncke, <i>District 3 Commander, Denver Police Department</i>

## 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

## 2007 - 2008 Officers

President	Greg Young	303-759-3921
Vice President	Phil Perington	303-832-4578
Vice President	Al Gapuzan	303-770-0499
Secretary	Rich Wagner	303-362-5328
Treasurer	Ron Gustas	303-770-9640

## Board of Directors

Russ Paul	303-750-0554
Frank Ross	303-713-1008
Scott Walker	303-517-1862
Bill Wells	303-757-8013
Dick Cohen	303-320-1767
Mike Snipes	303-699-9161
Jim Brown	303-671-6309
Howard Fry	303-300-4466

## Newsletter Committee

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Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	<a href="mailto:pedersen.ralph@q.com">pedersen.ralph@q.com</a>			

## 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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