



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

May 22, 2009

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## The Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado

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

Editor for this Issue—Robert Wardlaw



### Good Morning Optimists!

Good morning Optimists! On an overcast morning we are greeted by **Tom Mckee** and **Harry Johnson**. We are happy to enjoy the different shades of spring and we think back and hope for this weather in the dog days of summer.

### Invocation & Pledge

President **Phil Perington** calls the meeting to order. **John Young** wrote the invocation. Dear Heavenly Father, please help us to: Look beyond personal comfort and gratification to the greater good. Deal with changes without falling apart. Keep the stresses and worries of life from taking control. Do the right thing regardless of what others say and do. Find more joy in giving than receiving. Bear injustice without having to get even. Relate to others in a consistently positive and helpful manner. Be a person of our word. Show love in both word and deed. Learn to be content with internal attitudes rather than external circumstances. And then he led us in the pledge of allegiance.

### Guests

**Fred Pasternack** introduced his guest George Vaselius. Fred knows George from his sales club. George is a Farmers Insurance agent and is happy to speak with any member regarding their insurance needs or questions. George doesn't have to be told to seize the opportunity; you have to like the attitude.

### Memorial Day Weekend

*Memorial Day is a United States federal holiday observed on the last Monday of May (May 25 in 2009). Formerly known as Decoration Day, it commemorates U.S. men and women who died while in the military service. First enacted to honor Union soldiers of the American Civil War (it is celebrated near the day of reunification after the civil war), it was expanded after World War I to include American casualties of any war or military action.*



*Wikipedia, 2009*

### Utterings from Prez Phil

**President Phil** then informs the group that the optimist believes we live in the best of all possible worlds, and the pessimist believes this to be true.

Hello to members we have missed including **Peter Dimond**, **Mike Snipes**, and **Wyatt McCallie**.

At the board meeting last night, **President Phil** reports that several members attended to discuss pending business. **Bryce Slaby** spoke to the board about **Jimmie Brown** and what we can do to honor his legacy. **Kent Gloor** discussed how to improve and keep current the *Goblins Calling* event.

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

**Paul Bernard** had news about the *Brent's Place* event at Washington Park, Optimists will be manning the pancake table along with Tamarac Optimists and this looks to be a great event. More on this event to come! The Inner City Youth Fair was a huge success and lots of bikes were given away.

The *Hugh O'Brien Leadership* conference is coming up quickly, with volunteers needed for interviewing prospects to determine who will attend the International conference in Washington D.C. These interviews will be held first thing Sunday morning, see **Paul** if interested.

**Bill Litchfield** brought along a whole book of "Thank You's" from the kids entertained by the *Arts in the Schools Program*. They seem to really enjoy the chance to experience something different performed by talented opera artists.

**Karl Geil** announced that on Tuesday May 19<sup>th</sup> (6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grades) and Wednesday May 20<sup>th</sup> (8<sup>th</sup> grade), he and **Tom Mauro**, on behalf of MSOC, presented the annual *Accelerated Reader Program Awards* at Hamilton Middle School. Hamilton is unique in that it uses a computer program named Accelerated Reader to keep track of a student's progress in reading comprehension. Students read an age-appropriate novel, take a test, and score points based on how much they understood of what they read. Students who score at least 500 points during the school year are presented with a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond. Our Board of Directors authorizes an amount, which MSOC will fund for the awards, and Hamilton pays for the balance. All the Savings Bonds are presented as though they come from MSOC.



When the program first started, the number of students earning an award was fewer than 10 per year. Last year, a record 40 Hamilton students earned an award. This year, the Board budgeted for 40, and 66 Hamilton students earned a Savings Bond. Hamilton school officials believe that the incentives provided by this program have helped their students develop a love of reading. Hamilton Middle School has been recognized by DPS as having the most students who have read 1,000,000 words or more during the school year; although, most of the 1,000,000 word readers at Hamilton did not earn a Savings Bond.

This year's winners are Elaine Kathryn Webb and Evan Kinichi Shigaya, with each student reading 3.5 million words and more. Education is the key to success and reading is the key to education!

On Saturday (May 23<sup>rd</sup>) **Russ Paul** will be leading volunteers in setting up beds and attaching them to the walls at the Ronald McDonald House. A great way to help out kids and their families going through some tough times.

**Fred Pasternack** announces help from the Gateway Optimist Club in carrying on **Jimmie Brown's** work with the *Dime A Day, OI Foundation*. Jimmie raised thousands over the years for kids and Freddie is looking for support to help continue these efforts and he's asking for only a nickel a day.

**Joe Marci** makes last call for Rockies tickets to raise funds for Junior Optimist Golf. He will have tickets for Saturday night's game as well as Sunday's afternoon game. Also, he will need help on June 12<sup>th</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup> for the junior golf tournament.

**Bryce Slaby** calls for help on Sunday June 28<sup>th</sup> for the MS Bike ride. SMOC along with Tamarac will be feeding 3000 hungry riders, taking photos, and entertaining the masses. Dancers for the event include Irish and English troupes, so things are moving forward. Should be a great day!

**Paul Stratton** gives a recap for the Super Citizen presentation—18 students were recognized for their good work. Also, a community wide yard sale will take place in Lowry Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup>. A great chance to get some deals on kids items and the like.

**Kent Gloor** (in absentia) sent in some pictures of those that participated in the Inner City Health Center's Kids Fair held on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at



Harrington Elementary School. Those helping to repair bikes were, **Al Gapuzan, Paul Bernard, Kent Gloor, Matthew, Russ Paul, and Fred Pasternack.**

At the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Picnic with a Purpose on Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup>, the club will have a table answering questions and informing the public about the efforts of Optimists. University Hills Neighborhood Association sponsors the picnic. The picnic will benefit the *Helping Hands Food Bank* and *Holistic Community Living*. To be held at Eisenhower Park, this event is a great chance to meet neighbors, have fun, and enjoy the Denver Municipal Band playing from 3:00 to 4:00 in the afternoon.

## Speaker for Today

Our Speaker today, introduced by **Paul Bernard**, was Kami Welch who works for CASA—Court Appointed Special Advocates. In Colorado, CASA serves almost 800 abused and neglected children in Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert, and Lincoln Counties every year. Advocates for Children is part of a nationwide network of 930 state and local organizations that champion the best interests of



abused and neglected children. When a CASA volunteer is involved a higher number of services are court ordered for children and families that may otherwise go underserved. A child with a CASA volunteer is less likely to re-enter the child welfare system.

1,000,000 American children are confirmed victims of abuse and neglect each year, and over 500,000 of them are in foster care. Without assistance, many of these vulnerable children become “double victims” due to further neglect by the nation’s overburdened child welfare systems. They end up being shuffled from home-to-home and

school-to-school, often suffering additional abuse and disadvantages. Children in foster care are at high risk for educational failure and delinquency, and as adults they are much more likely than others to be unemployed, incarcerated or abusive to their own children, thus perpetuating a generational cycle of abuse and dysfunction. Find out what you can do to make a difference in your community!

## Closing Comments

**Scott Walker** tells your editor about his organization, *Rocky Mountain Cocker Rescue*. They need foster families! Save a life, it will make yours better. Think about who you know that wants a dog. Go to [www.RockyMountainCockerRescue.org](http://www.RockyMountainCockerRescue.org) for detailed information.

**Cy Regan** reports better sales this week for Grocery Cards \$1,275, and Cy thinks next week will bring big happenings. Your editor will bring his checkbook.

And we have a drawing this week! A big pot of \$20 is a starting place and doesn’t really generate the kind of electricity usually demonstrated by the club faithful. Tune in next week for the momentum to build!

Remember this Memorial Day Weekend the sacrifice our veterans have made, take a moment to give thanks to those who have paid the price for freedom.



## Monaco South Calendar

May 27	Wed	11:00/11:30 am	Super Citizen, University Park Elementary - Sewell Black, presenter
May 28	Thu	12:30/1:30	Super Citizen, Samuels Elementary - Gray Strowbridge, presenter This presentation was moved from April 29 <sup>th</sup> .
May 29	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Lisa Silva, Diesel Fuel Retrofit Program
Jun 5	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Dr. Arthur Liu, Radiation Oncology
Jun 5-7	Fri/Sun		Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar, Colorado School of Mines - see Paul Bernard
Jun 6	Sat		6th Annual Picnic with a Purpose, Eisenhower Park - see Howard Fry or Randy Marcove
Jun 12	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Laura Eley, Peace Corps and the Philippines
Jun 12	Fri		Optimist Jr Golf District Qualifying Tournament, ages 14-18 Flatirons Golf Course, Boulder
Jun 15	Mon		Optimist Jr Golf District Qualifying Tournament, ages 10-13 Fitzsimmons Golf Course, Aurora
Jun 18	Thu	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar, Room 102
Jun 23	Tue		Ronald McDonald House - see Russ Paul
Jun 28	Sun	7:00 am	Bike MS Rest Stop

## 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

President	Phil Perington	303-832-4578
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

## Board of Directors

George Buzick	303-985-0655
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
Randy Marcove	303-667-3663
Gary Miller	303-751-0838
Greg Young (Past Pres.)	303-759-3921

## Newsletter Committee

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	<a href="mailto:rfinkelmeier@comcast.net">rfinkelmeier@comcast.net</a>	Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	<a href="mailto:jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net">jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net</a>
Marc Goodbody	303-202-1610	<a href="mailto:mlgoodbody@gmail.com">mlgoodbody@gmail.com</a>	Bill Walters	303-697-7252	<a href="mailto:wwalters43@msn.com">wwalters43@msn.com</a>
Marlin Kent	303-779-0778		Robert Wardlaw	303-759-0360	<a href="mailto:rlawardlaw@comcast.net">rlawardlaw@comcast.net</a>
Jim Leuschner	720-851-7102	<a href="mailto:flyleusch@aol.com">flyleusch@aol.com</a>	Greg Young	303-759-3921	<a href="mailto:gndyoung@msn.com">gndyoung@msn.com</a>
Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	<a href="mailto:pedersen.ralph@q.com">pedersen.ralph@q.com</a>	Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	<a href="mailto:rzolman691@aol.com">rzolman691@aol.com</a>

NEWSLETTER EDITORS 2009: **MAY:** ROBERT WARDLAW, **JUNE:** RALPH PEDERSEN, **JULY:** GREG YOUNG, **AUGUST:** BILL WALTERS

## 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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Marc Goodbody  
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