



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

November 14, 2008

Vol. 33, Issue 7

The Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 Denver, Colorado

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for November—Greg Young



TODAY'S SPEAKER

Today's speaker was **Ric Durity**, Development Director for the **Mental Health Centers of Denver** (MHCD). Ric told us that unfortunately many healthcare plans do not adequately pay for mental health issues. MCHD attempts to help fill the gap, but for the 7 people they are able to accept each day, as many as 17 are turned away for lack of funds or space. MCHD has a primary mission to help the homeless with mental illness issues. One out of the seven taken in each day is homeless. MHCD serves the needs of 33,000 people, including over 11500 children, each year, many of whom may be indigent and need our help (see how you can help sidebar) Ric related a story of a small girl who has needed help since she was 4 and now at 12 is doing well but will need treatment for the rest of her life in order to live a normal life.

Untreated mental illness has a huge cost to all of us, because patients often end up needing emergency care in the emergency room, impact our criminal justice system with petty crime cases that could be avoided, and vastly impact productivity in the workplace.

MHCD and Colorado Coalition for the Homeless have partnered starting 18 months ago with the



Denver Crime Prevention and Control Commission to help decrease jail time and court appearances by homeless people. They have been so successful that jail recidivism has been reduced by 80%, which has saved the taxpayers over \$100,000 They were also very successful in partnering with the DNC to help reduce the impact of the convention on the homeless, especially in Civic Center Park, by using grants from the DNC to bring in over 100 people into

their system this past summer.

MHCD has a goal this year to increase services by doubling their revenue. However, so far they have only a 9% increase. With a budget of \$50 million and managing grants of \$3 million, this can be quite a challenge.

If you can help in any of the ways shown at the right, please do so today. Someone you know may one day benefit from the many services that MHCD provides.

HOW CAN I HELP?

- Volunteer your time
- Contribute at www.mhcd.org
- Support the *Gifts of Joy* program, by donating a \$25 Grocery Card (available from CY REGAN!)
- Bring an unwrapped new toy to: 4141 E. Dickenson Pl, Denver, CO 80222

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

Today's Greeters

Today's solo greeter was **Paul Stratton**, who ably managed to greet all the large crowd who attended today..

Invocation and Pledge

Todd Olson provided the invocation and then then guided us in our pledge to the flag of the United States of America.

Opening Bell

President Phil Perington gave us an unusual history lesson about events of yesteryear. He also mentioned something about the gravy meeting the spoon who declared Oh ye of ladle faith. After declaring "Don't refuse criticism, get all the help you can!" Phil encouraged everyone to give "**High-five For The Kids**," and there were high-fives all around.

Guests

Our guest again today was **Harry Fegley**, who returned with an application!! Also visiting was **Dave Gardner**, a guest of **Don Iley**. Welcome to both!!

New Member Induction

Pres. Phil inducted one of our newest members today. **Jeff Carter** is a health insurance agent and lives in Lakewood. He enjoys golf, coaching, bicycling, and travel. Jeff is a dynamic speaker and the survivor of a catastrophic helicopter crash several years ago. Please welcome Jeff and help him become involved in club activities. Jeff's sponsor is **Bill Walters**.



Thanksgiving Dinner at the Boys and Girls Club and Girls, Inc Club



Write on your calendar November 25th, Tuesday 4:00 pm—9 pm. Then, sign up to help. We need people to transport the food and supplies, oversee the setup and preparation, and serve the food to about 800 people at **two** locations, and then clean up. **Donlie Smith** is heading up this annual project and needs help with transporting the food. Call him if you have a large truck or van. You are encouraged to bring your spouse and older kids to help in this great project. **See locations on page 3.**

New Year's Eve at the Symphony

All who are interested in dinner and the Colorado Symphony's "**A Night in Vienna**" on New Year's eve, plan to sign up next meeting with **Donlie Smith**. Tickets will be around \$30, and dinner is dutch treat. A gathering after at a member's home will ring in the new year.

T. J. High School Craft Fair

Saturday, Nov.22, 7:00 am, be at T.J. to assist **Craig Eley** in directing traffic and helping the vendors move into the gym. This activity will be done in time for you to speed over to the Legion Hall to help distribute Thanksgiving Baskets to the less fortunate (more and more each day!)

Thanksgiving Baskets

As mentioned above, **Bob Avery** is organizing this year's assembly and distribution of all the fixin's and trimmin's to make this a happy Thanksgiving for 40 families in our nine supported schools who cannot afford to have a nice Turkey dinner. Sign up now to help with distribution (Nov 22 @8:00 am at the Legion Hall) of the baskets to 2 or 3 of the families. You will be done by 10:00 am, feeling good!



Share the Spirit of the Season

After delivering baskets, grab your neighbor and head on over to the **Tamarac Optimist Club CRAFT FAIR**. It will be held 11-4 Saturday, November 22 at **Doug Morton and Marilyn Brown's** house: 8 Cherry Hills Drive, Englewood. If you or your spouse can donate craft items or baked goods, contact Marilyn at 303-761-6983. This is a major fund raiser for Tamarac, so please come a support this wonderful club, and spread the word to friends and neighbors.

DUES ARE DUE

Your Treasurer would appreciate payment of your dues now. If you need a copy of your invoice, please call **Ron Gustas** at **303-770-9640** or email at **rgustas@earthlink.net**. (We are looking into Guido's Persuasion Service)
THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION!!!

The Tree Lot is Coming!



Get ready for the Tree Lot. **Saturday, November 22 at 10am**, we will head up to Ed Collins' place to cut our "Charlie Brown" trees. Bring your truck and chain saw, and warm boots. A fun lunch at Milo's will follow. Then, block out Friday, November 28th from 9 to 3 to help with the set up of

the tree lot. Starting Friday, the 21st we will have the master schedule at meeting and encourage each member to select at least 5 three hour time slots between November 29th and December 24th. Slots will be 9-12, 12-3, 3-6 and 6-9. Three of your slots should be after 12. Also, if you can be on call to help unload trees and drill holes, please let **Joe Marci** know. We are looking for 100 members to participate this year.

This is our main fund raiser and funds all of our 30+ projects for the kids each year. IT'S ALL FOR THE KIDS.....HIGH FIVE!!!

Help out Brent's Place

Don Thomson informs us that Brent's Place is moving into a new facility up near the new Children's Hospital in Fitzsimmons (11980 E. 16th, Aurora). Brent's place is one of our Childhood Cancer project

support activities, and is also supported by our sister club, Tamarac. The facility has 12 new apartments to house kids and their families as they undergo cancer treatment. They need people to help set up furniture in the new facility on December 2nd and 3rd any time you can spare from 9-5. Sign up now to support the kids who are devastated by this terrible disease.

Grocery/Gas Card Sales

Cy announced we sold \$1275 today...not as good as last week. Let's continue to shoot for the goal that everyone buys at least \$100 per week of King Sooper or Safeway cards (they're also good at their gas stations) We should be selling \$5000 or more! So keep it rolling...we need this fund raiser to fund our KIDS projects

Monaco South Supports the CO/WY District

As the largest club in the district, Monaco South is proud to have many of our members supporting activities at the District level. Members who currently participate are:

- **Paul Bernard, Lt. Governor, Zone 9 and HOBY Liaison**
- **George Buzick, Lt. Governor, Zone 12 and Immediate Past Governor**
- **Phil Perington, District Board of Directors**
- **Don St. John, Sergeant at Arms**
- **Joe Marci, Ron Cisco, John Stoffel, Junior Golf**
- **Jack Rife, TriStar Basketball**
- **Andy McKean, Liberty Day Chair**
- **Fred Pasternack, Optimist Foundation Rep.**

THANKS TO ALL FOR THE HARD WORK!!

Monaco South Calendar

Nov 18	Tue	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., #102
Nov 19	Wed	2:30 pm	Super Citizen, Most Precious Blood - Jim Vander Kamp
Nov 20	Thu	9:00 am	Super Citizen, Holm Elementary School - Jack Rife
Nov 21	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Nov 21	Fri	3:00 pm	Super Citizen, Bradley International - Steve Kady & Randy Marcove
Nov 22	Sat	7:00 am	T. J. High School Craft Fair - directing traffic
Nov 22	Sat	8:00 am	Thanksgiving Basket Distribution
Nov 22	Sat	10:00 am	Cutting Christmas Trees for Tree Lot
Nov 25	Tue	4:00 pm	Thanksgiving Dinners @ Boys & Girls Club , 3480 W. Kentucky (go to 900 S. Federal and then 4 blocks west on Kentucky) <u>and</u> Girls Inc. , 1499 Julian (go to 14th, then 4 blocks west of Federal)
Nov 27	Thu		Thanksgiving Day
Nov 28	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall, speaker TBA
Nov 28	Fri	8:30 am	CHRISTMAS TREE LOT SETUP - ALL MEMBERS
Dec 05	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Melinda Arnold, Inner City Health
Dec 05	Fri	10:30 am	Super Citizen, Slavens Elementary School

**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
Mike Snipes	303-699-9161
Gary Miller	303-751-0838
Greg Young (Past Pres.)	303-759-3921

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	Bill Walters	303-697-7252	wwalters43@msn.com
Marlin Kent	303-779-0778		Robert Wardlaw	303-759-0360	rlawardlaw@comcast.net
Jim Leuschner	720-851-7102	flyleusch@aol.com	Greg Young	303-759-3921	gndyoung@msn.com
Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	pedersen.ralph@q.com	Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rzolman691@aol.com

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
ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES**

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