



May 2, 2008
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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

Editor for this Issue— Craig Eley



The jackpot has been building all year, until it reached an all-time high of \$310. The ace of clubs was the card to draw, and the ace of our club, Jimmie Brown, got it!

Live Long and Prosper

The featured speaker at the May 2, 2008 meeting of the Optimist Club of Monaco South was cardiologist, champion rower and City of Philadelphia 7th grade yo-yo champ **Richard Flanigan**, M.D. He and his daughter are the authors of "Longevity Made Simple," a road map to adding 20 good years to one's life.

Despite Dr. Flanigan's extensive use of depressing statistics about the American lifestyle, his talk was sprinkled with humor and he had Club members hanging on his every word. The interest in the physician's presentation was evidenced by the fact that, although it ran a bit past



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Meeting Place

American Legion Hall Post 1

5400 East Yale Avenue (Yale & I-25), Denver, Colorado

Every Friday Morning, 7 - 8 a.m.

Proceedings of the Meeting of May 2, 2008

Invocation & Pledge

John Young offered an invocation he wrote in which he urged us to “look beyond personal comfort and gratification to the greater good.” (You mean there’s a greater good than personal gratification?).

Swearing In

President **Greg Young** invited new member **David Lazaroff** to the stage to be sworn in, along with his sponsor, **Randy Marcove** and Membership Chair **Bill Wells**. Then David was inducted into the best Optimist Club this side of Betelgeuse!



David Lazaroff, Monaco South’s newest member, is installed in a ceremony with his sponsor, Randy Marcove (l) and Membership Chair Bill Wells (r) and President Greg Young (far r).

He’s Baaaaack!

The ever-Optimistic **Donlie Smith** was spotted at the meeting, looking no worse for wear from a stint in the hospital with severe back pain. He reported that he’s looking at some heavy physical therapy in the next few weeks, and said he would have to bow out of helping at the next day’s Furry Scurry. Hey, Donlie - if you *sign* up, *show* up!

Guests

Mike Snipes brought **David Erickson** as a guest, and **Dick Cohen** introduced his guest, **Bill Murray** (maybe Bill would like to join **Paul Simon** and **Robert Duvall** as “celebrity” MSOCers).

Proud Poppa

Although it was natural that we all feared that **Bryce Slaby** was going to tell a joke when he came up to the microphone, instead he related that the examination results are in, and his son has passed the bar (which is ironic, considering that Bryce reportedly has

never passed a bar - without going in). Congratulations to **Matt** for making it through the long, hard grind!

Calling All Schools

Bill Walters is preparing for Liberty Day in September, and he needs help in making telephone calls and e-mails to participating schools to get follow-up information about the success of the program with their students. This is an easy job that can be done while lying in your jammies with your feet up on the couch, eating pork rinds. If you’re up for this, call Bill at 303-697-7252.

The Jacks Won’t Be Flappin’

It was reported that the planned Pancake Breakfast that we have put on the last few years at the Furry Scurry won’t be happening at this year’s event. The cook-stove trailer we usually borrow was commandeered for another event. When the crowd at the Scurry hears about this, we hope it doesn’t turn ugly!

Monaco South Swingers

On a beautiful spring day, Wednesday, April 30, 40 Optimists and friends played the Flatirons Golf Course in Boulder. The competition was fantastic, with five of the 11 teams finishing under par. There were many prize winners, but the biggest winner was Optimist Junior Golf, as donations reached \$2,000 for this year’s program. The winning teams were led by Monaco South members with **Joe Marci’s** team at 64, **Carl Brown’s** team at 65 and **Sewell Black’s** team at 66 while **Tom Overton’s** team at 67 finished for fourth.



Don Thomson displayed his prowess on the links by capturing closest to the pin laurels on hole 11. Other members who enjoyed the

sunshine and camaraderie were **Ron Cisco, Jack Kitchell, Jack Rife, Gary Rife, Allen Pierce, Jim Easton, John Greene, and Rich & Julia Wagner**. Thanks to all who made this tournament a great success for Junior Golf!

Education Excellence

When the Club was looking for a good candidate for the Optimist Excellence in Education Award, Hamilton Middle School gave us the name of 6th grade teacher **Lesley Meyer**. We later discovered that Lesley is the wife of MSOCer **Karl Geil**, so naturally her judgment was called into question. The award had already been engraved, however, and we heard such good things about Lesley that we decided to overlook her only lapse. Lesley's principal, **Reina Gutierrez**, was present with Lesley to explain that, along with her normal teaching duties, Lesley coaches Hamilton's semantics teams (they took second and third in the state competition) and the school's National History Day competitors. We all remember a few special teachers from our school days - teachers who made a real difference. Lesley sure sounds like one of those!



Lesley Meyer is congratulated by Past Governor Jimmie Brown on her being presented with the Optimist Excellence in Education Award while President Greg Young observes.

Learn Fly Fishing



If you have always wanted to take advantage of Colorado's great fly fishing but didn't know how, Certified Pro Fly Fishing Instructor **Bryce Slaby** will have a class in June. Don't let the big ones get away - call Bryce at 303-792-5224.

Longevity

(from page 1)

our normal 8 a.m. ending time, no one felt fidgety (guilty maybe, but not fidgety).

The keys to decreasing your chances of bad stuff happening by 42%, Dr. Flanigan advised, are: 1) low cholesterol, 2) low blood pressure, 3) no smoking, 4) good diet, 5) exercise, 6) proper weight, and 7) wear seat belts. His message must have hit home, because MSOCers were lined up after the meeting to buy his book.



Kudos to **John Moser** for arranging for Dr. Flanigan's

appearance at Monaco South. John has been under the weather lately and was not able to attend, but we all hope to see him soon!

For more information, take a look at the doctor's website, longevitymakesimple.com.

Monaco South Calendar

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| May 9 Fri 7:00 am | Meeting, Legion Hall - Cary Kennedy: Colorado State Treasurer. |
| May 16 Fri 7:00 am | Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day; Essay Contest Winners. |
| May 20 Tue 6:30 pm | MSOC Board Meeting - New Location - District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102. |
| May 21 Wed 4:00 pm | Darrent Williams statue unveiled, 4397 Crown Blvd., Denver. |
| May 23 Fri 7:00 am | Meeting, Legion Hall - Eric Greenberg, Magic. |
| May 30 Fri 7:00 am | Meeting, Legion Hall - Christine Rivera, <i>La Voz</i> (Denver's Spanish language newspaper). |
| Jun 6 Fri 7:00 am | Meeting, Legion Hall - Janet Pirchio, Metro Denver Partners, <i>Mentoring Youth</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
Bill Walters	1991-92		

2007 - 2008 Officers

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

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Bill Wells	303-757-8013
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Mike Snipes	303-699-9161
Jim Brown	303-671-6309
Howard Fry	303-300-4466

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Jim Leuschner	720-851-7102	flyleusch@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
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