



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

November 7, 2008

Vol. 33, Issue 6

## The Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 Denver, Colorado

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

Editor for November—Greg Young



### GOOD MORNING OPTIMISTS!!

#### Today's Greeters

Today's greeters were your October newsletter editor, **Ralph Pedersen**, and our **District Lt. Governor, Paul Bernard**, who had to nab **Frank Ross** as stand-in while Paul shepherded today's speaker to meet and greet.

#### Invocation and Pledge

**Past Pres. Greg Young** led us to pray for our men and women, both past and present, who have so nobly served our country in the armed forces, in observance of Veterans Day, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>. (He apologizes to all for forgetting to remove his hat—ed.) He then guided us in our pledge to the flag of the United States of America.

#### Opening Bell

**President Phil Perington** gave us the usual history lesson, with a list of firsts—the first black Americans to achieve various high office—a tip of the hat to our President-elect Obama. We then gave "**High-five For The Kids**," high-fives all around.

Phil noted that **Don St. John** was missing due to the passing of his brother. Condolences to Don and Char during this difficult time.

Don's duties were covered in fine fashion by **Cy Regan**. Cy was assisted by **Russ** "who gave me

this \$100 bill?" **Paul**, who covered selling the King Soopers/Safeway gift cards.

Speaking of gift cards, Cy announced we sold \$1400 today...way to go guys!! **HOWEVER**, given that everyone buys at least \$100 per week of groceries (you have to eat!!), we should be selling \$5000 or more! So keep it rolling...we need this fund raiser to fund our KIDS projects.

#### Guests

Our only guest today was **Harry Fegley**, who returned for another visit...let's hope he decides to join!!

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Goblins Calling

**Gary Miller** reported that a fine time was had by all at the Goblins Calling event Halloween night. After consuming copious amounts of pizza, Monaco South members call over 500 kids to ensure the kids are home safe and sound by around 8 pm. If they are, we stuff a goody bag for them and they get it at school the next week. Thanks go out to all who participated, especially the chairs **Kent Gloor** and **Gary Miller**, and goblins: **Paul Bernard, OC Larson, Don St. John, Russ Paul, Gary Strowbridge, Wyatt McCallie, Oscar Sorensen, Phil Perington, Pat Sullivan, Frank Middleton**,

(continued next page)

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, CONTINUED

**Goblins:** Ron Carlson, Les Larson, Bob Avery, Al Gapuzan, Ron Gustas, Dick Nickoloff, Tom Mauro, Howard Fry. Great job guys!!!

### Thanksgiving Dinner at the Boys and Girls Clubs



Write on your calendar November 25<sup>th</sup>, 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. You are encouraged to bring your spouse and older kids to help in this great project. **See locations on page 3.**

### Entertainment Books

This week it was **Karl Geil's** turn to hawk the books (\$25) in the absence of **Joe Marci**. Proceeds go to one of Monaco South's main youth support activities: **The Robert Sullivan Scholarships** at T.J. High School. The coupons in the book will pay for it ten fold!!! GET YOURS NEXT WEEK OR CALL Joe Marci to pick one up.

### 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 distribution of all the fixin's and trimmin's to make this a happy Thanksgiving for many of the families in our local schools who cannot afford to have a nice Turkey dinner. Sign up now to help with assembly (Nov 22 @7:30 am at the Legion Hall) of the baskets, and then to distribute 2 or 3 to the families. You will be done by 10:00 am.

#### HELP!

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](mailto:rgustas@earthlink.net). (Don't make us send out the flying monkeys-ed.).

**THANKS!!!**

## The Tree Lot is Coming, The Tree Lot is Coming!



Get ready for the Tree Lot. Block out Friday, November 28<sup>th</sup> from 9 to 3 to help with the set up of the tree lot. Then, pick your days and fill in your calendar so you can fill in your time to work on the Tree Lot

Schedule board. Everyone can do something. Even if you can't lift, you can sit and take money! We encourage each member to select at least 5 three hour time slots between November 29<sup>th</sup> and December 24<sup>th</sup>. 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.

This is our 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. 16<sup>th</sup>, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> any time you can spare from 9-5. Sign up now to support the kids who are devastated by this terrible disease.

### Where are we Headed?

If you want to know what's in store for the future, attend a seminar reported by our new member, **Kale Smith**. On Tuesday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 pm in the Tech Center there will be a screening of a webcast entitled: **Making Sense of the New Economic and Political Landscape**, with top economists and investment professionals. To attend and get directions, RSVP to Kale by Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> at 303-689-7469.

## Our Speaker Today: Commander Kris Kroncke, Denver Police District Three

**Kris Kroncke** was named Commander of the Denver Police Department (DPD) District Three office in April of this year. Kris highlighted for us all the activities surrounding the Democratic National Convention and gave us the inside scoop on how the DPD so efficiently was able to handle the crowds, protesters and parades during that week.

DPD partnered with all the surrounding cities to help in the effort. Planning efforts started 1-2 years in advance. After acquiring special equipment with Federal grants, and conducting specialized training to be coordinated with all the other Districts and jurisdictions directly involved, DPD launched their round the clock effort to keep our citizens safe. Starting on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, and continuing through the end of the convention, our stalwart DPD officers worked 12-16 hour shifts to monitor the over 75,000 people swarming in and around downtown Denver for the convention. While all of the DPD officers were busy with the convention and ongoing crime fighting, members of other jurisdictions such as LoneTree, Aurora, etc. helped staff the various administrative functions in the DPD police stations.

10 person response teams along with mounted patrol and the famous RDV-Rapid Deployment Vehicle (an ATV) helped with crowd control and rapid response to problem areas. The RDV employed a

large speaker on the front that many believed would blast an unhearable sound that would cause protesters to uncontrollably empty their colons (myth... but it was effective!!). The most interesting protest was the "Shake your Money Maker" where the Red Wizard attempted to "levitate" the Mint, thereby spilling millions of \$\$ to the people. Needless to say, nothing moved. Our intrepid men in uniform had to deal with bags of poop (our guys know about that!), nails and screws in the streets, sleeping dragons (used by protesters to chain themselves together, but effectively managed by the DPD "Cut Team") and bottles of yellow liquid, not fit for consumption.

All-in-all the DPD did a fantastic job of minimizing the chaos and disruption, keeping our citizens and visitors safe, and showing Denver as a proud and beautiful place to live. Unfortunately, Kris now has to spend his valuable time testifying at trials for arrested protesters who refuse to plead out and disappear-but hey!...that's what American freedom is all about!

To learn about the Denver Police Foundation and to donate to the cause, visit the [Denver Police Foundation](#) on the web.



### ABOUT DISTRICT THREE

District Three is the southeast quadrant of Denver. The approximate boundaries are Colfax Ave. on the north, Yosemite/Havana St. on the east, Belleview Ave. on the south, and Downing St. on the west. These boundaries vary due to the proximity of surrounding cities and Arapahoe County. The station is located at 1625 S. University Blvd, Denver, CO 80210, just north of the interchange of I-25 and University Blvd. Phone number is 720-913-1300

## Monaco South Calendar

|        |     |              |   |
|--------|-----|--------------|---|
| Nov 12 | Wed | 1:15/1:45 pm | Super Citizen, McMeen Elementary - Joe Marci  |
| Nov 13 | Thu | 1:00/2:00 pm | Super Citizen, Lowry Elementary - John Greene   |
| Nov 14 | Fri | 7:00 am      | Meeting, Legion Hall - Ric Durity, <i>Mental Health Center of Denver</i>  |
| Nov 14 | Fri | 11:00 am     | Super Citizen, University Park Elementary - Dick Cohen  |
| Nov 18 | Tue | 6:30 pm      | Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., 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 25 | Tue | 4:00 pm      | Thanksgiving Dinners @ <b>Boys &amp; Girls Club</b> , 3480 W. Kentucky (go to 900 S. Federal and then 4 blocks west on Kentucky) <u>and</u> <b>Girls Inc.</b> , 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 | 9:00 am      | Tree Lot Setup - All Members  |

**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 | <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>                   |

**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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