



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

January 9, 2009

Vol. 33, Issue 15

## The Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 Denver, Colorado

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

Editor for December—Bill Walters



### Good Morning Optimists!

"All the news that's fit to be read"

#### Today's Greeters

**Doug Morton** was here to greet us along with **Kale Smith**. Kale, a new member brought in by **Peter Diamond**, told me to remember him by thinking of kale cabbage. (Never heard of kale cabbage so I looked it up!) Kale cabbage is the most robust cabbage type. Indeed the hardiness of kale cabbage is unmatched by any other vegetable. Kale Smith reminds me of someone who is hardy and robust. The best thing I learned about my research is finding out that a whole culture around kale has developed in northwestern Germany around towns of Bremen and Oldenburg. There, most social clubs of any kind will have a "Grunkohlfahrt" ("kale tour") sometimes in January, visiting a country inn to consume large quantities of kale, sausage and schnapps.

#### Invocation & Pledge

In reading the blessing, **Ron Cisco**, expressed how being good parents was a lot like farming. Ron expressed that a lot of Optimistic nurturing, weeding, loving, and attention to positive growth result in rewards beyond words. Amen! We were asked to bow our heads in respect for **Tom Hoch's** 37-year old son Nicholas, who lost his life this past week. We are sorry for your loss, Tom, and we are all praying for you and your family.

**Karl Geil** shared that services for Nicholas' would be held on Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, and that the family requested that in lieu of flowers contributions be made to the Cole, Peter, and Henry Hoch Memorial Scholarship Fund at your local Wells Fargo Bank.

#### Guests

**Leo Hagele** introduced his guest, John Purch. John, past commander of the American Legion post where we meet, founded Veterans Park, located behind District 3 Police Station at South Vine Street and East. Iowa Avenue. For the past 24 years the American Flag has been flying 24/7 to honor our veterans. Come back again John and thanks for your service to our country! One of our newest members, **Mychael Dave**, was also in attendance.

#### Opening Bell

**President Phil** reminded us that on this date, in 1984, Clara Peller receives a competitor's burger with a massive bun and spouted, "Where's the beef?" What President Phil did not tell us was that the phrase was associated with the 1984 presidential election. During the primaries in the spring of 1984, when the commercial was at its height of popularity, Democratic candidate and Vice President Walter Mondale ridiculed the candidacy of his rival, our own Senator Gary Hart, by using the phrase during a televised debate. Hart had moved his candidacy from dark horse to the lead over

Continued on 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

## Opening Bell cont.

Walter Mondale based on his repeated use of the phrase "new ideas." When Hart once again used the slogan in the debate, Mondale leaned forward and said, "When I hear your new ideas, I'm reminded of that ad, "Where's the beef?"

## Pasternack Announces Candidacy



Our one and only **Fred Pasternack**, recently returning from a trip to Antarctica, and hearing that Mike Shanahan was fired, announced today that he has what it takes to be the head coach of the Denver Broncos. He even showed us his "new head" as seen at right.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Liberty Day

**Andy McKean**, founder of Liberty Day, told me some exciting things are happening with Liberty Day. He will make announcements soon.

### 5-for-the-kids pins

International Optimist "5-for-the-kids" pins were awarded to four MSOCers who sponsored new members. Pins were given to **Jim Easton**, **Ron Carlson**, **Greg Young**, and yours truly **Bill Walters**.

### MSOC Mentors

**Frank Middleton** is heading up a Mentor Project. Since October 2007, mentors are paired with new members to show them why Monaco South Optimist Club involvement is an integral part of our lives. Just like the blessing Ron Cisco read, good nurturing (i.e., farming) is needed to grow a new crop of members.

### Ski Day

**Howard Fry** told us that there is a ski-day planned for MSOCers. On Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, those planning to ski Winter Park will meet early at the American Legion parking lot to share a ride. Those interested in going up a day early may spend the night at **Jack Rife**'s place in Winter Park. Call **Jack Rife** @ 303-349-1280, or **Howard Fry** @ 303-601-5088 for tickets and information.

### Tree Lot Update

**Joe Marci** informed us that this year's #1 tree in number of sales at the tree lot was the Noble Fir with 333. The second leading tree was the Frasier Fir with 262. In third place was a new tree for us to sell, the Canadian Fir with 175. There were 5 additional trees sold including the Scotch Pine, White Pine, Douglas Fir, Balsam Fir and the Nordman Fir. (*There will be a quiz!*) Invoices for trees purchased by

members are being sent out. Payment is due to treasurer **Ron Gustas** by the end of the month. Thanks to all who made the 2008 Tree Lot another successful fundraiser for our club!

### Brain Bowl

**Karl Geil** is starting to sweat. He and **Tom Mauro** are heading the Brain Bowl and it starts in Boulder at Fairview High in Boulder on Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 am. Over 100 helpers are needed. At press time, more volunteers are needed. Please consider helping on this great project. Once you experience these kids' brainpower, you will be hooked. Call Karl @ 303-549-8710 or Tom @ 303-929-5314 and sign on. The second round will be held in Denver on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at Overland High School.

### Optimism

Did you all read **John Young**'s book about how to live your life as an Optimist? Just checking! She John if you wish to obtain a copy.

### Wives to Breakfast

Mark your calendar, Wives to Breakfast will be held at Park Hill Golf Course on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 am, per **Tom Overton**. Our wives or significant others will be our guest for breakfast on this date. Tom was able to put this together for only \$24 per couple.

### Christmas & Thanksgiving Baskets

We were able to distribute Christmas and Thanksgiving baskets to many needy families because of our good friends at the Safeway store at Monaco and Yale. **Bob Avery** told us that Greg Burke, the new manager, was a huge supporter of our two projects with donated and discounted groceries. Additionally, he and his staff assembled all of the baskets for us. We honored Greg and his Safeway store staff this morning with a certificate of recognition. Thanks to all!



**Bob Avery**, on left, presents a certificate of appreciation to Greg Burke, store manager of the Safeway Store at Monaco and Yale, while president **Phil Perington** and past-president **Greg Young** look on.

Photo by Don St. John

## Speaker for Today

Our Speaker this morning was David Bogosian of the Colorado Springs Academy Optimist Club. David heads up the Personal Growth Involvement Program (PGI) for Colorado Wyoming Optimists. David passed out information on how to grow personally through the PGI program. Success is measured through a Passport system, which tracks your

progress. The program can be downloaded through the Optimist website at [Personal Growth Involvement](#).

PGI is your passport to personal development, increased member involvement and club growth. Participation in PGI. offers members the opportunity for personal growth while working at their own pace. It will also provide fresh ideas for club meetings. Benefits of the PGI. Program include:

- Allows club members to be recognized and appreciated for personal and professional accomplishments.
- Gives members an opportunity to participate in long-term club involvement while learning more about Optimism.
- Gives each member the personal responsibility for his/her involvement in the club's activities.
- Offers personal growth opportunities to each member.
- Provides members with club meeting, membership recruitment and retention ideas.
- The PGI Program offers every Optimist Club member the opportunity to grow personally and

learn more about Optimism while advancing through ten levels of involvement, personal growth and achievement.

There are 10 Levels of Involvement and Recognition, which you can complete at your own pace. Elements of the PGI program includes:

- Presence/Attendance
- Knowledge of the Organization
- Activities/Programs
- Personal Growth/Self Development
- Growth/New Members
- Communication

More good ways to live your life OPTIMISTALLY!

### Get to know your fellow Optimist

#### Harry B. Johnson

Born in Chicago of Swedish parents in 1922, Harry schooled there until his enlistment into the US Army Air Corps in 1942. His unit spent time in Italy. After being discharged, Harry finished his education back in Chicago. Needing money, he started working part time at a construction company. Eleven months later, Harry married the boss's secretary. Lots of fellow employees think he did this for job security. They had a great marriage for 54 years and were blessed with two great children. One graduated from the US Air Force Academy and the other from one of the finest art and design colleges in the country.

Harry worked in about a dozen states as a building cost estimator and project manager. The family vacationed in Colorado many times before they relocated in Denver. Harry skied at Aspen during the first years it was open. Harry said he countered his grief of his wife's passing by spending lots of time with his children, who live in the Denver area and mostly with his adopted 8-year-old grandson from Korea. Harry celebrates the Christmas season with a traditional Swedish open house.

## Monaco South Calendar

Jan 16	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Jan 17	Sat	9:00 am	Brain Bowl Training, Valmont Church, Boulder, CO
Jan 20	Tue	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
Jan 21	Wed	1:15/2:00 pm	Super Citizen, McMeen Elementary School - Les Larson
Jan 21	Wed	2:30 pm	Super Citizen, Most Precious Blood - Randy Marcove
Jan 22	Thu	6:30 pm	Brain Bowl Training, Overland High School
Jan 23	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Arvin K. Rao, MD - <i>South Denver Ear, Nose &amp; Throat Specialist (ENT) &amp; Allergy Clinic</i>
Jan 23	Fri	9:00 am	Super Citizen, Holm Elementary School - Ron Cisco
Jan 24	Sat	7:00 am	Brain Bowl, Fairview High School, Boulder, CO
Jan 30	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Speaker TBA
Jan 30	Fri	3:00 pm	Super Citizen, Bradley International School - Jim Brown
Jan 31	Sat	9:00 am	Brain Bowl Training, Overland High 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	<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>
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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.

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