



January 5, 2007  
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# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)



## The Optimist Club of Monaco South

Founded in 1976

Denver, Colorado

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

Editor for January - - Craig Eley ([craig@eley.net](mailto:craig@eley.net))

## Oscar Claus Hands Out White Elephant Gifts

Because the last two meetings in December were snowed out, MSOC's annual White Elephant Gift Exchange took place during the January 5, 2007 meeting. **Oscar Sorensen** assumed his traditional role as Santa, and seemed to know what was in each wrapped package and what the appropriate gift was for each Club member.

**Bill Walters** received a useful donut-shaped ring of soap, which the crowd voted "Most Likely Gift to Show Up Next Year." Despite it being the White Elephant meeting, **Gary Laman** was given a green elephant, presumably to balance out his radical pro-donkey leanings.



Santa Sorensen gave **Eldon Strong** a magazine dedicated to contemporary

anatomical studies, while **Craig Eley** received a coffee mug inscribed with "Ten Signs that You're Getting Old." One such sign was "When you order a three-minute egg, the waitress asks you to pay in advance."



**Eldon & Oscar inspect Eldon's gift.**

**Fred Pasternack** scored instant hair plugs, which attach to the scalp with suction cups. He was urged to try them on, but declined, saying they weren't his color (what is his color?). And Santa needed a gift himself, so he was given "the finger."



**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 January 5, 2007

### Invocation & Pledge

**Ron Cisco** led us in a New Year's invocation, in which he suggested that we become our own best friends instead of our own worst enemies. Then we recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

### Snow Joke

The last two meetings were canceled because of excessive snow, and it snowed again for the third Friday in a row. The precipitation was not of blizzard proportions, however, so the first meeting of the new year was held on schedule, although our numbers were down a little. **Eldon Strong** let it be known that he was out of here, heading to Tucson, Arizona until April. When asked what he would be doing in Tucson he replied "Everything that I do in Denver, except shovel snow!"



### Guests

No guests today, but it was good to see member **Paul Sauer**, who has not been to a meeting in a long while. We hope we showed him a good enough time that he'll come back often!

### Christmas Baskets

Those working on the Christmas Baskets project this year, bringing food to the needy, were **Don St. John, Fred Pasternack, Joe Marci, John Stoffel, Cy Regan, Russ Paul, Ron Cisco, John Young, Gary Strowbridge, Phil Perington, O.C. & Pat Larson, Scott Walker, Bill Wells, Coy Horton, Tom Mauro, Tom Overton & kids, Ron Gustas, Oscar Sorensen, and Jim Leuschner & family.**

## Brain Bowl

**Karl Geil** filled us in on the upcoming two Brain Bowls, which are quiz events for teams of middle school kids. The first one is scheduled for Saturday, January 20 at Fairview High School, 1515 Greenbriar Blvd. in Boulder. The Denver Brain Bowl will be held Saturday, February 3 at Thomas Jefferson High School, 3950 S. Holly Street. Brain Bowl volunteers will be expected to arrive at 7 a.m.



Those wishing to be readers must attend one of three reader training sessions. Karl promised that those who have previously been readers will only have to attend the training for a short brush-up session. The reader training sessions have been scheduled for:

Saturday, January 13, 9 - 11 a.m.  
Fairview High School Cafeteria, Boulder

Thursday, January 18, 7 - 9 p.m.  
Thomas Jefferson High School, Denver

Saturday, January 27, 9 - 11 a.m.  
North Arvada Middle School  
7285 Pierce St.  
Arvada

As usual, **Fred Pasternack** asked if he could be a reader, but Karl refused to lift the permanent ban on Fred. Karl felt compelled to explain to our newer members that the banning of Fred occurred when, years ago, he was a Brain Bowl reader and made an unfortunate mispronunciation of the word "organism."

Hundreds of kids participate in this event and many volunteers are needed. This is the largest youth project in which our Club and the District participate.

### Wives & Friends to Breakfast

February 9 is the date of the MSOC Annual Wives & Friends to Breakfast event. This year

we will be dining at the new restaurant school at the University of Denver. **John Young** promises more details in the coming weeks, so save the date!

### King Soopers Certificates

Cy Regan announced that during the last two weeks, when both club meetings were canceled, only \$100 per week of King Soopers certificates were sold. Since Cy himself purchased these, he revealed that he had also won the free breakfast drawings and so won't have to buy his MSOC breakfast for

awhile. At today's meeting, \$650 in certificates were sold.

### Sad News

**Gerry Davis'** wife, **Marj**, died suddenly this past week. Club members will remember Marj as a cheerful participant at many of our events. Her service will be held on Tuesday, January 9 at 1:00 p.m. at the Fairmount Mortuary, 430 South Quebec Street. Our thoughts and prayers will be with Gerry and his children during this difficult time.

### Monaco South Calendar

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|---------------------------|---|
| Tue, Jan. 9, 1 p.m.       | Marj Davis service, Fairmount Mortuary, 430 S. Quebec St.   |
| Thu, Jan 11 6:30 p.m.     | Board meeting, Craig Eley's office, 3515 S. Tamarac Dr. #200.                                       |
| Fri, Jan. 12, 7 a.m.      | Regular meeting, American Legion Hall. Jeff Jones, "Alternative Fuels."                             |
| Fri, Jan. 12, 1:30 p.m.   | Super Citizen program, McMeen Elementary, Gary Miller.  |
| Sat, Jan. 13, 9 - 11 a.m. | Brain Bowl Reader Training, Fairview High School Cafeteria, 1515 Greenbriar Blvd., Boulder.         |
| Tue, Jan. 16, 1:30 p.m.   | Super Citizen program, Samuels Elementary, Greg Young.  |
| Thu, Jan. 18, 2:30 p.m.   | Super Citizen program, MPB, Bruce Prather.  |
| Thu, Jan. 18, 7 - 9 p.m.  | Brain Bowl Reader Training, Thomas Jefferson High School, Denver.                                   |
| Fri, Jan. 19, 7 a.m.      | Regular meeting, American Legion Hall. Camaraderie Day.   |
| Sat, Jan. 20 7 a.m.       | Brain Bowl, Fairview High School, 1515 Greenbriar Blvd., Boulder.                                   |
| Fri, Jan. 26, 7 a.m.      | Regular meeting, American Legion Hall. Doug Morton, "My Father, Mush Morton, Commander, USS Wahoo." |
| Sat, Jan. 27, 9 - 11 a.m. | Brain Bowl Reader Training, North Arvada Middle School, 7285 Pierce St., Arvada.                    |
| Sat, Feb. 3, 7 a.m.       | Brain Bowl, Thomas Jefferson High School, 3950 S. Holly Street, Denver.                             |
| Fri, Feb 9, 7 a.m.        | Wives & Friends to Breakfast, DU School of Restaurant Management.                                   |