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Vol. 32, Issue 39



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—John Young

Jason Stout, on Judi's House

Jason Stout, Outreach & Education Manager, told us that Judi's House (<http://www.judishouse.org/>) was founded by Brian Griese in honor of his mother who died when Brian was twelve years old. Brian is currently Quarterback with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He founded Judi's House in 2002 to honor his mother who died when he was 12.



The program is designed to help children who have lost parents deal with their grief.

The vision of Judi's House is a community in which no child has to feel alone in grief. Their mission is to help children and families who are grieving the death of a loved one find hope and healing within themselves. At Judi's House, an environment of acceptance and understanding allows children and adults in peer support groups to share the experience of loss with others. Judi's House increases awareness and knowledge of grieving children's needs by extending grief support services to them.

The house is a 9,000 square foot home located on the corner of 17th and Gaylord. It has provided

support, not counseling, to 450 kids this year. It is a safe and positive place for children to go, courtesy of Brian Griese.

Jason joined the staff in October 2007 but he was a dedicated Judi's House volunteer for three years before that. Jason is in the process of bringing the Outward Bound experience to the children of Judi's House. This coming Tuesday Jason is taking 125 children to the Yampa River on a 5 day camping and rafting trip. We wish him the best in this adventure and thank him for a fine presentation.



One of Judi's House fund raising events is the Player's Cup Challenge which was held on Saturday, June 7 - Monday, June 9, 2008 in Kohler, WI. Pictured are Brian Griese, Don Shula and Bob Griese

Meeting Place

American Legion Hall Post 1

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

Every Friday Morning, 7 - 8 a.m.



Good Morning Optimists!

REMINDER: There will be a Meeting on Friday, July 4th

Robert Wardlaw and **Craig Eley** were our official greeters this morning and we had several guests.

Invocation

President Greg Young opened the meeting with an invocation well worth repeating.

Heavenly Father, We must all work for much of our lives, but do we truly work for the best? Does our work add value to the community? Does it accomplish our goals without exploiting others? Does it instill within us a sense of pride in what we do, knowing that the world will be a better place for our having been there? If we have doubts as to the answers to these questions, lift our thoughts towards ways in which we may better use the talents which you have given us to relieve, rather than add to, the burdens of the world. Show us that when we work only for the best for others, we are also working for the best for ourselves. Amen.

Thank you **Craig Eley**, author of our 46 invocations.

Greg's Quote for Today

President Greg had two quotes for us today. "All truths are easy to understand once discovered. The problem is to discover them." (Galileo) "Someone who makes bicycle wheels is a 'spokesperson'."

Welcome Guests

Doug Morton brought his friend John Beard from Southampton England. **Jim Easton's** guest was Woody Thibodeau, and **John Young's** guest was Mychael Dave, who presented us with a membership application and check. Welcome aboard **Mychael Dave!**

Member Announcements

Ron Cisco was concerned that no one wanted to sit by him when we are seated by the numbers. He told us to tell him if there is a message. Ron, "there is no message!" We all love you! He asked for one more volunteer to work on the Habitat for Humanity project for tomorrow, and he got one. Way to go Ron!

Karl Geil announces that Jim Brown is recovering from heart surgery, but unfortunately now has pneumonia. Give him a call at 303-671-6309. He needs our support!

Howard Fry reminded us to reserve August 9th for our Zone picnic at Eisenhower Park. Lots of fun, food and fellowship and an opportunity to meet with fellow optimists from other clubs! Please sign up soon and bring your money to a meeting in July.

Mike Snipes, Don StJohn, and Craig Eley need some help in taking pictures of the 3,000 or so bicyclists participating in the run this weekend. Mike and others have developed an elaborate system for bikers to retrieve their pictures from the internet.

Jack Rife thanked the 26 people who have pledged money so far, and indicated there is room for more. Best wishes for our Monaco South riders and the Tamarac and Monaco South members working the lunch break stop. Details to follow in the next issue of GUMS!

Don StJohn gave out final instructions and a map to the Great West Life MS-150 ride and encouraged us to be there by 7:00am latest. **Bryce Slaby** says to wear western wear and an optimist shirt if possible. Everything seems to be in place for a great event.

Ed Collins will be auctioning off a beautiful new charcoal smoker grill donated to **John Marinos** who passed it on to us. If you need a great new grill call or see Ed.

Cy Regan reluctantly announced sales of only \$500 this morning. Come on guys, we can do better than that.

John Young invited all fun and music lovers to a "Country Dinner Playhouse" reunion dinner and show on Tuesday evening, August 19th at the St. Andrew Methodist Church, 3350 White Bay Drive in Highlands Ranch. Cost is \$27.50 per person. The best of the best performers will be there for your enjoyment and it will be a delightful experience. See John for tickets.

A Parting Word From Editor John

It has been a real experience being your newsletter editor for a quarter of the year. This is my last letter and I'd like to thank **Bob Finkelmeier** and **Greg Young** for all their help in editing my copy and formatting the letter. Claire and I will be celebrating our 42nd anniversary on an Alaskan cruise for the next two weeks.

RESPECT!!!

A number of members have come forward with various concerns about meeting decorum. Here are some of them. They would like us to have respect for our member's guests by not talking while they are being introduced. Also, have respect for our speakers by not interrupting them with questions until they are done. Good speakers like to summarize their speech at the end of their presentation and there is usually plenty of time for questions after they are through. Have respect for our members who go to the trouble of organizing an activity by showing up if you sign up. Finally, have respect for ourselves and our club by not chatting with your neighbor during the recitation of the invocation or the Optimist Creed. It is disturbing to the rest of the club and is a bad example to our guests. We have better manners than that.

Habitat for Humanity

On Friday, June 27, a number of MSOCers left the meeting early in order to get to a Habitat for Humanity building site in Commerce City by 8:50. This service project, organized by **Ron Cisco**, included Ron, **Oscar Sorensen**, **O.C. Larson**, **Jim Rumer**, **Ed Collins**, **Greg Young** and **Craig Eley** with his son Paul. Despite the 90 degree heat, these Optimists worked hard to raise walls on the second story of the house, do some interior and exterior framing, and to sheath a garage. The day ended at about 3:30pm, after they cleaned up the site and stowed the tools.



Ron Cisco measures twice and cuts once.



Craig Eley, and son Paul, building a half-wall and looking for some help!



Here's the HELP taking a break: **Oscar Sorensen**, **O.C. Larson**, **Jim Rumer** and **Ed Collins**. They claim to be building part of a garage.



Greg Young nails on siding.

Photos by Craig Eley

Monaco South Calendar

Jul 4	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Independence Day
Jul 11	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - <i>Urban Farming for Kids</i>
Jul 15	Tue	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
July 18	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
July 25	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Fred Clifford: <i>Weathering stormy financial times</i>
Aug 1	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Lisa Betchey, Donor Relations Manager, Mile High United Way
Aug 8	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Noel Cunningham: <i>Ethiopian Kids</i>
Aug 9	Sat	11:00 am	Zone Picnic - Eisenhower Park
Aug 15	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Aug 19	Tue	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
Aug 22	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Second Wind, <i>Teen suicide resources</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

2007 - 2008 Officers

President	Greg Young	303-759-3921
Vice President	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
Dick Cohen	303-320-1767
Mike Snipes	303-699-9161
Jim Brown	303-671-6309
Howard Fry	303-300-4466

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Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	pedersen.ralph@q.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.

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