



March 9, 2007
Vol. 31, Issue 24



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)

The Optimist Club of Monaco South

Founded in 1976

Denver, Colorado

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this issue – Dick Zolman

TODAY'S SPEAKER

Freddie introduced our speaker, Reverend Leon Kelly who spoke to us about the gang problems in Denver. He mentioned that he had talked to us a year or so ago and that some changes have occurred. Rev. Kelly has been working gang issues for over 22 years and summarized that time by saying that every 7 years something significant seems to happen. In 1986 there were riots, in 1993 we had the summer of violence, in 2000 he endured a personal tragedy when his nephew was shot and this year the Darent Williams murder. In the intervening years we have seen a gradual upswing in gang activity with some ups and downs.

Rev. Kelly said there were many open cases in 2006 (as well as the Williams case) and asked, "Why no arrests". The answer is that although the police may have suspects, there is a lack of witnesses due to intimidation resulting in concern for personal and family safety. He mentioned that a gang cancer plagues major cities and is a national problem and that gang members are migrating between cities. While historically northeast Denver was predominantly a black gang problem, now there is a clash of cultures between Latinos and blacks and this violence is increasing.

Rev. Kelly runs a program in northeast Denver that attracts over 100 kids between 3:00 and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Resources and mentors are always needed for this very important program.

**Meeting Place - - American Legion Hall Post 1
5400 East Yale Avenue (Yale & I-25), Denver, Colorado
Every Friday Morning, 7 - 8 a.m.**

NEWS THROUGH March 9

Invocation & Pledge

Jim Vander Kamp offered the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to our great Flag of the United States of America!

King Soopers

Cy Regan sold \$925 worth of certificates today!

Guests

Long-time optimist **George Mills** visited today and Doug Morton introduced his son **Dudley**. **Jeff Moore** was the guest of Jack Rife and Ron Carlson's wife **Louise** was a guest.

Hospitalized

Jimmie Brown is in the VA hospital, Room 123.

Furry Scurry

Don St. John gave us a heads-up that the Furry Scurry is 5 May and we will meet at 5:00 a.m. A great fun event. Details to follow.

Honeymoon Week-end

Frank Middleton reminded us of the 20-22 July week-end at Breckenridge. Condos have been reserved at the Mountain Thunder Lodge near the base of the New Breckenridge Gondola and within walking distance of main street. Cost per night will be \$155 for a 1BR or \$195 for a 2BR (that's \$97.50 per couple if the 2BR is shared). Lots of activities will be available! Sign up with one of the committee members: Kent Gloor, Al Gapuzan, Frank Middleton or Greg Young.

St. Patricks Day

Gary Strowbridge still needs pooper scoopers for the 17 March (that's next Saturday!) St. Paddy's Day parade. The un-constipated horses will be worked from 8:00 a.m to 12:00. Scoopers will meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Legion Hall (go to breakfast?) and then proceed to the parade. See **Gary or Ron Carlson** to help out with this fun activity.

Irish Singing

Cy Regan says that in honor of St. Patricks day, we will be entertained next Friday by some reknown Irish singers!

Tri-Star Basketball

Jack Rife thanked all those who responded to his plea for help and showed up last Saturday. Over 100 kids participated. Jack may need help for the 17 March finals during half-time of the Nuggets/Phoenix Suns game.

Club Elections

Oscar Sorensen again asked if anyone was interested in serving on the Monaco South Optimist Club Board of Directors to contact him.

Western Hoedown and Barbeque

Frank Middleton says to mark your calendars for this annual event which will be April 21st at The Outpost (10101 East Colorado Ave). Cost will be \$21.00 per person with a nominal fee for drinks. Door prizes, dancing, great fun and camaraderie. Wear your cowboy boots and hats (even if you have no cattle). More on this from Frank when he returns, (see below)

Frank and Sandy

"I'm Getting Married in the Morning"!! So said **Frank** as he announced his forthcoming marriage to **Sandy Sterner** tomorrow (I.e. Sat. the 10th). They will honeymoon for a week in San Antonio. Our Congratulations and Best Wishes to Frank and Sandy!

Oratorical Contest

According to **Bryce Slaby** as clarified by **Karl Geil** the oratorical contest will be held on 20 March at the Schlessman YMCA and that **Lew Lerner** is our program chairman for this event. The Zone contest will be April 26th at Windsor Gardens.

The Broncos

Freddie says that due to recent personnel acquisitions, the Broncos will be back but he is making no predictions this year. (Maybe that's good as his predictions in the past may have jinxed them).

Western States Regional Training Conference/District's 2nd Quarter Conference

The Optimist International President's visit to our District will be combined with the above conferences from Friday, March 30 through Sunday April 1st at the Embassy Suites (I-70 and Havana). Training and informational programs will be offered all day Saturday the 31st for a registration fee of \$15. The programs will include presentations on mentoring programs, new club building, membership and Junior Optimist Octagon International Clubs. The faculty will include **Benny Ellerbe**, the Executive Director of OI and **Ronnie Dunn**, the President of OI.

The OI Presidents' banquet will be Saturday night, the 31st and the District's highly coveted C. Milton Morris Award (6 Monaco South members are previous winners of this award) for service to the Colorado Wyoming District will be presented after the dinner.

On Sunday morning, Immediate Past Governor Judy Williams will present the awards earned by Clubs and individuals during her administration, including the Distinguished Club Award to Monaco South.

Registrations and meal reservations need to be received by March 10. Sign up and come out and get to know many area Optimists and have a great time!! Contact **Karl Geil** for more information.

Police were called to a Daycare Center where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.

The roundest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference.

To write with a broken pencil is pointless.

MONACO SOUTH CALENDAR

Thu, Mar 15	2:30 p.m.	Super Citizen , M.P.B., Bruce Prather
Thu, Mar 15	5:30 p.m.	Super Citizen , Hamilton, Cy Regan
Fri, Mar 16	7:00 a.m.	Meeting Legion Hall, Camaraderie Day
Sat, Mar 17	8:00 a.m.	Pooper Scoopers, St. Patricks Day Parade
Sat, Mar 17		Finals, Tri-Star Basketball
Sat, Mar 17		Denver Public Schools annual History Day Competition
Tue, Mar 20	1:15 p.m. & 2:00 p.m.	Super Citizen , Samuels, Gary Strowbridge
Fri, Mar 23	7:00 a.m.	Meeting, Legion Hall, Auditor Candidate, Bill Wells
Fri, Mar 23	9:00 a.m.	Super Citizen , Holm, Frank Ross
Fri, Mar 23	3:00 p.m.	Super Citizen , Bradley, Ed Collins
Sun, Mar 25	3:00 p.m.	Denver Tech Center's annual Wine Tasting, Seasons Cafe
Fri, Mar 30	7:00 a.m.	Meeting, Legion Hall, Optimist International President, Ronnie Dunn
Fri, Mar 30 through Sun, Apr 1		Western States Regional Training Conference and the District's 2nd Quarter Conference.
Fri, Apr 6	7:00 a.m.	Meeting, Legion Hall, Ghana Clinic, Marg Cook
Fri, Apr 20	6:30 p.m.	Western Hoedown, The Outpost, Frank Middleton

Past Presidents

Bob Rhue	1976-77	Bill Walters	1991-92
Jerry Whitlow	1977-78	Kent Gloor	1992-93
Bill Kosena	1978-79	Gary Strowbridge	1993-94
Duane Wehrer	1979-80	Mark Metevia	1994-95
Curt Jefferies	1980-81	Bob Safe	1995-96
Frank Middleton	1981-82	Tom Overton	1996-97
John Young	1982-83	Peter Dimond	1997-98
Pat Bush	1983-84	Ralph Symalla	1998-99
Bob Hugo	1984-85	Cy Regan	1999-00
Tom Mauro	1985-86	Stan Cohen	2000-01
Curt Lorenzen	1986-87	Don St. John	2001-02
Oscar Sorensen	1987-88	Jack Rife	2002-03
Lupe Salinas	1988-89	Karl Geil	2003-04
Bob Avery	1989-90	Bryce Slaby	2004-05
Bill Litchfield	1990-91	Donlie Smith	2005-06

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Vice President	Phil Perington	303-832-4578
Vice President	Greg Young	303-759-3921
Secretary	Nick Newey	720-981-9552
Treasurer	George Buzick	303-985-0655

Board of Directors

Al Gapuzan	303-893-4368
Russ Paul	303-750-0554
Frank Ross	303-713-1008
Scott Walker	303-409-6171
Bill Litchfield	303-782-0465
Todd Olson	303-759-4228
Carl Brown	303-758-8355
John Young	303-692-8202
Donlie Smith (Past Pres.)	303-759-0380

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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