



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

September 25, 2009

Vol. 33, Issue 52

The Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Robert Wardlaw



Good Morning Optimists!

The clouds are just starting to break after the early morning thunderstorm and as **Frank Middleton** and **Woody Thibodeau** greet us for this morning's meeting there is an electric feeling in the air. Frank is handing out cards and it is another chance at mixing up our seating arrangements. Your editor wishes he had arrived earlier to talk more with **Karl Geil** and **Gary Strowbridge**.

Invocation & Pledge

Marc Goodbody reads the invocation this morning, *Work for International Accord* and asking the Almighty for his help with, *peace among the nations*. Especially timely this week with all that is happening and our recent meetings at the United Nations. Marc then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

Utterings from Prez Phil

President Phil calls his last meeting to order and says hello to someone we haven't seen in a while — **Paul Simon**, looking sharp in coat and tie says hello to the group, it's nice to see Paul again. **John Young** introduces his guest, Keith Galloway who sings with John in his church choir and came to check out what we do.

President Phil talks about the MSOC board and how they have a pool for how many wins the Rockies will reach this year. It's been an exciting season for the local 9 and a couple of the guesses are looking like they might have it. That was an



Pres Phil presenting at the year end banquet.

Photo by Don StJohn

exciting 2-1 win on Friday night, what a time for baseball! Phil mentions it being his last meeting as President of the club and wants to thank all the members who make the weekly meetings work. **Cy Regan, Don St. John, Gary Miller, Bill Well, John Marinos, Bob Finkelmeier,** and **Alan Yockey**, who do a great job of making these weekly get to gathers so enjoyable.

Pres Phil's Moments in History

On this day in history in:

- 1492 a crewman sights land a few weeks early.
- 1639 the first printing press is invented.
- 1690 "Publick Occurrences" is first newspaper to be published in Boston; it is its first and last edition.
- 1789 Congress proposes Bill of Rights (10 of 12 will ratify) and creates the Post Office.
- 1890 Yosemite National Park is established by Congress under President Benjamin Harrison.
- 1869 the 1st Black Friday on Wall Street occurs when financiers Jay Gould and James Fisk attempt to corner the gold market.
- 1926 Henry Ford announces the first 8-hour work day, 5-day work week.
- 1981 Sandra Day O'Connor is sworn in as first female Supreme Court judge.

Meeting Place
American Legion Hall Post 1
5400 East Yale Avenue (Yale & I-25), Denver, Colorado
Every Friday Morning, 7:00 – 8:00 am
****INVITE A FRIEND TO JOIN****

Super Citizen Presenters for October

Day	School	Presenter
9 @ 8:30 am	Slavens	Don Thomson
15 @ 1:30 & 2:15 pm	Samuels	Joe Marci
15 @ 5:30 pm	Hamilton	Les Larson
21 @ 1:20 & 2:05 pm	McMeen	George Vassilaros
21 @ 2:30 pm	MPB	Steve Kady
23 @ 9:10 am	Holm	Dick Cohen
23 @ 3:00pm	Bradley	Howard Fry

Announcements

Frank Middleton asks members to briefly describe what they do on the list that can be found on each table. This is an attempt to create a resource within the club for other members to be able to refer to if they could use a particular resource. A good idea and one worth having.

Bob Avery bemoans the fact that the new seating arrangements make taking attendance a much more laborious task. Our hearts go out to Bob during his struggle. Help Bob out with this next week!

Cy Regan takes the mike and expands on the Grocery Card sales program. He points out that this is a fund raiser for the club and is an easy one for members to take part in, doing something they do anyway (buy food!) and it helps the club at the same time. He thanks the members who are regular supporters and encourages others to take part. Well done, Cy and thank you for your continued efforts!

Eldon Strong asks for 4 volunteers to help the Tamarac Optimist Club pass out Frontier Airlines value coupons. Those who help will also be able to enjoy the game for free!

Tom Mauro returns after a couple weeks away and would like a prompt reply to any changes or additions for the new *Membership Roster*. If you would like to advertise, slots are available.



John Young regrets that he and Claire will miss the installation dinner on Saturday evening and relays a letter written by our own, soon to be president, **Ron Cisco** in younger days following his appointment as Postmaster of the Westminster office. Your editor wishes he had that kind of writing skill!

Randy Marcove tells members about the upcoming Senior Resource Day to be held at First Plymouth Congregational Church, Thursday October 1st. It will run from 8:15 am to 12:15 pm. This exciting event includes a continental breakfast and speakers who will address Fraud Prevention and active aging.

Our Speaker for Today

Kale Smith introduces our speaker this morning. **Doug Smith** is Senior Public Affairs Officer from the Social Security Administration.

In 1935 the Social Security Administration (SSA) was established. SSA is an independent agency of the federal government that administers Social Security, a social insurance program consisting of retirement, disability, and survivors benefits. To qualify for these benefits workers pay Social Security taxes on their earnings; future benefits are based on the employees' contributions.

Doug talked about the current state of Social Security and how it is trying to keep up with the increasing case load. As the country's population grows older, the need for this organization's resources becomes more important. The SSA estimates in the coming years as many as 10,000 Americans a day will be applying for benefits.

To help with this process, SSA has developed a new website that makes it easier to contact and keep



informed about the status of benefits. On it, a person can apply for benefits, check status of the application, learn about business services and

much more. To get to this website go to <http://www.ssa.gov/>.

Historically, Americans have relied on SSA as a major portion of their retirement planning income, along with savings and pensions they may have contributed to. Currently, Colorado has 464,000 residents that receive benefits from SSA.

Doug also mentioned the Social Security Disability insurance program that pays benefits to you and certain family members if you have worked long enough. Your adult child may also qualify for benefits on your earnings record if he or she has a disability that started before age 22. The Supplemental Security Income pays benefits to disabled adults and children who have limited income and resources. SSI benefits are also payable to people over 65 without disabilities who have met the financial limits.

Some who retire choose to return to work and pay back the money they have received to SSA and retire at a later time, receiving full benefits. This was an excellent presentation and pertinent for all members to learn about.

Prez Phil's Last Call

We have a drawing and one lone card remains. It is drawn by none other than **Bryce Slaby** who walks away with a big smile and some cool cash, \$20!

Cy Regan reports Grocery Card sales this week of \$1,225, a nice rebound from last week and perhaps an indicator of strong sales to come.

Concluding his last meeting **President Phil** leads

us in reciting the Creed and we walk out into the beautiful fall morning energized and ready to spread the optimism. What a meeting!

Tamarac's Pancake Breakfast at Applebee's
3301 South Tamarac Drive
Date: Saturday, October 24th, 7:30 – 9:30am
Price: \$7:00

Year End Banquet: The changing of the guard!



Incoming District 25 Governor, **George Mills**.



Ron Cisco, MSOC President 2009-2010. Ron will be the 34th president.



Abigail Nicholas, Incoming Lt. Governor, installs new MSOC officers for 2009-2010.



The gathering of the Blue Jacket's—all the past presidents that were in attendance. President Phil ends his term as the 33rd president on MSOC.



Bette Finkelmeier and **Bill Anderson** share cocktails prior to dinner.



Donlie Smith is presented the MSOC Outstanding Optimist of the Year award by president **Phil Perington**.



Good to see **Gerald Davis**, far left, with his daughter **Jackie Dobrovoly** having a good time.



Marlin Kent, immediate left and seated, enjoys a laugh with **Eldon Strong**.

Photos by
Don & Char StJohn

Monaco South Calendar

Oct 2	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - TBA
Oct 9	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Sally Bonkrude, <i>Leap Into Life: Letting go of the fear of change</i>
Oct 16	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Oct 20	Tue	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, Board Meeting, 3540 S. Poplar, Suite 102
Oct 23	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - TBA
Oct 30	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - TBA

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
Randy Marcove	303-667-3663
Gary Miller	303-751-0838
Greg Young (Past Pres.)	303-759-3921

Newsletter Committee

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net
Marc Goodbody	303-202-1610	mlgoodbody@gmail.com	Bill Walters	303-697-7252	wwalters43@msn.com
Marlin Kent	303-779-0778		Robert Wardlaw	303-759-0360	rlawardlaw@comcast.net
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Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	pedersen.ralph@q.com	Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rzolman691@aol.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Sept.: **ROBERT WARDLAW**, Oct.: **RALPH PEDERSEN**, Nov.: **PHIL PERINGTON**, Dec.: **GEORG BUZICK**

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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