



February 1, 2008  
Vol. 32, Issue 18



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

Editor for this Issue— Craig Eley



### Last Chance for Feb. 15 Valentine's Breakfast

If you and your spouse or significant other want in on the Friday, February 15 Monaco South Valentines' Breakfast, you better act fast. The \$22 per couple cost must be paid to **Tom Overton** by this Friday's meeting, and you must tell him your meal preference by that time. The breakfast will take the place of the Club's regular meeting, and will be held at the Wellshire Inn beginning at 7 a.m.

Reservations are a must and no walk-ins will be seated. So sign up at the next Club meeting or e-mail Tom ASAP at [Tom.Overton@q.com](mailto:Tom.Overton@q.com).

### Doug Morton: College Profs Getting a Bum Rap

The featured speaker at the February 2 meeting was our own Doug Morton. As a textbook publisher, Doug has spent 40 years on college campuses, and he has found most college professors to be hard workers who care deeply about their students. Doug noted that a few sub-par professors tend to become

the subject of radio talk show criticism, tarnishing the entire profession. According to Doug, "we only hear about the jerks."

Doug also observed that Colorado ranks 48th in state funding for education.



O.C. Larson and Dick Cohen quiz middle-schoolers during the February 2 Brain Bowl at George Washington High.

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 February 1, 2008

### Invocation & Pledge

**Cy Regan** offered a prayer which reminded us that one of the purposes of Optimism is to foster an interest in good government (let's all remember to go to our caucuses on Tuesday night). Then he led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Guests

**Ben Lewis**, who works for a non-profit, was the guest of **Oscar Sorensen** and **Doug Morton**. Also visiting was **Rolf Werner**, a member and Past President of the soon-to-be-disbanded Lowry Optimist Club, who was invited by **Karl Geil** to check out our Club as a possible new Optimist home.

### Welcome Home!

**Bob Avery** is working on a reception to welcome the Air National Guard home from Iraq on February 10 at Buckley Air Force Base. The event will be from noon until 4 p.m., and volunteers are needed from Monaco South. Due to security concerns, you can't just show up and hope to be admitted to the event. If you have not yet signed up, give Bob a call as soon as possible at 303-770-0074.

### Thank You

The Club received a letter from the Alta Vista Center for Autism, thanking us for the \$300 donation we made to it.

The Club also purchased English dictionaries for a school in the Philippines where **Laura Eley**, the daughter of **Craig** and **Cindy Eley**, teaches English as a Peace Corps volunteer. She



4th graders at Cadiz West II Elementary School in the Philippines peruse their new dictionaries.

sent a note of appreciation and a photo of her 4th graders with their new dictionaries. The youngsters attend the Cadiz West II Elementary School on the Philippine island of Negros.

### Confession is Good for the Soul

**Marlin Kent** has for years maintained the mailing list for those MSOCers who still receive GUMS by mail. Although Marlin doesn't make it to too many meetings, this Eternal Optimist still helps out with GUMS every week.

Readers may recall a complaint lodged by **Oscar Sorensen** awhile ago because he had not received his GUMS for three weeks. The GUMS committee decided it was the Post Office's fault. As **John Young** is fond of saying, "Confession is good for the soul, but bad for the reputation." Here is Marlin's confession, sent by mail to your editor.

My Apolojeez to Oss-Carr Serenson

Never could figure out why Oss-car didn't get the three issues of GUMS - - and after having been properly tweaked and chastised editorially, I hope he gets the next three I may miss. Editor-in-Chief Craig Eley and Post Office whipping boy Cisco are off the hook - - this one is on me, li'l ole label maker, Marlin. There is an explanation, but I'd have to wave my hands.

"Marlin sez: Sorry about that."

We will leave it to our readers as to whether this confession has tarnished Marlin's sterling reputation.

### Tri-Star Basketball Schedule Change

**Gary Laman** announced that this year's Monaco South Tri-Star Basketball competition will be

Thursday, February 28 at 4 p.m. at the Cope Boys and Girls Club facility at 8<sup>th</sup> and Inca. This has been changed from the previously announced date of February 21. Volunteers who can help with this traditional Club event should contact Gary at 303-564-4723.



### Taking it Easy

News comes from **Gerry Davis** that he has relocated to St. Andrew Village retirement home. His new address and telephone number is:

Gerald Davis  
2670 South Abilene  
East Building, #216  
Aurora, CO. 80024  
303.755.1009

Gerry writes: "I sincerely hope you will stay in touch. Please give me a call and tell me what's new in your world. Hopefully, I will have some good stories about the new people I am meeting and the new places I am visiting.

### Super Citizen Presenters Needed Now!

Last week it was announced that we have added University Park Elementary School to the roster of schools where the Club conducts Super Citizen programs. This week it was announced that we have also added Slavens Elementary.



Super Citizen presenters are need immediately for February programs at a number of schools. Contact **Joe Marci** at 303-771-3748 or at [marcifrog@aol.com](mailto:marcifrog@aol.com) if you can help at one of the following programs:

- Feb. 12 (Tue) @ 1:15 p.m. - Samuels Elem.
- Feb. 29 (Fri) @ 3 p.m. - Bradley Elementary
- Feb. 29 (Fri) @ 9 a.m. - Holm Elementary

There are many March and April dates which also need to be filled, so contact Joe to take part in this meaningful program.

### Monaco South Calendar

<b>Feb 8</b> Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Don Mares, Executive Director, Colorado Dept. of Labor and Employment: <i>Labor Trends in Colorado</i> .
<b>Feb 8-10</b> Fr I- Sun	Second Quarter Board Meeting & Conference, Hilton Garden Inn, Highlands Ranch, 1050 Plaza Drive.
<b>Feb 10</b> Sun 12- 4 pm	Welcome Home from Iraq - Buckley Air Force Base.
<b>Feb 15</b> Fri 7:00 am	Wives & Friends to Breakfast. <b>No meeting at Legion Hall.</b>
<b>Feb 21</b> Thu 4:00 pm	Monaco South Tri-Star Basketball - Cope Boys & Girls Club, 8 <sup>th</sup> and Inca.
<b>Feb 22</b> Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day.
<b>Feb 24</b> Sun 6 p.m.	Eagle Scout Recognition Reception.
<b>Feb 29</b> Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Bill Convery: <i>Colorado History Day</i> .
<b>Mar 12</b> Wed 6:30 pm	Monaco South Oratorical Contest - Schlessman YMCA.
<b>Mar 21</b> Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Craig Eley: <i>Patrick Henry</i> .
<b>Mar 28</b> Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day.
<b>Apr 11</b> Fri	Zone 9 Oratorical Contest - Windsor Gardens.

**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		

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Jim Brown	303-671-6309
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Bill Walters	303-697-7252	wwalters43@msn.com	Marlin Kent	303-779-0778	
Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	pedersen.ralph@q.com	Robert Wardlaw	303-759-0360	rlawardlaw@comcast.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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ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES**

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