



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

December 26, 2008

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The Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 Denver, Colorado

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for December—Bill Walters



Good Morning Optimists!!

Today's Greeters

For the day after Christmas we were greeted by none other than cheerful **Dick Cohen**. Everyone seemed to be ready for the annual *KIDS TO BREAKFAST* program.

Invocation, Pledge & Recognition of Guests

After the invocation and pledge your editor made it a point to meet all of our visitors.

Our guests this morning were the kids and grandkids of our members. Guests of **Gary Laman** (and wife, Joyce, member of the Tamarac Optimist Club) were grandkids Izzy and Max. Guests of **Ron Cisco** were his neighbor Tom Recke and Tom's son Csaba. Guests of **Mike Miller** were two of his grandkids Ashton and Aubree. Guests of **Ralph Pederson** were his son-in-law from Loveland Chuck Wittenmeier and two of Ralph's grandkids, Peder and Portia. Ralph also brought his neighbor Luke Vandershorst. Guests of **Jim Easton** were Jim's twin brother John, from Alaska, and Jim's son Evan. **Paul Stratton's** guest was his son Luke Straton. Luke said he was 5-7/8 years old. **Don Iley's** guests were his twin daughters 14 year old Molly and Emily (who is 31 minutes younger), Amy Grace and David rounded out the Iley clan who were all dressed in Christmas-like shirts with their names on the shirts. **John Young's** guests were his neighbor Clark Wilson and Clark's son Drew. **Jim Vander Kamp's**

guest was 10 year old Christina. Jack Hoch was a guest of his dad, **Tom Hoch**.



Joyce Laman and grandson Max.



Jim Easton and his twin brother John.



One of Mike Miller's grandkids sharing their excitement.

Two of Don Iley's girls dressed in their Christmas shirts.



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

Announcements

Christmas Baskets: Greg Young reported, this past Saturday, 22 members helped with the set up and delivery of 37 Christmas baskets to less fortunate families across the nine schools (and Boys & Girls Club's) that we support. Bright and early **Bob Avery, Greg Young, Dick Daly** and his boys, and **Eldon Strong** went to Safeway at Monaco and Yale, where manager Greg Burke had all the boxes and turkeys ready to load. The crew loaded the goodies and took them to the legion hall for members to distribute. Thanks to efficient maps prepared by **Don St. John** and **Greg Young**, the food boxes and toys donated by **Fred Pasternack** and Hamilton School Parents Group were quickly delivered by the following members: **Ron Cisco, Gary Strowbridge, Phil Perington, Tom Mauro, Oscar Sorensen, Bill Wells** and crew, **Les Larson, Greg Young, Bob Avery, Joe Marci, Steve Kady, Terry Shroyer, Eldon Strong, OC Larson, Ron Gustas, Kent Gloor, Dick Cohen, Scott Walker, Dick Daly** and crew, and **Bob Finkelmeier**. Thanks to all for another successful project to support our KIDS... High Fives all around! Sorry, no one remembered to bring a camera.

Tree Lot Set's New Record! Joe Marci reported that we broke last year's record by one tree. We sold 1189 trees out of 1212 that Joe contracted for. Ninety-seven (97) different MSOCers worked to make this another successful year. Joe said, we must recognize one member who contributed over-and-above the call of duty: first year member, **Steve Kady**, worked 18 different days totaling 85 hours. Steve not only was a super cashier but he made the signs for our final days of operation when trees were sold for half-price. "Way to go Steve!"



Special thanks also go to our board members who ensured each day had enough salesmen to meet and greet our customers. "You guys did great!"

Our leading salesmen included Paul Simon, Paul Bernard, Bryce Slaby, Oscar Sorensen, OC Larson, Les Larson, Greg Young and Phil Perington.

There were 1146 trees sold to our customers plus MSOCers purchased 43 more trees, bringing our number to 1189 sold. Joe said this was not an all-time high in total members participating but it was a great showing considering this year's economy

Finally, Joe wanted to thank all the 97 MSOCers who worked, the ladies of Tamarac Optimist Club, the students from TJ and GW high schools. We could not have done this huge job without all your help and assistance.

MSOC Holiday Party, Friday, Jan. 9th, 7:00 pm at the Canyon Club Condominium Clubhouse: Craig Eley announced that this year's annual holiday party will again be at the Canyon Club Clubhouse. He and his committee (**Paul Simon, Jim Easton, Bill Wells, Frank Middleton, OC Larson, Donlie Smith, Ed Collins, Bryce Slaby, and Greg Young**) have again secured the location (thanks to **John Moser** for helping to arrange) and he has contracted with a group of singers to entertain us for about 40 minutes. Craig is planning to have another TV-like game activity, like we did last year. However this year it will be Family Feud, so that a number of people will be able to participate. If someone has a better idea he is not locked into this.

Food will be potluck, with the club providing ham and turkey main dishes. Attendees should bring their favorite appetizer, salad or dessert. More details on this to come.

Craig and committee are looking for Clean-up help volunteers—he needs about three. If you would like to assist, please contact Craig or one of the committee members.

GARY LAMAN (Know your fellow Optimist)

Gary was responsible for the annual KIDS TO BREAKFAST program we had this morning and it was terrific. Gary is a second generation Denver native. He grew up at 14th & Cherry then moved to Littleton when he was 12. Gary met Joyce 42 years ago in college. After college Gary entered the printing business with his dad's company Laman for Letters, Inc. Today Gary has a successful courier business called Executive Courier, Inc (the Well Dressed Messengers) Gary has always been a "fashion plate" and his courier business is successful because of that. Gary and Joyce have a daughter, Jenni and a son Grant. Jenni and her husband blessed them with two wonderful grandkids, 7 year old Izzy and 3 year old Max. They both helped Grand Dad Gary at this morning's KIDS TO BREAKFAST bash. You all know Grant, who is the great basketball coach at TJ. Grant is married with an 11 year old Jake. Gary loves old cars and Rock and Roll. He is an expert on both and all the paraphernalia in his office shows that.


This taken from the GUMs newsletter of December 1993 (the year your editor was president of MSOC) The annual KIDS TO BREAKFAST gala was held today with a special "MAGIC" program by our own Arch Jefferies (Curt's dad). Arch entertained audiences at Casa Bonita for years. For 18 years, Arch performed his magic act on pleasure cruise lines. Arch has performed his magic in Madrid, Mexico City, Alaska, Canada, and most of the western United States. Arch was awarded Magician of the year in 1989.

Kids to Breakfast Program

Our Kids to Breakfast program was **SWEET TART**, a Healthy Voice for Children. Robyn Carnes, aka, Sweet Tart, weaves music, movement, color and characters into her performance targeting pre-K and lower elementary aged children and their families. The interaction by all of our guests was very enjoyable for us MSOCers. This program was arranged by **Gary Laman** and two of his grandkids who were present. Robyn Carnes also has an adult version of her program that she presents to adults. She can be reached at: robyn@MoreThanFun.org and her web site is: <http://www.morethanfun.org/>.



Monaco South Calendar

Dec 31	Wed		New Year's Eve	
Jan 1	Thu		HAPPY NEW YEAR!	
Jan 2	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - John Young, <i>The Zen of Optimism</i>	
Jan 9	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - David Bogosian, <i>Of Personal Growth and Involvement</i>	
Jan 9	Fri	7:00 pm	MSOC Holiday Party , Canyon Club Condominium Clubhouse	
Jan 13	Tue	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102	
Jan 16	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day	
Jan 21	Wed	1:15/2:00 pm	Super Citizen, McMeen Elementary School - Les Larson	
Jan 21	Wed	2:30 pm	Super Citizen, Most Precious Blood - Randy Marcove	
Jan 23	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Arvin K. Rao, MD - <i>South Denver Ear, Nose & Throat Specialist (ENT) & Allergy Clinic</i>	
Jan 23	Fri	9:00 am	Super Citizen, Holm Elementary School - TBA	
Jan 24	Sat	7:00 am	Brain Bowl at Fairview High School, Boulder, CO	

**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

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Vice President	Frank Ross	303-713-1008
Secretary	Rich Wagner	303-362-5328
Treasurer	Ron Gustas	303-770-9640

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Gary Miller	303-751-0838
Greg Young (Past Pres.)	303-759-3921

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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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