



March 14, 2008  
Vol. 32, Issue 24



# 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—Robert Wardlaw



### Good Morning Optimist!

On a beautiful late winter morning, members were greeted by coat and tailed members of the scoop patrol gearing up for the St. Patrick's Day Parade. What a fine start to the meeting!

**Neil Atkinson** gave the invocation asking for help in remembering the principles of Optimist Creed and to carry those beliefs with us throughout each day, and then led us all in the pledge of allegiance.

**Cy Regan** then gathered members of the pooper-scoopers on the stage and regaled the group with stirring renditions of *Wild Irish Rose*, *When Irish Eyes Are Smiling* and for the finale, Cy performed *Oh Danny Boy*, to a standing ovation.

Guests for this morning breakfast included Dean Cooloy, who came as **Fred Pasternack's** guest. **Craig Eley's** brother also attended, the resemblance is startling. **John Young** announced the sponsorship of his 69th new member, **Scott Henke**, who will be a strong addition to the club.



Archived picture, probably of Cy's shillelagh.

### Announcements

**Tom Mauro** reviewed the recent Super Citizen award presentation at Hamilton Middle School, where 14 youngsters were recognized. Time again, to update the directory, if you need any additions please see Tom. Rates to advertise business cards in the directory are a bargain for those so interested.

**Karl Geil** mentioned the upcoming dinner for Optimist International President, Theo Golding, March 29<sup>th</sup>. Held at the Doubletree Hotel, the evening should be an entertaining evening with a chance to meet and hear Pres Golding speak.

**Craig Eley** showed wooden nickels members of the scooper patrol could pass out to kids along the parade route during the St. Patrick's Day parade. When advised that throwing the coins would be against the law, Craig announced, "*Who care about the law!*"

**Oscar Sorensen** reminded members that April 11<sup>th</sup> will be Election Day for the club and to remind interested parties to submit names for the available positions to him.

Continued next page

### Meeting Place

American Legion Hall Post 1

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

Every Friday Morning, 7 - 8 a.m.

Announcements continued

**Wyatt McCallie** also mentioned at that same meeting, the essay winner from TJ High School will be reading her essay for the members.

**Jack Rife** reviewed the regional contest event for the Tri Star Basketball held last Saturday. They had over 120 kids participate and the 36 winners go on to the Pepsi Center to compete in the finals on April 13<sup>th</sup>. Tickets to this game featuring the Nuggets vs. Houston Rockets can be purchased from Jack for \$20. Members who helped out with the regional contest include, **John Green, Don Thomson, Russ Paul, Phil Perrington, George Buzick, Mike Snipes,** and **Gary Laman.**



**Don Thomson** gave an update on the Super Citizen award presentations including 7 awards given out in February and 5 planned for this month. There will also be a field trip April 9<sup>th</sup> to the Dumb Friends League, for several youngsters. In May, the **Charles Korsoski Award** will be given to one lucky student. The winner receives a nice plaque and \$100 savings certificate, to be given out at each participating school.



Don also mentioned his wife Joyce, is available to conduct classes for CPR certification, and received many interested acknowledgments.

## Speaker Today Dan Roybal

The speaker today Dan Roybal (on the left in the picture), was introduced by **Ron Cisco**. Ron talked about working with Dan who is the director at the Cope Branch for Boys and Girls Club, Inc. Dan has been with the Boys and Girls Club for 25 years and Ron mentioned what a pleasant and positive environment Dan has created for the kids there.



Dan Roybal is one the lucky people in this world who has found what he enjoys doing in life and gets paid to do it. He spoke about the William E. Cope Branch of the Boys and Girls Club, located at 808 Inca Street in Denver. The clubs goal is to provide young people, ages 6-18, with a safe and positive place to spend their free time. In the Club, youth engage in safe, educational and fun activities led by youth developmental professionals that guide members to help them realize their full potential. And they do this for \$2 per year!

Programs include a Technology section, which teaches Microsoft office basics, animation, music mixing, and web page design among others. Education and Career Development that helps kids with homework, offers reading and writing programs, job preparation, information on scholarships and more. They also have and Arts program where kids

The club had only 2 applicants for the Oratorical Contest, so we are switching our event to Prairie Middle School on March 27<sup>th</sup>, and will be helping out there. Let **Jim Brown** know if you can be of assistance, of **Tom Hoch**, Contest Chair, 303-690-1507 or 303-332-9338 cell.

March is national recruitment month, anyone who needs a **JUST ASK** button can get one from **Greg Young**. When visiting your local supermarket, church,



can participate in painting, ceramics and drama. They also hold a youth of the year banquet featuring presentations and skits by the kids. The sports, fitness and recreation areas offer organized sports including football, street hockey, soccer, basketball, baseball, and cheerleading. Dan mentioned a past baseball league sponsored by the Optimists Club. The club also offers courses in Character and Leadership Development, the Gates Camp is an 80 acre camp located in Ward, CO which allows kids to explore outdoor activities such as hiking and fishing in an outdoor setting.

Dan mentioned that typically he has 130 kids show up on a daily basis and at closing time, at 9, there are still 70-80 kids there. It is a place where they can feel safe and have a structured environment to participate. He thanked the club for their programs at Thanksgiving and Christmas and mentioned how much the community valued them.

All 8 Boys and Girls Clubs are under one organization with an annual budget of \$8 million. They also have been supported by the major league teams in the city with tickets provided to games and mentioned the field donated by the Colorado Rockies and the great Big Cat, Andres Galarraga! Marcus Camby from the Denver Nuggets, has also been a supporter of the club sponsoring families for meals and 15 lucky kids at Christmas time to buy gifts for their loved ones.

school, work, or social gatherings, see how many people you can get to ask you about your **JUST ASK** button!

See the link below for a bit of Optimist Club Membership Magic: [http://www.optimist.org/Publications/Just\\_Ask\\_membership\\_magic.pdf](http://www.optimist.org/Publications/Just_Ask_membership_magic.pdf)

Take a look at the new look of our **MSOC Website** at, <http://www.monacosouth.org/index.php>, recently updated by webmaster extraordinaire, **Paul Bernard.**

## Darrent Williams Sculpture

A sculpture of Darrent Williams will be unveiled on May 21<sup>st</sup>, at 4pm at the Darrent Williams Teen Center, Montbello Boys and Girls Club, 4397 Crown Blvd, Denver. Donated by our own Doug Morton and his wife Marilyn. This generous and beautiful 10' high sculpture is not to be missed. All Optimists are invited to the unveiling.

## Donation to CDHH

Monaco South recently donated \$500 to the Colorado/Wyoming Communications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CDHH or formerly Help the Hear). This contribution will help two needy hard of hears boys with repair of their damaged hearing aids. The family and Hal Leith of the Golden Optimist Club send thanks to the generous members of MSOC. Anyone wanting to contribute can mail Hal a check at 2050 Mt. Zion Drive, Golden, CO 82401.

## Earliest Easter...March 23<sup>rd</sup>



Have you realized how early Easter is this year? As you may have heard, Easter is always the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after the 1<sup>st</sup> full moon after the Spring Equinox (which is March 20)—the Paschal full moon. This dating of Easter is based on the lunar calendar

that Hebrew people used to identify Passover, which is why it moves around on the Roman calendar.

Based on the above, Easter can actually be one day earlier (March 22) but that is pretty rare. Here's the interesting information. This year is the earliest Easter any of us will ever see the rest of our lives! And only the most elderly of our population have ever seen it this early (95 years old or above!). And none of us have ever, or will ever, see it a day earlier!

Here are the facts:

1. The next time Easter will be this early (March 23) will be the year 2228 (220 years from now). The last time it was this early was 1913 (so if you're 95 or older, you are the only ones that were around for that!).
2. The next time Easter will be a day earlier, March 22, will be in the year 2285 (277 years from now). The last time Easter was on March 22 was 1818. So, no one alive today has or will ever see it any earlier than this year!

**Passover** (April 20-26, 2008) was instituted the evening preceding the Exodus from Egypt. The first Passover was observed about the time of the full moon on the 14th day of Nisan. This was therefore to be celebrated annually. This date falls within the months of March and April of the Gregorian calendar. Seasonally, it fell at the beginning of the barley harvest.



## Monaco South Calendar

Mar 18	Tue	6:30 pm	MSOC Board Meeting - Eley's Office
Mar 21	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Craig Eley: <i>Patrick Henry</i>
Mar 28	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Apr 4	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - <i>Sara Winter: Nye Colorado Trails Association</i>
Apr 11	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Bob Fein: <i>Sports Marketing</i>
Apr 11	Fri		Zone 9 Oratorical Contest - Windsor Gardens Centerpoint
Apr 13	Sun		Tri-Star Basketball District Finals
Apr 18	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Apr 20	Sun		9Health Fair, Schlessman YMCA
Apr 25	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Kristen Bertuglia: <i>Pharmaceutical and Water</i>
May 2	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Dr. Richard Flanagan: <i>Longevity</i>
May 2-4			3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter District Conference
May 3	Sat		Dumb Friends League Furry Scurry, Washington Park
May 21	Wed	4:00pm	Montbello Boys and Girls Club, Darrent Williams Teen Center Dedication

## 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

## Board of Directors

Russ Paul	303-750-0554
Frank Ross	303-713-1008
Scott Walker	303-517-1862
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

## Newsletter Committee

Craig Eley	303-758-9499	<a href="mailto:craig@eley.net">craig@eley.net</a>	Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	<a href="mailto:jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net">jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net</a>
Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	<a href="mailto:rfinkelmeier@comcast.net">rfinkelmeier@comcast.net</a>	Bill Walters	303-697-7252	<a href="mailto:wwalters43@msn.com">wwalters43@msn.com</a>
Marc Goodbody	303-202-1610	<a href="mailto:mlgoodbody@gmail.com">mlgoodbody@gmail.com</a>	Robert Wardlaw	303-759-0360	<a href="mailto:rwardlaw@comcast.net">rwardlaw@comcast.net</a>
Marlin Kent	303-779-0778		John Young	303-692-8202	<a href="mailto:johnandclaire@comcast.net">johnandclaire@comcast.net</a>
Jim Leuschner	720-851-7102	<a href="mailto:flyleusch@aol.com">flyleusch@aol.com</a>	Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	<a href="mailto:rzolman691@aol.com">rzolman691@aol.com</a>
Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	<a href="mailto:pedersen.ralph@q.com">pedersen.ralph@q.com</a>			

## 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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