



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

September 4, 2009

Vol. 33, Issue 49

The Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Robert Wardlaw



Good Morning Optimists!

Your editor was fortunate to greet guests this morning with **Ralph Pedersen**. It is a pleasure to meet so many smiling faces this early in the day.

Invocation & Pledge

Doug Morton gave the invocation this morning, and highlighted the importance of having a cheerful countenance at all times. Try to remember that each day is a gift and to take the opportunity to spread a positive attitude to everyone we meet. The old saying about attitudes being contagious is true and people can be affected by how we conduct ourselves. Doug then led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

Utterings from Prez Phil

President Phil greets members this morning and asks about guests. These include Ron Roth, a guest of **Les Larson**. Ron is retired and his experience includes running a distribution company and he sold a mortgage company just before the housing market went south. He is looking for an organization to join and add his talents—Welcome Ron! District Governor elect Ron Benson also joins us this morning and had some words of wisdom for us. President Phil introduces members we haven't seen recently including **Steve Yates** and **Bill Jaynes**.

Prez Phil's Weekly Recap

Phil recaps the highlights of last weekends 61st Annual District Convention in Colorado Springs. Past President and current District Finance Chair, **Frank Middleton**; Past Governor and Club Treasurer, **George Buzick**; President Elect and Past Governor, **Ron Cisco**; Past President, **Tom Overton**; Treasurer-Elect and most recent past President, **Greg Young**; Past Lt. Governor and past President, **Karl Geil**; current Lt. Governor and past President, **Paul Bernard**; Charter Member and past President, **Kent Gloor**; District Membership Chair-Elect, **Bill Wells**; Optimist International Representative, **Fred Pasternack**; past President and current District Sergeant-at-Arms, **Don St. John**; Liberty Day Co-Chair, **Andy McKean**; and Lt. Governor-Elect and MSOC President, **Phil Perington**; all represented Monaco South Optimist Club. Meeting highlights included **Fred Pasternack** presenting \$200 to the **Jimmie Brown** Perfect Attendance Program. Issues discussed included delegate allocation and changing the criteria to one (1) delegate for every twenty-five (25) club members. Also, there were eleven (11) first time attendees, which presented an opportunity for new ideas to be discussed.

One of the social highlights of this years convention was the Pikes Peak Cog Railway trip up Pikes Peak.

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

Announcements

Freddie Pasternack gave a recap of last night's Broncos pre season game. He reports positive news for the home town team's progress, but declines when asked for a prediction on how the season record will unfold. I'm sure more uttering's from Freddie will be forthcoming!

Bill Walters takes the microphone and gives an effusive thumbs up for this morning's breakfast—another great effort by **John Marinis**. As last months GUMS editor, Bill had asked for reader feedback in a recent article, including answers to queries posted. Of those who responded, Bill drew names between **Craig Eley** and **Karl Geil** since there was a tie, and **Craig** won a \$25 gift card. Not only does Bill wax eloquence, but lucky readers are rewarded handsomely for their interest! And so it goes!

Joe Marci needs about 12 volunteers for the Alzheimer's Memory Walk on September 19th to be held at City Park.

Additionally, if you purchased an *Entertainment Book* from Joe, they are in and can be picked up. Proceeds from these sales help support the Robert Sullivan Scholarship Program. So it is for a very worthwhile cause!



Greg Young announced and sent around a sign up sheet for the **Annual MSOC Banquet** to be held on September 26th at Blossoms Restaurant at Heather Gardens, 2888 South Heather Gardens Way. Please get your money in, only \$25 per person, and plan to attend.

Ron Gustas updates members on **Bob Hugo** who is recovering from back surgery. You can call 720-213-1711 to see about visiting Bob while he recovers at the Advanced Health Care Center in Aurora, 1800 South Potomac Street. Make the time to visit Bob if you can!

The Poor Luck of the Draw: with only six cards left in the deck this week we had no winners for the kitty.

Cy Regan reported grocery card sales over \$1,000 this week. Let's keep this up and push it up!

Speakers Needed

If you know of speakers for our weekly meetings, please call or email **Paul Bernard** with names and ideas at 720-339-8025 or pxbernard@gmail.com.

Optimist On-line

If you receive GUMS via email you might also want to visit some of the key Optimist websites. For example:

- **MSOC's own** @ <http://www.monacosouth.org/>. Here you can view past issues of GUMS and see our Calendar of Events. This site is maintained by our own **Paul Bernard**.
- **Colorado-Wyoming District** @ <http://www.optimistcowy.org/>. Find out what is happening at the district level and learn more about what is happening in our region.
- **Optimist International** @ <http://www.optimist.org/>. Here you can discover what is happening around the world and find out how now more than 3,000 Optimist Clubs "Bringing Out the Best in Kids." From this site you can also seek out information on the Optimist International Foundation, the Junior Optimist Octagon International (JOOI) youth coalition, and much, much more.
- **Optimist International Group on LinkedIn** @ <http://www.linkedin.com/>. LinkedIn is a business-oriented social networking website. Our own **Randy Marcove** initiated the Optimist networking group on LinkedIn back in June 2008. Currently there are over 195 Optimist from around the US that have shared their interest and comments about on going club activities. Come and join!

Words of Uttering Wisdom

Confucius Says,

- Man who run in front of car get tired.
- Man who run behind car get exhausted.
- Man with one chopstick go hungry.
- Man who eat many prunes get good run for money.
- War does not determine who is right, war determine who is left.
- Wife who put husband in doghouse soon find him in cathouse.
- Man who fight with wife all day get no piece at night.
- It take many nails to build crib, but one screw to fill it.
- Man who drive like hell, bound to get there.
- Man who live in glass house should change clothes in basement.
- Man who fish in other man's well often catch crabs.
- Crowded elevator smell different to midget.

Program for Today, Harry Fegley

Our speaker today was member **Harry Fegley**, who on "*The Other Side of Africa*." Harry and his wife Linda have traveled extensively, and enjoyed many parts of the world. Their time in Africa has been memorable.

In 1990 Harry and Linda spent time in Nepal, in part conducting leadership training seminars for locals. They met another couple from the United States in one city and enjoyed dinner with them and becoming acquainted. They returned in 1999, conducting seminars in Katmandu and it was during this time that the Maoist Revolution broke out. It was after this visit, that Harry was approached to do similar seminars in Africa.

After initially declining the chance to visit Uganda, Harry and Linda accepted the opportunity after consulting with people in the State Department. In the village where they stayed, the Fegley's stayed in the nicest building within many miles. During their 3 week stay they conducted training classes and helped the villagers with aspects of time management and leadership development. Harry showed slides of his room, the bed decorated elaborately, and then another showing a mosquito netting that is a requirement in this part of the world. During this time, they were involved with several projects. The Goat Project involved giving a villager a goat and allowing them to care for the animal for a year with all aspects of the animal's care being the individuals' responsibility. Many individuals flourish in this environment and are rewarded for their work. Others, don't fare as well and some fail, but the results show how training can benefit long-term plans. The local population is extremely poor and for most of us, this kind of life is unimaginable. Harry displayed a slide of the cooks who worked over an open flame, where they were conducting the seminars, they were dressed in their best clothes and tried to provide, as well as they could, for their guests. Harry also talked about the Timothy Project which was for orphans whose families had been wiped out by the battles in the region. Some of these children had made a fourteen hour trip to the location to participate in this program, which included volunteer work in the community. One of the aspects Harry required of his class attendees, was that they use the skills they were being taught and tangible follow up documentation was recorded.

Harry talked about an elementary school attended by 3,000 children and the stark conditions they were exposed to. Despicable poverty with no running water, indoor plumbing, and lack of resources were common conditions. The Peace Project was started by one woman, who mediated between two warring tribes who fought over food. Because of her efforts, an agricultural project that benefited over 40,000 people of the two tribes has been undertaken. Funds from the European Union has helped further these projects and continues to benefit the people of the region.

Harry talked more about the reasons for the continued struggles of the people in Uganda and Africa. A Wall Street Journal article entitled, "*Why Isn't Aid Working?*" was discussed. Corruption, no accountability, and lack of follow up are some of the reasons for years of contributions and billions of dollars in aid has resulted in so little progress. Even suggestions of some sort of benevolent dictatorship being the best environment for the continent were talked about.

Thank you Harry for a very interesting presentation!



Photo by Don St. John

Monaco South Calendar

Sep 9	Wed	7:00 pm	Budget Meeting, 3540 S. Poplar, Suite 102
Sep 11	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - John Arigoni, Pres. & CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Denver
Sep 11-13	Weekend		Honeymoon/Getaway Weekend - Colorado Arlberg Club-Winter Park
Sep 15	Tue	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, 3540 S. Poplar, Suite 102
Sep 18	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Sep 25	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Speaker TBA
Sep 26	Sat	6:00 pm	Monaco South Year End Banquet —Blossoms Restaurant

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.

PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID
AT DENVER, COLORADO AND

Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (USPS 401730)
Is published weekly for \$2.00 per year by the
Optimist Club of Monaco South at
4173 S. Rosemary Way, Denver, CO 80237
Postmaster: Send address changes to:
Marc Goodbody
3235 YARROW CT
WHEAT RIDGE, CO 80033-5980