



May 16, 2008
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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

Editor for this Issue— Craig Eley

Sullivan Scholars Visit Monaco South

Among the visitors to the May 16, 2008 meeting of the Optimist Club of Monaco South were the Robert Sullivan Scholarship winners. On Thursday evening, May 1st, Monaco South President **Greg Young** presented the seven Thomas Jefferson High School students with \$500 scholarships for college expenses.

The 2008 Sullivan Scholarship recipients are **Sydney Graham, Jillian Tesfazion, Katie Fitzgerald, Allyson Hussey, Christopher Baber, Thomas Mahoney** and **Shawn Newman**.

The scholarship

fund was established in 2000 in memory of **Robert Sullivan**, an active Monaco South Optimist and Thomas Jefferson High School Booster Club president. The fund is replenished each year through fundraising by Monaco South, and continues to be a popular program for the Club.



As an added bonus, Bob's widow, **Kathy**, a member of the Tamarac Optimist Club, also attended the meeting and had an opportunity to meet the scholarship winners.

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 May 16, 2008

Invocation & Pledge

Immediate Past President **Paul Bernard** offered an invocation in which he urged us to “live not for our fears, but for our hopes.” Then he led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Guests

We had plenty of Thomas Jefferson High School student, teacher and parent guests. We were also visited by **Joe Miklosi**, who is running as a Democrat for the Colorado House of Representatives from District 9. We thought about signing him up, but every MSOCer who has ever run for the legislature has lost, so we figured we’d wait until *after* the election.

Pity the FOO

President **Greg Young** decided to school us a little in Optimist lingo, so he asked us what “FOO” means. “Friend of Youth!” quickly answered the glib but clearly alphabetically challenged **Ron Cisco**. “Friend of Optimism,” Greg revealed. He explained that this is a program in which you sign up to be a friend of a particular club, and you don’t have to go to meetings or participate in club activities, all for \$100 per year. “That’s called a donation,” sniffed the suspicious **Eldon Strong**.

They are the People!

The East High School Constitutional Scholars team won this year’s national “We the People” competition in Washington, D.C., defeating 1200 competitors from 49 states and the District of Columbia. One of the team members, **Lindsay Shields**, was a Monaco South Super Citizen years ago, and the Club donated \$500 to her team to help finance its trip to the nation’s capitol. Congratulations to Lindsay and the East High team!

Sock it to Them

The Club received a passel of hand-made cards from students at Holly Hills Elementary School, thanking us for the socks we

collected and donated to them as a result of our Sock Drive.

Profitable Event

A representative of the Dumb Friends League stopped by the meeting to thank us for our help at this year’s Furry Scurry. She told us the event raised \$830,000 (they probably would have hit a million if we had sold pancakes!).

Scouting for Money

Greg Hurd introduced **Max Churchfield** from Troop 345. Max solicited donations to fund his Eagle Scout project, which is to rebuild an outdoor amphitheater at High Plains Elementary School.

Essay Contest Winners

The winners of Monaco South’s Essay Contest, all students at Thomas Jefferson High School, attended the meeting with their parents. First place winner, who is also this year’s valedictorian, was **Christina Danek**.



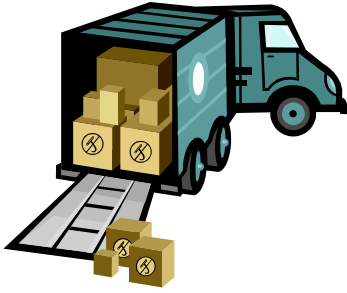
Christina Danek reads her winning essay to the Club.

The second place winner, who was recently in TJ’s musical, *Chicago*, was **Nelson Barry**. Third place was captured by **Cooper Hearne**, who would be trying to capture the state baseball championship this week-end as a member of TJ’s team.

Christina read her first place essay, which explored how today’s choices effect each person’s future. Along with the students and parents, the meeting was attended by **Scott Lessard**, Thomas Jefferson Assistant Principal, **Gordon Heaton**, TJ AP History teacher and faculty liaison for the contest, and Essay Contest judges **Paula Kauffman** and **Jan Shellhammer**. **Nicki Marci**, who could not attend, was also an Essay Contest judge.

A Moving Plea

Monaco South member **Russ Paul** needs helping moving to a different apartment on Saturday, May 31. Unlike the Furry Scurry, you *won't* have to be there at 5:30 a.m. If you can help Russ, give him a call at 303-750-0554.



Williams Statue to be Unveiled

On Wednesday, May 21 at 4 p.m. the Darrent Williams statue will be unveiled at the Boys & Girls Club at 4397 Crown Boulevard in Denver.

To get the event from the south, take I-25 north to I-225 to I-70 heading west; take I-70 west to Peoria; head north on Peoria to Albrook; turn right and head east on Albrook to Crown Boulevard. The Darrent Williams Memorial Teen Center is on the northwest corner of the intersection at Crown and Albrook. Parking is available in the shared lot



between the public library and the Teen Center or on Crown Blvd.

The statue is 10 feet high, weighs a ton and is reportedly a spectacular sight.

Someday Our Prints Will Come

The Club was presented with a print from the OI Foundation in thanks for contributions made by Monaco South. Past District Governor **Jimmie Brown** (behind the print) presents it to Monaco South President **Greg Young**.



Grocery Cards

Last week we sold a disappointing \$750 in grocery cards, but this week we did great with \$1575 of grocery cards going out, making super seller **Cy Regan** a happy man. This is an easy fundraiser for the Club, where we make 5% on what we sell, and the buyer gets a card that he can use like cash. Cards for both King Soopers and Safeway are available. Stock up for Memorial Day week-end!

Monaco South Calendar

May 20 Tue 6:30 pm	MSOC Board Meeting - New Location - District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102.
May 21 Wed 4:00 pm	Darrent Williams statue unveiled, 4397 Crown Blvd., Denver.
May 23 Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Eric Greenberg, Magic.
May 30 Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Christine Rivera, <i>La Voz</i> (Denver's Spanish language newspaper).
Jun 6 Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Janet Pirchio, Metro Denver Partners, <i>Mentoring Youth</i> .
June 12 - 15 Thu - Sun	Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar - Colorado School of Mines.
Jun 13 Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - TBA.
Jun 20 Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day.
Jun 29 Sun	MS 150 - Longmont

**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		

2007 - 2008 Officers

President	Greg Young	303-759-3921
Vice President & President-Elect	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

Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net	Bob Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net
John Young	303-692-8202	johnandclaire@comcast.net	Marc Goodbody	303-202-1610	mlgoodbody@gmail.com
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Jim Leuschner	720-851-7102	flyleusch@aol.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.

**PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID
AT DENVER, COLORADO AND
ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES**

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