



July 11, 2008  
Vol. 32, Issue 41



# 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

### Denver's Urban Farm at Stapleton

Our Speaker today was introduced by **Bill Wells**; Amy Star from the Urban Farm (<http://www.theurbanfarm.org/>) whose mission is to teach agricultural and environmental



Photo by Don StJohn

education to urban youth and children. She became involved in the Urban Farm by her daughter who started visiting the farm when she was 4. It is a farm that keeps over 200 animals, including 60 horses, and is located at 10200 Smith Road.

The farm teaches applied animal and plant sciences to urban children and youth through hands-on, experiential learning opportunities. They offer after school educational programs for kids to come and work with the animals in a farm setting. Families can volunteer to work with the animals or with gardens that need constant attention. One program, Embracing Horses, works with 400 kids each year. Preschoolers and kindergarten age children are included as well. We should mention that Amy's power point presentation



that she gave today was done by the thirteen year old son of a director with the farm.

The farm contains 23 acres and includes an indoor arena that is a featured facility. All this is available for the \$25 annual membership for a child or \$30 for a family membership. Monaco South has many members who count themselves as former 4-H Club members. Your editor, being from the *Tall Corn State*, recalls many great 4-H projects he has seen. The Urban Farm is a great resource that provides a unique chance for kids and families to experience the agricultural benefits we all benefit from. See story related pictures on page 3.

**Meeting Place**  
**American Legion Hall Post 1**  
**5400 East Yale Avenue (Yale & I-25), Denver, Colorado**  
**Every Friday Morning, 7 - 8 a.m.**

## Good Morning Optimist

Who brought the goat? My first experience of today's meeting was the greeting from a goat! This was a healthy bay and no mistaking the source—that was a goat! I walked in with two other Optimist members and we all were talking about the goat. We hoped there would be a story behind the goat in the carrier in the back of the truck in the parking lot of the MSOC.



Members were greeted by **Tom McKee** and **Harry Johnson**, on a beautiful summer morning!

### Invocation

President **Greg Young** called the meeting to order and **Phil Perington** gave us a moment to ponder the strength of being too noble for anger. Let us act with calm and cool and be a source of solution.

### Greg's Quote for Today

**President Greg** imparted on an old Chinese Proverb: *"Do not use a hatchet to remove a fly from a friend's forehead."* Well done!

### Welcome Guests

Guests of the club include Jessica, Carla, David, Amy Star, and Jerry Rowe, who enjoyed a delicious breakfast prepared by **John Marinis**.

### Announcements

There is a board meeting next Tuesday or Wednesday. **Greg Young** will let you know.

The club will present a certificate of appreciation to the band that played at the lunch rest stop in Longmont at the MS Colorado's Ride on June 29<sup>th</sup>. They did a fine job while my fellow riders and I listened. Good job Bryce for lining that up!

**Howard Fry** updated the members on the picnic August 9<sup>th</sup> at Eisenhower Park, 11:30-2:00. He is also looking for volunteers to help with set up and tear down for the event. Sounds like a great time with entertainment lined up and other club members scheduled to attend. Please contact Howard if you can help out.

**Cy Regan** called out for parking help for the MUDD Volleyball tournament August 2<sup>nd</sup>, be there early to help organize the throngs that will descend upon this event. Your editor will be there and is looking forward to breakfast afterward. Looking for a place that serves grits please! This might even get **Dick Zolman** out early!

**Bob Avery** spoke with eloquence about the great rest stop, Monaco South and Tamarac put on for the 3,100 bike riders on the second day of the MS Colorado's bicycle tour. It truly was a great effort.

**Don StJohn** added, once again the combined efforts of two great Optimist Clubs have resulted in a successful community project to benefit the MS Society. Our thanks go out to the many volunteers from both clubs that made this possible. From the Tamarac Club, the volunteers were: Annette Cohen, Pat Dutton, Ruth Horton Jackie Howland, Dottie Jefferies, Kathy Rife, Sue Slaby Char StJohn, Mary Jean Sullivan, Darl Symalla, Claire Young & her daughter Trish.

From Monaco South the volunteers were: **Paul Bernard, Curt Boell, George Buzick, Craig Eley, Curt Jefferies, O.C. Larson & his wife Pat, Phil Perington, Cy Regan, Frank Ross, Bryce Slaby, Pat Sullivan, Greg Young, John Young, Peter Zafian**, and **Don StJohn**.

Special thanks go out to **Bryce Slaby** for picking up and delivering the chairs, MS supplies and 4+ pallets of water; **Craig Eley**, and his Tamarac helpers, that spent many hours taking and identifying all of the pictures for the riders; **Coy Horton** and **Don StJohn** for picking up the supplies from the warehouse, **Greg Young, Paul Bernard, Phil Perington** and **Frank Ross**, for helping load the supplies and unload them at the warehouse; **Bryce & Sue Slaby** for arranging for the band and being our resident cheer leaders in keeping the spirits up; **John Young** and **Craig Eley** for making the necessary signs and banners. This was a very big project and it took the dedication and efforts of both clubs to bring it to a successful conclusion.

**Bryce Slaby and Don StJohn** Co-Chairs for Monaco South. Sue Slaby & Char StJohn Co-Chairs for Tamarac.

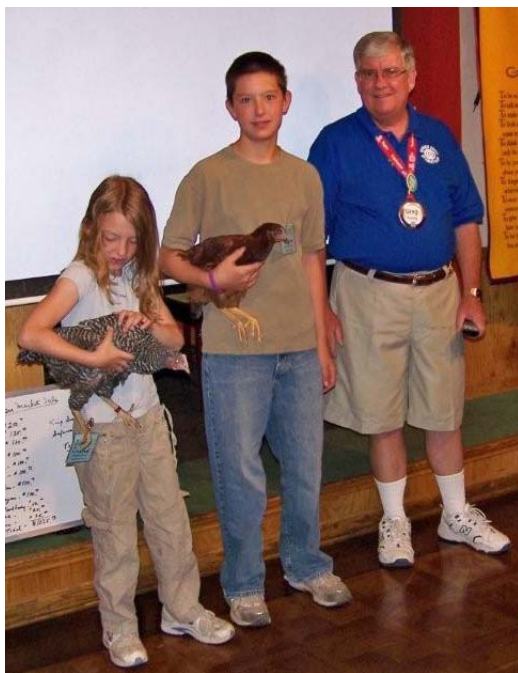
**Joe Marci** encourages members to renew their entertainment books through him. New editions should be available in August. We'll look forward to it.

**Phil Perington** gave an update on the 90<sup>th</sup> Optimist International convention that he attended in Grapevine, TX, on behalf of the club. He spent the entire time indoors, except to go out to the pool, and found that to be too taxing. Nineteen proposals were introduced and debated—an interesting look into the administrative aspect of the club on a larger level. Thanks Phil!

**Cy Regan** reported \$1,400 sales for grocery cards this week. Strong effort for this week's members! Let's keep that momentum going through the summer.

The drawing was commenced no big pot winners this week.

**Craig Eley** asked **Gary Strowbridge** if he was wearing his name badge, Gary thought he had been chosen for the chance to draw. Quite an interesting exchange!



Jessica and David, from the Urban Farm, with President Greg showing off their chickens.



Urban Farm's Jerry Rowe with his friendly goat. Photos by Don

### **UHNA PICNIC Sunday, July 27th**

#### **University Hills Neighborhood Association - Denver**

You're invited to the 5th Annual UHNA Picnic With A Purpose: Noon-6:00pm  
Eisenhower Park (Sheltered Picnic Area) 4300 E. Dartmouth

*Fun for the Whole Family...Meet your neighbors, Have Fun, People watch.*

**Randy Marcove**, UHNA President will be grilling Vienna Beef hot dogs.

- Bring a canned food donation or \$1.00 per hot dog to support our Neighborhood Food Bank: "Helping Hands Food Bank"
  - Bring your bike to the park for a FREE "check-up" by the Bike Experts at Bike Source.
  - Timbuk Toys will bring toys for the kids to "test-drive"
  - Music Provided by Denver Municipal Jazz Band & Sweet Marmalade Band
- For more information, call: Lee McDonnell 303-691-2862

### **Monaco South Calendar**

Jul 15	Tue	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
July 18	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
July 25	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Fred Clifford: <i>Weathering stormy financial times</i>
Aug 1	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Lisa Betchey, Donor Relations Manager, Mile High United Way
Aug 8	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Noel Cunningham: <i>Ethiopian Kids</i>
Aug 9	Sat	11:00 am	Zone Picnic - Eisenhower Park
Aug 15	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
Aug 19	Tue	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102
Aug 22	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Second Wind, <i>Teen suicide resources</i>
Aug 29	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Judith Stucky, <i>Cochlear Kids Camp</i>

## 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>
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Marlin Kent	303-779-0778		John Young	303-692-8202	<a href="mailto:johnandclaire@comcast.net">johnandclaire@comcast.net</a>
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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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