



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

May 8, 2009

Vol. 33, Issue 32

The Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—Robert Wardlaw



Good Morning Optimists!

Invocation & Pledge

Good morning Optimists! **Harry Fegley** and **Frank Middleton** greeted members this morning. They were also handing out cards for member seating assignments. This gave members a chance to view things from a different place and also served to help us get to know other members—a wonderful opportunity to branch out.

President **Phil Perington** calls the meeting to order. **Karl Geil** delivers the invocation this morning concerning the respect for law, one of the basic tenants of our club. It is the adherence to law that gives society a framework and with out law anarchy prevails. He then led us in the pledge of allegiance.

Guests

Guests to this morning's meeting included Gerry Gilbert who is a member of the University Hills Optimist Club. The University Hill's Optimist meet at the American Legion Hall on Thursdays. Gerry came this morning as **Randy Marcove's** guest. **Robert Wardlaw** introduced Mark Andringa as his guest and he sounds very interested in joining our club! He even volunteered to help out with the community garden project at Bradley Elementary on Saturday. A great start and we welcome another member. President **Phil** also welcomes, longtime no see, **Neil Alderson**, executive director of Schlessman Family

YMCA to the meeting! And with that the meeting is off to a strong start.

Sullivan Scholarship Winners

President **Phil** asks **Joe Marci** to come to the stage and make a special presentation. Joe recaps the prior evenings Sullivan Scholarship winners from Thomas Jefferson High School. **Bob Sullivan**, a former MSOC member who past away in 1999, was president of the booster club at TJ and took a personal interest in all the students there. In his memory the scholarships are awarded each year; to date 51 scholarships have been awarded. Winners this year included:

Mariah McCrea who will attend Northern Colorado and study psychology and lists being TJ's prom queen as a lasting memory from high school.

Efrem Woldu who looks toward attending San Diego State and studying engineering.

Akmal Ravshanzoda who plans to study economics and hopes to become a dentist.

Krystal Joy Kelley who intends to go to CSU in Ft. Collins and mentioned a favorite teacher as a lasting memory of her TJ experience.

Andrea Qualls who will also attend CSU in Ft. Collins and as a member of the basketball team, participated in the state tournament.

Congratulations to all the winners and good luck in your college studies!

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

President **Phil** announces contributions from the club of \$650 to **Optimist International** and \$500 to **Roundup Fellowship**. Our own **Jim VanderKamp** is executive director, a non-profit organization serving people with developmental disabilities and associated behavior problems.

Eldon Strong asks for volunteers with rotor tilling equipment and for general labor to help with start up for the Community Garden at Bradley Elementary.

Howard Fry invites members to the 6th Annual Picnic with a Purpose on Saturday, June 6th. The picnic is sponsored by University Hills Neighborhood Association and will benefit the Helping Hands Food Bank and Holistic Community Living (a senior living facility operated by our own David Lazar off). To be held at Eisenhower Park, this event is a great chance to meet neighbors, have fun, and enjoy the Denver Municipal Band playing from 3-4 in the afternoon.

Russ Paul thanks those who helped with work at the Ronald McDonald House and reported they have asked us to return on June 23rd. There will be some carpentry duties that need to be completed so strap on your tool belt and help the kids.

Don Thomson also reports on thanks to club volunteers for their assistance at Brent's Place. Brent's Place is a facility designed to help those living with cancer by providing housing and programs through partnerships in the community. MSOC helped with set-up and installation at the new facility. Thank you to our volunteers! Don also recognized and thanked Denver Chief of Police, **Gerald Whitman**, for his assistance with the Super Citizen program this year, with over 540 students recognized for this award.

Don St. John reminded all members that the next big event for the club will be the Bike MS event on Sunday, June 28th, with set up to begin at 7:00am. The Colorado Chapter of the National MS Society's Bike MS is Colorado's oldest nonprofit ride. Learn more at: <http://www.nationalmssociety.org/chapters/bike-ms-colorado-chapter/index.aspx>.

Final Bell

And the drawing commenced! **Alan Yockey** handled the duties for **Bob Finkelmeier** this week. No big winner was able to collect the growing pot, so better luck next week.

Cy Regan announced grocery card sales this week of \$1,250, a respectable showing for today. Winner for the free breakfast for this week was then announced but unfortunately your editor was distracted and didn't note.

Monaco South Members

Help Setup for The Furry Scurry

Story & photos by Don StJohn

Approximately 10 members of the Optimist Club of Monaco South volunteered to help unload the supply trucks on Friday, May 1st and another 26 members volunteered to help set up the canopies, unload vendors vehicles, and other miscellaneous duties on Saturday, May 2nd, with a starting time of 5:00am. All of this early-bird effort made for another successful *Furry Scurry* fund raiser for the Denver Dumb Friends League.

This year, the *Furry Scurry* event raised over \$880,000, a new record. In addition to this, another 5 or 6 of our members helped **John Marinos** man the MS Optimist Breakfast booth. The following list of members helped in this event: **Bob Avery, George Buzick, Ed Collins, Craig Eley, Harry Fegley, Kent Gloor, Leo Haegele, Greg Hurd, Don Iley** and his two daughters, **Harry Johnson, O.C. Larson, Bill Litchfield, Joe Marci, John Marinos, Gary Miller, Doug Morton, Nick Newey, Dick Nickoloff, Phil Perington, Russ Paul, Cy Regan, Jack Rife, Terry Shroyer, Bryce Slaby, Donlie Smith, Oscar Sorenson, Don StJohn, John Stoffel, Eldon Strong, Gary Strowbridge, Scott Walker, Robert Wardlaw, Greg Young, and John Young**. Many thanks go out to all who unselfishly devote time to support our Community Service projects and helped our furry little and big friends.



You know all those Monaco South guys eat the breakfast burritos without giving us any? What a bummer!



Speaker for Today

Donlie Smith introduced our speaker this morning, Nathan Bale, with the *Boy Scouts of America Denver Area Council*. Nathan began his speech by recognizing those in the audience who had attained the rank of Eagle Scout, noting that only 5% of all scouts had achieved such a distinction. Boy Scouts of America will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2010 and the Denver Council will be celebrating its 100th year in 2012. The reach of scouting has affected millions of children and adults and has members in 230 countries around the world.



Values exemplified by 12 words – Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent – are the foundation of the Scouting program and valuable words to live by. Scouting builds character and community



through a variety of activities including camping, canoeing, hiking, mountain biking, community service projects, and more. These hands-on activities instill a sense of confidence, preparedness, and honor in our kids. Nathan reports that these community service projects supplied an earned benefit of \$1.7 million. The Denver Area Council serves as many kids as the Denver Public Schools and its members could fill Invesco Field.

Scouting programs include Cub Scouts (7–10 year old boys), Boy Scouts (11–17 year old boys), Varsity Scouting (14–17 year old boys), Venturing (14–20 year old boys and girls), and Learning for Life/Exploring (14–20 year old boys and girls). These five diverse programs are specifically geared toward different age groups, interests, abilities, needs, and settings. They programs address character development and instill a sense of confidence, preparedness and honor in our kids.

Today, the Denver Area Council offers non-traditional programs for inner city youth as well as the venturing program designed for young women and men ages 14-20.

Home Energy Audit

An hour or two of your weekend can reveal a number of ways to improve your home's energy efficiency. Click on this Self Home Energy Audit: <http://www.denvergov.org/Portals/121/documents/Home%20Energy%20Audit.pdf%204%2030%2009.pdf> for a useful guide document.

After completing your home energy audit and making just a few inexpensive and easy to do home improvements, you will see a reduction in your energy costs. Save money, help the environment, and join Denver in our effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



Monaco South Calendar

| | | | |
|-----------|---------|----------------|---|
| May 14 | Thu | 5:30 pm | Super Citizen, Hamilton Middle School - Paul Bernard, presenter |
| May 15 | Fri | 7:00 am | Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day |
| May 16 | Sat | 10:00 am | Inner City Community Kids Fair |
| May 21 | Thu | 1:00/2:00 pm | Super Citizen, Lowry Elementary - Les Larson, presenter |
| May 22 | Fri | 7:00 am | Meeting, Legion Hall - Speaker Pending |
| May 27 | Wed | 11:00/11:30 am | Super Citizen, University Park Elementary - Sewell Black, presenter |
| May 28 | Thu | 12:30/1:30 | Super Citizen, Samuels Elementary - Gray Strowbridge, presenter <small>This presentation was moved from April 29th.</small> |
| May 29 | Fri | 7:00 am | Meeting, Legion Hall - Lisa Silva, Diesel Fuel Retrofit Program |
| Jun 6 | Sat | | 6th Annual Picnic with a Purpose, Eisenhower Park - see Howard Fry or Randy Marcove |
| Jun 23 | Tue | | Ronald McDonald House - see Russ Paul |
| Jun 28 | Sun | 7:00 am | Bike MS Rest Stop |
| Jul 8-11 | | | Optimist International Convention, Kissimmee Florida |
| Aug 27-30 | | | CO/WY District Convention, Colorado Springs |
| Sep 11-13 | Weekend | | Honeymoon/Getaway Weekend-Colorado Arlberg Club-Winter Park |
| Sep 26 | Sat | 6:00 pm | Monaco South Year End Banquet— SAVE THE DATE! |

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 | Al Gapuzan | 303-770-0499 |
| Vice President | Frank Ross | 303-713-1008 |
| Secretary | Rich Wagner | 303-362-5328 |
| Treasurer | Ron Gustas | 303-770-9640 |

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| | |
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| 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 |

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NEWSLETTER EDITORS 2009: **MAY:** ROBERT WARDLAW, **JUNE:** RALPH PEDERSEN, **JULY:** GREG YOUNG, **AUGUST:** BILL WALTERS

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

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