



May 11, 2007  
Vol. 31, Issue 33

# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South (GUMS)



## The Optimist Club of Monaco South

Founded in 1976

Denver, Colorado

[www.monacosouth.org](http://www.monacosouth.org)

Editor for May - - Craig Eley ([craig@eley.net](mailto:craig@eley.net))

## AARP Driving Course Piques Interest

**John Moser** introduced **Ron Rutter**, the featured speaker for the May 11, 2007 meeting of Monaco South. Ron is an instructor for AARP's driver safety program.

Ron explained that the AARP program consists of two four-hour sessions. The course deals with some of the issues faced by aging drivers, such as changes in depth perception, slower reaction times and the effects of medication on driving.

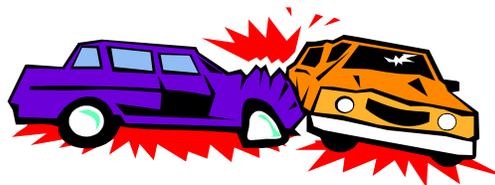
The course costs \$10, but Ron said auto insurance companies are required to give a three-year discount to those who take the course. The amount of the discount, however, is up to the insurance company.

**Fred Pasternack** asked a practical question: "What if I take the course and fail it?" Ron

suggested that, in such a circumstance, you might not want to tell your insurance company.

**Don St. John** related that he recently ran a red light and hit another car. After he took the AARP course, the charge against him was reduced to having a broken headlight. (to you plea bargain scoffers out there, just think about this - - after ramming another car, Don probably really *did* have a broken headlight).

These interjections by Club members encouraged others to volunteer information about their auto insurance rate increases, cancellations, etc. This gnashing of teeth over how various members have been worked over by their insurance companies did not seem to be adding much to the speaker's topic, so Ron



*Continued 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.**

## Proceedings of the Meeting of May 11, 2007

### Invocation & Pledge

President **Paul Bernard** did the honors on the opening invocation, offering a prayer in praise and remembrance of mothers as we drew near to Mothers Day week-end.

### Guests

**John Young** introduced his guest, **Robert Wambaugh**. Although not a guest, we all welcomed prodigal member **Dick Daly**, whom we hadn't seen in way too long.

### Laid Up

**John Stoffel** reported that **Ralph Pedersen** has been hospitalized with pneumonia. We all wish Ralph a rapid recovery to good health, especially the *GUMS* staff.

### Tradition!

**Bill Wells**, just back from the Denver Auditor's race, announced that he has proudly upheld the Club tradition of members who run for public office coming in second. Only MSOCer **Tom Mauro** has won public office, but that was for school board, where you get constant complaints from parents and get no pay for your trouble, so maybe he was actually the loser.

### High Noon for Honeymoon

If you act fast, you can get the last rooms for the MSOC Honeymoon Week-end, July 20, 21 & 22 in Breckenridge. It was announced that "room pairings" would begin soon, but members could only speculate as to what that meant. To get in



on a fun week-end with fellow MSOCers, contact **Kent Gloor**, **Al Gapuzan**, **Frank Middleton** or **Greg Young**.

## Great Gulch Golf Tournament

Monday, May 21 at 10 a.m. marks the start of the great Gulch Tournament. As in previous years, the location is the Harvard Park Par 3 Golf Course, located west of Downing on Harvard (2500 South). Golfmeister **Donlie Smith** promises a fun time for everyone, with chips and dip, beer, pop, and prizes. Oh yeah, you also get to play golf! Entry fee is \$3.00 (pay Donlie in advance) plus green fee.

2 clubs, 2 balls, 2 tees for men; 3 clubs, etc. for ladies. Separate prizes for men and ladies. If you don't want to miss this amazing tournament, sign up at the meeting next Friday or contact Donlie at 303-759-0380.

### Liberty Day - Constitution Day

The Club is looking for "Five Good Men" who will help promote the teaching of the U.S.



Constitution. There are plans for Holm and MPB schools for next fall and we also want to contact Cub

Packs and Scout Troops for this program. MSOCer **Andy McKean** is the Founder and President of Liberty Day and is receiving great support from school districts, the Boy Scouts, governors, senators, businesses and foundations.

It is now mandated by federal law that educational institutions teach the Constitution. This requirement can be found at 36 U.S.C. 106, and provides

Each educational institution that receives Federal funds for a fiscal year shall hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on September 17 of such year for the students served by the educational institution.

Those wishing to join this program to promote the knowledge of our Constitution among young people should contact **Donlie Smith** at 303-759-0380.

## MS 150

We were reminded by **Bob Avery** that Monaco South will once again field a team of riders for the MS-150. The Club, along with Tamarac Optimists, will be providing a rest stop for the riders on July 8.

## King Soopers Not So Super

**Cy Regan** reports that sales of King Soopers cards have fallen off drastically, with only \$700 worth being sold at the meeting. If this trend continues, Cy will be out of a job! He asks for your support to keep him off the streets.

## AARP Driving Course

*From page 1*

wrested back control of the meeting. He stated that anyone can take the class - - they can be of any age and don't have to be AARP members. Thus, the accompanying insurance discount can be obtained by any driver. Fred

Pasternack did some quick calculating (he didn't even use a pencil or paper) and announced to the Club that if you could save 10% on a \$2,000 per year insurance premium, you would save \$200! That information alone was worth the price of the breakfast (that is, if you didn't eat any breakfast).

When asked by still another Club member whether there is a proper way to use a cell phone while driving, Ron said that studies have shown that using a cell phone while driving creates as much of a distraction for the driver as would driving while intoxicated.

Freddie's final question was "is there any age where they take away your driver's license, or can you drive until you die?" Although Ron's answer was vague, your editor has researched this question. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in 2005 27,472 U.S. drivers actually did drive until the moment before they died.

## Monaco South Calendar

<b>May 15</b>	Tue	2:30 pm	Super Citizen, Southmoor, Fred Pasternack.
<b>May 17</b>	Thur	5:30 pm	Super Citizen, Hamilton, Eldon Strong.
<b>May 17</b>	Thur	6:30 pm	Board Meeting, Craig Eley's Office, 3515 S. Tamarac Dr. #200.
<b>May 18</b>	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall, Camaraderie Day.
<b>May 21</b>	Mon	10:00 am	Great Gulch Golf Tournament, Harvard Gulch Golf Course.
<b>May 25</b>	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Dr. Richard Bryan, cleft palate treatment in the Philippines.
<b>Jun 1</b>	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Mike Coffman, Secretary of State.
<b>Jun 1-3</b>	Fri-Sun		Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar, School of Mines, Golden.
<b>Jun 8</b>	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Ray Mohn, Air Pollution Department.
<b>Jun 15</b>	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day.
<b>Jun 22</b>	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Ron Mitchell, Philatelic Society.
<b>Jul 8</b>	Sun	7:00 am	MS 150 Rest Stop.
<b>Jul 13</b>	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - David Althouse, Colorado News 2.
<b>Jul 20</b>	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day.
<b>Jul 20-22</b>	Fri-Sun		Honeymoon Week-end, Breckenridge.

**Past Presidents of the  
Optimist Club of Monaco South**

Bob Rhue	1976-77	Bill Walters	1991-92
Jerry Whitlow	1977-78	Kent Gloor	1992-93
Bill Kosena	1978-79	Gary Strowbridge	1993-94
Duane Wehrer	1979-80	Mark Metevia	1994-95
Curt Jefferies	1980-81	Bob Safe	1995-96
Frank Middleton	1981-82	Tom Overton	1996-97
John Young	1982-83	Peter Dimond	1997-98
Pat Bush	1983-84	Ralph Symalla	1998-99
Bob Hugo	1984-85	Cy Regan	1999-00
Tom Mauro	1985-86	Stan Cohen	2000-01
Curt Lorenzen	1986-87	Don St. John	2001-02
Oscar Sorensen	1987-88	Jack Rife	2002-03
Lupe Salinas	1988-89	Karl Geil	2003-04
Bob Avery	1989-90	Bryce Slaby	2004-05
Bill Litchfield.	1990-91	Donlie Smith	2005-06

**2005 - 2006 Officers**

President	Paul Bernard	303-721-0811
Vice President	Phil Perington	303-832-4578
Vice President & President-Elect	Greg Young	303-759-3921
Secretary	Nick Newey	720-981-9552
Treasurer	George Buzick	303-985-0655

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Frank Ross	303-713-1008
Scott Walker	303-517-1862
Todd Olson	303-759-4228
Bill Litchfield	303-782-0465
John Young	303-692-8202
Carl Brown	303-758-8355
Donlie Smith (Past Pres.)	303-759-0380

**Newsletter Committee**

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Marlin Kent	303-779-0778	
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.

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