



January 4, 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

Monaco South Holiday Party Friday, Jan. 18

The long-awaited Monaco South Holiday Party has been scheduled for Friday, January 18 at 7 p.m. at the clubhouse of Canyon Club Condominiums, 6495 Happy Canyon Road (the location of previous holiday parties).

MSOCers and their significant others (or bring an insignificant other, they're welcome, too!) are invited for an evening of food and fun. Just bring your favorite salad, dessert or appetizer, the Club will provide the main course and the rest. If you can't bring anything, that's OK, your presence will be more than sufficient.

The Club needs to now how many lobster tails and bottles of champagne to buy, so please let us know if you will be there, and who will be with you. You can sign up at a meeting or e-mail **Craig Eley** at craig@eley.net.

The entertainment will be comedian and magician **Brad Montgomery**, who has performed internationally and has appeared two times at Monaco South. The last time, he called **Ron Cisco** up to be his assistant, and the following colloquy took place:



**Brad
Montgomery**

Brad: "And what is your name, sir?"

Ron: "Ron Cisco."

Brad: "And what do you do?"

Ron: "I'm retired from the post office."

Brad: "And how does that differ from actually working at the post office?"

Brad assures us that he has developed a repertoire which no longer relies on cheap shots at Ron (crowd-pleasers though they may be), so be prepared for an evening of hilarity.

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 January 4, 2008

Invocation & Pledge

Tom Hoch offered an invocation which reminded us that a single person can make a difference, while a lot of us working together can make a big difference. Then he led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presidential Pespircacity

MSOC President **Greg Young** received this bit of wisdom from **John Young** (no relation, we think) and shared it with all of us: "As of this meeting, everybody here has perfect attendance for the year!"

The Prez also threw out this quote from Winston Churchill: "We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give."

Greg also told a joke, but your editor didn't take notes because he didn't realize it was a joke until someone told him later. It was something about Mahatma Gandhi and Mary Poppins.

Guest and New Member

Steve Kady, a retired Channel 7 photographer, was the guest of **Tom Hoch** and was seen completing an application at the meeting. Welcome aboard, Steve!

Dissatisfied Customer

At the meeting, your editor was accosted by **Oscar Sorensen**, who complained that he had not received his GUMS in three weeks. "Oh, yeah?" I slyly asked him, using my finely-honed cross-examination skills, "if that's true, how did you even know there was a meeting today?"

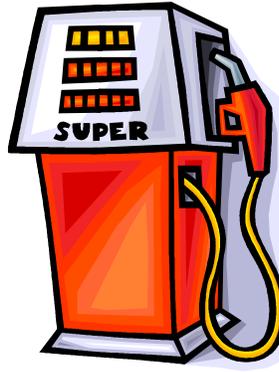
Although Oscar had no convincing reply, I nevertheless took his complaint to the entire GUMS Committee for



consideration. We decided that it was the Post Office's screw-up. Case solved!

Safeway Cards are a Gas!

Donlie Smith reported that the Safeway grocery cards can now be used at the Safeway gasoline station which has just been opened at Monaco and Yale. Buy the cards at a meeting and save 3¢ a gallon. Someone added that when you buy \$50 worth of groceries, you save 20¢ per gallon.



The Club took these words to heart, because we had outstanding grocery card sales of \$1300!

Fleeced

Someone left a purple jacket or wind shell garment, looks like maybe its fleece, at the Tree Lot. Come to a meeting and pick it up, or contact **Greg Young**.

Top Sellers at Tree Lot

By Joe Marci

This year our leading tree in sales was the Douglas Fir (355), followed by the Fraser Fir (291) and the Noble Fir (287). We sold 1450 feet of garland and 360 wreaths. None of these numbers are new records but all represent above average totals for us.



We are scheduling a brainstorming meeting for Friday, January 18 at 6:15 a.m. at the American Legion Hall before our regular meeting. All members with ideas to help us improve the tree lot project are invited to attend. Many changes came about from our last meeting and we are hopeful that some fresh ideas will result from this meeting. This meeting has been scheduled quickly so members will not forget their ideas for changes.

Brain Bowl is Upon Us

One of our Club's largest projects, and certainly the largest District project, is the Brain Bowl. It is a quiz bowl for middle school students (grades 6 - 8) and has grown so



popular with students from Colorado and Wyoming that it has had to be split into two events. The first one takes place this coming Saturday, January 12, at Fairview High School in Boulder. The second one will be Saturday,

February 2 at George Washington High School in Denver. Starting times for all volunteers is 7 a.m.

Optimists are needed to be readers, scorekeepers, timers and runners (a fast walk is all that's necessary, schlepping stuff to and

from the rooms). Sign up to help at a meeting, or e-mail **Karl Geil** at karl_geil@prodigy.net or **Tom Mauro** at tmmauro@aol.com.

To be a reader, one must have gone through at least one training session. The last two reader training sessions are:

Thursday, January 10 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 26, from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Both sessions are at George Washington High School, 655 S. Monaco Parkway, Denver.

Those who have been readers in the past and who have attended at least two reader training sessions may apply for a waiver from having to attend a session this year. That waiver may only be granted by Karl Geil, so contact him immediately if you want an exemption.

Speakers

Our speakers were **Jay Murray** and **Eric Hoffman**, who discussed the rising cost of sending kids to college, and strategies for meeting or reducing those costs. They reported that less than 4% of families have saved even \$5,000 toward college costs.

Monaco South Calendar

Jan 11 Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Cindy Acree, Candidate for Colorado House of Representatives.
Jan 10 Thu 6:30 pm	Brain Bowl Reader's Training, George Washington HS, Denver.
Jan 12 Sat 7:00 am	North Region Brain Bowl, Fairview High School, Boulder.
Jan 15 Tue 6:30 pm	Board Meeting, Eley office, 3515 S. Tamarac Dr., 2nd Floor.
Jan 18 Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day.
Jan 18 Fri 7:00 pm	MSOC Holiday Party, Canyon Club Clubhouse, 6495 Happy Canyon Road
Jan 25 Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Ryan Moore: <i>Trees & Water Conservation</i> .
Jan 26 Sat 9:00 am	Brain Bowl Reader's Training, George Washington HS, Denver.
Feb 1 Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Doug Morton: <i>Books</i> .
Feb 2 Sat 7:00 am	Central Region Brain Bowl, George Washington HS, Denver.
Feb 8 Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Paul Simon: <i>You Can Do Go</i> .
Feb 15 Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day.
Mar 21 Fri 7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Craig Eley: <i>Patrick Henry</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
Bill Walters	1991-92		

2007 - 2008 Officers

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Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	pedersen.ralph@q.com	Robert Wardlaw	303-759-0360	rlawardlaw@comcast.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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