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Vol. 32, Issue 43



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—Robert Wardlaw

Weathering Stormy Financial Times

Paul Simon introduced today's speaker and a very pertinent topic, "*Weathering Stormy Financial Times.*" Koren Frost, Division Manager for First Investors, talked about the approach to investing in the current market and strategies on how it relates to our investing goals.

She started by saying she hadn't checked what the financial market did yesterday and hadn't done so today. She mentioned that she doesn't make it a habit to constantly check on what is taking place, but rather she takes a long-term view of what the market does. In the past, when a downturn has taken place it has been followed by rebounds and times of growth. Current market conditions affected by the real estate downturn, foreclosures, high-energy prices, and sluggish economic growth, have contributed to volatile market performance. Similar to the experience of an airplane flying through turbulence, financial fluctuations have a history of leveling out.

Koren went on to say that the more long term your outlook on investing the greater your chances of making money. Over a 10 year timeframe there is a 97% chance of making gains. Her point, if you are having trouble sticking with a financial plan it might be good to contact a professional to map out a strategy and plan accordingly. She stated, "what is right for one person may not be right for you." "Being too conservative can cost you money." An example of this being the small returns many banks yield. Factoring inflation the price of goods in 1977 costing \$100 would now cost \$338 today.

In football terms, savings and insurance can be thought of as a defense. Investments should be considered as the offense. Spread out your investments in different industries is also a good strategy. Consider a diversity of stocks and bonds to compensate for times when one is suffering through a downturn. Those interested in market timing, limited losses, or maximize gains are playing a losing game; simply put, it is mere luck to think this might work!

In down times, it is best to keep investing. You are able to buy more and take advantage of "sales" that can bring you more. Don't let the government compound your losses by taking taxes from accounts being withdrawn on. Take advantage of tax shelters and tax free accounts.

In summary there are no magic tricks when dealing with investments. Take a long-term approach, consider using a professional to help you plan your investments, and consider your personal needs to make an overall strategy for your financial well being.

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

Greeters for today's meeting were **Frank Ross** and **Russ Paul**.

President Greg Young called the meeting to order. **Don Iley** give the invocation and then leads us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests today included Mike Willis, introduced by **Joe Marci**. Mike works with the Denver Rockies as an usher and is here on his second visit, perhaps we can convince Mike to join us. **Fred Pasternack** followed by saying he had a guest that he was sure would show, but no sight of him just yet.

Greg Young asked members if they had ever had their name inscribed on the inside of their shirts. Otherwise known as collar ID. HMMMM!

New member **Mychael Dave** was inducted into the club with sponsor John Young and board members in attendance. Welcome aboard Mychael!



Photo by Don StJohn

Announcements

Craig Eley announced the performance by the Denver Municipal Band Saturday, July 26th, at Southmoor Park at 7:30pm. Your editor was fortunate to attend a performance by the Jazz Band edition of the DMB at Plat Park on Friday the 25th and was impressed by the talent. Children playing, neighbors connecting with food and drink, even a local gelato merchant giving away free samples made the evening a beautiful reminder of the great communities this city contains.

Howard Fry reminded us of the zone picnic coming up August 9th. Added highlights include **Freddie Pasternack** volunteering for the pie-throwing contest—which end **Freddie** hopes to participate on remains to be seen.

Cy Regan updated us on the upcoming parking duties members can help out with for the MUDD Volleyball tournament August 2nd. This is a major fundraiser for the March of Dimes, and the parking is a key component to get the event started off on the right foot! It was a great time last year and I look forward to it being even better this year.

Randy Marcove announced the University Hills Neighborhood Picnic at Eisenhower Park on this Sunday. Bands will perform, with donations being accepted for the Rocky Mountain Food Bank. **Randy** also mentioned he is a high school football referee and those interested can participate with him—chain gang opportunities are available for games. And Happy Birthday Randy!

Joe Marci stated that the new entertainment books would be ready soon. These books support the **Robert Sullivan Scholarship** Fund and are a great way to raise funds for the club. Members who are involved in other Optimist clubs or groups with interest to sell the entertainment book are encouraged to contact Joe and get the ball rolling. Happy Selling!

Don St.John made known that after 10 years he is giving up his chairman duties with the Bingo Program, effective October 1st. So anyone interested in taking over his position has the chance to learn from the master during the next two months. All members saluted **Don** for his efforts and a job well done.

Bryce Slaby announced that the North American 4 Rugby Tournament takes place this Tuesday at the new stadium in Glendale, Infinity Park. Tickets are only \$10 or \$18 for the game on Tuesday and on Saturday night. Canada's 2 Best Teams vs. United States 2 Best teams in all out battle to see who is the best of the best! This is a great chance to see national caliber rugby teams in a great new stadium.

John Young followed up on dinner and entertainment provided by the Country Dinner Playhouse performers. Ten couples have signed up and 6 have paid, so get your money in. The date is Tuesday, August 19th. Couples can enjoy this evening of fun for \$55.

Cy Regan reported weekly super market card sales of \$1,400, a good week to build on.

There were no winners for this weeks drawing, but your editor, are good member Robert Wardlaw, did win \$20 by having his nametag on and then getting the opportunity to draw the 8 of Spades, which was a winner!

Thank you MSOC!



Photo by Don StJohn

Colorado Peaches



Colorado's finest peaches are coming! The Palisade grower will be delivering the peaches around mid to late August. The price is **\$20 per box or lug** – approximately 16 pounds (18-20 peaches packed individually). Three dollars per box will come back to either *Monaco South* or *Tamarac Optimist Club's* depending on sales.

Should you like to order a box(s), please complete the Peach Order Sign-up Sheet at next weeks meeting or call Bob Finkelmeier at 303-756-5829. You must have your check or cash ready (no credit cards) at time of pickup – C.O.D. only.

Stories / Announcements Wanted

With respect to the newsletter, your editors encourage stories from all members. Announcements and final reports of projects should be in writing and given to the editor. Please include all of the names of those who participated or supported the project.

Editors Wanted

As we move into Phil Perington's presidential year we are asking for volunteers to take over writing one of two monthly GUMS Newsletters. Come join this elite group. This is a great way to become familiar with club activities and members.

Just Ask!! Ask What? Just asking your neighbor, doctor, dentist, lawyer, baker, candlestick maker, to come to visit MONACO SOUTH as a prospective member—don't forget to mention the free breakfast. When people ask you, "What is Optimist Club?" be prepared to tell them we are **Friends of Youth**.



Monaco South Calendar

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>
Sept 5	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Sunne Reif, <i>Donor Alliance</i>
Sept 12	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall - Kris Kroncke, <i>District 3 Commander, Denver Police Department</i>
Sept 13	Sat		Yearend & Installation Banquet - Time & Place TBD

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	720-341-6161
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	craig@eley.net	Jim Piccinelli	303-721-1470	jp Piccinelli@earthlink.net
Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	rfinkelmeier@comcast.net	Bill Walters	303-697-7252	wwalters43@msn.com
Marc Goodbody	303-202-1610	mlgoodbody@gmail.com	Robert Wardlaw	303-759-0360	rwardlaw@comcast.net
Marlin Kent	303-779-0778		John Young	303-692-8202	johnandclaire@comcast.net
Jim Leuschner	720-851-7102	flyleusch@aol.com	Dick Zolman	303-796-8746	rzolman691@aol.com
Ralph Pedersen	303-759-3384	pedersen.ralph@q.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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