



May 9, 2008
Vol. 32, Issue 32



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

Treasurer Explains Colorado Finances

The featured speaker at the May 9, 2008 meeting of the Optimist Club of Monaco South was Colorado State Treasurer **Cary Kennedy**. Finances was not a subject the Club wanted to be reminded of, after all our hopes had been dashed last week when **Jimmie Brown** made the big score and wiped out the \$310 jackpot (could we all try, just a little, to be just as enthusiastic about Jim's success as we are about our own?). But Cary actually made the subject interesting through her upbeat presentation.

Cary, showing great political instincts, started by exclaiming that Monaco South is "an amazingly impressive organization." Then she touched on the county's economic outlook, quoting economist Paul Krugman, who said "Every other week there's a market I never heard of that has just collapsed."

As Treasurer, Cary has tried to make information about the state's financial condition more accessible by publishing an annual financial report and putting all the state's investment data online at her website.

When asked about highway infrastructure, Cary cited the high percentage of Colorado's bridges that are in need of repair. The gasoline tax, which has traditionally funded transportation, is a fixed number of cents per gallon, and since the advent of the TABOR amendment it has not been able to be raised. Consequently, the fuel tax has not been able to keep up with repair and construction needs. Despite the increase in the cost of gasoline, as drivers cut back on the number of gallons they consume, the amount of fuel tax revenue drops.

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 9, 2008

Invocation & Pledge

Kent Gloor offered a Mothers' Day prayer which acknowledged that "Mothers give us unconditional love, whether we deserve it or not." Then he led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mom's Day Quip

President **Greg Young** passed this along from comedian **Henny Youngman** "My grandmother is 80 and still doesn't need glasses -- she drinks right from the bottle!"

New Member & Guests

Paul Stratton, who has transferred in from the defunct Lowry Club, was introduced. Since Paul was in charge of the Lowry Club's Super Citizen effort, the price of his admission is a commitment that Monaco South will incorporate Lowry Elementary School into its Super Citizen program, which we are happy to give. This added school will make up for Southmoor Elementary, which has declined to continue with the program (was it something we said?).

Randy Marcove, a relatively new member himself, brought **Ty Watson** as a guest. Randy has known Ty for awhile and said he appreciates Ty because "he still laughs at my jokes." The test for MSOC membership, of course, is whether Ty will laugh at **Bryce Slaby's** jokes!

Jerry Rowe, who will be a featured speaker at a future MSOC meeting attended as **Bill Wells'** guest (maybe to get the lay of the land before he is put on the hot seat). Bill promised to bring his "twin half-brother" to a future meeting.

Kudos are due Randy and Bill for remembering that guests turn into new members, and new members are vital to an organization's health. Randy, especially, is an example to us all. As a new member, he has not only brought in a number of guests, but some of them have become members. The best favor we can do for our friends is to

expose them to the fun and value of Optimism!

Lunch Bunch

Don St. John reported that this year's MS 150 will need Monaco South on Sunday, June 29 in Longmont. For the first time, we will staff a lunch stop. This is a major public service event for Monaco South and will require a lot of help, so save the date on your calendars.

Big Shoes to Fill

The Optimist Colorado-Wyoming District needs someone to take over the quarterly newsletter when **Mike Snipes** retires from the job. It will be a very tough act to follow, but Mike promises to help the newbie get started.

Out Standing in His Field

For outstanding service to the Club as the chair of the Speakers' Bureau, **Paul Simon** was presented with an award by President **Greg Young**. We have had outstanding speakers during Paul's four years of work in



rounding them up. He and the other members of the bureau have screened potential speakers to ensure that we are treated each week to entertaining and interesting talks. Congratulations Paul, and thanks!

Going to the Dogs

Last Saturday's Furry Scurry was the most successful in its history, raising \$830,000 for the Dumb Friends League. Monaco South members turned out in large numbers on the day before the event and also at 5 a.m. on Saturday to erect vendors' tents and to lay out the courses. Those helping with this annual Club project were **Peter Dimond, Craig Eley, Don Iley, O.C. Larson, Joe Marci, Gary Miller, Nick Newey, Fred Pasternack, Russ Paul, Jack Rife, Terry Shroyer, Bryce Slaby, Oscar Sorensen, Gary Strowbridge, Robert Wardlaw, John Young, Kent Gloor, Doug Morton, Pat**

Sullivan, Greg Hurd, Ed Collins, Curt Boell, Cy Regan, Bill Anderson, Al Gapuzan and Bob Avery. Phil Perington made all the arrangements for the Club to put on a pancake breakfast at the Scurry (we were foiled, however, by a last-minute glitch). **Don St. John** assumed overall leadership for the Club's service at the event, but was called to Pueblo on the day of the event to assume his duties as District Sergeant-at-Arms. **Cy Regan** ably filled in as Field Marshall and kept casualties to a minimum.

Know When to Fold 'em

On Monday, April 28th, President **Greg Young** and the *GUMS* "Newsletter Folding Team"

presented a special THANK YOU plaque to Quincy Place and their dining room staff



for hosting the Folding Team each Monday morning. **Marlin Kent**, a charter member of the club, has been living at Quincy Place for the past three years. Even before he moved to Quincy Place Marlin was instrumental in keeping track of all the Club's members, creating mailing labels, badges, etc. He also spent many years getting the newsletter printed (even before email), labeling them

each week, and taking them to the Post Office. Now that he has moved into Quincy Place he still maintains the mailing labels for the 60-plus members that receive their *GUMS* newsletter by mail, and leads the "Folding Team," made up of **Marc Goodbody, Dick Zolman, Ralph Pedersen, Jim Leuschner, and Jim Piccinelli**. Quincy Place graciously provides breakfast and a space for the team to fold, staple, and stamp. THANK YOU QUINCY PLACE for your hospitality!

It's History

On May 3, the same day as the Furry Scurry, **Randy Marcove** and **Dick Cohen** served as judges for the History Day competition. The exhibits and performances and the kids who created them were amazing, they reported, and urged us all to sign up to judge next year's competition.

A Good Year for Ducks

This year's Duck Drop was a sold-out event, and raised a record \$20,000 for local Denver Public Schools, reported President **Greg Young**. Monaco South winners (if any) will be notified soon.

Grocery Cards

Last week we sold a record \$2,050 worth of cards, but this week we had to make do with a measly \$750. Sooper Seller **Cy Regan** was disappointed, so we better do better next week. You don't want to be around when Cy gets mad!

Monaco South Calendar

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| May 16 Fri 7:00 am | Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day; Essay Contest Winners. |
| May 20 Tue 6:30 pm | MSOC Board Meeting - New Location - District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102. |
| May 21 Wed 4:00 pm | Darrent Williams statue unveiled, 4397 Crown Blvd., Denver. |
| May 23 Fri 7:00 am | Meeting, Legion Hall - Eric Greenberg, Magic. |
| May 30 Fri 7:00 am | Meeting, Legion Hall - Christine Rivera, <i>La Voz</i> (Denver's Spanish language newspaper). |
| Jun 6 Fri 7:00 am | Meeting, Legion Hall - Janet Pirchio, Metro Denver Partners, <i>Mentoring Youth</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

President	Greg Young	303-759-3921
Vice President & President-Elect	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

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Bill Walters	303-697-7252	wwalters43@msn.com	Marlin Kent	303-779-0778	
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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.

**PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID
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