



100% and then some...

# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

July 7, 2012 – Vol. 37, Issue 40



100% and then some...

## Optimist Club of Monaco South



Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado  
Serving Youth and the Community for 35 Years

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

Editor for this Issue—Robert Wardlaw



### Good Morning Optimist

A sunny, beautiful summer morning as we were met by **Eldon Strong** and **Bob Avery**, our greeters this morning.

### First Bell

President **Randy Marcove** rings the bell promptly at 7 a.m. to begin the meeting. Your editor, **Robert Winslow**, reads the invocation this morning, imploring members to be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind—to help and remind us of those in our community who are helping others. The club then joins in for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and **Ron Gutru** entertains us on the piano. Fine playing and thank you Ron!

### Guests

Our guests this morning include Kathy Sullivan from the Tamarac Optimist club who was a guest of **Bryce Slaby** and David Wardlaw, 8 year old son of your editor. Thank you for joining us!

### From the Prez

**Prez Randy** first welcomes back **Bob Avery** and then invites members to line up for member announcements. But before he does, Randy gives special recognition to **Mike Chavez** and his band of volunteers who managed the lunch stop on Sundays day 2 of the MS 150 Bike Ride over this past weekend. Randy rode in the event as did **Eldon Strong**, **Brian Williams**, and **Howdy Fry**.



Left, Prez Randy is captured by a Longmont Newspaper photographer as a typical MS 150 rider.

### Announcements

**MSOC New Membership Chair: Mike McMahon** sporting a clean look this morning, was able to patronize the salon of Cassandra Poldin, who attended the meeting last week and was very happy with the experience. From the looks of things, other club members could also use those fine talents and improve their overall presentation.

Mike is New Membership chair person and he is holding an upcoming orientation meeting for new members. Also, Mike is looking for members who are interested in mentoring and pairing with new members, see Mike for details.

**MS 150 Pledges: Eldon Strong** reminds members who have pledged to support the Bike MS with a monetary gift to pony up. Your editor plans to bring his check to the next meeting. Well done riders, who rode and sweated in the heat for a great cause.



**U.S. Amateur Alumni Day: Joe Marci** announced that members who wish to take their grandchildren to a fun event can get a free lunch at the U.S. Amateur Alumni Day, Tuesday, July 17 at Common Ground Golf Course, from noon until 2 p.m. All kids 17 and under will get a free lunch, a chance for prizes and a hat and pen; plus an opportunity to meet and get autographs from past U.S. Amateur qualifiers. Additionally, they will receive free admission to the 2012 U.S. Amateur, August 13-19 at Cherry Hills CC and CommonGround GC.

Also, for golfers who wanting to play sooner than that, the Sertoma Club of Littleton's 20th Annual tournament is at Bear Dance, is Tuesday, July 10<sup>th</sup>. See Joe for details.

Cont. next page

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 Cont.

**MS 150 Rest & Photo Shoot Stop:** Mike Chavez give a recap of the lunch stop fun from Sunday. Along with a great group from Tamarac Optimists, member volunteers filled water bottles, cooled hot riders and gave general support for 3,500 riders that stopped. **Craig Eley** again took pictures of riders and teams that gathered, this has been a big hit with riders over the years. Members that helped out included: **Donlie Smith, Don St. John, Cy Regan, George Buzick, Ed Collins, Marc Goodbody, Russ Paul, Greg Young, Robert Wardlaw, Tom Charters, Phil Perington, Barry Barker, Mike McMahon, Frank Ross, Fred Pasternack, Keith Galloway**, and a big thank you to **Bryce Slaby** for his help and the use of his truck. Well done everyone!



Photos Marc Goodbody

**Mudd Volleyball:** **Cy Regan** talks about the upcoming Mudd Volleyball event August 4<sup>th</sup> and held at the Majestic Commercenter in Aurora (east of I-70 and Tower Road). Optimist volunteers will again handle the parking duties for the event. Those helping are asked to meet at the club that morning at 5:30 a.m. to carpool to northeast Aurora. It should be over by mid morning. See Cy for more details.

**Brent's Place Pancake Breakfast:** **Paul Bernard** needs 12-15 volunteers to help with the pancake breakfast on July 29<sup>th</sup>, for Brent's Place. Brent's Place is a "Safe Clean" housing facility for immune compromised patients and their families, providing a living environment that is essential to healing and recovery. Paul especially needs the use of a truck to pick up the

pancake fryer on Friday and to return it, as well.

**American Cancer Society, Relay for Life:** **Paul Simon** talks about the upcoming American Cancer Society, Relay for Life July 28-29 in Parker. Paul will be captaining a team of individuals who will walk throughout the night in support. Please see Paul and sign up.

**Tamarac Optimist Trip to Central City:** **Kathy Sullivan** from the Tamarac Optimist Club announces an upcoming trip to Central City on Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$15, of which attendees will receive \$10 back from Doc Holiday's Casino, 1-free well drink, 1-free hot dog, and unlimited free soft drinks, coffee and popcorn. Contact Kathy at [rksullivan11@aol.com](mailto:rksullivan11@aol.com) or 303-758-9526. For those interested, a tour of the Historical Teller House is available for \$6.00.

**Are You Thing About Colorado Peaches:** **Bob Finkelmeier** announced that the Western Slope Peaches are forthcoming and appear to be early this year due to all the warm weather and a frost that got the late varieties. He will be passing around an order form in the next few weeks. The cost will be \$25 per box/lug with four dollars per box coming back to the club.



## Closing Bell

In the pot this morning \$80 was offered and despite the best efforts of those lucky to have their numbers called, no big winners today. After **Craig Eley** called several who were in attendance or had on their name tag, it was **Fred Pasternack** who got the chance. Alas Fred also came up empty and the pot grows.

Continued from page 3:

destruction. In one dramatic scene, a fire fighter uses a garden hose, left attached by the home owner, to extinguish a roof fire that had started by flying embers. Steve reports that many alert home owners helped the crews by leaving garden hoses attached, and also that homes built with non-combustible roofing and siding fared better. Estimates put the heat generated by the fire in excess of 1800 degrees in some areas, hot enough to melt aluminum. The use of slurry bombers and helicopters carrying buckets also helped. Steve was impressed by the accuracy they were able to put fire retardant and water to stop the spread of the fire.

It was dramatic and emotional testimony about the strength that mother nature can unleash. It also demonstrated the effectiveness and courage displayed by those working hard to protect us in these emergencies. We applaud their efforts and thank them for their strength and brave efforts.

Here is a link to The Denver Posts "PLog" with *Colorado Wildfires Photos: The Waldo Canyon Fire in Colorado Springs*, posted June 27<sup>th</sup>. Go to:

⇒ [Colorado Wildfires Photos #1](#)

⇒ [Colorado Wildfires Photos #2](#)

Cont. next page

## Speaker, Steve Schopper, Richie Rexach & Jim Hart Waldo Canyon Fire

**Steve Kady** introduced our speakers this morning. Steve Schopper, A/V Specialist & Video Photographer, and Richie Rexach, Paramedic/Firefighter, both with the Colorado Springs Fire Department, along with Captain Jim Hart from the Denver Fire Department.



Steve Kady

Capt. Hart began by telling how they got the call the late afternoon on June 26<sup>th</sup> to assist with the fire in the northeast part of Colorado Springs. The firefighters from Denver worked with those from Colorado Springs to assist in the Mountain Shadows neighborhood.



Jim Hart, Denver Fire Capt.

There objective was to save homes, a task that quickly became very difficult in extremely dry conditions with winds that whipped flames out of control at approximately 60 miles per hour. That evening more than 300 homes were destroyed and the devastation was impressive.

Captain Hart's duties during this time was as an assistant to the Colorado Springs Fire Department Chief as they worked to develop a strategy to best fight the fire. It was quickly determined that fire fighters from Denver would work in 14-16 hour shifts and they worked feverishly to establish a defensive line to prevent more loss of homes. The fire was extremely volatile and erratic, Capt. Hart explained trying to video some of the footage and being overwhelmed by the extreme heat his eyes were sore for days after from the exposure. The debris in the air from the fire was also something he was unaccustomed to and was a constant factor that fire fighters were working in during the experience.

He stated that the fire was an incredible experience and one of the rare times he recalls being terrified on the job. As he later recounts, during his video clip the fury and strength of this fire was overwhelming at times and only with the strong decision making direction of members of Colorado Springs Fire Department were more casualties prevented.



Steve Schopper, Colorado Springs FD

Next to speak was Steve Schopper, who tells of the early decision he made to document the events of this fire. He informs the group this morning, that the Waldo Canyon Fire has been 100% contained. As he entered the fire area on the 26<sup>th</sup>, he drew from his experience as a videographer to try to capture video of the fire from the best angle. He needed to balance that desire with also being safe and not becoming a fire casualty and many times felt the need to pull back despite wanting to film more. He recounts fire fighters setting up lines of protection and saving over 175 homes that were in danger of being destroyed. At the height, over 1,500 fire fighters were involved and it spread to become the largest fire in the world.



Richie Rexach, Colorado Springs FD  
Photos Don StJohn

Steve Schopper's dramatic video showed entire neighborhoods being destroyed, many homes fully engulfed in flames with little fire fighters could do to prevent the

Continued page 2

### Membership Roster Available

in pdf format on the  
Optimist Club of Monaco South webpage at  
<http://www.monacosouth.org/>

Click on *Members Only* in the left side menu  
Click on *Display Directory* in the Membership Directory box, a login box pops up:  
Username is "member"  
Password is "Denver76" without quotation marks

### Weekly Greeters

Date	Greeters
7/13/12	Paul Stratton & Art Erickson
7/20/12	Ed Collins & John Swick
7/27/12	Jim Tapp & Russ Paul
8/3/12	Ralph Peterson & John Oss
8/10/12	Greg Young & ?

### Monaco South Calendar

July 13 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Friends of Youth, Les Brown  
 July 14-15 Sat-Sun American Cancer Society, Relay for Life, Castle Rock - See Art Erickson  
 July 18 Wed 6:30 pm Board Meeting, District 4 Council Office, 3540 S. Poplar St., Suite 102  
 July 27 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence  
 July 29-29 Sat-Sun American Cancer Society, Relay for Life, Parker - See Paul Simon  
 July 29 Sun 6:00 am Brent's Place Pancake Breakfast  
 Aug 3 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Dolls for Daughters, Jessica Bachus

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

Bob Rhue	1976-77	Mark Metevia	1994-95
Jerry Whitlow	1977-78	Bob Safe	1995-96
Bill Kosena	1978-79	Tom Overton	1996-97
Duane Wehrer	1979-80	Peter Dimond	1997-98
Curt Jefferies	1980-81	Ralph Symalla	1998-99
Frank Middleton	1981-82	Cy Regan	1999-00
John Young	1982-83	Stan Cohen	2000-01
Pat Bush	1983-84	Don St. John	2001-02
Bob Hugo	1984-85	Jack Rife	2002-03
Tom Mauro	1985-86	Karl Geil	2003-04
Curt Lorenzen	1986-87	Bryce Slaby	2004-05
Oscar Sorensen	1987-88	Donlie Smith	2005-06
Lupe Salinas	1988-89	Paul Bernard	2006-07
Bob Avery	1989-90	Greg Young	2007-08
Bill Litchfield	1990-91	Phil Perington	2008-09
Bill Walters	1991-92	Ron Cisco	2009-10
Kent Gloor	1992-93	Ed Collins	2010-11
Gary Strowbridge	1993-94		

**2011 - 2012 Officers**

President	Randy S. Marcove	303-667-3663
Vice President	Frank Ross	720-210-8809
Vice President	Howard Fry	303-601-5088
Secretary	Jack Rife	303-349-1280
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

**Board of Directors**

Harry Fegley	303-671-7182
Wyatt McCallie	303-759-2275
Frank Middleton	303-759-9232
John Oss	303-973-7934
Allen Pierce	303-833-8506
James Riley	303-472-3652
Jim Tapp	303-503-8043
Brian Williams	720-253-5731
Ed Collins (Past Pres.)	303-905-7572

**Newsletter Committee**

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	<a href="mailto:rfinkelmeier@comcast.net">rfinkelmeier@comcast.net</a>	George Buzick	303-803-2268	<a href="mailto:gtbuzick@comcast.net">gtbuzick@comcast.net</a>
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**NEWSLETTER EDITORS:** July **Robert Wardlaw**, Aug **OC Larson**, Sept **Ralph Pedersen**

**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.