



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

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The Optimist Club of Monaco South

Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado

Serving Youth and the Community for 34 Years

www.monacosouth.org

Editor for this Issue—George Buzick



Good Morning Optimists!

Flexibility is the name of the game! Congratulations to **President Ron** for being able to think on his feet and move our meeting from where we are all used to gathering to another room, with a minimum of confusion. Seems that radio station KEZW (AM 1430) had booked the American Legion hall from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for their fund raising for the Colorado Freedom Memorial. Unfortunately, nobody informed them that Monaco South Optimist Club would be meeting in the middle of their fund raising venue.



Photo Don St John

Rick Crandall, shown above, the morning DJ for KEZW, was already set up with all of his equipment in the middle of the stage so, after eating breakfast, we moved to the smaller meeting room for our speaker. This only after the hat was passed and members of our club generously donated \$280 to the Freedom

Memorial, for which we got a significant amount of airtime on the wonderfulness of Optimists, compliments of Mr. Crandall.

In the midst of the turmoil, **Jack Rife**, himself a U.S. Army veteran, read an invocation dedicated to the remembrance of those who made the supreme sacrifice during the many conflicts we have endured as a nation, to ensure that all Americans can continue to enjoy the benefits outlined in our Constitution.

Continued next page



Memorial Day

We will spend the day, the last Monday of each May, honoring those who serve and the over 6000 from Colorado who have given their lives in military service since we became a state. (See page 2.)

Help us make the Colorado Freedom Memorial a reality. We've set a very lofty goal of raising \$400k in May, which would allow us to begin construction on the Memorial dedicated to all Colorado military veterans killed in action since we became a state. Heroes each of them! In this month of May, when we commemorate Memorial Day, it would be good to know we were able to build a Memorial that will stand forever as a symbol of their service and sacrifice. Let us be the ones to show future generations the price paid for their Freedom.

For more information about the Colorado Freedom Memorial and for ways to donate, click here <http://www.cfmf.net/home.asp>.



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****

Guests

Randy Marcove introduced his guest, Bob Winterfield and **Joe Marci** introduced Paula Kauffman, who has been a judge of our Essay Contest for a number of years.

Announcements

Perfect Attendance: **Randy Marcove** announced that, at the beginning of the week, there were 13 students eligible for the Perfect Attendance Award, but that two of these students decided to celebrate the end of school a little prematurely by playing “hooky.” Only 11 students actually received the award.

Korsoski Award: It was also announced that at the Bradley International School presentation of the Charles Korsoski Award, presenter **Tom Mckee** not only gave the recipient the \$100 U.S. Savings Bond presented by the club, but an additional \$100 out of his pocket. *Way to go Tom!*

Ron Cisco presented the Korsoski Award at Samuels Elementary, as did Tom Hoch at Slavens Elementary. Tom asked the recipient if he had any advice as to how to succeed in life, the recipient of the Slavens award said, “*Be Good!*”

Picnic: Randy asked for more help from the club in assisting with the picnic to be held Saturday, June 5th, 11am-6pm at Eisenhower Park. Monaco South is one of the main sponsors and we need to make this a success, so come on out and help, if only for a few hours. (The picnic goes all day.) Randy also announced that you can get a “free” hot dog, for just a one-dollar donation.

Thank You: **Joe Marci** read the following thank you note from Rebecca Holt, one of our Sullivan Scholarship winners:

Dear Optimist Club of Monaco South, Thank you so much for awarding me the Robert Sullivan Scholarship this year. Your club has supported me at Holm and Hamilton, and now at TJ and I am thankful. I also want to thank you for the breakfast on Friday morning, I had a blast, and the food was terrific. Thanks Again, Rebecca Holt

Baseball Game: **Joe** also reminded us of the Rockies/St. Louis Cardinals game on Tuesday, July 6th at 6:40 pm. This is being held in conjunction with the Optimist International Convention and Joe is trying to sell 300 tickets in order to have the Optimist International President announced on the field before the game. We’re at about 250 now, so let’s support the Rockies and OI!

Kids Against Hunger: **Paul Bernard** reminded those who signed up to show up in order to pack food on behalf of the Kids Against Hunger which, though sponsored by the Kiwanis, is a worthwhile effort to feed hungry kids in Haiti, Africa and (yes)

here in Denver Colorado. Goal is to pack 100,000 meals on Saturday, June 29. (*Editor’s Note: When the 10 Optimist present left at Noon on Saturday, over 43,000 meals had been packed.*)

MS Bike Ride: **Bryce Slaby** urged us to show the same support we have in the past for the MS Bicycle Ride and said that in addition to a delicious lunch, there would be a number of entertainers present at our rest stop in Longmont. We need about 30 people to staff this event on Sunday, June 27th. **Bob Avery** also asked for support for those who will be riding in the event.

Liberty Day Booth: **Andy McKean** asked for support for the Liberty Day booth, which will be set up at the Optimist International Convention on July 8th and 9th. Volunteers will be handing out copies of the U.S. Constitution with the goal of expanding the reach of Liberty Day to other Optimist clubs.

Just to Share: **Freddie Pasternack** asked that we say a prayer for Cliff Dougal, a long time Optimist, who is seriously ill in the hospital. And Congratulations to **Al Gapuzan** who became a grandpa for the first time with the birth of Julia Gracie on May 26th.

Drawing: Apparently, in the chaos of moving from room to room, nobody remembered to bring the deck of cards for the infamous drawing. Even  thought the pot now stands at \$160, in the absence of the aforementioned deck of cards, no one won the pot today, which means that next week there are some big bucks on the line. Don’t miss it, if you can!

Memorial Day History

Memorial Day is a United States federal holiday observed on the last Monday of May (May 31 in 2010). Originally proclaimed as Decoration Day in 1868 by General John A. Logan, national commander of The Grand Army of the Republic to honor the dead of both sides of the American Civil War, it was celebrated on May 30 of each year. The alternative name of “Memorial Day” was first used in 1882, but did not become the official name of the holiday until 1967. In 1968, the United States Congress passed the Uniform Holidays Bill, which moved three holidays from their traditional dates to a specified Monday in order to create a convenient three-day weekend. Many people believe that this action has diminished the importance of the holiday and has decreased the number and extent of celebrations. A number of veteran’s organizations advocate returning to a fixed date, although the significance of the date is tenuous. A national moment of remembrance takes place at 3:00 p.m. local time and many people observe this holiday by visiting cemeteries and memorials. Flags are flown at half-staff from dawn to noon on this day and many communities have organizations, which place flags on the gravesites in National Cemeteries. Some Americans view Memorial Day as the unofficial beginning of summer and Labor Day as the end.

Our Speaker



Photo Don StJohn

Our speaker today was Martin Cobb. Mr. Cobb, a retired U.S. Navy veteran is currently a volunteer on behalf of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, which is a Department of Defense agency that seeks to develop and promote a culture in which all American employers support and value the military service of their employees. It does so by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the law, and resolving conflicts through mediation.

There are currently 135,000 reservists who are on active duty and there have been more than 750,000 who have served in an active capacity since 9/11. According to the Uniformed Service Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA), reservists who are called to active duty have certain rights with respect to returning to their civilian jobs, when released from active duty. While there are a number of technicalities associated with this act, which was revised in 1994, essentially, reservists called to active duty have the right to expect to return to the same or similar position with the same pay and the same seniority once released from such active duty. This also includes an “escalator principle,” which means that reservists will be treated the same as others who work for the company from which they came with respect to pay increases, benefits, etc. Unlike many other labor laws, the USERRA applies to all employers, without regard to number of employees. More information regarding ESGR and USERRA can be found at the website: <http://esgr.org/site/> or by calling 1-800-336-4590.

The GUMS Folders



In early May Quincy Place, home of **Marlin Kent**, the GUMS folders and mailers were treated to a special breakfast in their private dining room. Marlin is at the head of the table, with **Dick Zolman**, **Jim Piccinelli**, and **Ralph Pedersen**. Missing from this gathering are **Marc Goodbody** and sometime present, **Jim Leuschner** and **Joe Marci**.

Weekly Greeters

Date	Greeters
6/4/10	Karl Geil & Jon Wachter
6/11/10	Randy Marcove & Paul Gleditsch
6/18/10	Rich Wagner & Brian Williams
6/25/10	Fred Pasternack & George Vassilaros
7/2/10	Rich Mahony & Paul Gleditsch
7/9/10	OC Larson & Jon Wachter

Free print cartridges: **Joe Marci** has some HP 94/95 print cartridges. They fit his old HP-2355 All-In-One printer. Anyone who calls first, 303-771-3748.

Monaco South Calendar

- Jun 4 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Clear the Bench Colorado
- Jun 5 Sat 11-6 pm Annual Picnic at Eisenhower Park with University Park Neighborhood Picnic
- Jun 11 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Carry Nolan, Multiple Sclerosis
- Jun 11-13 Fri-Sun Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) Seminar, Colorado School of Mines
- Jun 18 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Camaraderie Day
- Jun 25 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Biennial of the Americas
- Jun 27 Sun Bike MS - Multiple Sclerosis Fundraiser, See Don StJohn
- Jul 2 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - Gerald Short, Water Conservation
- Jul 4 Sun ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Independence Day ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
- Jul 4 - 9 Sun-Fri 2010 National Veterans Wheelchair Games
- Jul 6 Tue 6:40 pm Optimist Day at Coors Field, Colorado Rockies vs. St. Louis Cardinals
- Jul 8-10 Thu-Sat 92nd Annual Optimist International Convention, Sheraton Denver Downtown
Hotel: online registration @ <http://www.optimist.org/reg/>
- Jul 9 Fri 7:00 am Meeting, Legion Hall - TBA

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

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

2009 - 2010 Officers

President	Ron Cisco	303-794-0749
Vice President	Howard Fry	303-601-5088
Vice President	Frank Ross	303-713-1008
Secretary	Robert Wardlaw	303-759-0360
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

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Randy Marcove	303-667-3663
Gary Miller	303-751-0838
Terry Shroyer	303-757-7944
Kale Smith	720-207-4363
Phil Perington (Past Pres.)	303-832-4578

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NEWSLETTER EDITORS: May **GEORGE BUZICK**, Jun. **BRAIN WILLIAMS**, July **OC LARSON**, Aug **RALPH PEDERSON**

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
AT DENVER, COLORADO AND**

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