



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

April 17, 2020 – Vol. 44, Issue 29



Optimist Club of Monaco South



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 43 Years
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012
<https://www.monacosouth.org>



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Editor for this Issue—Phil Perington

Good Morning Optimists Zoom Virtual Meeting

President **Bob Meyer** called the meeting into session for all Zoomers on this chilly Spring morning, excepting of course **Dr. Bob** and **Greg Young** who were basking at their warm and sunny beachfront cabana's. It should be noted there were little umbrellas in their orange juice glasses. Also joining us was the "super hero green man" who was not recognized. Could it be the Incredible Hulk?



Invocation & Pledge

President **Bob** began the meeting with a morning innovation and leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag. He then moved into the happening on this date in history—April 17th.

This Day in History

Birthdays: J. P. Morgan, American industrialist, financier, and banker, 1837; actor William Holden, 1918; newscaster Harry Reasoner, 1923; Daffy Duck, 1937; Boomer Esiason, 1961; and actress Jennifer Garner, 1972.

Events: 1492, Christopher Columbus signs a contract with the Spanish monarchy to find "The Indies" with the stated goal of converting people to Catholicism. He would also receive 10% of all riches found. In 1934, New Fenway Park opens in Boston; 1947, Jackie Robinson bunts for his first Major League hit; 1951, Mickey Mantle's first Major League game. He goes 1 for 4. In 1953, Mantle hits 565' home run in Washington DC's Griffith Stadium; 1961, 1,400 Cuban exiles

land at the Bay of Pigs in a doomed attempt to overthrow Fidel Castro; 1964, First game at Shea Stadium...Mets lose; and 1964, Ford Mustang introduced...base price of \$ 2,368.

Presidential Rants & Raves



We had another MSOC membership Zoom meeting on Friday. We had about 40 members participate in the Zoom meeting which started at 10:00 a.m. and lasted for an hour. **Phil Perington** took notes from the meeting, and they are posted elsewhere in this week's GUMS.

The MSOC Board of Directors also met via Zoom for the monthly Board meeting on Thursday night. At the request of several members who are still working but want to participate in our Friday morning meetings, the Board decided to move the Friday morning meetings to 8:00 a.m., effective next Friday, April 25th. I have, therefore, cancelled the 10:00 a.m. Zoom meetings and re-scheduled them for 8:00 a.m. You should have received the cancelation and the new meeting time emails this weekend.

Also, at the Board meeting, we had the privilege of voting on **Josh LiPuma's** membership application, which was unanimously approved. Josh joined as a "30 under 30" member, so we are bringing fresh, young blood into the Club. **Welcome, Josh!**

If you know of anybody else under 30 years of age who wants to become an Optimist member, please let us know at a future Zoom membership meeting.

Even though we are not meeting face-to-face, the MSOC membership drive continues. Please find new members and forward their membership applications and check to **Greg Young** for the Board to vote on.

Once again, my timeshare in Frisco will be unavailable for the foreseeable future, as Summit County has ordered the closure of all hotels and timeshare, Airbnb, and VRBO rentals, so, although the MSOC membership drive will continue, I am unable to offer my late-April week to the "winner" of the membership drive. I received an email Thursday from my timeshare management company saying they would work with me and try to find a week for me later in the year. If they find one, I will give it to the "winner" of the membership drive.

The Board also decided to continue payments of \$100 per week to our caterer **Heather Mulqueen** through May. Those payments have always been budgeted for in the Club's budget, it is just that, now, we do not have offsetting revenue from

Continued 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******

paid breakfasts.

Tom Kramis gave the Board an update on plans for the 2020 Christmas Tree lot. Tom has to place an order with our out-of-state tree providers by June 1st. With the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, there was a lengthy discussion about how conservative we may need to be with placing the order for trees, given the economic uncertainty we are facing.

Tom provided a similar update to the Club membership at Friday morning's Zoom meeting. Tom is looking for members who want to be part of a "Strategic Planning" committee for the 2020 Christmas Tree lot. If you are interested in helping out, please let Tom know.

The Board heard a report from Club Treasurer **Greg Young** about the Denver East High School's Constitutional Scholars team, which is a two-time defending national champion. With school closings, there will not be a 2020 national championship competition. The Club has already made a 2020 donation to the East High team, and the team sponsor thanked us for the donation.

The Board also kicked around the idea of doing a Zoom "New Member Orientation" for the last half dozen or so new members. I will be working with **Tom Glazier** and **Jim Easton** to see if we can pull that off. We want to make sure that we make the new members feel involved and inform them about the Club's many youth projects and activities that we hope to resume later in 2020.

At Friday's meeting, **Joe Marci** announced that he has received six applications for the Sullivan Scholarships and is working with Thomas Jefferson High School to secure more.

During the meeting (and with a couple of later emails), Joe reported that we have a nearly full slate of officer nominees for Club Year, October 2020 to September 2021. The nominees' names are posted elsewhere in this week's GUMS. The Club needs to hold elections and get the results to OI before the end of May...if not sooner. We will provide updated information at next Friday's membership meeting.

Tom Hoch told a couple of Ole/Sven/Lena jokes. **Bob Avery** tried telling a joke, but it was pretty long and did not receive a standing ovation. Bob's joke is repeated below. It is easier to appreciate in written form.

Subject: Sensitivity training: The room was full of pregnant women with their partners. The class was in full swing. The instructor was teaching the women how to breathe and was telling the men how to give the necessary help and assurance to their partners at this stage of the pregnancy.

She said, "Ladies, remember that exercise is good for you. Walking is especially beneficial. It strengthens the pelvic muscles and will make delivery that much easier. Just pace yourself, make plenty of stops and try to stay on a soft surface like grass or a path."

She looked at the men in the room, "Gentlemen, remember you're in this together. It would not hurt you to go walking with her. In fact, that shared experience would be good for you both."

The room suddenly got very quiet as the men absorbed this information. After a few moments, a man named Gary at the back of the room slowly raised his hand.

"Yes," said the instructor. "I was just wondering, would it be all right if she carries a golf bag while we walk?"

This kind of sensitivity just cannot be taught.

Based on last Friday's video clips from **Don St. John Day**, Greg Young reported that he has received some donations to the Optimist International Foundation in Don's name. Additional pledges were made at this week's meeting. Please get your donations, made out to "OIF," to Greg so that he can send them off to St. Louis for "pass through" back to the Club. The Board of Directors will decide what kind of endowed memorial fund, in Don's name, can be set up for future youth activities and projects.

We did a round of "Virtual Happy Bucks" with a dozen or so members pledging \$ 5 each, which we will use as a donation to OI's Childhood Health and Wellness Initiative. **Greg**

Young kept track of the pledges and you can pay him when we next meet face-to-face.

Although we have been successful in reaching 40 or more members with our weekly Zoom meetings, there are another 80 or so members we need to reach out to. I have started making a few phone calls each day to keep in touch with those Club members. I suggest that you do the same as you are able. All it takes is a few minutes to possibly brighten someone's day as we all endure the "new normal" of "stay-in-place." If you find Club members who need assistance, please let me or **Michael Chavez** know so that we can set up "phone trees" to help those who may be unable to get out for grocery store trips or medical appointments.

I continue working with Vitalant, the company that Denver's Belle Bonfils Blood Center merged into, to see how we can conduct a blood drive in honor of **John Oss**, who continues to battle acute myeloid leukemia. The Vitalant representative I talked to indicated that their bloodmobile is booked for blood drives through the end of May but might be available to us in June. I will continue to explore this possibility and will keep everyone informed. We could coordinate our efforts with the Tamarac Optimist Club and the American Legion to get a significant turnout at a blood drive.

FYI, Zoom offers a free membership package that permits 40-minute "meetings." That is a great deal if you want to get your families together for some "family face time" or friends together for a "virtual happy hour." Check out that "free offer" at <https://zoom.us/pricing>. For help and assistance with Zoom, visit the [Zoom Help Center, just click here](#).

Please continue to take care of yourselves and your loved ones; practice safe health procedures; and we will see you at some point in the future.

If you need to contact me, please call 303-919-4532 or email me at meyerrob@comcast.net.

**Yours in Optimism,
Prez Bob**

Announcements

Christmas Tree Lot Planning: Tom Kramis mentioned he is look for some assistance with order planning. His main concern is now many tress do we order. He has to place the order on or before June 1st. Reduction numbers range anywhere from 0-50% for 2020 tree inventory. His main question is, "With the virus pandemic are we going to increase or lose sales is another issue for further discussion?" Should you like to assist Tom with this decision, please contact him immediately. **Greg Young** noted that Tom Kramis will be looking for additional manpower as he will no longer be collecting funds at the tree lot. Here again Tom will need assistance. So, please step-up.

Tom Mauro suggested we might setup a pre-order email system with existing customers. This committee can also consider this as well.

Membership Directory: Tom Mauro requested that if you have directory changes to get them to him by the end of April. Please send them to tmmauro@aol.com. He also said, we will update the directory but will probably not have a paper copy. We will make the updated copy available online on the Monaco South ClubRunner App. **Craig Eley** usually takes new member photos, but we may have to wait till the October edition for that. If you still want to make \$1 million in gross sales, please send **Greg Young** your reup fee of \$25 dollars per 6 month subscription to keep your business cards in the directory. If you are a new sponsor, please scan a copy of your business card and send to Craig at craigceley@gmail.com if you would like to advertise in the directory.



Announcements Continued

Don St. John Fund: **Greg Young** stated that the Don St. John fund should be expedited as soon as possible. Also, please make your check out to **OI Foundation**, as we will facilitate use of their pass-through fund to reclaim the contributions for depositing into Don's fund.

Sullivan Scholarships: **Joe Marci** shared there have been 6 applications received so far for the 2020 Sullivan Scholarship. We have given the Thomas Jefferson students additional time to submit their applications and may receive some more this month. The TJ counselor is working with us by email to help complete all applications. Winners names will be announced in May. If the club returns to meeting at the American Legion this summer we will invite the scholarship winners and their parents before college begins.

2020-2021 Officer Election: **Joe Marci** and **Bob Avery** are working diligently on the upcoming Officers and Board election and need nominations as soon as possible. Please contact either Joe or Bob if you would like to be member of the 2020-2021 Administration.

Virtual Happy Bucks

Perry Allen shared that he is happy his employer kept him on the payroll and that his daughter is safe and sound. **Joe Marci** was furloughed from his Golf Course duties and is happy to be getting paid until the end of May.

Tom Overton is delighted the neighborhood kids have set up a walking application for him to track his walking and shares the data. He and his wife, **Sheryl** are walking 2-5 miles daily and following an alphabet pattern.

Ron Gustas said he is proud and happy his grandson is going off the Montana State.

Randy Marcove is pleased he got paid in Costa Rican currency and happy to be in Colorado. Although he said he cannot spend it since it is in colons.

Karl and Lesley Geil had a great virtual dinner with family both in Iowa and California.

Prez Bob Meyer is happy to hear **John Oss**, **Gary Strowbridge**, **Abigail Gloor**, and **John Bamford** are all well and safe.

George Buzick is happy to have survived a virtual Trivial Pursuit game with his daughter and friends.

Phil Perington is happy that Opening Day is still "just around the corner," as optimistically reported by Mr. Baseball, **Tom Mauro**.

Member Report

Hey Bob – thanks for reaching out! **Kathy** and I are still in Tucson for our winter stay. We had a long RV trip to the East Coast planned for May and June but all that has been canceled so we will be staying here until early June. We are doing great – this is a great place to "shelter." We are able to get out and hike or bike most days. **Eldon and Roxy Strong** are in the same community as us and we see them once a week or so – they are also doing great. All the Best to our Optimist Friends! **Jack and Kathy Rife**

We are fine and will attend the Friday meeting next week at 8:00 a.m. **Allen Malask**



Thanks for your message, all is well here. Will try to make the meeting on Friday at 8:00. It's a better time for me. Hope all are well. **Robert Wardlaw**

Kathy and I are doing well. We are staying at home most of the time. I have gone over to the kids house to do some yard work as I am taking care of their yard. I enjoy doing this and it does get me out of the house and safe to work out in the yard. I have put an alert on my calendar for the 24th and hope to be there. I have had several doctors appointments by phone and they always call on Friday mornings. Especially the VA. Regards to the Optimist club and hope all are safe. **Ed Leuty**

I'm doing well and staying safe. **Curt Boell**

I have been trying to get on the zoom network. Three weeks in a row I sit here and try. Except the frustration I feel each Friday all is well at the Cisco household. I will try again next week. Wish me luck, **Ron Cisco**

Russ Paul is okay although he was hit by a car when on his bike last week. His bike is in need of a bike shop to repair it. He tells me he is okay. I keep telling him that I'll take him to the store for shopping. I bought him some oatmeal and bread a week ago but he still needed to go to the store. He mailed me a check for groceries that came yesterday. I'll try to see him this week and get his bike to the shop. Reported by **Joe Marci**



Did I miss anything?

On-Line Trivia Contest

By **Andy Towt**



Thank you to **Bob Avery**, **Pat Bush**, **Bob Hartwig**, and **Phil Perington** for participating and getting the right answer to last week's trivia Question.

The question was: *What year did Colorado become a state?* The answer is 1876, which was the 100th birthday of when admitted into the Union. We have the nickname: The Centennial State.

This week's trivia question is: **Was Alaska the 49th or 50th State added to the Union?**

Even if you have no idea, you have a 50/50 chance of getting the correct answer, so we are hoping that there will be a large response to this question. We will only publish the names of those who got it right, so don't worry, even if you got it wrong, no one will know.

Email your answer to Warren.Allentown@gmail.com.

Congratulations to the Class of 2020

A Virtual Graduation



Weekly Greeters

4/24/20	In Person Meeting Suspended Due to Virus Attend a Zoom Meeting starting at now 8:00 a.m.
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Optimist Club of Monaco South 2019-2020 43rd Year — Chartered in 1976
See the Online Calendar @ <http://www.monacosouth.org/Events/Calendar>

Due to the need to be cautious during the CONVID-19 outbreak, meetings are virtual until at least May 1st. Please check back for updates.

Apr 10	Fri	10:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Zoom Virtual Meeting
Apr 16	Thu	7:00 pm	Monthly Board Meeting: Zoom Virtual Meeting
Apr 17	Fri	10:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Zoom Virtual Meeting, 2020-2021 Officer Election
Apr 21	Tue	2:00 pm	Super Citizen, Most Precious Blood Canceled
Apr 24	Fri	10:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Zoom Virtual Meeting
May 1	Fri	10:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Zoom Virtual Meeting
May 2	Sat	7:30 am	History Day State Contest: To be held virtually in June 2020
May 8	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: To Be Determined
May 8	Fri	8:10 am	Super Citizen, Holm Elementary Canceled

2019 - 2020 Officers

President	Bob Meyer	303-919-4532
Vice President	Steve Kady	303-931-1470
Vice President	Dan Rodriguez	303-521-5120
Secretary	Tracy Sorensen	303-886-1743
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

2019 - 2020 Board of Directors

Perry Allen	303-521-3453
Noel Hasselgren	303-475-7125
Jack Kleinheksel	303-751-3602
Tom Kramis	303-917-5299
Allen Malask	303-726-3700
Bill Morgan	303-868-4384
Mark Smith	303-691-9766
John Stoffel	720-837-3013
Everett Gardner (Past Pres.)	949-246-0984

Past Presidents

Bob Rhue	1976-77	Lupe Salinas	1988-89	Stan Cohen	2000-01	Paul Simon	2012-13
Jerry Whitlow	1977-78	Bob Avery	1989-90	Don St. John	2001-02	Jon Wachter	2013-14
Bill Kosena	1978-79	Bill Litchfield	1990-91	Jack Rife	2002-03	John Oss	2014-15
Duane Wehrer	1979-80	Bill Walters	1991-92	Karl Geil	2003-04	Michael Chavez	2015-16
Curt Jefferies	1980-81	Kent Gloor	1992-93	Bryce Slaby	2004-05	Craig Eley	2016-17
Frank Middleton	1981-82	Gary Strowbridge	1993-94	Donlie Smith	2005-06	Jim Easton	2017-18
John Young	1982-83	Mark Metevia	1994-95	Paul Bernard	2006-07	Everett Gardner	2018-19
Pat Bush	1983-84	Bob Safe	1995-96	Greg Young	2007-08		
Bob Hugo	1984-85	Tom Overton	1996-97	Phil Perington	2008-09		
Tom Mauro	1985-86	Peter Dimond	1997-98	Ron Cisco	2009-10		
Curt Lorenzen	1986-87	Ralph Symalla	1998-99	Ed Collins	2010-11		
Oscar Sorensen	1987-88	Cy Regan	1999-00	Randy Marcove	2011-12		

Newsletter Committee

Robert Finkelmeier	303-756-5829	Paul Stratton	303-366-6375
George Buzick	303-803-2268	Pat Bush	720-254-3741
Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532	Craig Eley	303-758-9499
Phil Perington	303-832-4578	Greg Young	303-759-3921

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: May **George Buzick**, June **Robert Wardlaw**, July **Pat Bush**

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.