



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

April 24, 2020 – Vol. 44, Issue 30

## Optimist Club of Monaco South



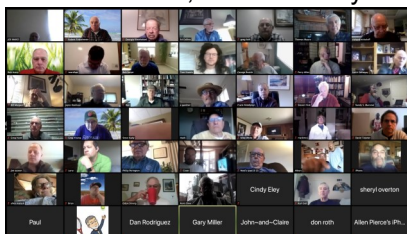
Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado  
Serving Youth and the Community for 43 Years  
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012  
<https://www.monacosouth.org>

Editor for this Issue—Phil Perington



### Good Morning Optimists Zoom Virtual Meeting

On this date, the 114th day of the year, and another Zoom



meeting due to the coronavirus pandemic. Over 50+ members join the meeting, even some who are in Arizona join the meeting. As did past district governor **Bob Hartwig** who logged in late from Boerne, Texas. Many showed off their morning fashions and long hair. A few did not even show their face, but just listened in to chatter.

### Invocation & Pledge

**President Bob Meyer** lead the invocation, *"By Always looking at the Sunny side of everything we are able to make a positive difference in all we do and accomplish."* The Pledge of Allegiance was led by club treasurer **Greg Young**, which was followed by the usual optimistic cheer of *"Play Ball!"* Editor, If only there was a way!

### Some of the Chatter

**Steve Kady** is still in rehab, his left foot hurts and it is not cooperating.

**Joe Marci** announced Denver Parks has opened all golf courses allowing the use of only single rider golf carts. He then added that Aurora golf courses are still closed and when they decide to open playing will be extra precautions. Might this be an opportunity for kids to begin studying the art of caddy and proffering of secret advice.

**Bob Avery** said he was cooking oatmeal and he might be distracted for a few minutes. While **Dick Nickoloff** clarifies President Trump's dissertation on the pros and cons of using bleach and disinfectants.

**Tom Hoch** posted a photo of himself indulging in tropical adult refreshment and followed up with an Ollie bar joke involving 6 shots for the price of \$1. Someone reported **Oscar Sorensen** was seen shopping (Christmas?) and is in great spirits.

**President Bob** then commenced with his much anticipated presentation of important birthdays and memorable events on this day in history.

### This Day in History

Birthdays: In 1581, St. Vincent de Paul; 1766, Robert Bai-

ley Thomas, founder and long-time editor of the "The Farmer's Almanac"; 1934, Shirley MacLaine; 1942, Barbara Streisand; 1964, Cedric Kyles, aka, *The Entertainer*; 1972, Chipper Jones, baseball player and analyst; 1997, and Lydia Ko, a New Zealander and LPGA Golf Pro.

Events: 1184 BC, Greeks enter Troy using the Trojan Horse; 1800, Library of Congress established with \$ 5,000 allocation; 1872, Mt. Vesuvius erupts in Italy; 1888, Eastman Kodak founded by George Eastman; 1898, Spain declares war against the United States; 1917, Congress passes Liberty Loan Act, authorizing the Treasury to issue public subscription for \$ 2,000,000,000 in War Bonds; 1950, President Harry Truman denies there are Communists in U.S. Government; 1953, Winston Churchill is knighted by Queen Elizabeth II; 1961, John F. Kennedy accepts "sole responsibility" for Bay of Pigs; 1962, Sandy Koufax, who attended the University of Cincinnati, had his 2<sup>nd</sup> 18-strikeout game for the LA



Dodgers; 1965, Casey Stengel wins 3,000<sup>th</sup> game as manager; and in 1995, the Dow Jones IA hits record 4,304. Oh, and today was National Pigs in a Blanket Day!

### 2020-2021 Club Officer Nominations

Currently the slate of nominees are:

President — **Dan Rodriguez**

Vice President — **Tom Kramis & Chris Dunphy**

Board (elect 4) — **Stephen Avery, George Buzick, David Peck, & Larry Pulaski**

The election will be held on Friday, May 1, 2020 during the Club's current Zoom membership meeting at 8:00 a.m., Denver, CO.

### Presidential Rants & Raves



*We had another successful MSOC membership meeting on Friday with over 50 members participating in the Zoom meeting which started at 8 a.m. and lasted for an hour. Going forward, 8 a.m. will be the starting time of the meeting, although if you want to socialize with other members, feel free to sign on earlier. I think some members signed on about 20 minutes before the 8 start time to experience the camaraderie we are all been missing since we had to abandon our face-to-face meetings at the American Legion hall.*

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\*\*\*\***

**Phil Perington** took notes from the meeting, and they are posted elsewhere in this week's GUMS.

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.

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 last Thursday from my timeshare management company saying they'd 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.

At Friday's meeting, **Joe Marci** announced that he has received eight applications from TJ High School students for the Sullivan Scholarships and asked for volunteers to review the applications in May. The volunteers will be past prez **Everett Gardner**, **Joe Marci**, **Tom Mauro**, **Phil Perington**, and yours truly. The budget for the Sullivan Scholarships is set at \$ 6,000, so the volunteer committee will have its work cut out.

During the meeting, Joe Marci also reported that we have a full slate of officer nominees for 2020-2021. The vote will take place next week, Friday, May 1, 2020. The nominees' names are:

- ◇ President **Dan Rodriguez**
- ◇ Vice-president **Tom Kramis & Chris Dunphy**
- ◇ Directors **Stephen Avery**, **George Buzick**, **David Peck**, & **Larry Pulaski**

Coming off of the Board are **John Stoffel**, **Noel Hasselgren**, **Jack Kleinheksel**, & **Tom Kramis**, accept he now is running for VP. Thank you gentleman for your assistance!

The Club needs to hold elections by May 1st, which happens to be the date of our next meeting. Please round up MSOC members who have been missing our Zoom meetings so they can take part in next week's elections.

Several Zoom meetings ago, **Paul Simon** showed some video clips from **Don St. John Day**. **Greg Young** reported that he has received \$ 1,600 in donations to the Optimist International Foundation in Don's name. If you still plan on donating, 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.

Although we have been successful in reaching 50 or more members with our weekly Zoom meetings, there are another 70 or so members we need to reach out to. **Frank Middleton** mentioned that he made a few phone calls this week to keep in touch with Club members we have not heard from in a while. 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 when we can conduct a blood drive in honor of **John Oss**. The Vitalant representative I talked to indicated that their bloodmobile is booked for blood drives through the middle of June. I will continue to explore this possibility and will keep everyone informed. **Steve Hick** has hooked me up with the University Park Community Council about running a combined blood drive, and I've been in contact with the Tamarac and University Hills Optimist Clubs to see if they would like to join us to get a significant turnout at a blood drive.

To get to know new members better, I would like them to complete the "About Me" questionnaire that is attached here and to the

GUMS distribution email. I would like the new members, if they are comfortable doing so, to speak up at an upcoming Zoom membership meeting. If we cannot get them "live" on Zoom, we will attach their completed "About Me" questionnaire in an upcoming GUMS, but I would much prefer to see them talk about themselves during a weekly meeting. Thanks to **Greg Hurd** for putting the "About Me" questionnaire together.

Another **Greg Hurd** developed questionnaire is the "Staying Busy When I Can't Go Out" questionnaire also here and attached to the GUMS distribution email. As with the "About Me" questionnaire, I would like members to complete the questionnaire and be ready to present it at an upcoming Zoom membership meeting. It will be fun to hear what members are doing to keep busy and active during the "Stay-in-Place" period.

If you would like to make a presentation from either questionnaire, please let me know by separate email so that I can make sure to include you in an upcoming meeting.

**Tom Mauro** talked about establishing a COVID-19 Emergency Fund to help MSOC members who may be suffering financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic. At its next meeting, the Board of Directors will establish eligibility criteria and an application for the Emergency Fund. To kick-start the Fund, Tom is donating \$100. You can send donations via check made out to MSOC" (show "COVID-19 Emergency Fund" on the memo line) to **Greg Young** or make an online donation for the Fund on the MSOC website from the link for "MONACO SOUTH PAYMENTS" on the home page banner head or on the right side of the page. The link for the MSOC website is <https://www.monacosouth.org>. If you have any comments or suggestions about the Fund, please let me know by separate email.

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>. You also can find How To Join a Zoom Meeting at <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-Joining-a-Meeting>

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](mailto:meyerrob@comcast.net).

Yours in Optimism,  
**Prez Bob**

## Announcements

**Sullivan Scholarship Awards:** **Joe Marci** announced the Sullivan Scholarship Awards Committee has received 8 applications for the 6 awards budgeted by the Board. The five committee members who will review consist of **Everett Gardner**, **Tom Mauro**, **Phil Perington**, **Bob Avery** and tie-breaker **Joe Marci**.

**Contacting Members:** **Frank Middleton** reports that he has been in contact with a few members and shared that **Peter Dimond** is doing fine, but his business has slowed a bit. **John Greene** is in good health and may join our Zoom meeting next week if he can just figure out how to log on. **Terry Shroyer** is feeling good, but has a **John Greene** situation as well. **Bryce Slaby** is researching his joke book and considering a show down match with **Tom Hoch**. Editor, All need to watch the How To Join a Zoom Meeting video.

**Update on Russ Paul:** **Gary Miller** detailed the current situation with **Russ Paul** and his "twisted bike" accident in early April. Russ is doing fine except for some bruising. He did not suffer any serious injuries. The bike is totaled and needs to be replaced. Insurance will pay for a new bike.



## Announcements Continued

**Craig Eley** and Gary are in the process of getting everything resolved. Editor: *Thanks Fellas!*

**Membership Emergency Fund:** **Tom Mauro** proposed the creation of a COVID-19 emergency fund. We will hold the funds in the Club treasury. The Board will review this idea at their next meeting. Contributions should be made directly to OCMS. There will be a follow up in *GUMS* on the mechanics of the requests/distribution process once approved.

**Zoom Attendance Report:** Attendance taker **Bob Avery** reported today that while taking roll this morning the accuracy may be in doubt, since he seemed to appear as if he was floating upside down in space. However, he did note he saw new faces, like **Eldon** "sleepy-eyed" **Strong**, **Al Gapuzan**, and past governor **Bob Hartwig** in attendance. As is the tradition, we all waved at these new Zoomer's.

**Tamarac & DTC Clubs on Zoom:** **Tom Kramis** mentioned that the Tamarac and DTC Optimist Club's have now held their first Zoom meetings with a large number of members signing in. He recommended we call or reach out to our members and remind everyone Monaco South meetings are going strong and please sign on. The directory has great contact information. **Prez Bob** stated that he has sent out 125 invites every week and 51 faces are on screen for today's meeting.

**Speaking About Zoom:** District Membership Chair **Phil Perington** reported membership in the CO-WY District has remained relative steady with new members being added

and few members dropping. Zoom meetings might be a blessing in disguise. Possibly an added tool for reaching out to members and friends, and to exploring new ways to attend meetings and build virtual Clubs.

**Denver Rockies Report:** Mr. Baseball, **Tom Mauro** responded when asked about the Rockies game plan. He succinctly stated that there will be no money lost on season tickets. Adding, there may not be any games played on either Coast or in Domes. To date refunds have not been offered by the Rockies. Someone noted, fan attendance is not a problem for the Marlins. Nobody asked about players wearing masks or staying 6 feet apart from one another.

**Law Courts Moving Slowly:** **Karl Geil** made note that the Courts are moving much slower than usual. There is deep concern about who do you trust on all matters great or small, especially with the possible exposure in packed courtrooms. Video conferencing for preliminary appearances and settlements may be on the horizon.

**New OI Learning Management System:** **Prez Bob** shared that Optimist International will be launching a new Learning Management System (LMS) on May 4<sup>th</sup>. The idea is to allow members of Optimist Clubs to have training readily available to them. More details will follow, but an introductory video on OI's Facebook page provided, "[4 Great Things About Our New Learning Management System.](#)" The new platform is slowly filtering into the District and will be available to all Clubs. Also see, "[Have you wondered what's going to be offered in our new LMS?](#)"

## Coronavirus Humor



## On-Line Trivia Contest

By Andy Towt



Thank you to **Pat Bush**, **Everett Gardner**, and **Mike White** for participating, and getting the right answer to last week's trivia Question, and Pat

knew what year the event occurred.

The question was: "Was Alaska the 49<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup> State added to the Union?" The answer: "Alaska was the 49<sup>th</sup> and Hawaii the 50<sup>th</sup> state. Alaska was added in January of 1959 and Hawaii in August of 1959."

This week's trivia question is: "Which Beatles Album came first, Abbey Road or the White Album?"

Again, we need more participation. You have a 50/50 chance of getting it right. We will not publish names of those who do not get it right. Please participate. Email your answer to [Warren.Allentown@gmail.com](mailto:Warren.Allentown@gmail.com).

Coronavirus probably won't hurt MLB attendance.  
It's already terrible.



## Weekly Greeters

5/1/2020

In Person Meeting Suspended Due to Virus  
Attend a Zoom Meeting starting at 8:00 a.m.

**Optimist Club of Monaco South 2019-2020 43<sup>rd</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup>. Please check back for updates.

May 1	Fri	8:00 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	8:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: To Be Determined
May 10	Sun		Mothers Day
May 15	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: To Be Determined
May 21	Thu	6:00 pm	Monthly Board Meeting: To Be Determined
May 22	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: To Be Determined
May 29	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: To Be Determined

**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.