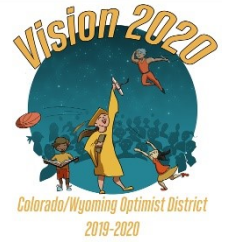




# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

August 28, 2020 – Vol. 44, Issue 48



## Optimist Club of Monaco South



**OPTIMIST**  
INTERNATIONAL

Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado  
Serving Youth and the Community for 44 Years  
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012  
<https://www.monacosouth.org>



**OPTIMIST**  
INTERNATIONAL

Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton

### Good Morning Optimists

Our last meeting for August 2020 started as many have since March 20<sup>th</sup> on the Zoom platform. President **Bob Meyer** called the virtual meeting to order at 8 a.m. and asked President-elect **Dan Rodriguez** to give the invocation.



Dan provided a message regarding talking health, happiness, and prosperity to every person we meet. *We cannot do so unless we believe that health, happiness, and prosperity are possible for all. Let us try to spread the optimist message and strive to become a vehicle to give people hope, especially our youth. Rekindle our spirit each day so that it may spread and be contagious.*

He then led us in reciting the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

### This Day in History

Today, August 28<sup>th</sup> is the 240<sup>th</sup> day of 2020 and National Red Wine Day.



Birthdays on this Date: French actor Charles Boyer, 1899; Major League Baseball player and manager Lou Piniella, 1943; American figure skater Scott Hamilton, 1958; Shania Twain, 1965; and Chief operating officer of Facebook Sheryl Sandberg, 1969.

Major Events on this Date: 476, End of the Roman Empire; 1189, 3<sup>rd</sup> Crusade begins; First American-built locomotive "Tom Thumb" races a horse-drawn car from the Stockton and Stokes Stagecoach Company from Baltimore to Ellicott Mills. Due to mechanical problems, the horse won, 1830; Pharmacists John Lea



and William Perrins manufacture Worcestershire Sauce, 1837; First known photograph of a tornado is made near Howard SD; Babe Ruth starts streak of an extra-base hit in nine straight games, 1921; Braves sell pitcher Johnny Sain to Yankees for \$50,000; Martin Luther King, Jr., delivers "I have a dream..." speech at the Lincoln Memorial, 200,000 people participated in a peaceful civil rights rally, 1963; The first Subway sandwich shop opens in Bridgeport CT, 1965; Boston Red Sox sign the first free-agent, outfielder Ken Harrelson for \$75,000 bonus; Nolan Ryan strikes out 300 batters for the fifth straight year, 1977; President Ronald Reagan is shot by John Hinckley, 1981; and 94<sup>th</sup> U S Golf Amateur Championship is won by Tiger Woods, 1994.

### Announcements

**New Member Orientation:** Tom Glazier reports that while he is happy his meet up breakfasts have been increasing in attendance, he wants to broaden the invites to see if people who previously were uncomfortable coming to breakfast are now feeling better about meeting at a public restaurant. Tom is specifically thinking about our newest members since he was planning on doing a new member orientation for six new members in March that had to be canceled. He and **Bob Meyer** talked during the week and Bob emailed the sponsors of these newest members to ask them to reach out and see how the new members are doing. Several of the sponsors reported on their conversations, and some have a hard time with the Zoom technology, while some have work conflicts with an 8:00 a.m. start time vs. the 7:00 a.m. start time. **Greg Holt** a new member who was on the Zoom call today, said he was planning on the orientation meeting in March and would still like to participate in one, even if it was via Zoom. Tom is working on the details.

**Face-to-Face Member Meeting:** Tom Glazier also shared that this week 20 people attended the breakfast meet-up that he organizing at Cafe de France Express. That was the largest group Tom has had to date. Tom reports that the "Express" location could host 30 people both outside and in, and their full restaurant (Cafe de France) at 2730 S Colorado Blvd. could host 50 people. They open at 8:00 but are willing to open early for us. So as we try to find opportunities to meet in person, Tom, **Steve Kady**, and **Dan Rodriguez** have put in some good legwork. Editor, thanks to you gentlemen! Neither of these restaurants is meant to be a permanent home to the club, but we appreciate your efforts to find viable short term options.

**Next Face-to-Face Member Gathering:** Tom Glazier is planning another breakfast get-together for Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at Cafe de France Express at 4155 E Jewell Ave. starting at 9 a.m. Please let Tom know if you can make it via phone or email by Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> so he can make the arrangements. The Café is inside the Colorado Club Office Building.

**First Friday Morning Meeting:** Dan Rodriguez and **Steve Kady** went to [Backstreet Tavern & Grill](#), located at 1150 S. Galena Street, off of Mississippi and Havana, to scope it out as a possible meeting site, and reported their finding. Dan said it feels



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\*\*\*\***

## Announcements Continued

the American Legion and there is plenty of parking. Steve said the owners are excited to have us—they normally do not open until 11 a.m. but are willing to accommodate us. Each member could have their own table, with a maximum of 25 to 30 attendees. There are booths and bar stools that can be spread out for social distancing. We are going to try a normal Friday meeting there on September 11<sup>th</sup> to test it out. Please arrive at 6:45 a.m. to put your breakfast order in, and then the meeting with start at 7:00 and go until 8:00.

Social distancing will be required, including a) Everyone will have their temperature checked upon entry. Any temperature over 99.6 will not be admitted. b) Masks must be worn upon entering, standing, and walking in the restaurant. Restaurant rules apply so masks can be removed while at your table eating or drinking. c) Six-foot social distance should be respected throughout the meeting. No handshaking.

Steve is lining up a speaker and Prez Bob will send out an email sign up for the first 25 - 30 members. For September 11<sup>th</sup> the club will buy breakfast for the attendees. The costs are normally \$2 for coffee service and \$10 for the full breakfast which includes coffee. If you sign up to attend the expectation is that you order breakfast.

There will be a camera so our meeting will still be on Zoom for those who cannot make it. Backstreet is charging a \$75 rental fee which covers the cost of two staff members.

**Other Meeting Spots:** Tom Overton asked about the status of Bethany Lutheran as a meeting site. Gary Miller reached out to the church and they are welcoming to our group, but do not want to have food in the meeting space, and they cannot promise we would not get bumped for a church event. Right now they are not having outside groups at all, so we will have to keep monitoring their status.

**Brain Bowl Update:** Karl Geil reported that the Optimist Brain Bowl Committee is investigating the feasibility of conducting the Optimist Brain Bowl by video conference this year. Past volunteers will be getting an email soon ask-

ing:

1. If they have an interest in volunteering to assist in such an undertaking, and
2. Whether they have the technology (computer with webcam, speakers and microphone, and a stable, high speed internet connection) to do so.

Nancy DeNiro will be sending out an email, please respond to that email when you receive it, so we can assess the volunteer level of interest. Even with a great level of interest from volunteers, it may not be feasible, but without volunteers, there is no Optimist Brain Bowl.

If you have not previously been an Optimist Brain Bowl volunteer and are interested in participating, then please contact Karl Geil at [kigeil57@gmail.com](mailto:kigeil57@gmail.com).

**Christmas Tree Lot Update:** Tom Kramis reports that the developers at the former Kmart location have agreed to allow us to be back in that lot, and a lease is pending. Kristen Link is in charge of the project over there, and the major construction will begin in the fall of 2021. So this may be a one year option only, with the possibility of returning once the development is done, in an area set aside as a park. The lease will be less than our current location.

However, some think we should negotiate and try to stay where we currently are so that we have a better chance of going back in 2022.

Currently the exact location within the Kmart lot is unclear and there will not be a restroom available, so that will need to be solved. Tom hopes to present the lease to the MSOC Board next month.

Tom also reports that he has some members who have agreed to help with some work on the tree lot racks on Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. You are welcome to join in if you are available and would like to participate, please reach out to Tom and let him know. If you are new to the club and haven't worked the tree lot yet, this could be a bit of a "sneak preview" for you on how it all works.

Tom also confirmed a delivery from an Oregon farm recently for Nordman and Nobles trees and he has ordered 5% less of each of those trees. The order from Michigan was put in some time ago, and he ordered fewer from that supplier as well. In total, he has order 1,000 vs. 1,400. If we have strong sales, it is possible to get additional trees during the season, but this strategy for ordering was to try and minimize the opposite risk.

## Presidential Rants & Raves



Bob Meyer

We had another successful MSOC weekly membership meeting on Friday with about 45 members participating in the Zoom meeting which started at 8 a.m. and lasted for a little over an hour.

The link for the recurring meetings is the same for our Friday morning meetings, see the GUMS distribution email for the link and passcode.

I am still asking for suggestions on what you would like to discuss at future Club meetings.

Earlier in the week, I had talked with Immediate Past President **Everett Gardner** about the 2020-2021 Installation Banquet. He and **Chris Dunphy** have been working to secure space at Maggiano's in the DTC for Friday, September 25. More information will be provided as it becomes available. We will likely have a concurrent Zoom meeting for those members, spouses, and friends who cannot attend the live event.

A Zoom meeting is scheduled for Sunday night (tonight) at 7 p.m. with the "Dr. Bob Replacement Newsletter" Com-

mittee. Email invitations have been sent out. If you have any interest in attending tonight's Zoom meeting, please give me a call, and I will send you an email invitation.

Registration for the Optimist Junior Tour event at Green Valley Ranch in October continues and, as of Friday morning, we had 76 junior golfers already registered. Typically, we will have 85-100 competitors for the event, so it looks we are well on our way to reach those numbers again with about two months until the tournament date.

**Tom Glazier** reported another breakfast get-together was held Wednesday, August 26, at 9 a.m. at Café du France Express with about 20 attendees. Tom also emphasized the need to contact some of our newer members to ensure member retention in these days when we are not having in-person meetings and, because of the 8 a.m. start time, some of the newer members who are still working have not been able to join us for our weekly Zoom meetings.

**Bob Avery** said he had talked with **Chandler Milliken** who recently broke his arm. Chandler will fill us in when in-person meetings resume.

Continued next page

## Presidential Rants & Raves Continued

**Steve Kady** said he had talked with **Mikko Koski** who was looking forward to attending in-person meetings.

**Greg Holt, David Moore, and Larry Pulaski** all said they had been attending our Zoom meetings but were also looking forward to attending in-person meetings.

**Frank Middleton** said he had talked to **Nick Picucci** who has been able to attend a few of the Zoom meetings but is also looking forward to attending in-person meetings.

**Gary Miller and Joe Marci** provided updates on other possible locations for in-person meetings. Calvary Baptist and Bethany Lutheran Churches have perfectly sized rooms for meetings. It just remains to be seen when they will be available after the COVID-19 pandemic.

There was a good segue to talk about the resumption of in-person meetings. Last week, President-elect **Dan Rodriguez** and Vice president **Steve Kady** went to breakfast at the Backstreet Grill and had a lengthy discussion with the owner about her opening early on Fridays for our in-person breakfast meetings. After the discussion, it was decided by Dan and Steve that we should have our first Monaco South Optimist Club breakfast meeting at the Backstreet Grill on Friday, September 11, at 6:45 am. The Backstreet Grill is located at 1150 South Galena Street in Denver, about a block west of Havana on Mississippi.

I said I would send out an email asking for RSVPs for reservations at the September 11 meeting. As of Saturday night, I have received 19 RSVPs. We will probably limit attendance at the first few meetings to 25 – 30 members. So, if you are interested, please let me know ASAP for the September 11 meeting. At the September 11 meeting, we can take RSVPs for September 18 and future meetings.

As an added incentive to attend the September 11 meeting, the Club has offered to pay for everyone's breakfast that day. Get your RSVP's into me ASAP. It is first come-first served.

We will continue concurrent Zoom meetings from the Backstreet Grill for Club members who cannot attend in person. At the Backstreet Grill, appropriate social distance requirements will be in place, including a) Everyone will have their temperature checked upon entry. Anyone with a temperature of over 99.6 degrees will not be admitted. b) Masks

must be worn upon entering, standing, and walking in the restaurant. Restaurant rules apply so masks can be removed while at your table eating or drinking. c) Six-foot social distance should be respected throughout the meeting. No handshaking.

Even though we are not yet meeting face-to-face, the MSOC membership drive continues. Please find new members and forward their membership applications and checks to **Greg Young** for the Board to vote on. My "replacement" timeshare week is available as the prize for the member who brings in the newest members before September 30. Come on guys, we need new members! Currently, we sit at 121 Club members. This is -3 members from the beginning of the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Hopefully, some of the new recruitment incentives like the First Responder incentive, the 30-under-30 incentive, and the Teacher Recruitment incentive will generate additional members who will help us with our youth activities and projects and fundraising activities like the Christmas Tree Lot.

Although we have been successful in reaching more than 50 members with our weekly Zoom meetings, there are another 70 or so members we need to reach out to. I suggest that you reach out to members who we have not seen on the Zoom meetings and invite them to join us for future meetings or at least check in with them to see how they are doing. 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.

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.

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**

## On-Line Trivia Contest

By Andy Towt

We had a good response to last week's trivia question: **Which Constitutional Amendment gave women the right to vote?** It is Amendment 19.

Thank you to **Bob Avery, Karl Geil, Mark Metevia, Frank Middleton, Dick Nickoloff, and Bob Hartwig** for participating and getting the correct answer.

This week's question is: **The Pine Gulch Fire has become the largest forest fire in Colorado's History. Up until now, which fire held that record?** Select from one of the three: 1) Hayman Fire of 2002, 2) 416 Fire of 2018, or 3) Beaver Creek Fire of 2016

Email your answer to [Warren.Allentown@gmail.com](mailto:Warren.Allentown@gmail.com)

## CO-WY District Convention

The Special Convention that was planned for October 16 to 18 at Little America in Cheyenne, has been moved to a Virtual Special Convention to be held on Saturday, October 17th. More details to follow.

Tony Carpenter  
Governor 2019-2020

## Some Interesting Websites

Several members have shared some websites that will provide some entertainment and insight. Take a moment and check them out.

- ◇ Logic problems to challenge your bored brain @ <https://www.popsoci.com/head-trip/>
- ◇ These six photos were snapped by satellites. Can you figure out where? @ <https://www.popsoci.com/story/science/head-trip-satellite-images/>
- ◇ How to spot a scam or a fake water worker. Scammers target Denver Water customers by posing as utilities or utility workers; follow these tips to make sure you don't get ripped off. @ <https://denverwatertap.org/2019/09/09/how-to-spot-a-fake-water-worker/>
- ◇ 22 Things You Need to Know to Keep Your Computer Safe @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OfWjogit8YE>

## Weekly Greeters

9/4/2020

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

**Optimist Club of Monaco South 2019-2020 44<sup>th</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 the end of August or maybe September. Please check back for updates.

Sept 4	Fri	8:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Zoom Virtual Meeting
Sept 9	Wed	9:00 am	Face- to-Face Gathering, Cafe de France Express, Contact Tom Glazier
Sept 11	Fri	8:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Backstreet Tavern & Grill, 1150 S Galena Street & Zoom Virtual Meeting
Sept 17	Thu	7:00 pm	Monthly Board Meeting: TBD
Sept 18	Fri	8:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: 100 Percent Day via Zoom Virtual Meeting
Sept 25	Fri	8:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Zoom Virtual Meeting — <i>Last Issue of GUMS in this format!</i>
Sept 25	Fri		2020-2021 Installation Banquet at Maggiano's, Details to follow
Oct 2	Fri	8:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Zoom Virtual Meeting

**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:** Aug **Paul Stratton**, Sept **Phil Perington**

**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.