



# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

July 5, 2019 – Vol. 43, Issue 40



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



**OPTIMIST**  
INTERNATIONAL

Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton for George Buzick

### Good Morning Optimists

With the Fourth of July behind us **Paul Stratton** and **Stephen Avery** were waiting to dole out the handshakes to a relatively smallish post-holiday gathering on this Friday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019.



Paul Stratton & Stephen Avery  
Photo Noel Hasselgren

### Switch Hitter

**President Gardner** was in town, having just returned from the Optimist International Convention and running the show. Vice President **Steve Kady** was planning on pinch-hitting for Everett, but no need. Steve did share some Independence Day wisdom, including the fact that, due to the liberty we enjoy, every man is free to do exactly what his wife pleases.

### First Bell, Invocation & Pledge

Prez **Everett Gardner** rang the bell just a bit past 7:00 a.m., since we had small attendance due to the holiday weekend. **Mark Metevia** began our meeting with an Independence Day-themed invocation on patriotism. *"Patriotism has been defined as a love of one's country, while nationalism as a hatred of the countries of others. Optimists strive to be true patriots while showing respect to all."* He then led the *Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag*.



### Announcements

**Hugh O'Brien Leadership Conference:** **Paul Bernard** noted that **Karl Geil** made a Hugh O'Brien Leadership Conference announcement last week, but he wanted to follow up with specific thanks to the men of Monaco South who participated. They were, **Ken Duffy, John Oss, Tom Kramis, Bob Avery, Karl Geil,**



Colorado HOBY assistant facilitators at the 2019 seminar.

**Jim Easton, Michael Chavez, and Andy Towt.** Paul also added that it was a fantastic turnout and a suc-

cessful event even with a rainy day.

**MS Bike Ride & Pat Sorensen Rest Stop:** **Michael Chavez** reported on the MS 150 Pat Sorensen aid station and thanked all who participated. He reported that it was a great success and we had a fantastic turnout



from both the Tamarac and Monaco South Optimist Clubs. This year in Colorado there where 2,722 riders who raise funds to change the world for people with MS, including our own **Bob Avery, Jack Rife, and David Telpner.**



Bob Avery & Jack Rife not looking half bad after finishing the ride.

Michael thanked the following who got up early and made up to Longmont for the event. From the Tamarac Optimist Club **Pat Dutton, Jeanette Thompson, Joyce Laymen, Lois Jean Galloway, Judy Hein, and Kathy Rife.**

From Monaco South **Mark Smith, Noel Hasselgren, Kent Gloor, Bill Morgan, Dick Nickoloff, Stephen Avery, Robert Ruhl, John Greene, Albert Gapuzan, Craig Eley, Curt Boell, Tom Kramis, and Keith Galloway.** Your support for participating in this event is greatly appreciated. In addition, Michael thanked **Greg Young** and **Russ Paul** for their support in the loading and unloading of the van.

Shared by Craig Eley, [here is the link to the photos of today's Bike MS](#). The Optimist volunteers are pictured at the end of the album.

**Super Citizen School Principals:** **Robert Wardlaw**, our illustrious Super Citizen program coordinator, announced that Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> will be the Principals to Breakfast meeting. So, mark your calendars, and for those members who are school representatives at the various school, follow up with your principals to make sure they



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

can make it. Our Super Citizen schools include Bradley, Hamilton, Holm, Lowry, McMeen, Most Precious Blood, Samuels, and Slavens.

**JDRF Organization:** Ron Gustas announced that JDRF is the beneficiary of 100 Percent of the ticket sale proceeds from attendees of the "Automezzi Colorado 2019 Celebration" an exotic Italian Car & Motorcycle show being held on Sunday morning, July 21<sup>st</sup> at the Jeffco Fairgrounds. See the Schedule & Event Map, [Click Here](#). The event is sponsored by Ferrari of Denver. Jeremy Hubbard of Fox 31 will be the celebrity emcee. Proceeds will be used to fund research for type 1 diabetes.

To Volunteer your help supporting diabetes research see a listing of time slots and description of needed volunteer positions by [Clicking Here](#). If not volunteering and want to buy tickets you can do that on the Automezzi webpage. If you are unavailable that day, please pass the word to other car enthusiasts about the Automezzi to help increase attendance. On July 12<sup>th</sup>, representative(s) from Automezzi of Colorado will be our OCMS meeting speakers. Please plan on attending to hear more about this fun event.

**Allen Yockey Celebration of Life:** Michael Chavez reported he had spoken to Allen Yockey's brother Gallen Yockey. He shared that a Celebration of Life for Allen will be held on Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 a.m. at the [Living Way Fellowship Church](#), 345 East Wildcat Reserve Parkway, in Highlands Ranch. Near S. Broadway and E. Wildcat Reserve Parkway.

### Note from Craig Eley

"Thank you for the "Get Well Cards!" They were lying on a table in my hospital room this past Friday, dropped off by an anonymous Optimist brother while I was apparently taking a nap. I learned later that it was **Michael Chavez**. A nice surprise on what turned out to be my last day at Sky Ridge Medical Center.



Craig Eley

My journey to Sky Ridge began at the beginning of May, when, as a result of there being blood in my urine, I was diagnosed with bladder cancer, kidney cancer, and lung cancer. None of these had given me pain or any other symptoms. I underwent a series of tests, scans, and a biopsy, all through the Kaiser system. During May and June, my bladder was scraped twice to remove the cancer. That was successful, but now I need to undergo weekly bladder therapy for 6 weeks (in which tuberculosis bacillus is inserted into the bladder for a two-hour stint) followed by quarterly "surveillance" for two years.

On July 1<sup>st</sup> the lower lobe of my right lung was removed at Sky Ridge through the use of a robot directed by a lung surgeon. This allowed very small instruments to be inserted to take out the piece of lung, stitch it up, and remove lymph nodes for analysis. Instead of the removal of a rib for access, all I have are five scars about the size of a fingernail and one about 3 inches long. I had an earlier PET scan which showed the cancer confined to the lower right lung, so this operation should be the end of the lung cancer.

Although the surgeon stated that the operation had gone perfectly, I remained five days in Sky Ridge while my blood pressure was acting up. Now I have been released, with the only follow-up care being that I have to inject myself with blood thinner each day until the end of June. Recover from

## Presidential Rants & Raves vs. Tweets

**Hey Gang,** Here's this week's "RANT & RAVES vs. ... Tweets" for your readership.

**PAST ...** Since many were out of town for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend, attendance was light and without fanfare. However, with **Harry Fegley** in attendance, he gave us a preamble to his Round the World cruise since presentation scheduled for July 26<sup>th</sup> would be impossible to condense 115 days at sea into a 30 minute talk.

Optimist International 100<sup>th</sup> Year National Conference was in Bourbon Town USA (Louisville, KY). At right is the [Enunciation guide](#) for the city. With 20+ in attendance from the CO-WY District and four of us from MSOC. The overall conference was a roaring success, with a new Child Wellness Program announced. Of the attendees that have been to many OI conferences (a few 50+), it was said that this was the best ever! Here are a few more pix of the event and happenings.



Gov Linda & Past Gov Ron



Past Gov Phil



It is Louisville, Kentucky



Ohio River early sunset



Paddle Boat built in 1914



Bourbon in the making

**HAPPENING NOW / SOON ...** Next week's guest will be Steven Wiskow speaking about the Automezzi Exotic Italian Car & Motorcycle Show. **FUTURE ...** Check the Calendar link, <https://www.monacosouth.org/events/calendar>. The annual Brent's Place Pancake Breakfast is coming up on Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, so put that in your calendar.

### Prez Everett

**PS ...** Never too late to bring a GUEST ... Follow-up on new and old contacts! Have a non-member help with upcoming Projects. July Goal is 8 Guests per meeting.

the surgery (I have a little pain on my right side) is expected to take four weeks.

Sometime in August, I will probably have the cancerous kidney removed. This will be accomplished laparoscopically, so will be minimally invasive with quick recovery time. Assuming no complications, that should end my summer medical adventures. I am scheduled to return to work the beginning of September.

I have been blessed to have had an army of friends, including from Monaco South, to give me encouragement and good wishes during this interesting time. Having a support group makes all the difference – thank you all very much!"

### Thank You from Julie Bell

"Thank you so much, for the pictures and for putting together the file for me. I'll post it on my web with a link to your club website and I'll send it on to my publisher. Thanks again and I wish you and your Monaco South Optimist group all the best!" ~ Julie (J.v.L.) Bell

## Preamble to Harry Fegley's Round the World Cruise



Harry Fegley

Without a speaker for the day, **President Gardner** encouraged a few minutes of camaraderie. Then **Harry Fegley** took the stage and gave us a preview of the presentation he will give in a couple of weeks (July 26th).

Harry is our club's version of Phileas Fogg, having recently gone around the world in 115 days. Harry and Linda's trip on Holland America's Amsterdam ship covered 77 countries. The trip began with 1,300 passengers, and over 1,000 did the whole round the world voyage. Harry and Linda were some of the few first-timers, and there were many people who go annually, and the boat has in effect become their beach house for some people.

Harry and Linda were in a subgroup of 47 traveling with Road Scholars, so they had their own lectures on sites and subjects the day prior to visiting the location. One of the more fascinating stops for Harry were the Mumbai slums and meeting people who lived there, even while working in the more modern and developed part of the city. Harry took questions from the crowd on the ship and its engines, the food, the wine, the rough seas, and the service. On the 26<sup>th</sup> he will have photos of interesting sites that you will not find on the standard tour stops.

## Denver Municipal Band Free Concert



The Denver Municipal Band will be holding a free concert in Southmoor Park, 6901-7199 E. Jarvis Pl. on Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:30-9:00 p.m. So, bring a picnic, bring a lawn chair and hear "Eine-Kleine Nacht-Musik," "The Stars and Stripes Forever," the theme from Star Wars, "Chattanooga Choo-Choo," Paul Simon's "Late in the Evening" mix, Stevie Wonder's "Superstition," and other favorites.

## Forever Country

Shared by **Jim Tapp**, "Forever Country" is a medley performed by the artists of "Then, Now, and Forever, a one-time gathering of 30 country music artists. The song, which was recorded to honor the 50th Annual Country Music Association Awards. Jim writes. "this is fabulous! Turn up the sound and enjoy." [CLICK HERE](#)

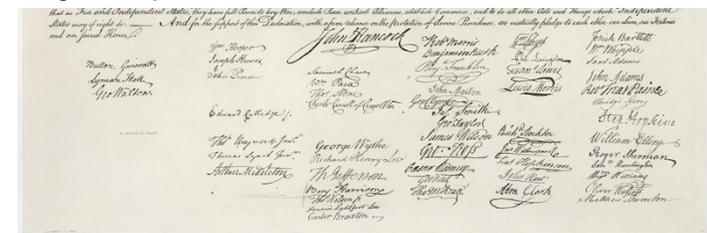


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## Declaration of Independence Facts/Trivia

The final draft of the Declaration was approved by the Continental Congress on July 4<sup>th</sup>, although the date of its signing has long been disputed. Most historians have concluded that it was signed on August 2, 1776, nearly a month after its adoption, and not on July 4 as is commonly believed.

The signing of the United States Declaration of Independence occurred primarily on August 2, 1776 at the Pennsylvania State House, Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The 56 delegates to the Second Continental Congress represented the 13 former colonies which had



declared themselves the "United States of America," and they endorsed the Declaration of Independence which the Congress had approved on July 4, 1776. The Declaration proclaimed that the former Thirteen Colonies then at war with Great Britain were now a sovereign, independent nation and thus no longer a part of the British Empire. The signers' names are grouped by state, with the exception of President of the Continental Congress John Hancock; the states are arranged geographically from south to north, with Button Gwinnett from Georgia first, and Matthew Thornton from New Hampshire last.

## Nine Things You Probably Did not Know About the Fourth of July

Check out these facts you might not have known about the holiday.

- Congress did not actually vote for independence on July 4.** Twelve of thirteen states approved a resolution for independence on July 2, not July 4, when the declaration was actually adopted. New York did not vote until July 9. Many of the signers did not attach their names to the document until August 2.
- The Fourth of July did not become an official holiday until over a century after America declared its independence.** Though early celebrations began the following year, the Fourth of July wasn't designated a federal holiday until 1870. In 1941, it became a paid holiday for federal employees.
- During the Revolutionary War, George Washington gave his soldiers a special treat for the holiday.** On July 4, 1778, George Washington ordered a double ration of rum for his soldiers. He also ordered a cannon salute to celebrate the occasion.
- In a bizarre coincidence, Thomas Jefferson, and John Adams both died on July 4, 1826 — the nation's 50th birthday.**
- Calvin Coolidge is the only president to be born on July 4.**
- The United States is not the only country to celebrate independence on July 4.** The Philippines gained its independence from U.S. colonial control on July 4, 1946, and the day became a national holiday.
- Celebrating with fireworks is as old as the holiday itself.** At the first Fourth of July celebrations, which took place in Philadelphia in 1777, revelers fired a cannon 13 times, once for each colony. That night, 13 fireworks were fired off from the city's commons.
- Today, fireworks are a massive industry.** According to the American Pyrotechnics Association, Americans spent over \$1 billion on fireworks in 2017. That number has roughly tripled over the last 20 years.
- July 4 is the biggest hot dog day of the year.** Americans consume roughly 150 million hot dogs on the Fourth of July — enough to stretch from Washington, D.C. to Los Angeles five times.

## Drawing

There was a Drawing! With \$190 in the pot, our first two lucky ticket holders went straight for the deck of cards, looking for the 9 of spades. Alas, no such luck for **Don Roth** and **Dan Rodriguez**.

Styrofoam cups of cash went to: **Gary Strowbridge, Ron Cisco, Allan Pierce, Robert Wardlaw, Dan Rodriguez** (2nd time), and **Jack Kleinhessel**.

Nametag drawing went to **John Oss** who was properly identified at the right time but came up empty in search of the big money.

<b>Weekly Greeters</b> Sign-Up with Jon Wachter to be a greeter, it is a good way to meet members.	
7/12/19	Steve Kady & Terry Shroyer

**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>**

July 12	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Steven Wiskow, Automezzi Exotic Italian Car & Motorcycle Show
July 16-21, July 21-26, & July 26-31, 2019, OI Junior Golf Championship, Miami Florida			
July 18	Thur	6:15 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Schlessman YMCA, 3901 E. Yale, 2nd Floor Conference Room
July 19	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
July 26	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Harry Fegley, Voyage Around the World
July 27	Sat	7:30 am	Pancake Breakfast for Brent's Place, Anschutz Campus, 17th Place & Quentin St.
Aug 2	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Principals from Super Citizens Schools
Aug 9	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Bob Meyer, Junior Golf Kids
July 15	Thur	6:15 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Schlessman YMCA, 3901 E. Yale, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Aug 16	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Aug 16-18		8:00 am	CO-WY District Convention, Pueblo Convention Center, 320 Central Main, Pueblo, CO

**2018 - 2019 Officers**

President	Everett Gardner	949-246-0984
Vice President	Steve Kady	303-931-1470
Vice President	Bob Meyer	303-814-5990
Secretary	Tracy Sorensen	303-886-1743
Treasurer	Greg Young	303-759-3921

**2018 - 2019 Board of Directors**

Ken Duffy	303-880-5072
Tom Glazier	303-522-5214
Noel Hasselgren	303-475-7125
Jack Kleinheksel	720-938-1760
Tom Kramis	303-917-5299
Dan Rodriguez	303-521-5120
John Stoffel	720-837-3013
Robert Wardlaw	303-525-2532
Jim Easton (Past Pres.)	720-987-7684

**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		
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:** July **George Buzick**, August **Robert Wardlaw**, September **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.