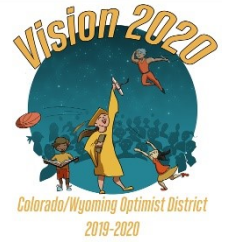




Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

March 13, 2020 – Vol. 44, Issue 24



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



OPTIMIST
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Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton

Good Morning Optimists

It is **Friday the 13th** with the Coronavirus spreading

around the globe. In order to stave off back luck and bad germs, hand-shakes were bypassed in favor of elbow bumps.

Greeter **Paul Stratton** and **GUMS** editor, was on his own greeting a somewhat smaller group of Optimists on this Friday morning. Pictured, is Paul on left, who came prepared wearing an elbow brace greeting **Roy Jarrett** who has been missing for awhile. Roy is returning after taking care of his wife who recently had a hip replacement.



Photo Noel Hasselgren

Invocation & Pledge

President Bob Meyer asked **Roy Jarrett** to deliver our invocation. Roy rose and shared the *Prayer of St. Patrick*, an acknowledgment of the upcoming holiday. He then led us in the *Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States*.



From the Prez

President Bob shares his wisdom on what occurred on this date in years past.

Birthdays on this Date: Sergey Mikhalkov, 1913, Soviet writer and poet, born in Moscow; Neil Sedaka, 1939; William H. Macy, actor, 1950; Glenna Headley, actress, 1955; Vance Johnson, 1963; Will Clark, aka "Will the thrill," 1964; Marco Andretti, racecar driver, 1987; and Mikaela Shiffrin, 1995.

Events on this Date: Twelfth passage of Halley's Comet, 607; Massachusetts gains title to Maine for \$6,000, 1677; Twenty-seventh passage of Halley's Comet, 1759; Uncle Sam cartoon figure makes debut in New York Lantern Weekly, 1852; U.S. Senate begins impeachment trial of President Andrew Johnson, 1868; [Mata Hari first performs dance act](#) in Paris, 1905; Tennessee makes it unlawful to teach evolution, 1925; Failed abscession attempt of Adolf Hitler, 1943; Floy Patterson KO's Ingemar Johansson for heavyweight boxing title; Apollo 9 the third in NASA's Apollo program returns to earth, 1969; Microsoft has IPO with \$21 per share, 1986; Exxon pays \$100 million fine and plead guilty in Valdez Spill, 1991; & Monaco South Optimists discuss [Coronavirus](#), 2020.

President Discussion

Our meeting began with a discussion about the proper way for our Club to move forward in an environment of uncertainty and health care concerns. Many of our events and projects have been and will be suspended or canceled outside of our control. The question as to continue or suspend our Friday morning meetings created a thorough discussion. A motion was made to suspend meetings for two weeks, with a tentative restart date of Friday, April 3rd. The monthly board meeting likely will be either suspended or held via phone or email.

A second motion was made and passed to continue to make our weekly commitment paying for the Friday morning breakfasts to not harm Heather Mulqueen and her family's income. Please see Heather's letter of response below:

*Dear ALL Monaco South Optimists,
I wanted to thank ALL the members of the Monaco South Optimists for your combined understanding and generosity, it is appreciated more than you can imagine. I was willing to take the financial hit to ensure that everyone's health and safety comes first. That is why I came down early today and made sure that everything that you all came in contact with was cleaned and sanitized. And why I did it all over again after you all left. That is just who I am. I care about people even though I may not know them very well.*

I would rather err on the side of caution until more is known about how the Corona Virus is affecting our communities, state and Nation. Because, of all the wonderful work your group does I admire you all for taking the responsible route, to ensure that your group continues with that work. I'm more than happy to revisit the situation in two weeks and make determinations then, once we get a better glimpse at the bigger picture and any new guidelines the CDC has suggested.

Until then, thank you to all of you from both Chris and me. May we all stay happy, healthy and wise. I look forward to seeing you all again in the near future.

Sincerely, Heather Mulqueen

Heather, Thank you for the wonderful job you do for us.

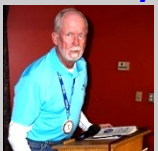


Heather Mulqueen with Pres Bob Meyer.
File photo

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******

Continued next page

Presidential Rants & Raves



I thought we had another great meeting on Friday, although attendance was down with members exercising caution about going out in public due to concerns about the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

Friday's meeting will be the last one for several weeks, as we have suspended MSOC meetings for March 20th and March 27th. I will be canvassing Board members after March 27th to see when we want to resume meetings. In the meantime, please continue to exercise safe health procedures. When we resume meetings, we want to see all of your bright, shining faces.

We continue to add new Club members each week—Welcome, **Chandler!**, and I continue to challenge all Monaco South members to bring a guest to future meetings. Let us continue to grow the Club so that we can maintain, and build upon, our service projects and activities for youth in our community. Please remember to Welcome New Club members and encourage their participation in our projects and activities.

As an added incentive for membership growth, I am offering a week at my condo in Frisco to the MSOC member who sponsors the most new members between October 1, 2019 and April 10, 2020. The week I am offering begins on the last Friday in April 2020. My unit is a two-bedroom and loft condo that easily sleeps six (eight with a pull-out sofa sleeper). The unit has a gas fireplace and a private hot tub.

Another District-wide membership incentive is a \$50 gift card to your favorite restaurant to anyone who sponsors three new members during the year.

The Club Oratorical Contest was held Thursday, March 12th, at George Washington High School with a dozen competitors. **George Buzick** MC'd the contest, between competitors while the judges were scoring each individual. He provided information about Optimism, in general, and Monaco South, in particular, to the competitors and their friends and families. All the competitors did a great job, and the judging team of **Phil Perington, Michael Chavez, Karl Geil, and Robert Ruhl** had their work cut out for them in determining 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. Thanks to **Greg**

Young for acting as timekeeper for the contest.

At Friday's Club meeting, Monaco South's Annual "Are You Smarter Than The Brain Bowl Chair" between **Karl Geil** and a five-man team composed of **Dick Nickoloff, Jim VanderKamp, Tom Hoch, Bob Avery**, and yours truly battled it out tooth-and-nail until Karl finally prevailed, although the five-man team was skeptical about **Tom Kramis'** score-keeping.

The 2020-2021 OCMS Nominating Committee continues to make phone calls to identify the slate of officers who will become our 2020-2021 Officers and Board of Directors. Please consider what position is perfect for you and let **Joe Marci** and his committee know that you are ready and willing to serve in 2020-2021.

The annual **Optimist Junior Golf Scramble** is coming up on Tuesday, June 2nd, at Saddle Rock Golf Course. Please line up your foursome for this fun fundraiser for the District Junior Golf Program. We are sending up to 70 junior golfers to The 2020 Optimist International Junior Golf Championship to be held in mid- to late-July at Trump National Doral Resort in Miami FL. Please register with **Joe Marci**. After golf is completed, there will be lunch and a silent auction with many, many donated golf foursomes available for purchase.

Ron Cisco is getting ready to mail out the 2020 Junior Golf Sponsorship flyer, looking for donations to help us send 70 junior golfers to The 2020 Optimist Championship.

We are also looking for volunteers to help out at the three District Optimist Junior Golf Qualifiers to be held in early June. For more information, please contact Joe, Ron, or me. We will be passing around a sign-up sheet at upcoming Club meetings. If you know of any non-Club members looking for volunteer opportunities for the District Qualifiers, please let me know.

I ask for your continued support as Monaco South's president. Please provide constructive criticism so that I can lead weekly Club meetings that are fun and informative.

Yours in Optimism,
Prez Bob

Announcements

The Brain Bowl is Over: Karl Geil reports that the Brain Bowl is Over! The 2020 Optimist Brain Bowl



Some of the organizers share the results of the competition.

Photo Rich Urbanowski

Championship Tournament was held on Saturday, March 7, 2020, at Hamilton Middle School. The big winners on the day were Northridge 6A, Summit Charter 7A, and Campus 8C. Of the 93

volunteers at the event, 25 of them, almost 27%, were associated with Monaco South: **Bob Avery, Tom Kramis, Keith Gallaway, Michael White, Dave Peck, Mark Metevia, Joe Marci, Russ Paul, David Telpner, Allen Pierce, Pat Bush, Perry Allen, Mike McMahon, Paul Stratton, Kent Gloor, Craig Eley, Gary Miller, John Greene, Cap Hermann, Joe Howard, Steve Avery, Bob Meyer, George Buzick, Don Roth, Phil Perington, and Karl Geil**. Thank you, Monaco South, for your participation in making the Optimist Brain Bowl the excellent program it has become. It would not be possible without your continued support.

Denver Regional History Day: Karl Geil also shared that **Craig Eley, George Buzick**, and he were on hand on March 9, 2020, to help decide which Hamilton Middle

School Exhibits went on to the Denver Regional History Day Competition. The next round of competitions will not be in person, but instead will be conducted "virtually."

John Oss Update: Tom Kramis visited with **John Oss** this week. He is receiving infusions three days a week at Swedish Hospital and is getting back to a normal diet. John has lost some weight, but his attitude is good. Here is the Sign-Up Genius link [Click Here](#) to provide "Rides for John's Cancer Treatments"—it has been updated through April 2nd.

OCMS Oratorical Contest: George Buzick reported on



The 2020 George Washington High School Oratorical Contest participants.

last night's Oratorical Contest at George Washington High School. It was the last extracurricular activity the school held before the suspension of activities for three weeks. Eleven stu-

dents participated and six Monaco South Optimists were on hand to help: **Bob Meyer, Robert Ruhl, Phil Perington, Greg Young, Michael Chavez, Karl Geil, and George Buzick**. The top two students will advance to the Zone Contest, which is scheduled for April 4th, however, it is unsure if it will take place on that date or perhaps be delayed.

Announcements Continued

Oratorical Continued: George Buzick also provided the following from Michelle Rosen, the AVID coordinator at George Washington. [She posted this on the GW website:](#)

The sophomore AVID class was given a great scholarship opportunity through the Monaco South Optimist Club this semester. The students were asked to write and present their speech about a "world without boundaries." All the students in the class wrote and presented their speech in AVID and the class then voted on the top 11 students. Those students then went on to compete last night. The judges were from the Optimist organization and picked two students to move on to the next round. In the next round, the students can win scholarship money and a chance to make it to the final round which offers a 20,000-dollar scholarship, if they win. The eleven students that competed were wonderful and had fantastic speeches about changing our world for the better or to not let boundaries stop us from our dreams.

Please take a minute to congratulate Leen Mohamed who won first place, Algassimou Diallo who took second, Ben Rincon who took third, and congratulate Jessica Cruz-Martinez, Adriana Fierro-Mena, Sylia Herrera, Hosanna Magana, DayUahsha Abrams, Kimberly Celaya-Zavala, Mackenzie Maynard, and Jasmine Postell for being part of a great event.

These students took time, went outside their comfort zones, stepped up and made AVID and George Washington proud.

McMeen Elementary Super Citizen: Mike White reported on the Super Citizen assemblies at McMeen Elementary. Jim VanderKamp, pinch-hitting for an under the weather Don Thomson (not coronavirus related), handled the

presentation duties. It was a good assembly with some very proud student award recipients.

Slavens Elementary Super Citizen: Tom Hoch updated us in the Slavens Super Citizen program this week. He shared that the students do a presentation and sing while the school band performs before the Super Citizens received their awards. There were 18 students recognized, and a good time had by all.

Eagle Scout Awards Banquet: Donlie Smith passed



Photo Kent Gloor

around the program from the Eagle Scout awards banquet. Monaco South was prominently recognized throughout.

Pictured is Donlie Smith, left and Bob Meyer, right with the Eagle Scout top winner

Anudeep Golla, from troop 767, who shared his "Eagle Scout Ambition Statement" with us. Anudeep received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Club.

Are You Smarter Than the Brain Bowl Chair?

As reported by the organizer, reader, and final decision-maker **Craig Eley**:

During a meeting where Optimism was somewhat hard to muster up, five optimistic members of the Club were looking forward to destroying Club Brain Bowl Chair **Karl Geil** in a battle of intellects at the 7th Annual *Are You Smarter Than the Brain Bowl Chair* competition. The Monaco South team consisted of **Bob Meyer**, **Tom Hoch**, **Bob Avery**, **Jim VanderKamp**, and **Dick Nickoloff**. Standing alone against this brainy blitzkrieg was Karl, armed only with his wits and a Brain Bowl buzzer.

The Club team started strong, rattling off answers such as "Constantinople," "Ice-T" and "skin," while Karl reached back to his college days with "subway walls and tenement halls" and a triumphantly given answer of "Lord



Greystoke." The Club team had hit its stride and was humming along until the question that seemed to be its undoing, number 17. The category was "Famous Madam," and the question was: *Who was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize?*

The Club team hit the buzzer first, and while everyone in the audience seemed to know the answer to this softball question, the Club team inexplicably answered "Madame Bovary."



This misstep by the Club team set Karl up for grabbing two points when he correctly answered, "Madame Curie." Karl then took the lead and never lost it.

It may have been embarrassing when the Club team, which included MSOC President Bob Meyer, incorrectly answered a question asking the official name of the Club as outlined in the By-Laws. This gave Karl, a past Monaco South president, the opportunity to snag two points with "The Optimist Club of Denver-Monaco South." Of course, it is likely few members in the audience knew this answer, so Bob will not be impeached (but he is taking a forced two weeks off).

At the end of 30 questions, Karl held a 13 to 10 lead, and so he augmented his record over seven competitions as three wins for him, four for the Club team. The Club team was not dejected, but optimistically pledged "Wait 'til next year!"

This Weeks Luck if the Irish Drawing

There was a drawing! 80 gold pieces (U.S. dollars) lurked in the pot of gold (porcelain) at the end of the rainbow—actually, **Dr. Bob** was holding it. The 5 of Diamonds held the key to taking it home. Cups O'Plenty

went to: **Kent O'Gloor**, **Gary O'Strowbridge**, **Ron O'Cisco**, **Roy O'Jarrett** (two-time winner), and **Greg O'Young**.

Phil McPerington and **Wyatt (Danny Boy) McCallie** tried their hands for the big money, but alas, no luck of the Irish for them. **Allen McMalask** was lucky enough to have



his name drawn and name tag on, but it was there that his luck ended, as the winning card eluded him also.

Weekly Greeters

3/20/20	Meeting Suspended Due to Virus
3/27/20	Meeting Suspended Due to Virus

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 covid-19 outbreak, meetings have been suspended until at least April 3rd. Please check back for updates.

Mar 17	Thu	2:30 pm	Super Citizen, Most Precious Blood CANCELLED
Mar 19	Thu	6:00 pm	OCMS Board Meeting, Schlessman YMCA, 3901 E. Yale, 2nd Floor Community Room
Mar 20	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Mar 20	Thu	8:10 am	Super Citizen, Holm Elementary
Mar 22	Sun	12:00 pm	Reg. TriStar Basketball Competition, Central Park Rec. Ctr., 9651 E. M. L. King Blvd.
Mar 27	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Don Moon, Bringing Theodore Roosevelt to Life
Mar 27	Fri	3:00 pm	Super Citizen, Bradley International School
Apr 3	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TO BE DETERMINED
Apr 4	Sat	1:00 pm	DTC Optimist Club Wine Tasting, Calvary Baptist Church, 6500 E. Girard Ave.

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: April **Phil Perington**, May **George Buzick**, June **Robert Wardlaw**

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.