



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

March 20, 2020 – Vol. 44, Issue 25

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

Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Good Morning Optimists Meeting in Absentia

Friday, March 20th is typically the equinox, marking the vernal point in the Northern Hemisphere and the autumnal point in the Southern Hemisphere. However, on this day when more than one-fourth of Americans are being ordered to stay home as much as possible in an attempt to slow the spread of coronavirus. Therefore, President **Bob Meyer** announced at our last Friday meeting, March 13th, that meeting would be the last one for several weeks. He suspended MSOC meetings for March 20 and March 27, due to this outbreak. Unfortunately, it now looks to be even longer—see [Optimist International webpage](http://www.optimistinternational.org).

CANCELLED

Presidential Rants & Raves

Subsequent to the decision to cancel the March 20 and March 27 MSOC meetings because of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment banned mass gatherings of more than 10 people for 30 days beginning on March 19th.

Our Board of Directors will be conducting a Zoom meeting (video conference call) early next week to discuss Club business during this suspension of meetings. It is likely that we will conduct additional BD Zoom meetings for the foreseeable future. We will share important decisions via GUMS and/or email blasts.

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 April week to the "winner" of the membership drive. I do not know when or if my timeshare will become available later in the year, but if it is, I will give it to the "winner."

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 Meyer



On This Date

Even though we are not meeting face-to-face, I want to share this wisdom on what occurred on this date in years past.

Birthdays on this Date: Frederick Winslow Taylor, American mechanical engineer and the father of scientific management, 1856; B. F. Skinner, American psychologist, 1904; Carl Reiner, American comedian, actor, and writer, 1922; Fred Rogers, American children's TV host—Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood, 1928; Bobby Orr, Canadian hall of fame NHL defenseman for the Boston Bruins, 1948; Spike Lee, 1957; and Aaron Jamal Crawford, professional basketball player who played last for the Phoenix Suns, 1980.

Events on this Date: 1800, Alessandro Volta reports his discovery of the electric battery in a letter to Joseph Banks, president of the Royal Society of London; 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte enters Paris after escape from Elba, begins 100-day rule; 1917, After the sinking of 3 more American merchant ships, US President Woodrow Wilson meets with cabinet, who agree that war is inevitable; 1930, American fast food restaurant chain Kentucky Fried Chicken is founded by Colonel Harland Sanders in North Corbin, KY; 1942, General Douglas MacArthur vows "I came through and I shall return" after escaping Japanese-occupied Philippines; 1948, 20th Academy Awards winner, "Gentleman's Agreement," with Loretta Young and Ronald Colman; 1965, Civil and Women's Rights Activist Dorothy Height has her first column published in the weekly African-American newspaper called the "New York Amsterdam News"; 1968, Lyndon B. Johnson signs a bill removing gold backing from US paper money; 1973, Roberto Clemente elected to Hall of Fame, 11-weeks after his death in a plane crash; 1983, Martina Navratilova outclasses Chris Evert Lloyd 6-2, 6-0 to win her first of 5 straight WTA Tour Championships at Madison Square Garden, NY; and in 1988, Mike Tyson KO's Tony Tubbs in 2 rounds for heavyweight boxing title.



Colonel Sanders



Roberto Clemente

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******



Great to be an MSOOP Optimist

Gary Strowbridge, leader of the Clan, confirmed that the following reported for Pooper-Scooper duty for the St Patrick's Day Parade: **O.C. Larson, Don St John, Cy Regan, Bryce Slaby, Donlie Smith, Pater Zafian, Ed Collins, Allen Pierce, Curt Jefferies, Allen Yockey, AND SPECIAL THANKS go to John Young** (who supplied the truck), **Craig Eley** (did two rounds) **Russ Paul** (for doing the barrel clean-out with Gary), and **Fred Pasternack** (gave out wooden nickels).



The Pooper Scoopers: Standing (l-r): Cy Regan, Bryce Slaby, Allen Pierce, Peter Zafian, Fred Pasternack, O.C. Larson, Don St. John. Kneeling (l-r): Ed Collins, Russ Paul, Craig Eley.

At right Fred Pasternack, Allan Pearson and Peter Zafian inspecting and trying to figure out how to use the hi-tech scooping equipment.



Fred Pasternack being tolerated by 2 beauty queens.

Photos by Craig Eley

Another Pooper-Scooper Team from the Past

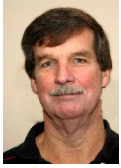


Currently identified our Curt Jeffries and his daughter, left; Curt Lorenzen, yellow hardhat, and Freddie Pasternack, with hand in the air.

Let us know if you can identify others.

A Blast from the Past

By Pat Bush, GUMS Editor, February 21, 2020



Pat Bush

I was writing this newsletter last Saturday morning, wondering how to fill the space normally reserved for our guest speaker. It is always a challenge to fill this space on camaraderie day. Then I started reminiscing back to when I was the president of Monaco South in 1983-'84. So, I decided to put some of those thoughts into this newsletter. They might trigger the memories of some of the long-time members and give newer members a glimpse into the early days of Monaco South.

To put the time into context, there were no personal computers in households and no social media around. You either had to pay for a long-distance phone call or send a letter via the postal service to communicate with relatives and friends across the nation. There was no satellite TV or streaming services; no Netflix, or Amazon Prime, or Hulu or YouTube. Cable TV was just starting at that time with the big thing being MTV. The **GUMS** newsletter was published each week, but not like it is today. The newsletter was typewritten, mimeographed, and mailed to members every week. There were no pictures in **GUMS**.

The membership meetings were held at the "Bob's/Azar's Big Boy" restaurant on Hampden Avenue. It is now the "New York Deli." Our membership numbers hovered around 58 members. The Christmas Tree Lot was our big fundraiser even back then. The lot first started when **Joe Marci, Frank Middleton, Russ Paul**, and I were members of the Southeast Denver Jaycees. Back in 1978, Joe and Frank brought the tree lot with them to the Monaco South Optimist Club when they became too old (35-year age limit) to be members in the Jaycees. Russ Paul and I joined Monaco South shortly after that.

The tree lot location bounced around quite a bit in the early days but found a home at the K-Mart parking lot by the time that Monaco South started running it. It remained there for the next thirty years or so while building a loyal following of customers. The **Super Citizen** program was established by the time I became President of Monaco South. We were in three schools at that time, including Samuels, Southmoor, and Holm. **Charlie Korsoski** was the project chairman. The marquee project during my presidential year was building baseball fields for the Arapahoe Little League. I had read an article in the Sentinel newspaper about how the Arapahoe Little League had an agreement with the City of Aurora to

lease a piece of property on the southeast corner of Buckley and Kentucky for 99 years at \$1.00 per year. However, they had to show significant progress in building the ballfield complex by an established deadline. As the deadline approached, they only had the grading done, which was not enough to show significant progress, so they were in danger of losing the lease.

I called **Mike Miller**, the President of the Arapahoe Little League at the time, to see if Monaco South could help them. Mike explained their biggest problem was getting the parents to volunteer to work on the fields. We thought if Monaco South members could provide the manpower they got the first two fields started, then Little League parents would be more willing to work on the project because they could see that it was more than just a pipe dream. That summer, we installed the irrigation systems, sod, and backstops for the first two fields. They even started to play games on the two fields. The parents then started to work on the complex and, over the next few years, finish two more fields, installed home run fencing, put in the parking lot, put in a concession/restroom building, and equipment storage shed. See the [Arapahoe Little League Website](#).

Mike Miller joined Monaco South shortly after his presidential term ended with the Little League. He has been an active member of Monaco South for over 35 years. A couple of small social events during that year were the Monaco South Regatta and Little Tikes Camping and Fishing Expedition. The regatta was an event where we floated on inner tubes down the Highline Canal. The Little Tikes Expedition was taking our kids to the mountains to camp and fish for a weekend.

The Thanksgiving Dinner at the Boy and Girls Club did not exist during my Presidential term but was started a few years later by **Bill Walters**, who was in the catering business at the time, when he enlisted the club's help to serve the dinner he provided to hundreds of under privileged kids at the Boys and Girls Club.

Monaco South has a glorious history of volunteerism in the community, and I am proud to have been a small part of that. I would like to hear some of the stories of other members in the future edition of **GUMS**.

This is a good time to share your stories so that we can fill the pages of our weekly GUMS newsletter. Send your stories to the monthly editor or to Robert Finkelmeier.

The Power of Optimism — Man on the Street



Hello All:

Over the week end I wondered how some of our friends are doing. Difficult to make a lot of calls beyond immediate family right now.

Usually a blast like this is for a gathering: game, concert, happy hour...you know, the old 'normal.'

A week ago, today a few of us were skiing ... Now the new 'normal' is NO skiing and self-quarantine.

I trust you all are healthy and got through your first week

end. Understandably some of us will get stretched in time, so if you think I can lend a hand call.

I always have projects going but my time is flexible. Ilene and her health is my first priority of course. She's really quarantined from her recent two surgeries. 😞 But we are certainly enjoying our 3 rescue pups!

If there is anything I can do not hesitate to contact me. Until social distancing is past,

Mark Metevia

I Am An Optimist

For more than 100 years, volunteers in Optimist Clubs throughout the world have dedicated their time to bringing hope to youth through a wide variety of service projects.

See https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GgS2qsN_oVE

Note this was posted in 2009

Weekly Greeters

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 27	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Don Moon, <i>Bringing Theodore Roosevelt to Life</i>
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.
Apr 10	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TO BE DETERMINED
Apr 17	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TO BE DETERMINED
Apr 24	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TO BE DETERMINED
May 1	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: 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.