



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

May 22, 2020 – Vol. 44, Issue 34



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
<https://www.monacosouth.org>



OPTIMIST
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Editor for this Issue—George Buzick

Good Morning Optimists

Zoom Virtual Meeting-Memorial Day Weekend

The virtual Zoom meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m., by **President Bob Meyer**. There were 41 members present.

Invocation & Pledge

The invocation was given by **Prez Bob**, who urged us to remember those who had given the ultimate sacrifice for their country on this Memorial Day weekend, and then lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag.



Memorial Day, May 25, 2020

A day for honoring and mourning the military personnel who had died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. Every year on Memorial Day, the Moment of Remembrance invites Americans to pause for one minute at 3:00 p.m. to remember those who served, while listening to [Taps—Click Here](#)



listening to [Taps—Click Here](#)

Listen to **Taps Across America**—[Click Here](#) and to this NPR report on the **History of the Origin of "Taps"**—[Click Here](#).

This Day in History

May 22 Birthdays on this date: 1813, German composer Richard Wagner; 1859, Arthur Conan Doyle; 1907, Laurence Olivier; 1928, T. Boone Pickens; 1942, Ted Kaczynski; 1943, Tommy John, not the underwear guy, but retired pro baseball pitcher; 1982, Olympian speed skater, Apolo Anton Ohno; and 1987, Serbian tennis player, Novak Djokovic.

Major Events on this date: First Life insurance policy in North America issued in Philadelphia, 1761; First wagon train departs Independence, MO for Oregon, 1843; Abraham Lincoln receives a patent for a device to lift a boat over shoals and obstructions, 1849; General Ulysses S. Grant begins the siege of Vicksburg, 1863; Toothpaste tube is invented, 1892; Wright Brothers receive a patent for the "flying machine," 1906; The "Bob Hope Show" last airs on NBC-TV, 1956; Mickey Mantle hits a ball off Yankee Stadium's façade, 1963; President Richard Nixon confesses his role in the Watergate cover-up, 1973; and Johnny Carson's final appearance as host of "The Tonight Show," 1992.

From the Prez

Prez Bob reported that 9 members of the Board of Direc-

tors participated in Thursday night's Board Meeting and they approved an increase dollar amount for the Sullivan Scholarship from \$6,000 to \$9,000, allowing the club to present 9 scholarships, rather than the previously approved 6. There were 13 candidates, all with excellent credentials, including two sisters. It was suggested that we invite the 9 winners to participate in a Friday morning Zoom session, to introduce themselves. Joe Marci said he would check on this.

President Bob shared that the Leyden-Chiles-Wickersham American Legion, Post 1 could not accommodate the social isolation requirements currently in force in Denver, thus we will continue to meet using Zoom. He also said that we have members who, for whatever reason, do not have the capabilities to participate online and that we should continue to communicate with them using media with which they are familiar, such as the telephone, notes, or even a personal visit—of course with permission.

Did You Know?

Since this is Memorial Day Weekend, are you aware of the history of the Leyden-Chiles-Wickersham American Legion, Post 1? Well, on March 20, 1919 (just three days after the adjournment of the Legion founding caucus in Paris, France) a group of Denver Veterans organized the Leo Leyden Post of World War I Veterans to honor the first Colorado hero to pay the "supreme sacrifice." This group became the first Legion Post in Colorado and the fifteenth to be chartered in the United States. The charter is dated June 17, 1919 and was signed by thirty members. This charter now hangs in the Post Commander's office. [See more Click Here](#).



The grand opening of the 5400 E. Yale Avenue facility was on Labor Day weekend, September 3rd and 4th of 1994. The Optimist Club of Monaco South has been meeting here since 1995.

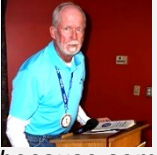


One Hundred Percent Day in front of the American Legion Hall, Post 1, September 13, 2019.

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*****

Presidential Rants & Raves



We had another successful MSOC membership meeting on Friday with about 40 members participating in the Zoom meeting which started at 8 am and lasted for an hour. I think we had fewer participants than usual because some of you did not receive either of the email messages, I sent mid-week with the link to the meeting. I cannot explain why some did receive the email(s) and some did not. You need to know that the link for the recurring meetings is the same for all of our Friday morning meetings at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82299870918?pwd=ZkdTQlJhbmwzcW9KV2k3RjJwZW55QT09>.

One way to never lose the link is to create a desktop shortcut in eight easy steps, as follows.

1. Copy the above link to your clipboard, i.e., highlight the above link; right-click the highlighted text, and choose "Copy"
2. Go to your desktop
3. Right-click your mouse and choose "New" and "Shortcut"
4. Paste the link to the box, i.e., right-click your mouse and choose "Paste"
5. Choose "Next"
6. Name the shortcut something like "Monaco South Friday Zoom Meeting"
7. Choose "Finish"
8. Double-click on the shortcut when you want to join the Friday morning meeting. If you need help doing this, please call me.

I gave an update on the upcoming "Special District Convention" and the virtual OI Convention. More information about those conventions is published elsewhere in this **GUMS** issue.

I also read a "Thank You" note from OI for the Club's continuing support of the Optimist International Foundation (OIF). Over the years of the Club's existence, we have a lifetime giving to OIF of \$28,398.48. Awesome job, members of Monaco South!

Based on Denver's "Safer in Place" guidelines, the American Legion Hall is not going to be available to the Club for the foreseeable future. We will continue the Friday morning Zoom meetings.

I am asking for suggestions on what you would like to discuss at future Club meetings. I do not want to impose my ideas at every meeting. Remember, this is our Club.

After the meeting, I received several emails reminding me that a Club policy in effect for the last election cycle pro-

hibited political jokes or commentary. I ask for your continued adherence to this policy.

Also, when speakers are solicited, we will strive to present speakers on both sides of an issue, especially when the issue is political.

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.

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.

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

Another form is the "Staying Busy When I Can't Go Out" questionnaire also attached to the **GUMS** distribution email. Again, 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 "Safer-in-Place" period. Thanks to **Greg Hurd** for putting together the forms!

Again, if you would like to make a presentation, please let me know by 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.

**Yours in Optimism,
Prez Bob**

Announcements

Approval of the revised Club Bylaws: President Bob called for an approval of the Clubs updated Bylaws. The virtual vote was unanimous for approval. A copy of these Bylaws can still be found on the **GUMS** distribution email.

CO-WY District Update: As reported in the past few **GUMS** editions, both the CO-WY District and the Optimist International annual conventions have been canceled. The District Convention will be combined with the first quarter District Board of Directors meeting in Cheyenne. Scheduled for October 16 and 18th.

Optimist International Convention: The OI convention will be held via Zoom in two 3-hour sessions on Saturday, June 27th from 9:00 a.m. to Noon (Central Time) and Sunday, June 28th from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. (Central Time). There is a fee of \$25 for the first 500 members to register. **Greg Young** said the Club would pay the registration fee for any

MSOC member who wished to attend. You can find details and register online at <https://www.optimist.org/convention>.

Tree Lot Update: Tom Kramis attended the Club Board meeting and reported that the future of the Christmas Tree Lot needed to be discussed, not only for this year, but for future years, as the membership is aging, and participation is dwindling. For this year there will be a reduction of 25% in the number of trees ordered from both the Michigan and Oregon supplier. There was also some discussion as to whether or not the Santa Haus will work with Denver's social distancing parameters. While no one knows what restrictions will be in force during our sales season, we should be prepared to change our operations, as needed.

Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner: Some asked Michael Chavez about the Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner normally served to the Boys and Girls Clubs and Girls Inc. Michael said he would check into this, with the thought that

Announcements Continued

we might still be able to prepare food boxes to distribute and still be following Covid19 requirements.

Neil Alderson Update: Jack Kleinheksel reported that Neil Alderson is slowly recuperating from COVID-19. Jack shared an email from Mary Milek, which says, "Neil and he is doing better, was out on patio for several hours today, and did some light walking in the yard. Jodi thinks that the last 4 days have been positive. He still has some coughing, but not as much and not as bad. He is eating better and forcing fluids better. She and he are cautiously optimistic, she is able to keep an eye on him via a baby monitor, which he fought at first, but has enabled her to watch him without constantly making the stairs to the basement and is really helpful at night. They have plenty of food and since he is improving, Jodi wants to start cooking herself more. Remember, please do not contact him, he needs his rest. Thank you all for your prayers, keep them coming."

Please continue to keep Neil in your thoughts. "Get Well Soon" notes can be sent to Neil at 10862 Oakshire Ave., Highlands Ranch CO 80126.

Sullivan Scholarships: Joe Marci reported that this year there are 13 students from Thomas Jefferson High School who applied for the Robert Sullivan Scholarship. They are all excellent students and will begin college in the



Our Speaker

Ryan McCullough

Speaking today was Ryan McCullough, who is the Pack Leader of Cub Pack 23. Ryan met with us back in April 2019. He has 3 boys of his own, ages 4, 6, and 8, the oldest two being involved with scouting. The Pack meets at Willow Elementary located in the Stapleton area. There are currently 36 kids in Pack 23—five are girls. Ages range from kindergarten through fifth



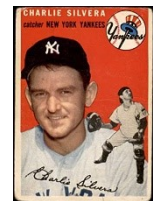
near future. The Club had approved six \$1,000 scholarships in this year's budget. The Club committee included **Tom Mauro, Phil Perington, Everett Gardner, Bob Meyer**, and myself. Their presentation to approve three additional scholarships was approved by the Board of Directors this week. The 9 scholarship winners for this year are: Meagan George, Morgan George, Cladesia Kabing, Sarah Nordlander, Pangiota James Reiva, Drea Thompson, Jazz Wright, Alexander Zinn, and Jimena Alejandra Malta Zuniga. They will all be inviting to be at a future Club Zoom meeting to share with their plans for college as well as their experiences at TJHS. They have not yet been notified as scholarship winners. Members should not contact them until we have issued award notices which will be in the coming weeks.

Member Update: It was reported that **Oscar Sorensen** is keeping occupied by his new two-year-old puppy but would probably welcome a telephone call.

Bob Avery said he had spoken to Char St. John, that she was doing well and wanted to make sure she would be invited to Monaco South events, like installation banquet, etc. Someone asked if the \$2,200 raised for a "Don St. John Memorial Fund" was available from the OI Foundation pass-through fund. **Greg Young** responded that it took a little time to process and had not been completed yet.

Friday Baseball Quote

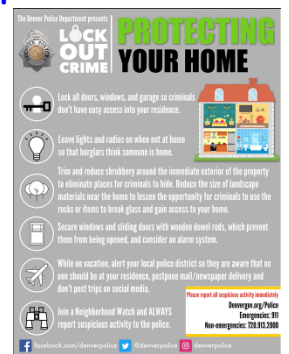
"How could I regret playing for the Yankees? Where else could I have gotten six World Series rings? I figured what the heck, it is not so bad backing up a Hall of Famer and getting a World Series check every year. My wife Rose got so used to that money that when I came home after we lost the pennant to Cleveland in 1954, she said, 'Hey, where's my World Series check?' I call my house in San Francisco 'The House that Yogi Built'."
- Charlie Silveira



Safety Tip

DPD, District 3 reminds us, Please Close Your Garage Doors.

As the weather gets warmer, we have seen an uptick in burglaries from garages that have been left open as well as houses that have been left unlocked. Please remember to lock your doors and secure your garage using these safety tips.



On-Line Trivia Contest

By Andy Towt



Wow, we had nine respondents to last week's trivia question, and all got the correct answer. One even put in some humor about the state bird: The Lark Bunting. My thanks to **Frank Middleton**, guest, **Ralph Dergance, Dick Nickoloff, Tom Glazier, Bob Meyer, Paul Stratton, Noel Hasselgren, Tom Hoch**, and **Bob Avery** for participating and getting the correct answer.

The question was: What is the Colorado State Flower? The answer is the Blue Columbine.

This week's trivia question is: What is the highest peak in Colorado? This is a hard one if you are not a hiker, so I have made it multiple choice. The choices are: A) Castle Peak, B) Mount Elbert, or C) Mount Massive

Take a guess even if you have no idea. You have a 33% chance of getting it right. And if you are wrong, so what, your name will not be published.

Weekly Greeters

5/29/2020

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

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2019-2020 43rd 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 May. Please check back for updates.

May 25	Mon		Memorial Day
May 29	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: To Be Determined
June 5	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: To Be Determined
June 12	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: To Be Determined
June 19	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: To Be Determined
June 26	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: To Be Determined
July 3	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: To Be Determined
July 10	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: To Be Determined
July 17	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.