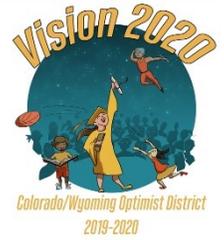




# Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

May 29, 2020 – Vol. 44, Issue 35



## 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>

Editor for this Issue—George Buzick



**OPTIMIST**  
INTERNATIONAL

### Good Morning Optimists Zoom Virtual Meeting

We had another successful MSOC membership meeting with over 50 members participating. This was the 10<sup>th</sup> Zoom Meeting since the pandemic started.

The virtual meeting was called to order by **President Bob Meyer** at 8:00 a.m. **President-elect Dan Rodriguez** read the invocation urging us to live out the tenets of the Optimist Creed. He then led us in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.



### Thought for the Day

In these Coronavirus times: "How many times does the end of the world as we know it need to arrive before we realize that it's not the end of the world as we know it?" Michael Lewis, author of "The Big Short"

### This Day in History



As has become the norm **Prez Bob** shared the happenings on this date, May 29<sup>th</sup>, recognized as "National Learn About Composting Day!"

May 29 Birthdays on this date: 1736, Patrick Henry; 1903, Bob Hope; 1914, Nepalese climber Tensing Norgay; 1917, John F. Kennedy; 1938, Fay Vincent, Major League Baseball Commissioner from 1989-1992; 1939, Al Unser; 1958, actress Annette Bening; and 1984, Carmelo Anthony.

Major Events on this date: South Carolina is incorporated as a royal colony, 1721; Patrick Henry in his speech against the Stamp Act says, "If this be treason, make the most of it.", 1765; Rhode Island becomes the last of the original 13 colonies to ratify the U.S. Constitution, 1790; The official flag of the President of the United States is adopted, 1916; U.S. Supreme Court rules that organized baseball is a sport and not a business and, thus, is not subject to antitrust laws, 1922; Bing Crosby records "White Christmas," Meat and cheese are rationed in the U.S., 1943; Mount Everest was conquered as Edmund Hillary of New Zealand and Tensing Norgay become the first climbers to reach the summit, 1953; Janet Guthrie becomes the first woman to drive in the Indianapolis 500, 1977; Dow Jones Index hits a record 2,870, 1990; Space Shuttle Discovery completes first docking with the International Space Station, 1999; and ABC-TV cancels "Roseanne" after Roseanne Barr posts a racial tweet, 2018.

### From the Prez

**President Bob** read a Thank You Note from Char St. John, thanking the club members for their contribution in memory of **Don St. John** to the OI Foundation. He also mentioned that we were receiving a banner patch,

*To: All of Monaco So Optimists  
Thank you so very much for your donation to O.I. in Don's memory. To all of you who knew Don during his many years as a member and know what a giving person he was - you he will be missed. To all the new members Don would say "give it your best... 100%!"  
Thanks again,  
Char St. John & family*



recognizing these contributions. It will be affixed to our honors banner.

Bob reported that several local golf clubs had contributed play for a foursome at their course, in order to support the Optimist Junior Golf tournament. Since there will be no tournament this year, these foursomes will be auctioned off to club members. Details are in his *Rants & Raves* report.

### Announcements

**Thank You for Support:** **Perry Allen** thanked the club for their prayers and thoughts for his daughter who, after undergoing 12-hour heart surgery, is resting at home.

**Arapahoe Basin Report:** **Tom Glazier** reported that he had not been able to hit the slopes this week, but that Arapahoe Basin is open. With the 60-degree daytime temperatures, the base is melting fast. To get a pass, you have to enter a lottery and have your name drawn.

**RMNP Open:** **Greg Hurd** reported that Rocky Mountain National Park is open, but requires reservations to enter the park. Greg also said that the sky in Estes Park is total without pollution and beautiful.

**President-elect Report:** **Dan Rodriguez** said he is solicited membership to come up with ideas for new ways to raise funds to support club activities. Dan asked for volunteers for a committee to facilitate this activity. He welcome input from others as we plan for the 2020-2021 MSOC year.

**Denver Teachers Award:** In response to a question,



**Henry Schonewise** reported that the Excellence in Education Banquet has been canceled, but that the Denver Teacher Award and accompanying grant has been presented to six teachers. For details see the Denver Teacher Award Facebook page at:

[www.facebook.com/DenverTeachersAwards](http://www.facebook.com/DenverTeachersAwards).

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 over 50 members participating in the Zoom meeting. I am sorry I had to leave the meeting early, but I had a match play round at Bear Dance a little after 9 a.m. Thanks to Pres-Elect **Dan Rodriguez** for jumping into the breach and finishing out the meeting. I got several emails saying what a great job Dan did. "Dan, I am going to allow you to co-host future meetings. I know you have some great ideas for what you want to do when your term starts in October. I will give you the chance to promote those ideas whenever you'd like."

The link for the recurring meetings ZOOM Login is the same for all Friday morning meetings. Go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82299870918?pwd=ZkdTQlJhbmwzcW9KV2k3RjJwZW55QT09>.

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

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

**Note:** For security, the log-in Meeting ID and Password are only located on the GUMS distribution email. If you need help doing this, please call me.

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

**Joe Marci** announced that nine Sullivan Scholarship winners and their TJ High School counselor have been invited to our Friday, June 26 Zoom meeting.

As noted elsewhere, we received a nice Thank You note for our donations to OIF in memory of Don, from Char St. John.

We were going to have our Annual Junior Golf Fundraiser Tournament at Saddle Rock Tuesday, June 2, but that event had to be canceled due to the COVID-19 guidelines. I

had rounded up ten donated foursomes to be auctioned off after golf on Tuesday and asked if there was sufficient interest to auction them off at an upcoming Friday morning meeting. Please let Club members know to join us for the auction. I am working on details and will announce what date we will have the auction. The donated foursomes include: CommonGround (2 vouchers), Raven Golf Club at Three Peaks, The Club at Pradera, The Pinery Country Club, Pine Creek Golf Course, Broadlands, King's Deer, Green Valley Ranch, Bear Dance, and Red Hawk Ridge.

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're 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 the GUMS distribution email. Also, if they are comfortable doing so, to speak up at an upcoming Zoom meeting.

Another form is the "Staying Busy When I Can't Go Out" questionnaire also attached to GUMS distribution email. I would like members to complete the questionnaire and be ready to present that information as well. It will be fun to hear what members are doing to keep busy and active during the "Safer-in-Place" period. If you would like to make a presentation, please let me know 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**

## Announcements Continued

**Colorado-Wyoming District: Governor Tony Carpenter** announced that the six finalists for the District Oratorical contest will be on the district Facebook page via Zoom at 10:00 am Saturday, May 30. Winner of this contest will receive a \$2,000 scholarship and opportunity to participate in the International contest in July.

Tony suggested that we visit the District webpage at <https://www.optimistcowy.org/>, since it has some suggestions for installing, using, and hosting Zoom meetings.

**Sullivan Scholarship: Joe Marci** announced that the 9 Sullivan Scholarship winners from Thomas Jefferson High School have been invited to the June 26<sup>th</sup> Zoom meeting.

**Hamilton Middle School Accelerated Reader Awards: Karl Geil** reported that for quite a few years, the Club has sponsored the Accelerated Reader Awards at Hamilton Middle School, where students read age-appropriate novels and take a test on what they have read on a computer. Based on

the test results, points are awarded to the student. Usually, students who accumulate at least 500 points (the equivalent of reading about 3,000,000 words) receive a \$50 award. This year, with schools moving to online learning, the students lost the ability to access both the novels and the tests. So, this year we awarded \$100 to the 5 students who achieved at least 500 points before the world turned upside-down. One of those, a 6<sup>th</sup> grader, actually achieved more than 1,000 points. We also awarded \$50 each to the 7 students who were on-track to reaching 500 points before the school moved to remote learning. Amber Shearer, one of Hamilton's Assistant Principals, will be distributing the cash awards to the students.

**FOO Member Thomas Graumann: John Oss** sent an email telling us that **Tom Graumann** recently passed away. Because of the social distancing, there are no services scheduled at this time. Tom had a long history and he testified that he was saved twice in his life. Once from the Nazis

## Announcements Continued



Tom Graumann is on the left.

and then saved by Christ. He has been a Gideon for more than 34 years, some of that time was serving as a Gideon in the Czech Republic. In lieu of flowers please send any donations to support the Czech work closest to my father's heart, [Click Here](#). His son Paul has sent some additional information if you want to look further into his story. See Twice Recued, [Click Here](#) or his book, [Click Here](#).

If you would like to send Gideon cards they can be sent to: [Paul Graumann](#), 1658 W Maplewood Ave. Littleton, 80120.

**Optimism: Is it a Personality Trait:** **Craig Eley** passed along this NPR audio report heard on "All Things Considered" on May 20<sup>th</sup>. The "**Optimist Creed**" is mentioned and partially recited in this 5-minute interview with Dr. Martin Seligman, a psychologist at the University of Pennsylvania. To here this interview [Click Here](#). As summary report of Dr. Seligman's ideas on optimum can be [found here](#).

**In Need of GUMS Chief Editor:** As announced by Prez **Bob Meyer** in February, **Bob Finkelmeier** has announced he is stepping down as **Chief GUMS Editor** effective with the end of this Optimist year, September 31<sup>st</sup>. The Board of Directors is looking for a replacement and is in a discussion about restructuring the GUMS format. If you are interested in taking on this role, please let Prez **Bob** or Prez-elect, **Dan** know. We will be hearing more about this as we approach the end of the Optimist year.

**Bradley International Korsoski Award:** **Jon Wachter**

shared a picture of Bradley International Korsoski winner, **Mimi Leahy**, receiving her certificate and recognition in the new norm of a coronavirus drive-by ceremony. At Principal **Steve Wera's** request Jon put together this short video clip for the Bradley JOI Club and the 5<sup>th</sup> graders, you can see it [Click Here](#).



Photo Jon Wachter

## Our Speaker

**Carl Miller**

**Frank Middleton** introduced the last of the Boy Scout leaders. **Carl Miller**, who was an Eagle Scout, and now serves as the Troop Leader of Troop 155. His troop has 15 members. The troop is currently looking for a new meeting place and the Coronavirus situation has made meeting together difficult, but Carl is confident that the troop will persist. Thank you Carl for joining us and providing us with insight in now are Club is support your scouting program.



## The Optimist Brothers

Even though we cannot join them in Chicagoland this year, the Optimist Brothers have some things to say about

the iMagine 2020 Virtual Convention, June 27 and 28, 2020. They are also joined by a special guest. Take it away, boys! [Click Here](#)

The OI convention will be held via Zoom in two 3-hour sessions on Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to Noon (Central Time) and Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup> 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>.

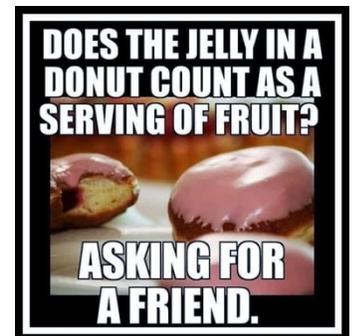


## A Bit of Humor

Pence is in charge of the Coronavirus task force? Really? They should've picked me.



I've served hundreds of Coronas and no one ever got sick.



## On-Line Trivia Contest

By Andy Towt

**TRIVIA CHALLENGE** There were four respondents to last week's trivia question and again, all four got the correct answer. Remember, if you take a guess, and we hope you will, we will not publish your name if you get it wrong. Give it a try.

Thanks to **Bob Avery**, **Dick Nickoloff**, **Phil Perington**, and **Bob Meyer** for submitting answers.

The question was: What is the highest peak in Colorado. The answer is **Mount Elbert**, at 14,433 feet.

**Bob Avery** came up with the idea for this week's question: What is the lowest 14,000 foot peak? This is a hard one. Again, let's make it multiple choice. Go for it.

A. Sunshine Peak, B. Pike's Peak, C. Challenger Point

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

## Weekly Greeters

6/5/2020

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

**Optimist Club of Monaco South 2019-2020 43<sup>rd</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 May. Please check back for updates.

June 5	Fri	8:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Zoom Virtual Meeting
June 12	Fri	8:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Zoom Virtual Meeting
June 18	Thu	7:00 pm	Monthly Board Meeting: Zoom Virtual Meeting
June 19	Fri	8:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Zoom Virtual Meeting
June 26	Fri	8:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Zoom Virtual Meeting
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:** June **Robert Wardlaw**, July **Pat Bush**, Aug **Paul Stratton**

**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.