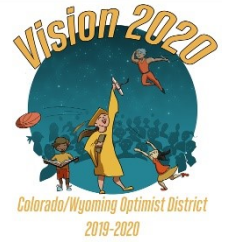




Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

October 18, 2019 – Vol. 44, Issue 3



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
INTERNATIONAL

Editor for this Issue—Paul Stratton

Good Morning Optimists

Our greeters this morning were **Dave Peck** and **Eldon Strong**, the “Thunderbird Duo.” They served as our early bird greeters after arriving at the American Legion Hall via their vintage



Dave Peck & Eldon Strong
Photos Noel Hasselgren



1955 Ford T-bird

autos. Thank you to two automobile aficionados!

First Bell

President **Bob Meyer** called the meeting to order promptly at 7:00 a.m. He greeted everyone and called for the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.



Invocation & Pledge

Immediate past president **Everett Gardner** delivered our invocation with a message about being too strong for fear. Help us avoid fear controlling our life and instead live a life that controls our fears. He then led us in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

Fun Facts

To add some levity to the morning, **Prez Bob** shared some fun facts about October 18th by sharing some birthdays and notable events:

Birthdays: 1892 - Leo G. Carroll, TVs “Topper”; 1919 - Pierre Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada; 1921 - Senator Jesse Helms; 1922 - Little Orphan Annie, comic strip character; 1926 - Chuck Berry; 1927 - George C. Scott; 1928 - Keith Jackson, sportscaster; 1939 - Lee Harvey Oswald and Mike Ditka; and 1958 - boxer Thomas “Hit Man” Hearns

Events: 1867 - Alaskan Purchase for \$7.2M*; 1878 - Edison makes electricity available for household use; 1924 - Notre Dame’s “Four Horseman” beat Army 13 to 7; 1931 - Al Capone convicted of tax evasion; 1952 - First *Mad Magazine* issue published; 1961 - Movie “West Side Story” released; 1968 - Bob Beamon jumps 29 feet 2.5 inches at Olympics in Mexico City; 1977 - Reggie Jackson “Mr. October” hits 3 consecutive home runs in World Series; and 2009 - Tom Brady throws 5

TD passes in 2nd quarter vs. Tennessee Titans.

Note: *The Alaska Purchase was the United States’ acquisition of Alaska from the Russian Empire. Alaska was formally transferred to the United States on October 18, 1867, through a treaty ratified by the United States Senate and signed by President Andrew Johnson. The purchase added 586,412 square miles of new territory to the United States for the cost of \$7.2 million. Reactions to the purchase in the United States were mostly positive, as many believed possession of Alaska would serve as a base to expand American trade in Asia. Some opponents labeled the purchase as “Seward’s Folly,” or “Seward’s Icebox” as they contended that the United States had acquired useless land. Nearly all Russian settlers left Alaska in the aftermath of the purchase, and Alaska would remain sparsely populated until the Klondike Gold Rush began in 1896. Originally organized as the Department of Alaska, the area was renamed the District of Alaska and the Alaska Territory before becoming the modern State of Alaska in 1959.



Left: The US \$7.2 million check used to pay for Alaska (roughly \$109 million in 2018).

From the Prez

Prez **Bob Meyer** announced that Abigail Nichols from the Tamarac Optimist Club wants us to know about their **3rd Annual Chili Supper and Silent Auction** on Saturday, November 2nd, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Calvary Baptist Church. See the flyer attached to **GUMS** distribution email.

Plus their *Rhinestones and Cowboys Holiday Soiree* coming up at Calvary Baptist Church on Friday, December 13th. More details forthcoming.

Guests

Call for guests — **Greg Holt** was our guest today, invited and introduced by his friend **Jack Kleinhessel**. Greg recently retired after working early shifts at DIA. He and Jack became friends through scouting projects. He has lived in the neighborhood for 35 years and has two kids who were Super Citizens. Welcome Greg—we look forward to seeing to back!

Bob Krech and **Tom Mehl** from Gateway Optimist Club attended to discuss their ***Wreaths Across America*** program. They share that there are 6,500 veterans buried in the military section at Fairmont Cemetery, which is a local focus for this program, since approxi-

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******

mately 5,000 of the graves are undecorated. Their mission is to *Remember, Honor and Teach*. Wreaths are available to sponsor, and they are then placed on grave markers at state and national veterans' cemeteries, as well as local and community cemeteries each December. Sponsored wreaths are shipped directly to cemeteries via donated space from trucking companies. On December 14th there will be a wreath laying cemetery at 9:00 am. Please see the [attached sponsorship order form](#) for more details and to support the program.



Announcements

November Board Meeting: The November board meeting has been moved to Monday, November 18th, due to the Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner at the Boys and Girls Club/Girls Inc being on Thursday, November 21st.



Dues are Due: **Greg Young**, Treasurer extraordinaire, reminded us about the dues notice we have all received. If you have not paid your dues, and you cannot find your notice, let Greg know and he will get you another copy.

OCMS Bylaws Update: **Greg Young** also reported

that at last night's board meeting, the Monaco South Bylaws were updated. [Attached here](#) and to GUMS distribution email, are the changes (with changes highlighted in yellow) and a copy of the [updated Bylaws in full](#). The two main changes are to incorporate wording required by OI, and to revise the election procedures as we are currently doing per our policies.

Please review these changes and if you have any questions or concerns, please notify **Bob Meyer**, **Tracy Sorensen**, or **Greg Young** immediately. We will publish these changes in GUMS for 3 weeks and then vote on them at the Meeting November 15th.

Super Citizen Program: **Tom Mauro** reported on a Super Citizen assembly at Hamilton Middle School last night. **Karl Geil** presented with Tom, and **Wyatt McCallie** took photos. Fifteen kids were recognized, and the presentation was given while being translated by Spanish and Somali interpreters. Congratulations, Felicidad, and Hambalyo to those students!

Super Citizen Program Presenter: If you would like to be a Super Citizen presenter at one of the Super Citizen presentations, see **Robert Wardlaw**, or contact one of the SC Coordinators. They are:



- ◇ Bradley International School—**Jon Wachter**
- ◇ Hamilton Middle School—**Tom Mauro**
- ◇ Holm Elementary School—**Donlie Smith**
- ◇ Lowry Elementary School—**Paul Stratton**
- ◇ McMeen Elementary School—**Don Thomson**
- ◇ Most Precious Blood Catholic School—**Gary Miller**
- ◇ Samuels Elementary School—**Kent Gloor**
- ◇ Slavens Elementary School—**Tom Hoch**

It will be an awarding experience!

Optimist International Fundraiser: **Karl Geil** announced if you order anything on Amazon.com, next time log in via Smile.Amazon.com. When you do, you can select an organization to support with your purchase. Look for Optimist International under "Charities List." According to Amazon, they have passed along \$144,958,582.84 to charities via the Smile program. So, add a percentage of your purchases to that number, and to OI!



Boys & Girls Clubs Thanksgiving Dinner: **Michael Chavez** let us know that this year's Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Denver Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner will be on Thursday, November 21st at the Owen Boys and Girls Club, 3480 W Kentucky Avenue, and at Girls, Inc., 1499 Julian Street. We will need all hands-on deck that night when we serve over 800 meals! The Food Bank of the Rockies supplies the food. Please sign up or see Michael.



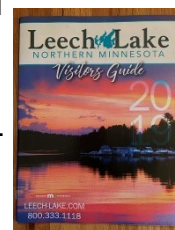
Michael Chavez, back to camera, organizes the serving line at last years Denver Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner.

Great Pumpkin Patch: **Bob Avery** says, "tis the season, so buy your pumpkins! And when you do, do so at the Greenwood Community Church corner of Belleview and Holly, where the proceeds go to a Boy Scout fundraiser."

From the Membership Guru

Prez Bob conducted another Great Meeting and I was Honored to give the Invocation. Again, **Frank Middleton** did his thing of mixing the crowd so as to find "new" friends and something new not known about each other. For instance, **Mike White** our "Optimist of the Year" and I were chatting about his son who always stand in for Mike for various projects when Mike's back acts up. In fact, Mike's quote was, "he is a Non-Dues member of MSOC." Also, at Table 3 was **Craig Eley** and **Ed Collins** who apparently had not read **GUMS** and did not know I had mentioned them in my article last week. By the way, I missed mentioning a founding member **Greg Herd** who was also at the [Great American Beer Festival](#).

Travelogue: I started the weeks travel in Maple Grove, MN and passing thru MSP International Airport and notice a Leach Lake brochure which I picked up for **Tom Hoch**, since we had a conversation regarding the [Eel Pout Festival](#), which is a true Polar Plunge because they cut blocks of ice from the lake for those so are inclined to jump into the water. And yes,



they have Paramedics on standby for instant thermal shock heart attacks.

Then moving on to the San Francisco International Airport area and the hotel concierge found the only restaurant that had Abalone on the menu. Because of its scarcity (not on the endangered list)



those pesky little sea otters have their say before human's harvest.

Membership News: The plan for membership increase is to begin a "Social Media Push" with consultation with our PR Team along with the "Advertising," which begun at the Alzhei-

mer's Walk chaired by **Cap Hermann** with VP **Dan Rodriguez** new signage and cards. More to come on that subject. In an effort to increase readership of **GUMS**, if your name is mentioned here, see me for a free Friday Morning Pot drawing chance to win. Remember, it's never too late to bring a **GUEST** ... follow-up on new and old contacts! Have a non-member help with upcoming Projects like the Thanksgiving Dinner and the Christmas Tree Lot.

October Goal; 2 Guests per meeting. Helping to get the New MSOC year going!

Everett Gardner, Past Prez & Membership Guru



A bit of Humor for this Camaraderie Day

Bryce Slaby and **Dick Nickoloff** shared jokes for us, with mixed results. After extensive research, your **GUMS Editor** has discovered the scientifically proven best joke in the world—and here it is:

"Two hunters are out in the woods when one of them collapses. He is not breathing so his friend calls 911. 'My friend is dead! What should I do?' The operator replies, 'Calm down sir, first make sure that he's really dead.' There is a silence, then a loud bang. Back on the phone, the guy says, 'Ok, now what?'" Others that were found:

- ◆ My grandfather has the heart of a lion and a lifetime ban at the zoo.
- ◆ I threw a boomerang a few years ago. I now live in constant fear.
- ◆ What is the difference between a well-dressed man on a bike and a poorly dressed man on a unicycle? Attire.

RoboCalls

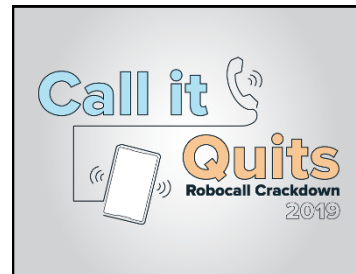
During one of the Camaraderie Day conversation the problem of Robocalls came into the discussion. It was mentioned that **Consumer Report magazine** says that every month more than 150,000 consumers complain to the Federal Trade Commission and Federal Communications Commission. One of their articles suggest that if you answer



the phone and hear a recorded message instead of a live person, it's a robocall. If you're getting a lot of robocalls trying to sell you something, odds are the calls are illegal. Many are also probably scams. See what the Federal Trade Commission suggest for Robo Calls – [What To Do If You Get a Robocall](https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/media/video-0028-what-do-if-you-get-robocall) @ <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/media/video-0028-what-do-if-you-get-robocall>

Here's what you need to know about robocalls and what you can do about them. See Federal Trade Commission webpage at <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0259-robocalls>.

Here is how **Tom Mabe**, a comedian who achieved notability with his prank responses to telemarketing calls. **Although funny, this approach would not be recommended**, see https://famguardian.org/Subjects/PropertyPrivacy/Articles/Tom_Mabe.mp4

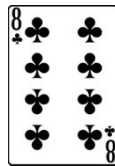


Do we have a drawing?

Rather than risk being "drawn and quartered" Prez **Meyer** remember to call upon the good Dr. Bob to come forward. Forty, yes \$40, rested in the bedpan pot, waiting for the lucky Optimist who could find the



Eight of Clubs.



Eight of Clubs.

Steve Kady and **Russ Paul** are very Optimistic fellows, but no luck going for the big bucks.

Cups of easy money went to: **Donlie Smith, Ed Collins, Kent Gloor, Mike White, Dick Nickoloff, and Phil Perington.**

No, not this *Eight of Clubs!* **Nametag** opportunity went to **Bob** "Pumpkin Salesman"



Avery who had his name called while he was wearing his name tag, but \$40 was not in the cards for him. As a consolation prize, President Meyer asked him to

send out to face the day by leading us in the Optimist Creed: *Promise yourself, to be so strong...*

Weekly Greeters	
10/25/19	Russ Paul & Gary Strowbridge
11/1/10	Tom Mauro & John Oss

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2019-2020 43rd Year — Chartered in 1976
See the Online Calendar @ <http://www.monacosouth.org/Events/Calendar>

Oct 25	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Kathleen Chandler, Vote: Prop CC
Oct 25	Fri	1:00 pm	Super Citizen: Samuels Elementary
Oct 25	Fri	3:00 pm	Super Citizen: Bradley International
Nov 1	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Mitch Jelniker, Corporate Relations Mgr., Food Bank of the Rockies
Nov 6	Wed	1:00 pm	Super Citizen: Lowry Elementary
Nov 8	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: TBA
Nov 15	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: Camaraderie Day
Nov 18	Mon	6:15 pm	Note Change OCMS Board Meeting , Schlessman YMCA, 3901 E. Yale
Nov 19	Tue	2:30 pm	Super Citizen: Most Precious Blood
Nov 21	Thu	3:00 pm	Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner, Boys and Girls Club and Girls Inc.
Nov 22	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Legion Hall: David Schunk, Volunteers of America

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	720-938-1760
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: October **Paul Stratton**, November **Phil Perington**, December **George Buzick**,

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.