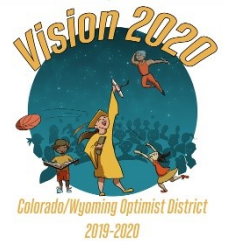




Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

September 11, 2020 – Vol. 44, Issue 50



Optimist Club of Monaco South



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Founded in 1976 at Denver, Colorado
Serving Youth and the Community for 44 Years
National Philanthropy Day Colorado, Outstanding Service Organization, 2012
<https://www.monacosouth.org>



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INTERNATIONAL

Editor for this Issue—Phil Perington

Good Morning Optimists The Boys are Back in Town!

On this day, Friday, September 11, 2020, Monaco South Optimist once again came together at the Backstreet Grill. The first such gathering since March 13th due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was a great moment in Club history!



Andy Towt gets temperature check from Gary Miller.

This is the first live meeting and simulcast of OCMS,” and announced, “I am an optimist.” Cheers filled the room.

September 11th Remembrance



On this September 11th, we remember 19-years ago, when the first responders, the innocent victims, resolute members of the military, families who lost loved ones, and ordinary Americans who showed extraordinary bravery in the face of the attacks.

On this day, remember how the country reacted on September 11, 2001 when we came together to heal. As Welles Crowther, “The Man in the Red Bandana” said on that fateful day, “everyone who can stand up, stand up now. Those who can help others, do so now.” Let us all commit to remember, stand up and help others. Editor: Click the link below and learn about Welles Remy Crowther (May 17, 1977 – September 11, 2001) who was an American equities trader and volunteer firefighter known for saving as many as 18 lives during the September 11 attacks in New York City, during which he lost his own life.



Welles Crowther

Steve Kady, Gary Miller, and Don Roth were at the door offering warm greetings and thermometer readings. It was reported everyone had a normal reading and entered in good spirits. Masks and rubber gloves ruled the morning, and all went well with table spacing and camaraderie. **Tom Hoch** and President-elect **Dan Rodriguez** were energetically setting up the banners, podium, and flag, with assistance from **Cesar Camarena**. A sumptuous breakfast buffet was ready and familiar aroma of breakfast was in the air.



Tom Hoch, left, & Dan Rodriguez get the Zoom connection setup with Bob Meyer for those at home.

In the Room

Pat Bush, Bob Finkmeier, Mike McMahon, John Young, and Andy Towt shared collective tales, while **Tom Mauro** and **Bill Litchfield** compared rubber gloves. **Tom Overton** forgot his mask but was quickly provided new cover. **Oscar Sorensen** was in fine form explaining how he decided upon the name of his new pup “Shirley.” **Allen Pierce** was smoothly cruising around the room in his designer shorts and handmade sandals. **Gary Strowbridge, Tom Kramis, and Joe Marci** were lost in Christmas tree plans and developments. **Peter Dimond** and soon to be GUMS Editor-in-Chief **George Buzick**, were discussing solutions for the financial markets in these unpredictable times. **Bob and Steve Avery** were engaged in a happy father-son conversation while filling their plates and enjoying the moment. While many others were approaching **Dick Nickoloff**, at left, and questioning what was written on his facemask; which read, “I’m helping protect you!”



“I’m helping protect you!”

First Bell

At 7:00 a.m. sharp Prez-elect **Dan Rodriguez** chimed the bell and called us to order, followed by “The food is ready!”

Invocation & Pledge

Tom Mauro presented the morning invocation and 9-11 tribute. “Let us all pause, remember and pray. This great Country is built on respect, equality, and love for one another in all things. To that we should embrace the words of Matthew 7-21.”

Not every one that said to Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that does the will of My Father which is in heaven.
Matthew 7:21

Our guest speaker, Major General (Ret) Jay Lindell led the *Pledge of Allegiance*, which was followed by the traditional optimistic cry of *Play Ball!*

Announcements

Club Budgeting is Taking Place: **Greg Young** announced that all project leaders should submit their budget requests for this coming fiscal year, October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. Greg will be putting together a proposed budget for review by the Officers and Board. Should he not hear from you by September 24th, you may not have funds allocated for your project this coming year. All budget items will be subject to revision pending results from the Tree Lot. Thanks for your cooperation.

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******

Announcements Continued

Brain Bowl Update: Karl Geil reported that the Brain Bowl is trying to plan for at least one virtual tournament this school year. Currently targeting the last Saturday in January. The organizers have a lot of work to do in terms of adapting the contest to a virtual format, but it is doable. Some things will need to change. For example, we will not be able to use buzzers, but we already have a work-around. There will not be a written test. We think we can keep the traditional contest format mostly intact. Training will be provided virtually, so you will be able to participate from the comfort of your home. But before schools can be told, we need to know if we have enough interest from volunteers. No volunteers, no Brain Bowl. So, when you receive a Constant Contact email from **Nancy DeNiro**, the Optimist Brain Bowl Volunteer Coordinator, please read the entire email and respond to it, so we can gauge our volunteer interest. If you have not participated in an Optimist Brain Bowl before and are interested in finding out more about this "Jeopardy like" competition for 6th, 7th, and 9th graders, contact **Karl Geil** at kjgeil57@gmail.com or 303-549-8710.

Member Directory Update: Tom Mauro announce they are working on updating the membership roster, therefore changes should be sent to Tom at tmmauro@gmail.com. If you want to renew your business card sponsorship, send a \$25 check to treasurer **Greg Young**.



Thanksgiving Dinner Update: Michael Chavez shared that the Thanksgiving dinner planning is still developing. The Boys and Girls Club are working on a "To-Go" program and the mechanics may involve some agility on our part this year. Further details will be forthcoming.

Christmas Tree Lot Update: Tom Kramis provided these updates. 1.) The lease has been signed for renewal at our current location. This is our 4th year at the site to once again benefit returning customers and anyone familiar with the location. The rate is the same as last year, including bathroom location. 2.) Team COVID will be created to help navigate customers around the lot and to the pay station. 3.) The tree racks will be repaired soon, and we need volunteers to assist. 4.) **Greg Young** will be our cash manager and coordinate with Cashiers. 5.) Our High School kids will return, and we need to help them understand our protocol. 6.) Managers are needed for each day, so please

volunteer. The job does not require working a shift but that would be appreciated. There are a lot of new wrinkles this year. Let us all stay focused on success and working out new issues.

Mini Face-to-Face Member Meeting: Tom Glazier organized another this past week on Wednesday, September 9th at Café de France Express in the Colorado Club Office Building, 4155 E Jewell Ave. Six members, **Noel Hasselgren, Bob Avery, Allen**



Malask, Tom Kramis, Bob Finkelmeier, and Tom Glazier enjoyed comradery and breakfast. Although it was a bit cold to sit outside, they sat in the large dining



area. They also were invited to visit the other meeting areas available in the Colorado Club Office Building, including a spacious Board room and a large meeting room. All rooms seemed to be ideal areas for Club meetings.

Thank You to Scott Henke: Steve Kady shared a big Thank You to MSOC FOO member **Scott Henke**, owner of [Onsite Consulting](#) for loaning us a laptop to make the Zoom meeting connection from Backstreet Grill.

Denver Fire Chief Selection: Steve Kady also reported that **Carly Helwick**, an Assistant Chief, who the Club recognized back in [May 18, 2018, read the story here](#), with our [Respect for Law](#) plaque, is one of the four finalist for the next Denver Fire Chief. The other candidates are Desmond Fulton, a Deputy Fire Chief; Warren Mitchell, an Assistant Chief; and Ryan Nuanes, a Division Chief. Congratulations to Carly Helwick for being in the final four candidates for the Chief's position. The four names will be forwarded onto Mayor Michael Hancock who will ultimately decide on the next chief. The appointment will come probably in October.



Prez Everett Gardner presents Carla Helwick with the Respect for Law plaque, May 18, 2018.

Russ Paul Update: Joe Marci said the **Russ** is home. He had all his teeth on his lower half pulled as he will be getting a bridge. Unfortunately, the bridge will not be ready

Prez-elect Rants & Raves



Dan Rodriguez

Prez-elect standing in for Prez Bob Meyer who is traveling shares...

Hello fellow Optimists, How exciting to see so many Optimists attend the Friday, September 11 meeting in person and on Zoom. Those who attended in person did a great job following social distancing and mask guidelines. For those who attended on Zoom, some patience was required on our part as we worked out technical glitches on the fly. We learned that there is a delay between what happens live and when you see it on Zoom. And, by the time Zoom broadcast played back in the "live" room with announcements, comments, etc., the delay was about 7-seconds. This is a learning process and I am confident we will work out the kinks by this coming Friday's meeting. All-in-all we pulled it off.

*A shout out to **Tom Hoch** for his fantastic job setting up the audio cables, video cables, cameras, and microphones*

*to simulcast on Zoom. This was nothing short of a "Herculean task." Managing the Zoom broadcast does take additional manpower and I am asking for volunteers to help out on the A/V team on a rotating basis. **Steve Avery** has agreed to be the A/V manager this coming week. However, we need a couple more guys on the A/V team, so let me know if you can help.*

*A big thanks to **Steve Kady** for managing the logistics; to the staff of the Backstreet Grill for hosting and providing a fantastic meal; and **Scott Henke** with Onsite Consulting for providing the computer used to simulcast the meeting on Zoom. I would also like to acknowledge **Tom Glazier** for "testing the waters" with live meetings. Without Tom's pioneering efforts, we probably would not have held a live membership meeting as soon as we have.*

See you all at the next meeting!

*Yours in Optimism,
Prez-elect Dan*

Announcements Continued

for a few weeks. Joe said, he was taking Paul to church on Sunday and that he sounded okay but is anxious to get his bridge in. Please remember to connect with members we have not heard from for sometime and then share your report. Be connected!

Next Weeks Meeting: Gary Miller reports that the breakfast cost for next week's meeting at Backstreet Grill, September 18th will be \$10/person. Once again the attendance rules will apply as you **will need to RSVP with either Prez Bob Meyer or Prez-elect Dan Rodriguez**. Member temperatures and a \$10 breakfast fee will be taken and collected at the door when you enter. Please be prepared to pay the breakfast fee as we want to move towards not granting IOU's in the future. We appreciate your understanding. The BOD's will be discussing the breakfast fee in the future as the \$10 fee does not include the following costs: "oven fee," tax, or voluntary gratuity which are currently being covered by the Club.

Thank You from Backstreet Owner: Tara Boline thanked us all and was grateful to whomever sent **Steve**

Kady and Dan Rodriguez for arranging the new breakfast location. She shared that we are a great addition to their restaurant and are looking forward to seeing us again. At that point Steve announced this morning's limit on sausages and bacon had been lifted. This has been quite a week. The 1st football game, 1st full-live meeting since March, 1st snow-fall, and the 1st guest speaker. Plus a 1st meeting wearing face masks. Editor: *Hey, we are Optimists ... no problem!*

Member Spotlight

Cesar Camerena our "Rookie of the Year" was honored and asked to share his background. He is a native and met his sponsor **Tom Kramis** in high school. Cesar had some good stories, but this might not be the time or place to pontificate. He owns his own construction company and has made many new and exciting friends through membership in Monaco South. Cesar is looking forward to the tree lot and assisting again with labor and other issues. He and Tom were the force behind remodeling the trailer last year. Cesar has been a valuable and pleasant addition to our Club.



Colorado Aerospace Major General (Ret) Jay Lindell

Our guess speaker was Major General retired, **Jay Lindell** who was introduced by **Steve Kady**.



Major General Lindell announced with great delight *"It's Great to be in front of people! Thank you for all you do as an organization."* He shared that he had visited our website and was impressed with all the programs and said, it is important work for our kids, community, and nation. The first question he asked was, *"Where were you on 9/11?"* And, then shared that

he was in Germany and recalled someone saying, *"sir look at this."* He looked up at a TV screen in the room just as the 2nd plane flew into Tower 2. It was a startling moment and he knew at that time things were going to change forever.

For the last 7 years Jay has been serving as a consultant and leader of the Colorado Aero Space Initiative, serving as a connector and collaborator within all levels of Government. His universe runs the gamut from local government, State, with Legislative and Congressional delegations all the way up to the White House. One of his favorite groups is the Space Happy Hour group at a Boulder bar. Professionals and scientists gather to discuss the new Space Force and issues attendant to the evolution of our journey into the final frontier, so to speak. The key to coalescing structure and working relationships begins with his personal relationships and the trust to be gained.

The Aerospace Industry is big business in Colorado, hav-

ing expanded over 70% in the last ten years. Colorado, especially CU Boulder is the nation's top recipient of NASA research awards. Colorado is the current home and legacy home for the United State Space Command and is #1 in private sector space employment per capital and #2 space economy in the nation. Approximately 148,000 direct jobs have been created, 7.5% of all jobs in Colorado, with \$16.4B labor income with an overall economic impact of \$36.5B.

Colorado Aerospace is a very powerful and historic "Space Inflection Point," radiating numerous benefits and impact, including National Security Space Policy, Civil Space Exploration, General Public Awareness, and Leadership and Technology Advancement among other important factors. Colorado is the temporary US Space Command Base and will hopefully be soon awarded permanent standing due to the 8 out of 9 Space Force Deltas already stationed here. The direct economic impact of the Command is tremendous with an estimated \$1B output and 5,065 new workers earning \$276.1M. GPS development is also another key element to the growth and development of the Space Force. In 2018 the Colorado Air & Space Port was established at the Front Range Air Facility.

Colorado is on the leading edge of Space Force Development and Technology and General Jay Lindell is leading the way in Colorado. It was an extraordinary and enlightening presentation and we hope to see General Jay Lindell again real soon.

On-Line Trivia Contest



Thank you to **Bob Avery** and **Paul Stratton** who participated in last week's trivia contest and got the correct answer to the question: **Who was the New York**

Mets Baseball Team's first Manager? The answer was Casey Stengel.

This week's question is, **Thomas Jefferson was the third president of the United States. Who was his vice president during his first term?** Note, this person was better known for killing Alexander Hamilton in a pistol duel. Hint: what do they call a rough edge left on a knife after sharpening?

Email your answer to Warren.Allentown@gmail.com



Weekly Greeters

9/18/2020

Limited face-to-face meeting along with a Zoom meeting starting at 7:00 a.m.

Optimist Club of Monaco South 2019-2020 44th 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, face-to-face meetings are limited along with virtual Zoom Meetings until at least the end of September or maybe October.

Sept 17	Thu	7:00 pm	Monthly Board Meeting: TBD
Sept 18	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting: Backstreet Tavern & Grill, 1150 S Galena Street & Zoom Virtual Meeting — 100 Percent Day
Sept 25	Fri	8:00 am	Meeting: Backstreet Tavern & Grill, 1150 S Galena Street & Zoom Virtual Meeting — <i>Last Issue of GUMS in this format!</i>
Sept 26	Sat	11:30 am	2020-2021 Installation & Year End Luncheon at Maggiano's, see GUMS distribution email
Oct 2	Fri	8:00 am	Meeting: Zoom Virtual Meeting

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: Aug Paul Stratton, Sept Phil Perington

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.