



Grandiose Utterings of Monaco South

(GUMS)

September 18, 2020 – Vol. 44, Issue 51



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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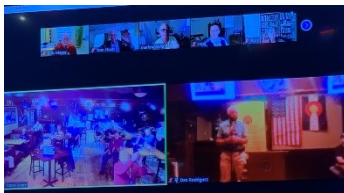
Editor for this Issue—Phil Perington

Good Morning Optimists

Welcome to another MSOC meeting with a blended Backstreet group and those attending by Zoom. Greeters today were **Dave Peck** and **Pat Bush** who were merrily greeting the hungry arrivals with temperature gun and rubber gloves.



Steve Avery was commanding the Zoom Communication Center making



sure everyone was on screen and an active part of today's happenings. **Gary Miller** was once



again at his familiar post collecting breakfast cash. Not a soul was turned away and the Backstreet Dining room came to life with a smaller group than last week.



The sumptuous breakfast buffet featured perfect fluffy scrambled eggs, fresh biscuits with sausage gravy, rashers of bacon, watermelon, and pineapple-watermelon fruit salad, hot coffee, and tea. Our **Backstreet Tavern** hostess, **Tara Boline**, was busily scouring around keeping the coffee coming and picking up empty plates. She and her kitchen staff do a wonderful job and want to offer a different menu each Friday morning.



From the Prez & Prez Elect

President **Bob Meyer** attending online and President-elect **Dan Rodriguez** both declared **Steve Avery** will participate as co-host and Zoom commander for our Zoom meeting attendees.



The gavel came down at 7 a.m. sharp. Our hospitality host Tara, was thanked for the great breakfast and hospitality.

Invocation & Pledge

Andy Towt presented the invocation. *“Do not let the current negativity of commercials and public discourse affect our commitment to good government and social interaction. It is our duty and indeed our responsibility, to move the Optimist spirit-forward both within our community and with the youth we serve. Let us all strive for that which is good, fair, and reasonable as we live through these troubled times.”*

The Pledge of Allegiance followed, by the ever-hopeful cry of *Play Ball!*

This Day in History

There was no Day in History since our President had to leave early, but the editor did make note that yesterday, September 17th was Constitution Day. *Constitution Day* is observed each year on September 17 to commemorate the signing of the *Constitution* in 1787. The U.S. Constitution was signed by delegates to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia, presided over by George Washington. The U.S. Constitution established America's national government and fundamental laws, and guaranteed citizens certain basic rights. The Preamble states, *“We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”*



It was also noted that September 18th is National Cheeseburger Day, which honors America's favorite sandwich with a slice of cheese. By the way, there are many theories to the beginning of the cheeseburger dating back to the 1920s. One record that gives the Humpty Dumpty Drive-In in Denver, bragging rights is the trademark they received in 1935 for the name “cheeseburger.”



Guests

Gary Avalon a journalist from Parker was introduced by **Steve Kady** as well as our guest **John Andrew Love**.

To Get Us Started

Tom Hoch unfolded a slightly confusing joke involving a plumber and doctor discussing a \$600 bill for 45 minutes of

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*****

Continued next page

of work. **Mark Metevia** countered with a question as to why there are no "Knock-knock jokes" about the Coronavirus and "Freedom Rings." Not to be outdone, **Peter Dimond** told a story built around chickens, PITA, and Col. Sanders. The joke meter was quite busy this morning.

OCMS Board Meeting Update

Zoom President **Bob Meyer** highlighted the monthly Board of Directors meeting. It should be noted Foundation Club Rep, **Perry Allen** is stepping down and a replacement is needed. If interested taking on this role let him know. The Dime-A-Day program and other contributions have made our Club a notable force within O.I. as a result of his hard work.

The RSVP rule for attendance at breakfast meetings has been lifted but still urged. We have a new member, **John Kleenexes**, unanimously approved. Our membership stands at 122 and we are striving to close the year with 5 new members. We received a very thoughtful Thank you note from Most Precious Blood school for our contribution of \$200 for school supplies.

Due to the low turnout thus far for the Installation Luncheon, it has been decided that spouses can attend if signed up in advance, we will still be limited to 50 people total.

The CO/WY District Convention will convene October 17th online per Zoom. An average of 50-55 members have regularly attended our Zoom weekly meetings. With Breakfast at Backstreet Tavern the combined number could grow to 80-90 in attendance.

Prez-elect Rants & Raves

Thank you Optimists for your patience this past Friday morning as we continue to get better each week managing a live meeting at a new location and simulcasting on Zoom. **Steve Avery** and I re-wired the speakers, cameras, and laptops for a better experience. Unfortunately, we did not anticipate that as soon as we began the "screen share" feature during the guest speaker presentation, the WIFI could not handle the added bandwidth so many of you on Zoom experienced audio issues. My apologies. Third time is a charm and all audio and video issues with Zoom will be corrected by our next meeting. Please join us on Zoom next Friday, or better yet, come on by to the live meeting and have breakfast with the gang. By the way, we are also in need of members to help set up the room and greeters to assist in getting everyone oriented. We will be passing around a signup sheet in the meeting together volunteers for the following weeks meeting

President-Elect **Dan Rodriguez**

Announcements

Kevin Koalenz, wife Susan: **Jack Kleinheksel** reports it saddens me to report the passing of **Susan Koalenz**, the wife of our member **Kevin Koalenz**. Susan lost a long battle with esophageal cancer on August 24, 2020. She was an elegant lady, gifted artist, and had a bright effervescent personality. Our thoughts are with Kevin and his family.

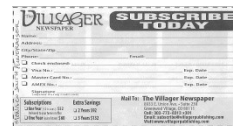
Member Directory Update: **Tom Mauro** shared that updating of the Member Directory is in process. However, he is not sure if we will produce a printed version. Please send all the updated info to his email at tmmauro@gmail.com. Tom is very sad to disclose he lost his AOL address due to the "Dark Web." On the positive side, any member can spend a mere \$25 to advertise their business card and receive One-Million \$ in sales!



GUMS Chief Editor Change: **George Buzick** shared that the current **GUMS** era is coming to an end as Dr. **Bob Finkelmeier** steps down October 1. George will be taking the reins and announced we will be converting **GUMS** to the Club Runner format for new publication. It is his best intention to match our current **GUMS** format both in status in quality. There was a standing ovation for Dr. Bob, both live and on Zoom. Dr. Bob has been a true blessing over the past 30+ years. We are all going to miss his quality, perception, humor, and attention to detail in print form.

CO-WY Junior Golf: **Joe Marci** stated that the Annual Junior Golf Tournament scheduled for October 17-18th is picking up steam and should be a jam packed event.

The Villager Newspaper: **Mark Metevia** announced that if you purchase a subscription to **The Villager Newspaper** produced by FOO member **Bob Sweeney**, he will donate \$26 back to Monaco South. As a comparison a **Denver Post** subscription is \$420. Bob is a true supporter of Optimism and features our activities regularly. The subscription form is attached to the GUMS distribution email. Mark also told us that you can [sign-up at Amazon Smile](#). Amazon for participation in their non-profit contribution program.



OCMS Installation Luncheon: **Greg Young** that the Installation Luncheon is on Saturday, September 26 now starting at 11:15 at Maggiano's Little Italy. DTC 7401 S Clinton. The cost is \$30 per person. Due to the low participation thus far, it has been decided that spouses can attend if they signed up in advance; we are still limited to 50 people total. To sign up go to: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A4AADAF292-installation>

Our own and now CO-WY Lt. Governor **Jon Wachter** shared from the Zoom platform that he will be inducting Monaco South officers. Jon also extended his Congratulations to our Club volunteers and all program participants. He shared that he would be leading another Optimist Club's induction on Zoom in a few minutes and then dropped off. We thank Jon for his commitment to optimist leadership!

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.

Membership Dues: **Greg Young** also advised that your dues invoice will be coming out and you will get a \$10 discount, or \$118 for regular membership and \$78 for life members. Further you will get a \$5 discount for paying the full year by November. Please watch for your dues invoice and be prepared to pay it promptly. Feel free to send him your dues now and save the club some time and postage.

Mini Face-to-Face Member Meeting: **Tom Glazier** announce he has scheduled another breakfast active at Café du France, on Wednesday, September 23 at 9:00 a.m. The address is 4155 E Jewell Ave. For a very reasonable \$10 you can enjoy a good breakfast and camaraderie. The food and service are excellent, not to mention the camaraderie.

Optimist Club of Pueblo: Your editor, **Phil Perington** shared that the **Pueblo Optimist Club** has been meeting all Summer at City Park. 15-17 members bring their own lunch and then conduct a full meeting. Currently they are searching for an indoor facility for the Fall.

Continued next page

Announcements Continued

Super Citizen Program: **Bob Finkelmeier** reminded all Super Citizen coordinators to contact their respective school to see how they would like to handle their Super Citizen program under the conditions prescribed by the pandemic. So far this year only Most Precious Blood has announced a September Super Citizen. **Gary Miller** the MPB coordinator said he has worked with them to establish a 2020-2021 protocol for their needs. Please let both Robert Wardlaw and Bob what your school might like to do.

Our Own Casey Funk: If you did not read Denver Water's Tap Newsletter you probably missed the article titled, "Legal luminary retiring after nearly 50 years at Denver Water," by Todd Hartman. Yes, Casey has made the decision to move on to another career. Read Todd

Hartman's article and see all of Casey's monumental achievements by [Clicking Here](#).

How we should be seeing more of Casey at our meetings since he does not have the excuse of, "I have to go to work." *Congratulations, Casey!*



Major General (Ret) John A. "Andy" Love

Steve Kady introduced our Guest Speaker: Major General (Ret.) Andy Love, son of Colorado's longest serving Governor John Love. Steve added a little flair to the introduction by describing how he and press secretary Feeny Murphy had produced a campaign video they filmed out of a helicopter, showing Governor



Love riding a majestic horse down a steep ridge much like in a "John Wayne scene." It was one of those memorable moments that led to his reelection.

After attending college at Colorado College in Colorado Springs and sowing his oats on the ski slopes of Breckenridge and Aspen as a ski instructor and with an array of hosting engagements he entered the Colorado Air National Guard as a mechanic in April of 1967. Thus he began an extraordinary career in the Colorado Air National Guard (COANG), North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), and United States Northern Command (NORTHCOM).

The highlight of the program was his emotional and detailed account of the 9-11 attack on the Pentagon. As he shared, he was serving as National Guard Assistant to the Commander, Air Force Space Command (AFSPC) and on assignment in the Pentagon. His office was on the opposite side of the impact area by the hijacked jetliner. He noted, if the plane was on an angle just over 3 degrees higher it would have crashed into his office. It was perhaps the most eventful moment in his career. The photo galley showed how serious the attack was and still remains. Staff and personnel were moved out of the building as quickly as possible and everyone immediately got to work on recovering and

stabilization.

When reflecting on WW2 and how veterans later responded, it was universally stated, everyone agreed about what they were doing. Perhaps the only time there was no division in the American psyche. Andy Love then reflected on how he had been born with a silver rabbits foot and how important the path he was on would become. Once he got past his pilot basic training in Olathe, Texas and passed the written test, an opening for service as a fighter-pilot emerged. The rest is history.

From his first flight in an F-100 that included flying at sub-sonic speed under 400 feet off the ground, to the F-16 climbing to 20,000 feet after take-off along with 2500 hours of flight service the honorable ascension through the ranks commenced. Love now serves as the Special Assistant to the Combatant Commander, NORAD/NOTHCOM. He also assists the Commander on homeland defense, civil support and aerospace issues under the National Guard's operational range of issues.

General "Andy" Love is a native Coloradan we can all admire and be proud to know. His stories of 37 years in service were a delight and eye-opening to say the least. He has lived a life well tendered and full of optimism. We welcome his smiling face at our door anytime.

See National Guard Bureau biography by [Clicking Here](#).



On-Line Trivia Contest

By Andy Towt



Thank you to **Paul Stratton, Tom Mauro,** and **Karl Geil** for participating and getting the correct answer to last week's trivia question: *Who was Thomas Jefferson's first Vice President. The answer is: Aaron Burr.* I was told that [Hamilton College](#) sells t-shirts that say, "Lucky Shot Society."

This week's question is: **The Rolling Stones rock band's infamous lead guitarist and songwriter, who is now 76, was known for his "bad boy" antics and drug abuse. It is humorously said that when he gave up drinking, Jack Daniels distillery almost went out of busi-**

ness. Who is he?

Email your answer to Warren.Allentown@gmail.com



Weekly Greeters

9/25/2020

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 CONVID-19 outbreak, meetings are virtual until at least the end of August or maybe September. Please check back for updates.

Sept 23	Wed	9:00 am	Face- to-Face Gathering, Cafe de France Express, Contact Tom Glazier
Sept 25	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Backstreet Tavern & Zoom Virtual Meeting — <i>Last Issue of GUMS in this format!</i>
Sept 26	Sat	11:15 am	2020-2021 Installation Luncheon, Celebrate Optimism at Maggiano's, 7401 S Clinton St.
Oct 2	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Backstreet Tavern & Zoom Virtual Meeting
Oct 9	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Backstreet Tavern & Zoom Virtual Meeting
Oct 15	Thu	7:00 pm	Monthly Board Meeting: TBD
Oct 16	Fri	7:00 am	Meeting, Backstreet Tavern & Zoom Virtual Meeting
Oct 17	Sat	7:00 am	Optimist Junior Golf Tournament, Green Valley Ranch Golf Club
Oct 17	Sat	9:00 am	CO-WY Virtual Special Convention, register by Oct. 9 th Click Here

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.