



Rotary Club of Centennial Colorado



Centennial, Colorado

June 25, 2019

ROTARY MINUTE



Don Shattuck was scheduled to do the Rotary Minute, but he forgot his duties. Fortunately, Randy Earnest was able to give the Rotary Minute. Randy gave information on polio in Pakistan from a recent article from the BBC.

Many Pakistani's are reluctant to get vaccinated against polio because of what Muslim leaders are telling their followers. In one mass inoculation incident, there was a report that inoculated children were suffering from diarrhea and vomiting. Individuals who heard this burned down the inoculation center. Seventy percent of the 262,000 workers doing inoculations are women. Since 2012, more than 94 have been killed by the Taliban.

As of this week, there are 37 cases of polio worldwide, compared to 13 on this date a year ago. Twenty-seven of the cases are in Pakistan, which had 3 this time last year.

There was not a Business Minute nor a Web Minute.

GUEST SPEAKER

Jeffery Miller was the guest speaker and he spoke on his book, *WWI Crusaders*.

Belgium was created as a country in 1830. In 1939, by the Treaty of London, it was established a neutral country like Switzerland, but in 1914 it was invaded by the Germans at the start of WWI.

Pre-war Belgium had 7.5 million residents, more than Maryland. It was the most industrialized country in Europe and had a population density of 652 people per sq mile. US had a density of 31.



They imported 75% of their daily food.

When the Germans invaded Belgium the use of cars, buses, and trains ended. No telephones or telegrams. No mail, newspapers, or any communications with the outside world was allowed. The food situation was bad and getting worse. The Germans refused to feed the Belgium's. Industrial Belgium was shutdown. Most of the crops were lost and breadlines formed.

To respond to the food crisis, the Committee for Relief in Belgium, CRB, was formed. The CRB brought in more than 5 million tons of material and distributed it to the Belgium citizens. Every day about 50 ships from a round the world headed to the port of Rotterdam. From there, the food was loaded onto 500 canal barges and pulled to Belgium.

How was the CRB created? The US Minister to Belgium noticed that women were begging in the streets. At the time Germany invaded Belgium it was the peak of the tourist season in Europe. There were over 100,000 American tourists in Europe. Transportation, communication, and banking systems were in chaos. Most transatlantic service was suspended. There was a spontaneous relief effort started to help the Americans. One American emerged to start helping—Herbert Hoover.

2018-2019 Club Officers

President—Tim Eunice
President Elect—Samantha Johnston
Past President—John Berry
Secretary—Karen Berry
Treasurer—Barbara Medina
Sergeant at Arms—Allen Jackson

Directors

Technology—John Peterson
Membership Growth & Enrichment—John Berry
Communication—Jessica Sidener
Millennial Satellite Club—Andrea Tagtow & Katie Guyon

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 2—Samantha Johnston, Inaugural Address
July 9—Tricia Halsey, Big Ideas Project
July 16—Club Assembly
July 23—John Holzmann, Madagascar Trip Report
July 30—Gwen Jewell, Lincoln's Legacy

Hoover headed up the dominant tourist assistance group in London. As the relief of the Americans was winding down, he heard of the problem in Belgium. Hoover decided to help the Belgium's from starving. In October 1914 he formed the CRB.

The CRB had to organize worldwide donations and funding, buy food from around the world, ship everything to Rotterdam, guarantee the Germans would not take the food, and get all of the governments to agree to the plan. One of the hurdles that had to be overcome was to have observers overseeing the distribution of the food in Belgium to make certain the German's did not steal it. Since America was neutral at the time, Hoover was able to get Americans to be the observers in Belgium. Some were young men attending Oxford University. One was E.E. Hunt, a Harvard grad, who survived the fall of Antwerp and walked with refugees to Holland. From Oxford came Carlton Bowden, Scott Paradise, and Perrin Galpin.

How does the speaker know so much about this relief effort? Erica Bunge was a 22 year old Belgium, one of three sisters. The PBS had a series called the Downton Abbey was about the Bunge's and their estates—Downton Abbey and Chateau Oude Gracht. The Bunge sisters volunteered in the hospitals in Antwerp. Erica Bunge was the grandmother of Jeff Miller, our speaker.

Another individual who was involved was Maurice Pate, from Denver. He was raised at 2053 Clermont St in Denver. (I was raised at 2078 Clermont St). Maurice went on to found UNICEF.

When America entered the war, all of the American volunteers in Belgium had to leave. The CRB was established by this time and was able to continue.

CLUB BUSINESS

- This Saturday is the Changing of the Guard at Trip's.
- July 13—Brew and Que at Centennial.

- Marc Garfinkel is going to host a CPR class. More details later.

TRAVEL GIFTS

Mary Alice went to Maine and brought back a bottle of wine and a wine bottle stopper.

RAPHAEL SCHMID

Here is the contact information for Raphael

Raphael Schmid
Reggenschwilestrass 18
CH-9402 Morschwil SG
Switzerland

BLUE MARBLE

Paul Horiuchi was unable to find the elusive blue marble.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

1942-EISENHOWER TAKES COMMAND

Following his arrival in London, Major General Dwight D. Eisenhower takes command of U.S. forces in Europe. Although Eisenhower had never seen combat during his 27 years as an army officer, his knowledge of military strategy and talent for organization were such that Army Chief of Staff General George C. Marshall chose him over nearly 400 senior officers to lead U.S. forces in the war against Germany. After proving himself on the battlefields of North Africa and Italy in 1942 and 1943, Eisenhower was appointed supreme commander of Operation Overlord—the Allied invasion of northwestern Europe.