



Rotary Club of Centennial Colorado



Centennial, Colorado

July 2, 2019

ROTARY MINUTE



The Rotary Minute was presented by Lori Overton. She spoke about a micro finance guide book. It was from an article in the Rotarian magazine.

BUSINESS MINUTE



Debra Jessop gave the Business Minute. She recently spoke about a proposition to increase the mill levy for the Arapahoe County Park District. This presentation was an update on the effort. They have found there is 67% support for the proposition.

GUEST SPEAKER

Samantha (Samurai) Johnston gave her initial speech to the club presenting her plan for the year. What is presented here is her complete speech.



Master Eunices's reign has ended. Having established the peaceful transition to the new regime, he has stepped down to rightfully take his place in the

hall of Past Presidents. Young Samurai moves forward to lead the Alliance in a battle against hunger, access to water, mental health, and equality.

The New Council of Representative (the Board) meets to strategize and plan the best moves for the Alliance., while the Council of Elders (Foundation) directs the discretion of fund

Padawan Princess Diana, finds herself dedicated to bringing the annual State of the City to a new level, increasing the financial pool to impact future battles.

As the Year of the Samurai begins, battles are seen closer to home and more frequent.

Together, with the Millennials her hope is:

To grow the Alliance

- Win the battle of WaterRico
- Expand the training of new fighters
- Discover and implement new ideas
- But most of all, have fun and get it done.

As so ... the Year of the Samurai begins.

2018-2019 Club Officers

President—Samantha Johnston
President Elect—Diana Whye
Past President—Tim Eunice
Secretary—Angie Osili
Treasurer—Barbara Medina
Sergeant at Arms—Jon Bellum

Directors

Technology—John Peterson
Membership Growth & Enrichment—Trip Butler
Millennial Satellite Club—Andrea Tagtow

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

The Samurai lived by a strict code, called the Bushido code, it encompasses eight virtues:

Rectitude,
Courage,
Benevolence,
Politeness,
Honesty,
Honor,
Loyalty, and
Character.

I added this quote here because it speaks to me, "Rectitude is one's power to decide upon a course of conduct in accordance with reason, without wavering; to die when to die is right, to strike when to strike is right."

Though I could speak about all of these, but the one that stands out today is Courage.

Does anyone know the difference between courage and bravery?

Bravery often is one act, it is an act done mindlessly, despite the pain or consequences it may cause, yet it is done without fear.

Courage, on the other hand, is a result of a deep understanding of the matter; and despite the difficulties and challenges it presents, or the fear felt with moving forward, a person intentionally steps into it.

One cannot step into this position with Bravery, mindlessly and without forethought. And so, with courage, I step into this role first with reverence, gratitude, and admiration. This club has been in existence for 19 years and through all of the ups and downs, it has grown, changed, and has become a strong club. This is due to the leadership that has come before me. If you have served as a Past President of the Club or Foundation, please stand up.

It is because of you, all the challenges you face and all the situations you worked through is the reason why this club is in a great place to spring forward. Tim, again, I want to thank you for your service, and due to your leadership and vision, you have left a great foundation for this year from which to

work.

If you have served or are currently serving on the Board position, club or foundation, please stand up.

Everyone else, you the member are the wheels of this vehicle, and I would be remiss if I didn't mention that each one of you is appreciated for your contribution with the skills and talents that you bring.

Most of you know that my nickname is Samurai, though it came to me by chance, it is fitting because the Bushido Code that I mentioned before ... these are the virtues I work to encompass into my life. This code is like the standards of Rotary, and that is one of the reasons why I continue to stay in Rotary.

Why Join Rotary?

That leads me to the reason why I or anyone joins Rotary. As new RI President Mark Maloney says with his theme, Rotary Connects the World. We've seen this in how WaterRico has come together with funding from other clubs to impact a community in a resource many take for granted in the other areas of our country.

We've seen this with the stories from Deb and Gordon in the impact created from one guitar. Plus, in everyday lives ... walking around, getting asked about our Rotary pins or having others stop us to say hello due to this pin. We all have stories of how Rotary has connected us to the world. This year, let's continue to grow that connection. So, how do we do it?

As Hellen Keller once said, "Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much."

Grow Membership

I am excited to announce that the Rotary Club of Centennial is participating in a new Club Membership Support Program, provided by Rotary International. We are one of a few clubs to work with the Rotary International Membership Regional Officer on a monthly basis.

This is in conjunction with a new membership committee, plus Trip's ability to coerce people into submission, gaining and retaining members, as well as improved communication with members overall will improve.

Outreach to the Community

One way to connect with the local community is to meet them in a place they already to. This year the Perspective Book Club, will meet monthly, this will focus on reading fiction that provides a different perspective and be geared towards drawing in the Centennial community. The goal is to create a discussion with the community about diversity and inclusion, provide marketing for the club, and be a place to encourage the community to be involved in Rotary. The first book is the *Kite Runner*, by Khaled Hosseini.

The *Kite Runner* transports readers to Afghanistan at a tense and crucial moment of change and destruction. A powerful story of friendship. It is also about the power of reading, the price of betrayal, and the possibility of redemption; and an exploration of the power of fathers over sons – their love, their sacrifices, their lies.

There will be two meeting in August to discuss this book: August 4th and August 11th at the Koebel Library.

As we all know, our community has been hurting. Colorado has one of the highest suicides rates. We've all been affected by it, either due to someone we know taking their own life or know someone who has gone through losing a loved one. This tragic statistic is where we can make a tremendous impact in our own back yard. And so throughout this year, we will be working on bringing hands on projects to the club in this area as well as talking with the City to cultivate ways to work together on reducing suicide.

Fundraising

The strength of our connection with the community, will determine the strength of our fundraising. As we move forward in many of the fundraising events we already do, beer and peach sales; State of the City; we will be taking Tim's idea for a Holiday Party and tweaking it a little. Based on feedback from the club, this year we will have a Thanks N Giving Fundraiser held November 16th at Heritage Eagle Bend. This will be set up like the State of the City, with the plan to sell corporate tables, have an auction, and bring in Entertainment. Our goal is to focus on bringing more people from the community into our fundraising circle.

Social media is not going away, though perhaps many of us would like it to. This is an inexpensive way for us to market

ourselves, not only for membership but for fundraising. My goal is to find simple ways to utilize social media more, train people how to use it, and begin to get used to seeing our non-Rotary friends and family to love our Instagram feeds, retweet our twitter tweets and like our Facebook posts. This will build more awareness of what we do.

Not only do we connect to the outside community, but we must continue to gain a deeper connection between each other. Part of this, is the connection in transition between projects or committee chairs. We have many amazing projects that we are supporting this year, with WaterRico, Cheryl's Lebanon project, Guitars for the Troops, as well as talk of Expansion of Prime Timers, Santa Clothes and the Christmas tree give away.

There are times when Rotarians decide to step away, they move away or for other reasons are unable to continue. What happens? Every great organization has not only a strategic plan but succession plans and detailed processes and procedures to ensure that the legacy of those projects do not get lost.

This year, it is my hope to begin the creation of these Legacy Plans. I am happy to announce that Katherine Henschen-Hauff will be our Project Liaison, to help support this as well as continue to work on a Visioning plan with the board.

Now, what is our club without a little fun?

At our visioning session, the desire to have more fun and socialization came up, so a social committee has been created, which thankfully Karen had the idea even before I asked her and will be heading that up. Karen, do you want to speak a little bit about your vision there.

And with that, I thank you all for the input you have provided these last several months, and I look forward to serving you as President. So, let the year begin.

CLUB BUSINESS

- On June 18th, Gordon Close and Debra Jessop made a presentation to our club on Guitars for the Troops. He had a couple of letters of appreciation that I wanted to put in the newsletter. Unfortunately, I was not able to get them until this past meeting. They are presented in this newsletter on pages 5 and 6.
- Debra Jessop is the new champion for peaches. She handed out the order form. It is attached to this newsletter as the last page. Peaches will be picked up on August 31. There is no change in price from last year.

- July 13 is the Brew and Que at the Centennial Park. Volunteers are still needed. You can sign up in the calendar on our web page.
- Roxy Hahn announced Ready Set School is getting started. More details later.

TRAVEL AWARDS

Jay Weber brought back numerous gifts from Mexico.

Karen Berry, last week purchased the book on helping the Belgium's during WWI, and donated it as a travel gift.

BLUE MARBLE



Debra Jessop was able to find the elusive blue marble. Congratulations.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

1964-President Johnson Signs the Civil Rights Act

On this day in 1964, U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson signs into law the historic Civil Rights Act in a nationally televised ceremony at the White House.

In the landmark 1954 case *Brown v. Board of Education*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that racial segregation in schools was unconstitutional. The 10 years that followed saw great strides for the African American civil rights movement, as non-violent demonstrations won thousands of supporters to the cause.

Memorable landmarks in the struggle included the Montgomery bus boycott in 1955—sparked by the refusal of Alabama resident Rosa Parks to give up her seat on a city bus to a white woman—and the “I Have a Dream” speech by Martin Luther King Jr. at a rally of hundreds of thousands in Washington, D.C., in 1963.

As the strength of the civil rights movement grew, John F. Kennedy made passage of a new civil rights bill one of the platforms of his successful 1960 presidential campaign. As Kennedy’s vice president, Johnson served as chairman of the President’s Committee on Equal Employment Opportunities. After Kennedy was assassinated in November 1963, Johnson vowed to carry out his proposals for civil rights reform.

The Civil Rights Act fought tough opposition in the House and a lengthy, heated debate in the Senate before being approved in July 1964. For the signing of the historic legislation, Johnson invited hundreds of guests to a televised ceremony in the White House’s East Room.

After using more than 75 pens to sign the bill, he gave them away as mementoes of the historic occasion, in accordance with tradition. One of the first pens went to King, leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), who called it one of his most cherished possessions. Johnson gave two more to Senators Hubert Humphrey and Everett McKinley Dirksen, the Democratic and Republican managers of the bill in the Senate.

The most sweeping civil rights legislation passed by Congress since the post-Civil War Reconstruction era, the Civil Rights Act prohibited racial discrimination in employment and education and outlawed racial segregation in public places such as schools, buses, parks and swimming pools.

In addition, the bill laid important groundwork for a number of other pieces of legislation—including the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which set strict rules for protecting the right of African Americans to vote—that have since been used to enforce equal rights for women as well as all minorities.

Ma'am,

I would like to personally thank you for your support for US military members serving overseas. I also want to thank you for the guitars you sent to me and the Soldiers who received them will be send a note to you shortly. I cannot tell you how these guitars are going to help build relationships between friends and allies. I cannot say that after a year I will be a great guitarist thanks to you. I can say that the smiles on my families' faces that Daddy can at least play a guitar will be priceless. I can say that learning something new even in this environment is essential to stress relief and changing up the monotony of daily operations. And I can say, that using this gift from the citizens Colorado means more to me than all the gear I get from the government!

Many times the only thing on TV you see is the negativity of war. From bombers and their effects to the utter savagery caused by man. Soldiers see this and say, "Why don't they [the media] show the good that we are doing?" They don't show the water and candy we pass earnestly to Afghan children. They don't video tape the weekly visits to the schools and various ministries we do willingly and more often than not, optionally, because we believe in what we are doing. We look back and sometimes ask ourselves, "Does anybody back there understand what we're doing?"

These guitars, these gifts, in my opinion are a way of saying that you believe in us. The look in the eyes of the Soldiers who received these guitars were priceless Mrs. Jessop. To know that there are people who look beyond what the media tells them and they see what we are doing, gives us, the Soldier a feeling of comfort and relief. Your selfless service and support to us though these guitars reinforces that fact that selfless service is not just a military thing. As an American its universally known (though not universally practiced). You ma'am, and your organization, are a testament to that and I cannot thank you enough for these wonderful guitars.

Mrs. Jessop on the Cc line are two Soldiers who received the guitars and the other two are ones who expressed a deep interest in the guitars upon their arrival. Each one will send you a note and you will learn more about these individuals who answered the nation's call to serve.

V/R

Brook Bedell

MAJ (OF-3) USA

IJC CJ35 FUOPS

RW AVN Plans

(U) DSN 318-449-9035

(S) ISAF SEC 788-4160

(S) VoSIP 308-449-9890

NIPR: brook.w.bedell@afghan.swa.army.mil

<mailto:brook.w.bedell@afghan.swa.army.mil>

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ISAF-S: JCFUOPSCHIEFRWPLANIS@ijhq.ms.isaf.nato.int

<mailto:JCFUOPSCHIEFRWPLANIS@ijhq.ms.isaf.nato.int>

"Ms. Jessop,

I would like to echo Major Bedell's words in thanking you for support to the US military and the beautiful guitars you sent. I watched as the eyes lit up when they pulled those guitars out of the boxes. I can personally attest to the fact that you had a direct impact on the morale of some fantastic soldiers, who work extremely long hours and have very few ways to release the stress of serving in a combat zone.

This is my third tour in a combat zone and completely agree that learning something new is the best way to relieve the stress and deal with some of the monotony that also comes with being far from home. I actually learned to play guitar during my deployment to Bosnia way back in 1997. It was quite difficult for me to learn, as I grew up playing the drums. Drums don't deploy very well, so I decided since I could coordinate four limbs playing the drums, certainly I could coordinate four fingers on the guitar. Well, needless to say, it was a little more difficult than that. Luckily I had a great teacher on my base camp and we had a small group that would get together regularly to learn and play guitar. Great fun and great stress relief.

So now it's time for me to return that favor. I spent six years out of the service but came back in a few years ago. My true calling is to serve in the military and I am extremely happy to be back in. During my break in service, I was able to learn much more and became fairly competent with the guitar. So, it's my wish to teach the folks that received your guitars. Unfortunately my guitars and drums are packed away back at Fort Hood so I am

Information Operations Planner

ISAF Joint Command

FRESH PALISADE PEACHES



So fresh it's like having your own tree!

Peaches will be hand packed on Friday
for overnight delivery to Centennial on Saturday Morning

10 lb. box for \$24.00 OR 18 lb. box for \$37.00

**Pick up on Saturday, August 31, 2019,
between 9:30 am to 11:30 a.m. in the parking lot of the**

**Embassy Suites Hotel
10250 E Costilla Ave, Centennial CO 80112**

Your Rotary Contact: Debra Jessop Phone: 303-910-1692/cell

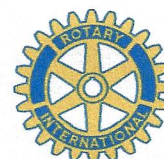
e-mail: debrajessop@kw.com

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Order Form - Due by Monday, August 20th

Name	Quantity	Size	Price Each	Total
Address		10 lb. box	\$24.00	\$
Cell Phone		18 lb. box	\$37.00	\$
e-mail			Grand Total	\$

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Payable to "Centennial Rotary
Foundation"**



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