



Rotary Club of Centennial Colorado



Centennial, Colorado

October 1, 2019

ROTARY MINUTE



Today's meeting was sponsored by Gordon Close.

He gave the Rotary Minute and was the speaker. As the presenter of the Rotary Minute he talked about the RI convention in New Orleans and how people from different countries came up to his booth and asked him to play certain songs. They may not have

known our language very well, but they knew it enough to ask for certain songs. Several Taiwanese asked him to play Rocky Mountain High. Some Russians asked the same and in return they gave him a hand carved stacking Russian egg. The message is that music goes world wide.

SPEAKER

This meeting was held at Gordon Close's shop near US 285 and Federal Blvd. His shop is more of a music museum than a shop.

Gordon gave a little of his history. He grew up in Denver and went to North High School. After graduation, he went to the University of Denver. There he formed a trio with other students. After the university he joined the National Guard and ended up being in the army band at Ft. Ord in California.

While in California, Gordon wrote the first commercial for lead-free gasoline.

After the National Guard, Gordon came back to Denver and bought a music store called Melody Music and worked for Elite Sound which installed commercial music systems.

He then took us on a tour of his store/museum. First he showed us some old Victrolas. These were some of the first devices to play music. They had a cylinder which contained the music. Gordon even has some of the cylinders used on the Victrolas. He has several pianos. He even has one that has a stained glass picture of the 13th hole at Augusta National Golf Course.

He has a couple of Nicolaitans and a pump organ. He has players of the old 78 rpm records along with some of the old records.

Gordon has several tape recorders. One of the recorders is a wire recorder where the music was recorded on a wire. This technology is still in use on the "Black Boxes" on airplanes.

In the middle of the museum is a glass case with several microphones in it. These are the actual microphones used in RCA's Studio B in Nashville. These microphones were used by Elvis Presley to record many of his songs.

Sitting next to the microphones is a 1924 Ford Model T couple. This is the original which has been in his family from when it was originally purchased. It has never been restored.



This is a picture of musical instruments he has from around the world.

Surrounding the room and many different guitars and above the guitars are old 33 rpm albums of some of the greats.

Those not in attendance of this meeting should make an effort to tour his shop/museum. It is well worth the time.

2018-2019 Club Officers

President—Samantha Osei Asibey
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

Oct 8-Club Assembly
Oct 15-Tri County Health
Oct 22-World Polio Day, KATA Foundation
Oct 29-Chat Groups, Off-site breakfast meetings

CLUB BUSINESS

- The night for touring the Chamberlin Observatory near DU is postponed because it was not known that you have to get tickets to tour the observatory. More details later.
- Polio Pigs will be collected Oct 22.
- Arrangements will be made for attending an Avalanche game in Oct and Jan or Feb.
- Thanks Giving plans are in the works by Debra Jessop. It will be held at Heritage Eagle Bend. Members will be charged \$35 and guests \$50.

TRAVEL GIFTS

Karen Berry brought back from Aspen a vase made from an aspen tree.

David Livingston brought back some wild rice from Minnesota.

BLUE MARBLE



Trip could not find the elusive blue marble.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

1890 YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK ESTABLISHED

On October 1, 1890, an act of Congress creates Yosemite National Park, home of such natural wonders as Half Dome and the giant sequoia trees. Environmental trailblazer John Muir (1838-1914) and his colleagues campaigned for the congressional action, which was signed into law by President [Benjamin Harrison](#) and paved the way for generations of hikers, campers and nature lovers, along with countless “Don’t Feed the Bears” signs.

Native Americans were the main residents of the Yosemite Valley, located in California’s Sierra [Nevada](#) mountain range, until the 1849 gold rush brought thousands of non-Indian miners and settlers to the region. Tourists and damage to Yosemite Valley’s ecosystem followed. In 1864, to ward off further commercial exploitation, conservationists convinced President [Abraham Lincoln](#) to declare Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove of giant sequoias a public trust of [California](#). This marked the first time the U.S. government protected land for public enjoyment and it laid the foundation for the establishment of the national and state park systems. Yellowstone became America’s first national park in 1872.

In 1889, John Muir discovered that the vast meadows surrounding Yosemite Valley, which lacked government protection, were being overrun and destroyed by domestic sheep grazing. Muir and Robert Underwood Johnson, a fellow environmentalist and influential magazine editor, lobbied for national park status for the large wilderness area around Yosemite Valley. On October 1 of the following year, Congress set aside over 1,500 square miles of land for what would become Yosemite National Park, America’s third national park. In 1906, the state-controlled Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Grove came under federal jurisdiction with the rest of the park.