



Rotary Club of Centennial Colorado



Centennial, Colorado

June 13, 2017

Don Shattuck did the Business Minute. He talked about Halker Consulting, LLC. They do the design and engineering of the surface equipment at oil and gas wells. Halker is doing work in West Texas, Northeastern Colorado, Northern New Mexico, Utah, and North Dakota.



Michelle Rahm spoke on Changing Children's Lives in Madagascar. Madagascar is the 4th largest island in the world and is the 10th poorest country. They are the poorest country in the world that does not have an armed conflict. The country from a 1993 census has about 25 million people. In 1993 there was a coup that overthrew the elected government. They now have an elected government with new elections in the near future.

Madagascar exports coffee, sugar, and vanilla. The vanilla plant has to be hand pollinated each year as the island does not have bees.

There is a great potential for tourism, but it is underdeveloped. They get about 250,000 tourists a year, primarily French as Madagascar used to be a French colony. The two languages spoken on the island are French and Malagasy.

Ninety percent of the plants, reptiles, and animals are native to Madagascar. There are 105 species of Lemurs, some of them are endangered. There are some nature preserves on the island to protect the native plants and animals.

One of the native plants is the Baobab tree. There are 6 native species on the island and 2 native species in Australia.



The people are primarily from Indonesia and Malaysia. The poverty on the island is striking. Over 80 percent of the population earns less than \$1 per day. There is a basic lack of infrastructure and hygiene. It is one of the top ten countries in the world for malnutrition. In the rural areas, they do not have electricity.

Michelle and her Rotary club have developed a water project and are working on another. The country has had a lot of people come and do "do gooder" projects, but they leave and none of the natives know anything about repairing the project when it breaks.

Michelle and her team work with the natives and show them how the project works and how to repair it when necessary. They train natives in the technology. One of her projects is a gravity filtration system that cleans up the water through a three stage filter. The water is distributed to three towns and a school. One of the problems is the water is clean, but they put the water in dirty buckets which counters the purification process.

She has encouraged kids in an area to develop a chorus that can sign at a neighboring hotel and raise money for the town.

2015-2016 Club Officers

President—Randy Earnest
President Elect—John Berry
Secretary—Mary Alice Jackson
Treasurer—Barbara Medina
Sergeant at Arms—Paul Horiuchi/
John Weksler
Past President—Randy Pye

Directors

Club Administration—Roxy Hahn
Community & Club Innovation—
Andrea Tagtow/Elle Vatterott
Local & International Service—
Mike Tagtow
Technology Innovations—John
Peterson
Membership Growth & Enrich-
ment—Trip Butler
Rotary Foundation—John

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 13—ANTONIO HERNAN-
DEZ, IDENTITY THEFT

JUNE 17—FOOD DRIVE, KING
SOOPERS, PARKER RD AND
ARAPAHOE

JUNE 20—SARA BRATTON,
GIVING RE-ENTRANCE INTO
SOCIETY FOR LOCALLY SEX-
TRAFFICKED GIRLS

JUNE 24—CHANGING OF THE
GUARD

JUNE 27—MARK JACKSON, RIS-
INGN ABOVE INSURMONTABLE
ODDS FOLLOWING INCARCERA-
TION

JULY 4—CLUB IS DARK

CLUB BUSINESS

- Bring a friend to Rotary is July 17 and 24
- July 24 is the Changing of the Guard
- Brad announces that chat groups an-
nouncements will be coming out shortly
- July 15 is a Brew and Q. Volunteers are
needed. More details later.
- Meals on Wheels is still needing volun-
teers.

TRAVEL GIFTS

- Flags were provided to everyone by
Cheryl
- J Weber brought back a trio of hats
- Trip brought back a turtle and sea horse
from his trip to Key West

GUESTS

- Samantha Row
- David Livingston
- Doug Proffitt

BLUE MARBLE

No winner. The pot rolls over to next week.