



**Rotary Club 99: Tuesday, July 23, 2024**  
**11:30 a.m. buffet opens 12:00 noon program begins**

**Ottenheimer International Scholars Program: A Madagascar Primer**

What do lemurs, vanilla and hissing cockroaches have in common? They can all be found in Madagascar. (By the way, there are no penguins there!) This year's visiting Ottenheimer scholars will join us in August from Madagascar. Club 99er Chris Mangum will moderate a discussion with panelist and fellow 99ers **Laza Razafimanjato** (a native of Madagascar himself), **Susan Altrui** (Director of the Little Rock Zoo) and Past President **Aaron Lubin** about this Indian Ocean island and former French colony to prepare us for the scholars' arrival.



**Susan Altrui** is the dynamic director of the Little Rock Zoo, a leading family destination in Arkansas dedicated to wildlife conservation. With oversight of animal care and ensuring compliance with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' rigorous standards, Susan also shapes the Zoo's strategic direction. Under her leadership, the Zoo has seen significant growth, including doubling annual revenue and tripling fundraising efforts. Susan's achievements include securing the largest private donation in the Zoo's history and spearheading a successful \$12 million bond initiative for new capital projects. Beyond her professional endeavors, Susan is deeply involved in community service, serving on multiple boards and receiving accolades like the Arkansas Business 40 Under 40 award. Susan holds a Masters in Communication from Colorado State University and continues to reside in her lifelong home of Little Rock, Arkansas.

**Aaron Lubin** is a seasoned executive and consultant with nearly 40 years of experience in the recruiting industry. As President of Executive Recruiters Agency, Inc, Outplacement Consultants, and Aaron Lubin Consultants, he specializes in coaching, training, and speaking engagements aimed at business growth for a diverse range of clients, from Fortune 500 companies to small businesses. Previously, Aaron served as CEO of a highly successful temporary staffing organization in the southwest for two decades, overseeing eight offices that consistently ranked in the top 10% nationwide. His extensive career also includes hosting radio and television programs, as well as serving as a baseball announcer for Arkansas State University. Aaron holds a Bachelor of Arts from California State University, Long Beach, and a Master's degree in Business and Human Relations from Webster College, St. Louis, Missouri. He has held numerous leadership roles in professional and civic organizations, including the Central Arkansas Human Resource Association and various boards such as the Arkansas Repertory Theater and Arkansas Opera. Aaron's commitment to community service spans over twenty-five years as a Rotarian, where he served as past president of Little Rock Club 99 and received the prestigious Paul Harris Fellow recognition.

**Laza Razafimanjato** is originally from Antananarivo, the capital of Madagascar. He attended Abilene Christian University in Abilene, Texas, to pursue his Bachelor and Master's degrees. He moved to Little Rock, Arkansas in 2010 and received his Doctorate in Higher Education Administration from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He currently works as the Director of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Strategy, and Innovation at Philander Smith University.

**Chris Mangum** is co-founder and CEO of Servato, a technology company that manages critical infrastructure for broadband service providers. Prior to Servato, Chris held

various positions as head of corporate strategy and business development for CenturyLink, as a venture capitalist in Atlanta and Palo Alto, and as a Silicon Valley technology scout for BellSouth. Mangum earned a BA in Psychology from Rhodes College and his JD/MBA from Emory University in Atlanta. Originally from McGehee, Arkansas, Chris recently moved back to Arkansas from New Orleans with his wife and 3 children.

## Zoom Login for July 23, 2024

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85082730469?pwd=ofnbnz8DNlfgjniLLayGb7fp2dpAkp.1>

Meeting ID: 850 8273 0469

Passcode: 593743

## Special Events and Meetings

### AFFINITY GROUPS

#### Book Club

Date: Wednesday, August 14

Time: 12:00 noon - 1:00 PM, lunch provided

Host: Steve Straessle

Book: *Stolen Focus* by Johann Hari

Location: CHS Library

Parking: Park in the front lot (second entrance off University Avenue) and check in at the front office.

## Upcoming Programs

### July 2024

#### 23 Ottenheimer 2024: A Club 99 Madagascar Primer, Laza Razafimanjato, Past President Aaron Lubin, Susan Altrui

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#### 30 State of the City of Little Rock, Mayor Frank Scott, Jr.

There is an enormous amount of progress and momentum in Little Rock right now, from the emerging downtown development plan to recent economic development wins and an important tax initiative on the November ballot. Club 99er Mayor Frank Scott will give us a "state of the city" update and discuss issues and opportunities facing our fair city.

### August 2024

#### 6 French Colonial Influence in Arkansas, Judge Morris Arnold

Did you know that Arkansas Post, established by the French in 1686, predates both New Orleans and St. Louis as the first French (and first European) establishment in the Mississippi River Valley? Ever thought about how Arkansas culture was influenced by being a former French colony? Did you know there was a Revolutionary War battle in Arkansas? Join us as retired federal judge and historian Morris Arnold shares his insights on the French colonial influence in Arkansas.

#### 13 "Bend Don't Break", Author Frank O'Mara

In recognition of the close of the 2024 Summer Olympic Games in Paris, we have one of Arkansas' most successful former Olympians, Frank O'Mara (three-time Olympian and two-time World Champion in the 3000 meters, and former Alltel executive) discussing his new book, *Bend Don't Break*, with fellow Little Rock runner and business person, Gary Taylor. The book chronicles Frank's running and business accomplishments and setbacks and how they prepared him for his new fight against early-onset Parkinson's disease. Copies of the book will be available for purchase, with a portion of the proceeds going to Parkinson's research.

#### 20 Providence Park, Errin Stanger, CEO

Chronic homelessness is a problem that plagues most cities today, and unfortunately, Little Rock is no exception. Providence Park is a 50-acre master-planned community providing affordable, permanent housing and a supportive community for individuals coming out of chronic homelessness. Join us as Errin Sanger, Founder and CEO of Providence Park, discusses her vision for the project. Attendees will also participate in an in-meeting service project to fill care packages for homeless people, in collaboration with the Central Arkansas Library System (which shelters many homeless people during hot summer and cold winter days).

#### 27 Ottenheimer 2024 Presentation: Madagascar

Come hear our visiting Ottenheimer scholars from Madagascar share with us their expectations and experiences of Arkansas as they wrap up their month-long visit. These two impressive young women have traveled half-way around the globe to experience American capitalism and democracy on the ground in our fair state. The Ottenheimer scholars' reflections are as much a learning experience for Club 99ers as they are for the scholars themselves, and can teach us much about how the world perceives our great American experiment.

**Club Leaders**



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President



[Mitchell D. Bettis](#)  
President-Elect



[Mary Catherine McNulty](#)  
President-Nominee



[Natalie Ghidotti](#)  
iPast President



[Andrew L. Harper Jr.](#)  
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[Amy Meins](#)  
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Club Director



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