

# The Weekly Westerner

Box 4572, Station C, Calgary, Alberta T2T 5N3  
Grey Eagle Hotel, 3777 Grey Eagle Drive (Corner of 37 St SW and Glenmore Drive)  
Mondays 12.10 pm - 1.30 pm

**President:** Tim Anderson **President-Elect:** Gerry Meek **Past President:** Ben Kormos

**Secretary:** Chris Davis **Treasurer:** Judy Cochran

**Directors:** Debbie Barry, Robyn Braley, Don Campbell, Bill Fitzsimmons, Gustavo Jimenez,  
Les Morgan, Alex McFadden, Orlin McMillan, Melody Warman

**District Governor:** Dan Doherty

**Together We Are People of Action - Building Community**

April 1, 2019 Edition: 52.31 Reporter: Les Morgan Editor: David Williams

Our meeting today was held at The Ranchmen's, a great venue. **Garfield Ganong** and **David Impey** manned the front desk by themselves, as there were no greeters or 50/50 sales today.

Lunch was an excellent black bean soup, chips, salad, sandwiches and assorted pastries.

**President Tim Anderson** called the meeting to order at 12:30pm, with **Gerry Meek** leading a surprisingly enthusiastic *O Canada*, and new member **Barbara Hames** providing the invocation.

There was no head table today. **Darren Grierson** introduced our six guests.

President Tim then called **Clarence Buckley**, **Ken Montgomery** and **Shelley Dyson** to the front for their announcements.

- Ken desperately needs a committed volunteer to manage the corporate and group sales and emails from potential ticket purchasers for the July Stampede Parade breakfast. This is a key position to ensure we achieve our goal of selling 1500 seats (and raising \$50,000 for our club). Please contact Ken if you are able to take on this critical and not overly demanding role.
- Shelley reminded us of the theme for the May District Conference – Building Community. Please register, if you have not already done so. Also, since our club is the home of our District Governor, we have a responsibility to assist **Charlene Bearden** at the conference registration desk. 8 to 10 volunteers are required for perhaps one hour shifts. Please call Shelley if you are able to spare an hour in the weekend for this duty.
- Clarence is requesting volunteers with an SUV or truck to pick up cloth and material from several Calgary homes and deliver it to WoodCliff United Church on April 23/24. The materials generate

May 3 - 5, 2019: District Conference, Olds

June 1 - 5, 2019: Rotary International Conference, Hamburg



funds through the Stephen Lewis Foundation to support Grandmas in Africa. Please contact Clarence if you are able to help out.

While I stepped out of the room to refill my coffee cup, Tim listed several books he recommends for our reading enjoyment and/or edification. Particularly noteworthy is "The End of Alzheimer's", how to prevent and reverse cognitive decline. He followed up by providing the answers to a quiz about some of our members' more notable achievements, shown at the end of this report. [**Editor's Note:** The quiz and answers will be sent in a separate email, for technical reasons.]

### **Sergeant-at-Arms**

**Marlene Doherty** returned to her beloved role of Sergeant-at-Arms. With a brief history of several notable moments of April Fools' Day over the ages, she asked a number of true or false questions about a few April 1 stories and myths. I think our batting average was about 65%, with wrong guesses costing 25 cents. \$1 fines were levied for no pin, not being registered for Discon and not actively participating in club meeting duties. Despite the fines, several members still had some cash available to contribute happy bucks.

### **Main Event**

The major presentation today, shared by Marlene, **Dan Doherty**, **Gwyn Lewis**, **Meredith** (Gwyn's partner) and **Ron Brookes**, was an overview of the Homes of Hope build in Mexico, just outside Tijuana, between March 7 and 10. A slide show of photos gave an excellent perspective of the home construction, the volunteers and the Mexican families impacted. The collective budget, contributed by several Calgary and area Rotary clubs, allowed for building five homes. Four were built by volunteers from those clubs and a fifth was built by young Mexicans. Volunteers were split into teams of 12 to 15, with each team assigned to one house-build and its associated Mexican family. A video, Canmore Rotary Mexico Trip 2019 [[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEAEaEkiz\\_I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEAEaEkiz_I)], described a building project by a team of 10 students, funded by the Canmore club. The participating students are required to "pay it forward" by subsequently raising funds for the following year's project. Each home, including the furniture package, costs \$10K. So far, those Canmore students have already raised \$15K.

Ron, Gwyn and Meredith summarized their experiences: the wonder of seeing such a huge impact on families' lives and the depth of help and appreciation expressed by those families. As one of them said, "You have to be there to truly appreciate the significance of the change a new home creates." And, as our District Governor said, "It's not about building a *house*, it's building a *home* for some of the poorest people in the area."

There were many questions and answers from the floor, before Shelley thanked the presenters for their contribution, their presentation, their insights and their obvious enthusiasm for this annual event.



Tim adjourned the meeting at 13:30, reminding members that next week's meeting,, with special guest Gary Mar, will again be held at The Ranchmen's.

**Coming Events**

<b>April: Maternal and Child-Care Month</b>	
1	Homes of Hope, 15th Anniversary - Dan and Marlene Doherty
8	Gary Mar: CEO of PSAC (Petroleum Services Association of Canada). Former Alberta rep in Asia and Washington.
15	Dr John Rook. His background is with the Homeless Foundation, Mustard Seed and Salvation Army.
22	<b>No Meeting:</b> Easter Monday
25	<b>Thursday Evening:</b> Rotary West at the Joyce
29	Dr. Marie-Claire Arrieta, U of C – Microbiome and Child Immunity
<b>May: Youth Service Month</b>	
6	Meals on Wheels – A Calgary West Project
13	Soccer for Youths. A Calgary West project
20	<b>No Meeting:</b> Statutory Holiday
<b>23</b>	<b>Thursday Evening:</b> Rotary West at the Joyce
27	Laura Pipolo – Youth Exchange – Adventures in Citizenship – RYLA
<b>June: Rotary Fellowship Month</b>	
3	Manning Innovation Awards (Tentative)
10	Dr Phil Langill: U of C Professor, Astronomy and Astrophysics
17	Rotary Fun and Fellowship. Gavel Turnover, Anderson To Meek.
24	Special Red and White Canada Day Programme
<b>27</b>	<b>Thursday Evening:</b> Rotary West at the Joyce
<b>July: Stampede Parade and OK Cherries Month</b>	
1	<b>No Meeting:</b> Canada Day
8	Stampede Yahoo
15	TBA
22	TBA
29	Manon Mitchell: Cambodia, A Child's Future
<b>August: Membership and New Club Development Month</b>	
5	<b>No Meeting:</b> Statutory Holiday
12	TBA
19	TBA
26	
<b>September: Basic Education and Literacy Month</b>	
2	<b>No Meeting:</b> Labour Day