



August 14, 2017

# 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:** Ben Kormos **President-Elect:** Tim Anderson **Past President:** Terry Felton  
**Secretary:** Marlene Doherty **Treasurer:** Karl Herzog

**Directors:** Debbie Barry, Judy Cochran, Bill Fitzsimmons, Gustavo Jimenez, Gerry Meek,  
Les Morgan, Orlin McMillan, Duncan Stanners

August 14, 2017 Edition: 51.5 Reporter: Altius Editor: David Williams

On this warm, sunny (but smoky due to the forest fires) Monday in Calgary, our club meeting was called to order by President **Ben Kormos**, who welcomed us all in three languages. The theme of today's meeting, in keeping with our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, was international issues, highlighting the international work done by us over the years.

'O Canada' was led by **Robyn Braley**, followed by an invocation by **Don Axford**. [**Editor's Note:** On August 2, Don celebrated the 59th anniversary of his 21st birthday. However, since there are three types of people in the world - those who can do maths and those who can't - that means our venerable reverend Rotarian is 80. And he was 65 when I landed in Calgary on August 2, 2002. Ah well, as the saying is: Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana.]

There were approximately 60 people present.

Visitors and guests were introduced by **Julie Cahoon**. These included people from as far away as Guatemala and Canmore.

Our Assistant District Governor, **John Fortunka** of the Fish Creek Club, brought the greetings of the District Governor and presented theme pins for all members present.

**On the head table today** with President Ben were **Bill Fitzsimmons, Bryden Horwood, Bill Lawless and Clarence Buckley**.

Lunch today was comprised of salad, roast chicken, potatoes and vegetables and a dessert tray of pastries.

The **50/50 of \$47.00** was won by **Jud Graham**, a guest.

**Name that tune:** President Ben played a game that entertained us all in keeping with today's theme.



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**Birthdays: Happy Birthday Dan Doherty!** We sang to Dan in his absence, and wished him a very happy day.

**Sergeant-at-Arms Mike French** questioned, challenged and fined members for their lack of knowledge about our club's International involvement, the Rotary Foundation, international activities, etc. All fines were pardoned by our benevolent president. **[Editor's Note:** No they were not!]

### Announcements

- ADG John Fortunka presented welcome 100 Paul Harris Award points to both Julie Cahoon and **Linda Haines** as a starting gift and hoped they will continue building a fund towards becoming sustaining Paul Harris fellows.



- **Need a Leader for Christmas Wreaths:** **Les Morgan** reported that our next fundraising event is the Christmas wreath program in November. It needs a new leader as **Helen King** is not available. Please contact Les and rise to the occasion. This is an ideal opportunity for a new member.
- **Club Appointments:** **Gustavo Jimenez** announced that the following members have been appointed to the following positions: **Judy Cochran:** head of the cashiers at the front desk; **David Williams:** head of the setup team; **Sa'adat Keshavjee:** club liaison with the Grey Eagle Hotel.
- **Lobsterfest, August 26<sup>th</sup> at Sam Switzer's Ranch.** Tickets available. Please contact **Debbie Barry.**

May 4 - 6, 2018: District Conference, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Calgary  
June 23 - 27, 2018: Rotary International Conference, Toronto



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- **Milan Rotary Pins: Don Campbell** advised all present that pins from Lorenzo's club were being distributed on all tables for members to take away.
- **Bill Quinney** spoke on behalf of the Chestermere club's fundraiser, the Amazing Race. **Cha Cha Chansiri** is organizing a four-person team and we need three members to join her in the September 23 race. If you want a fun-filled afternoon, please give her a call.

TODAY'S PROGRAM: "Impacting real lives of real people and making a difference..."

This was introduced by President Ben, and four speakers talked about four impressive international programs (among the many we support).

Bill Fitzsimmons led off by congratulating our club for its consistent support for international programs over the past fifty years. He presented an impressive chart of the projects we have funded and the impact it has had since 1971. It showed our involvement virtually all over the world, with special emphasis on our more recent and heavy involvement in Mexico, Honduras and Guatemala.

**Bryden Horwood on Papua, New Guinea.** Bryden presented his experience with the funding through Rotary of a medical clinic in the kingdom of Papua New Guinea, which he and his wife, **Lu**, discovered on one of their visits there.

**Bill Lawless on Guatemala.** Bill highlighted the work we have been engaged in with Guatemala through the Buckley family, and through "The Heart and Hands Foundation" since 2006. In 11 years, we have been instrumental in raising funds to provide classrooms, latrines, kitchens, playgrounds, stoves, and the creation of translated children's books from Kitche to Spanish.

**Marlene Doherty on Mexico.** Marlene highlighted the work she and Dan have worked with over the past many years to offer "Homes of Hope" to families in the Ensenada and Rosarita areas of Mexico, where our members and friends go to Mexico and physically build the homes and turn them over to the families over a short trip. The next house build is scheduled for March 8-11, 2018.

**Bill Fitzsimmons on Honduras.** Bill highlighted the impressive impact we have had through the Honduran Economic and Community Development programme (HECD) on the lives of many people by providing microfinance loans for small enterprises, water for the villages, and through this endeavour, new schools, new incomes and an improved standards for the people of Honduras.

To thank the presenters, (Mr!) Clarence Buckley highlighted how effective these and other projects have been in improving the lives of those less fortunate than us. He thanked the



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speakers, saluted the champions of all international projects, and commended the club for having such a consistently active International approach to “world understanding”.

*As an editorial note, let us remember that these projects were all brought to us by our own members, who found a need, garnered support from the club (and their many partners) and championed the work, to improve the world, one project at a time. Members are encouraged to seek out good and worthy projects that they are willing to champion and work on. Our club has the capacity, facility and spirit to make projects happen. Let’s keep up the good work.*

**Closing Comments: Rotary after Hours**

President Ben advised all members of Rotary After Hours, an information session on August 19<sup>th</sup> (and hopefully many times in the future), where members meet at a pub over a beer and network, discuss projects and generally have a good and productive time. The next one will be held **on Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, at 1pm at the Kensington legion on Kensington Road NW.** Just drop in or let Ben know of your interest. Your encouragement and support would be most appreciated.

President Ben thanked the program participants, announced the program for next week and adjourned the meeting at 1.30 pm.

*From the July 31/17 Meeting: Banner Exchange with Bryan Heaps from Ryde, United Kingdom*



**Coming Events**

August: Membership and New Club Development Month	
7	No Meeting: Family Day
14	World Community Service: A Jubilee Programme
21	Tanya Ward-Shur: Native Friendship Society
28	Team Meeting, and Hannah's YEX presentation

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<b>September: Basic Education and Literary Month</b>	
4	<b>No Meeting: Labour Day</b>
11	District Governor Rick Istead
18	Youth Exchange: A Jubilee Programme
25	Ghada Al Atrash: "Stripped to the Bone", a Portrait of Syrian Women
<b>October: Economic and Community Development Month</b>	
2	Dr Charles Samuels: Centre for Sleep and Human Performance
9	<b>No Meeting: Thanksgiving Day</b>
16	Todd Hirsch: Economist
23	Noon meeting cancelled in favour of an evening Assembly
30	Hallowe'en Programme: Costumes and Magic Tricks
<b>November: Rotary Foundation Month</b>	
6	RI Foundation and Calgary Rotary Clubs Foundation
13	<b>No Meeting: All Clubs Remembrance Day Meeting</b>
20	Grey Cup Special Weekend Presentation
27	Roger Chaffin: Calgary Police Chief
<b>December</b>	
4	TBA
11	St Matthew's School Children's Choir?
18	Jubilee Programme: End of Jubilee Year
25	<b>No Meeting: Christmas Day!</b>