

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: Gerry Meek **President-Elect:** Bill Fitzsimmons **Past President:** Tim Anderson
Secretary: Karl Herzog **Treasurer:** Judy Cochran
Directors: Marlene Doherty, Darren Grierson, Ken Montgomery, Alex McFadden

Together We Are People of Action - Building Community

February 3, 2020 Edition: 53. Reporter: Marie Rickard Editor: David Williams

O Canada was led by **President Gerry Meek**. Followed by a Rotary Insight Moment on the “Four Way Test” by **Sa'adat Keshavjee**. Sa'adat was sponsored by **Ted Valentine** many years ago, but admits that the introduction of the 4 Way Test was a bit of a surprise to him when he read it in his information package. With his usual eloquence, he admits to having embraced it as a “Win/Win/Win/Win” in his life and so therefore a “beacon” for him and others to follow.

OF THE THINGS that we speak, say or do....

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all?

Will it BUILD GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Is it BENEFICIAL for all concerned?

President Gerry then announced a **Rotary Moment** presented by **Dilpriya Mangat**. Her topic was “What motivates me about Rotary”. She started with the following definition. “Motivation is a powerful force. It is the set of psychological forces that compel you to take action. It is defined as your general willingness to do something. It can come from different sources. Extrinsic, the outside forces that can inspire you to be motivated towards a task. Or motivation can come from intrinsic forces, forces within you that encourage you towards a task or activity.” Between Abraham Maslow and the Happiness Factor and Science Daily’s article of August, 2013, on “Social Giving Makes Us Happier”, Dilpriya ponders motivation. She offers the following, “That I feel is the essence of Rotary. People helping people, by donating their time, or other resources, by which they directly see the cause and effect of their donation, WHILE building social connections.” As the reporter, I personally like her quote of an old Chinese saying: “If you want happiness for an hour, take a nap. If you want happiness for a day, go fishing. If you want happiness for a year, inherit a fortune. If you want happiness for a lifetime, help somebody.”

Doctor Dilpriya, visited our very brains at the neurochemical level and the issues that Rotarians have taken on are bigger than themselves, but she summed up by saying: “What motivates about Rotary, is the very global network of 1.2 million Rotarians strong who attend to things beyond themselves.

May 1 - 3, 2020: District Conference, Calgary

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Rotarians, who work towards promoting peace and prosperity for their fellow man and woman, in every corner of this world. Attending these meetings has reminded me of how very fortunate I am to enjoy the life I live. And with that fortune, comes a responsibility to work towards giving others locally and the world over, an opportunity to work towards having such fortune of their own."

Over to **Gail Williams** who with the help of Sa'adat Keshavjee presented some Paul Harris Pins to **Paul Graham, Judy Cochran, Steve Strang and Garfield Ganong**. Photographer **David Impey** was on the job and captured the moment on camera.



Don Campbell, as the greeter, welcomed all our guests, **Khor Topp, Will Mitchell, and Don Edie**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

AND THEN CAME BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES OF MEMBERSHIP... Barbie Hames and Shelley Dyson! Congratulations and Happy Birthday to our Rotary friends!

BIRTHDAYS:

Linda Anderson	Feb. 05
Linda Haines	Feb. 20
David Impey	Feb. 20
Clare Bildfell	Feb. 21
Tim Anderson	Feb. 28

ANNIVERSARY DATES FOR MEMBERSHIP:

Mike Carlin	Feb. 01	30 years
Gerry Meek	Feb. 01	8 (34) years
Ronald Staughton	Feb. 01	39 years
John Bossuyt	Feb. 04	1 year
Marlene Doherty	Feb. 13	5 years

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Bill Fitzsimmons	Feb. 19	4 years
Christopher Lee	Feb. 23	19 years
Sharon Fraiman	Feb. 25	1 year
Robyn Braley	Feb. 26	21 years
Bill Lawless	Feb. 27	16 years

Next week is our Valentine's Meeting – WEAR RED OR PINK! – February 10, 2020

Barbie Hames and Shelley Dyson, Fun and Fellowship Committee Club Social Events as follows:

- Family Skate at Bowness Park – Saturday, February 29, 1:30 – 3:30 pm
 - Potluck Dinner and Games Night at Helen and Lawrence King's – Saturday, March 14, 5 – 11 pm
 - Studio Bell Tour – Saturday, March 28, 2-3 pm
 - Canasta at the Doherty's – Friday, April 3, 7 pm
 - Bow Valley Music Club – Susan Aglukark with Over the Moon – Saturday, Apr 18, – 7 pm
 - Stage West – "Dinner Theatre" - The Soul of Motown – Sunday, April 26 – 5 pm
- Please contact Barbie or Shelley for details.

Orlin McMillan's Health and Well-being report read by Steve Rickard

Debbie reports: Orlin's recovery has been incredible. Orlin has a very positive outlook on life and circumstance, and he's doing amazingly well. His doctors are suggesting he may be out of the hospital (but still in Edmonton, for out-patient care) by the end of next week, or early the following week. We also have a team of friends and family and their churches praying for him, so I'm believing in miracles every day. We are feeling incredibly blessed for Orlin's "gift of life"! Thank you to our Rotary family for all their kind thoughts and prayers. We miss you!

Past President Tim Anderson on President Gerry Meek's Appreciation Dinner in June, 2020. Tim took a show of hands for timing in June. The final date will be announced soon.

Marvin Pawlivsky was Sergeant at Arms today and fined a great number of our members for various reasons. From the sergeant's viewpoint, the previous meeting was a complete debacle. Also, on February 18, 2018, who knew that the new wording for *O Canada* received royal assent? **Cory Tretiak** did. A lot of Rotarians needed to pay up for singing the wrong words, another disaster creating many fines. Glad he kept the fines short.... but not so sweet! President Gerry must have missed it all! His remark: "I thought it was a good meeting!"

Gail Williams as Chair of our International Service Committee introduced our program today. She announced the four projects that we have funded this year: Homes of Hope, which will present in April after their home building trip, Malawi Girls on the Move School, South Sudanese Refugee and Orphans Project and the Guatemala School Project.



First up was Marie Rickard, Champion for the Malawi Girls on the Move School project, who gave a history of the project development and the financially sustainable model that has successfully developed over 16 years.

Calgary West got involved with a scholarship for one girl for one year and we carried that forward for many years. We helped fund various projects in conjunction with other Rotary clubs.

- Initially we furnished classrooms and bought books and furnished dorm rooms.
- We helped build a water well
- We funded the outfitting of the primary school classrooms
- We purchased security fencing and training for security guards and cameras on the property
- We assisted RC of Lethbridge by participating in a District Development Fund grant to support a \$350,000 Global Grant that included solar panels for all the buildings, textbooks, gas cookers, and student lockers
- Our latest project is to build teachers' housing on the site in conjunction with RC Chinook, Lethbridge and Lethbridge Interact Club. At present the footings have been poured!

The goal of self-sustainability has almost been reached with these final infrastructure projects for staff and student classrooms. The school is flourishing. In 16 years, they have raised five million dollars, constructed 20 buildings and have over 700 graduates. Along the way, they have trained and employed local labour to build the school. The school educates annually 680 students. The student body is composed of 480 female secondary school students and 200 primary school students.

These girls have been given the gift of education. They faced desperate food insecurity, poverty, gender-based violence and early forced marriage. Now they are leaders in their communities, female role models and often fund their siblings to go to school. They work as teachers and nurses, and in preschools that they have formed in their own villages. They are forming women's farming collectives and work in agriculture. They are now change-makers in Malawi.

South Sudanese Refugee and Orphans Project presenter is Khor Topp. He and his family have survived three generations of wars in South Sudan. He was a refugee, same as his mother and grandmother. When he was a teenager, he walked for three months to get to Kenya where he found assistance and immigrated to Canada in 2003. In 2014, he graduated from the University of Calgary. He presently volunteers within the South Sudanese community in Calgary and abroad. He says because his people have been refugees for so long, they do not think of ways to help themselves. Education and skills training will help them develop hope. In consultation with **Steve Rickard**, he established, with project champion, **Vivian Jones**, three student scholarships for South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia. Calgary West Rotary funded these scholarships. Two boys and one girl were chosen. Khor also told us about a



program with the Calgary Lions Club. They have funded a Homework Club for the South Sudanese Community in Calgary. Khor thanked us for our support.

Steve Strang is the presenter for the **School Project in Guatemala** and covered the status of the two school builds there.

The first, in the village of Chillil, was completed in September and included a new kitchen with storage room, updating of bathroom with a new water storage tank, and a new septic system. This was not a Global Grant project but was done with help from Calgary North, Calgary Downtown, Lethbridge Rotary Club, and part of the Community Initiatives Program grant from the Province of Alberta.

The second project was in the "village" of Chimingsuan which is located high up in the hills of Guatemala. This was done with a Global Grant from Rotary International and help from our club, Downtown Club, and a District grant from Rotary District 5360. Getting materials up to the school site was challenging, especially during the rainy season. The families of the students enrolled in the school played a key part in getting the project finished. The school was ready and in use by late December. The project included three classrooms plus a kitchen complete with a new stove. The project includes a training component that is currently being done. This is the final phase of the project and will be completed by the end of June. During Steve's report a slide presentation was run by **Bill Lawless** showing various phases of the project.

Gail Williams thanked the presenters. She also gave us an update on the procedures around allocation of funds for projects. The new rules can be found at www.calgarywestrotaryclub.org Also go there to find the forms to make an application to the club for funding of projects, both international and local community service.

President Gerry drew the winning ticket for the 50/50 draw and **Dan Pigeon** was the winner. Dan returned the money to club funds.

President Gerry, attempting to announce our upcoming speaker, was interrupted by **Tim Anderson**, not once, but twice. Gerry requested a fine from the sergeant-at-arms and this was granted. Anyway, our next speaker is talking about human trafficking and it would be a good meeting to bring a guest. So please invite someone!

Quote of the week: " No one rises to low expectations."

This meeting was closed sharply at 1:30pm.

NOTE FROM THE REPORTER:

There is a FAMINE IN MALAWI. Poor families in the area of the Malawi Girls on the Move school need help. The school has started a campaign to raise \$10,000 to purchase maize for 350 families. Please go



to the attached site to read more. If you would like to contribute, please go to their GOFUNDME site
<https://www.gofundme.com/f/famine-relief-near-apu-malawi>

Coming Events

February: World Understanding Month	
3	ICS International Service Presentation
10	Bonnie Johnson: Human Trafficking "Not in My City"
17	Family Day: No Meeting
20	Evening Meeting
24	Court Ellingson: Calgary Economic Development
March: Literacy Month	
2	Town Hall/Teams Meeting
9	Cameron Diggon: Homes for Heroes
16	Mark Milke: Author, Columnist, Keynote Speaker
23	Meeting cancelled in favour of March 26 Assembly
26	Evening Assembly (Tentative)
30	Jim Donihee: National Energy Board COO, RCAF Wing Commander
April: Maternal and Child Care Month	
6	"In Step" (Tentative)
13	No Meeting - Easter Monday
20	LCS Committee Presentation
23	Evening meeting at the Joyce
27	Prof Jon Fennell: Alberta Watershed Water Management
May: Youth Service Month	
4	YEX Program: Margot Robins and Friends
11	Todd Hirsch: Economist
18	No Meeting - Statutory Holiday
21	Evening Meeting
25	TBA
June: Rotary Fellowship Month	
1	TBA
8	Mark Neufeld, Calgary Police Chief
15	Can Learn Presentation
22	Gerry Meek Day. Programme TBA.
29	Canada Day Special - Immigration and New Canadians: Peter Veress
July Stampede and Okanagan Cherries Month	
3	Parade Breakfast
6	Stampede Yahoo!
13	TBA
20	TBA

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