



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: Terry Felton **President-Elect:** Ben Kormos **Past President:** Gail Williams
Secretary: Malcolm Harrison **Treasurer:** Karl Herzog
Directors: Tim Anderson, Judy Cochran, Marlene Doherty, Arien Knight, Chris Ritter,
Duncan Stanners

February 6, 2017 Edition: 50.27 Reporter: Shelley Dyson Editor: David Williams

Setup handled by **Bill Quinney** and **Shelley Dyson**.

On a stormy cold Monday, 42 hearty Rotarians ventured out to attend the meeting.

Greeting us at the front desk on this snowy day were **Judy Cochran** and **David Impey**. Eduardo Watman and **Paul Graham** were observing, as they are in training for the front desk.

Promoting bus trip to Red Deer for Discon was Bill Quinney.

50/50 sales were handled by **Gail Williams**.

Shelley Dyson promoted Strawberry Shortcake sales and was recruiting volunteers for preparation day and delivery day.

Greeting everyone and handing out name-tags was **Jude Hanen**, assisted by **Chris Ritter**.

President Terry Felton called meeting to order at 12:15pm.

O Canada was led by new member, **Don Vokey**.

A meditative invocation was given by **Don Axford**.

President Terry introduced the head table guests: Don Axford, Gail Williams, **Sa'adat Keshavjee**, **David Hamilton**, **Marlene Doherty** and **Ken Montgomery**, guest speaker.

The **50/50 draw** for \$36 was won by **Larry Doyle**.

The GERC Hotel banquet team served a delicious lunch: mixed salad with balsamic vinaigrette, chicken in mushroom sauce with mashed potatoes and chef's vegetables. Dessert was an assortment of cheesecakes with strawberry garnish. Yummy!



Hot Seats

Marlene Doherty made following announcements:

- Would members please refer to our webpage for our plant/veggie sale (it has a great name Big Blooming...). The deadline is February 17, 2017.
- Projects: Recommended by World Community Service - approved by the board:
 - 1) Save African Child Uganda: rain water harvesting project, \$2,000. Club champion - Bill Fitzsimmons
 - 2) Malawi Girls On the Move Secondary School Scholarship, \$1,000. Club champion - **Marie Rickard**
 - 3) Goodbye Thirsty (Formerly Save the Rain), Northern Tanzania, \$2,000. Club champion - **Tim Anderson**
 - 4) HPIC Medical Kits for Honduras - two kits to be delivered to local clinics in April, \$1,150. Club champion- Bill Fitzsimmons
- **Dan Doherty**, incoming District Governor, also requested that members complete the District survey they were emailed.
- Shelley Dyson made the following announcements:
 - 1) Deadline for orders of Strawberry Shortcakes has been extended to Wednesday February 8th. We have sold 3000 of goal of 5000, so please sell and promote this initiative.
 - 2) Volunteers, especially drivers and navigators, are still required. Please contact Shelley if you are able to assist.
 - 3) Officially presented Jubilee Pin Banner to the club. The Jubilee Banner was made possible through the kind donation of pins from several Rotarians. We have room for more pins, so if you find additional, please give them to Shelley for inclusion on the banner.

President Terry called on **Malcolm Harrison**, club secretary, for an update on team business meeting. This will be held on Monday, February 27th. After lunch, we will break out for team discussion. This is a great way to meet new members on your team. Hope everyone can attend.

President Terry called on Gail Williams to read the Rotary Charge to new member, **Tracey Bitcon**.

President Terry introduced Tracey to the club. She has been very active in business as well as the community, in particular the world of figure skating. She is co-founder of the Wild Rose Skating Club. Welcome Tracey!



President Terry then welcomed **Terry McDonough**, who is in attendance today.

Sa'adat Keshavjee introduced members who received their Paul Harris pins from Gail Williams and David Hamilton:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Terry Felton | Les Morgan +1 |
| Karl Herzog +2 | David Watson +2 |
| Ron Brookes +3 | Bill Tapuska +3 |
| Jim Barnes +6 | Sa'adat Keshavjee +6 |
| Marlene Doherty +8 | Clarence Buckley +4 |





My Passion, My Moments, Our Rotary

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Guest Speaker

President Terry introduced our guest speaker, Ken Montgomery, who spoke on the HECD Project (Honduras Economic and Community Development Phase IV).

The HECD project goals mirror the UN 2030 initiative which is to end poverty, end hunger, provide clean water and education, as well as ensure gender equality globally by 2030.

The main focus of HECD is microfinance addressing poverty, with a secondary goal to provide clean water to small towns and villages.

The project is funded by Rotary clubs near and far, district, provincial and federal governments and Rotary International. IDH in Honduras are stewards of the funds and make small loans to the local population. All funds go to the local community business that generate revenue and thus is sustainable, as loans are repaid with very few defaults.

The loans provide employment, which means a stable income for families, resulting in better food, better education and improved standard of living: a very positive example of how microfinance reduces poverty.

Why Honduras? It is the third poorest country in Central America with 65% of the population living below the poverty line. Women are especially challenged, often making less than \$1 or \$2 US per day.

500,000 Hondurans are trying to start businesses without access to affordable and safe financing.

HECD is a ten-phase program. We are now starting Phase IV in partnership with various Rotary clubs, RC Real de Minas in Honduras, Opportunity International Canada, and the local IDH financial company.

Duncan Stanners spoke on Phase I (\$130,000 for Microcredit) which established relationships and partnerships.

Phase II (\$600,000) was led by Duncan and focused on water and microfinance. IDH was able to improve their technology and grow the business. They are still not a recognized bank but continue to open more branches to help more people. The implementation of technology also enabled them to do transactions electronically rather than physically in a country with a high crime rate!

Phase III focused on sustainability, as there was a greater than 97% payback rate on Microcredit loans. Every dollar given gets recycled every four months: it's a hand up, not a hand out.

Providing clean water was achieved in Phase II. The villages need to own the water. This is an asset-based community development, with villages providing labour to dig trenches and lay piping.

May 5 - 7, 2017: District Conference, "Strength in Numbers", Red Deer
June 10 - 14, 2017: Rotary International Conference, Atlanta, Georgia



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One village laid 14 km of pipe from source to village. The systems are maintained by a small fee of \$1-\$2 per family per month. Because clean water is now available, people are starting to return to their villages and start business, build schools, etc. The impact has been life-changing.

Phase IV will address the need for SME (small and medium enterprises) financing. Small loans of \$5,000 US are made to clients of SME. It is anticipated that results will be achieved by July, 2017.

15-20 clients will receive \$5,000 US loans. It is anticipated that these loans will generate 30-80 jobs in the first twelve months. The ripple effect of the benefits is continuous and sustainable.

Phase V will led by Bill Fitzsimmons and continue focus on SME microfinance and potentially another water project. Bill is leading an insight trip April 17 - 22, 2017. If you are interested, please contact Bill directly: bilfitz@shaw.ca

President Terry thanked Ken for a most comprehensive presentation.

Sergeant-at-Arms

Marlene Doherty delighted us with a game of "RCCW History Jeopardy". Each table occupant was fined a loonie if their table did not respond.

There being no further business, President Terry adjourned the meeting at 1:40pm.

Coming Events

February: World Understanding Month	
6	Economic and Community Development – Ken Montgomery
13-14	Strawberry Shortcakes: preparation and delivery
20	No Meeting. Family Day
27	Team Meeting
March: Literacy Month	
6	Tom Hickerson U of C, Curator Davidson Papers
13	Michael Chiasson: Youth Motivational Speaker
20	Lieutenant Governor Lois Mitchell
27	Manning Innovation Awards - Six Candidates
April: Maternal and Child Health Month	
3	Vimy Ridge Centennial: Dr David Bercuson, History Professor, U of C
10	Evening Meeting: Spring Assembly
17	Easter Monday. No Meeting
24	Field Trip to Rotary Challenger Park
May: Youth Service Month	
1	TBA
8	Tentative cancellation in favour of field trip bus meeting to District Conference on May 6
15	TBA
22	No Meeting: Victoria Day

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29	David Poulson: Author and Radio Announcer
June: Rotary Fellowship Month	
5	TBA
12	Charter Date June 10: Tentative Jubilee Event
19	Team Meeting and Turnover of Gavel to Ben Kormos
26	Canada Day Sesquicentennial Meeting
July	
3	No Meeting
7	Friday: CWRC Stampede Parade Breakfast
10	Stampede Yahoo!
17	TBA
24	TBA
31	TBA