

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

March 4, 2019 Edition: 52.27 Reporter: Marie Rickard Editor: David Williams

President Tim Anderson has instituted a new meeting agenda for March as a test. That means that we will all proceed with a buffet lunch as soon as it is available and on arrival. Thanks for waiting for me, President Tim. The meeting was called to order. **Shelley Dyson** lead us in a jazzy version of *O Canada* and **Chris Davis** gave the invocation. Head table was introduced and will be identified later. **Grant Ritchie** introduced our visitors and guests and we serenaded them with our usually peppy greeting.

Firstly, on our agenda was the induction of a new member. **Past President Gail Williams** did the honours. Gail announced that it was a milestone month and fitting that we should be inducting a new woman member to Rotary. It is, firstly, Women's History Month, and, secondly, 30 years since the rewrite of the Rotary International Bylaws to include women into membership.



May 3 - 5, 2019: District Conference, Olds
June 1 - 5, 2019: Rotary International Conference, Hamburg



Sharon Fraiman was born in Israel. She came to Canada 4 ½ years ago. She was a special education teacher in Israel for 25 years. She also worked for the Ministry of Education and won an award for her work. She also wrote the curriculum for these students. Sharon has two young adult children. Presently, she is the Western Region Coordinator for CMDA, Canadian Magen David Adcom. She arranges humanitarian action for relief efforts all over the world. Presently, she is raising funds for a huge project, underground blood banks in Israel. Their focus is acquiring medical equipment for needy areas all over the world. Past President Gail Williams announced that Sharon Fraiman was the world's newest Rotarian! Recent statistics show 1,217,0330 members in 36,368 clubs. She will be a member of team 3, and her mentor will be **Debbie McMillan**. Welcome Sharon!

Announcements:

Never Too Late – Marlene Doherty

- The date of the graduation ceremony is Monday, May 13.
- Graduation begins at 6 p.m., and all Rotarians are invited to attend.
- Our club scholarship will be presented, and, as the graduation sponsor, we will be acknowledged and thanked.
- If members would like a "hands on" engagement, the celebration following the graduation in the lower hall requires chairs, tables, decorations and food set up. Time commitment 4:30 - 7:30pm.
- Interested volunteers - please contact Tazim, Gail or Marlene for further info.

Club Social Events Upcoming – Debbie McMillan

- Calgary Civic Symphony: Fantastic Firebird
Sunday, April 7, at 2:30pm
Contact Debbie for tickets. Seniors \$24Adults \$30.
- Games Night at Helen and Lawrence King's
- Potluck Social of Dummy Bridge. No Experience necessary.
Friday, April 26
Contact Debbie to let her know you would like to attend (24 max.)

Looking for Used Arts – Rotary Club of Heritage Park

- Drop off donations of used art for sale at a spring art sale of gently used art.
- This is the second year that Heritage Park is doing this.
- Drop off for art is at the seven Michael's locations in Calgary.

New Members Announcement – Chris Davis

An email was sent to all members on February 25th at 10:57 am announcing four new prospective members. No objections have been received within the seven-day notice period. Therefore, they will be inducted at Tim's call.

Name: **Brook Bayou**

- Classification: IT Support Specialist
- Sponsor: Gail Williams
- Mentor: TBD



- Team: TBD

Name: **Bill Dowhaluk**

- Classification: Oil & Gas Engineer (retired)
- Sponsor: Alex McFadden
- Mentor: TBD
- Team: TBD

Name: **Barbara Hames**

- Classification: Sales and Service (Hospitality)
- Sponsor: Marlene Doherty
- Mentor: TBD
- Team: TBD

Name: **Peter Josty**

- Classification: Educator
- Sponsor: Lateral transfer from Rotary Club of Calgary Olympic.
- Mentor: TBD
- Team: TBD

18th Scout Troop Silent Auction – Steve Rickard

- Thursday, March 7, doors open at 6:30 pm
- Tickets are \$25 per person at Wurst on 4th Avenue SW
- Get a beer and a Bavarian sausage and a little Oom-pah-pah band music!
- Silent auction and great prizes
- Supports the 100th Anniversary Scout Jamboree
- Call Steve for tickets at 403 815 8300

Water is Life! Banquet and Dance – Duncan Stanners

- Saturday, March 30.
- Marda Loop Community Association Hall, 3130 16 St SW
- 6:30 – 12:00 pm Cost: \$60.
- Meal by Chris Lee and friends.
- Come and bring your friends.
- Looking to volunteer? Contact Duncan.

Rotary Curling – Bill Fitzsimmons

- The Calgary West curlers were out in full force and almost won the bonspiel.
- Bill encourages others to come out for curling and socializing.
- Apparently, **Darren Grierson** and **Lorenda Carlsen** kept Bill up way too late partying!

Happy Bucks! **Judy Cochran** gave a happy buck as a thank you for the new tablet covers made by Shelley Dyson. **Bill Lawless** announced proudly about his grandson's good results at a recent swim competition. Also, Bill announced that fellow member, **Clare Bildfell**, is going through some major surgery and health issues. Keep him in your thoughts and prayers. **Linda Anderson** had four happy bucks, and the last and not the least was that her son and his family are moving back to Calgary.



Darren Grierson won the 50/50 for \$42.

Guest Speaker

Our speaker was introduced by **Don Vokey**.

Monica Ercolessi, a lawyer of Italian descent, is the director of Resources and Development for Sonshine Community Services. Sonshine is a multiservice charity that provides services for women and children fleeing domestic violence and abuse. It started in 1978 with a program for the working poor at River Park Church. Community counselling was made available for individuals and families impacted by domestic violence and abuse. Courses for anxiety, mental illness, and breaking down barriers developed. Sonshine now has 40 family day homes providing quality childcare. The Sonshine Centre is a one-year residential shelter for women and children escaping domestic violence. This facility has 24 apartments with one and two bedrooms which are safe and secure. The children's centre specializes in therapeutic care for children who have experienced domestic violence. Sonshine has provided safe homes in the past year for 49 women and 51 children, 1000 plus hours counselling and 300 plus hours of experiential therapy and life skills groups.

Calgary Police Services responded to approximately 19,000 domestic violence calls in 2017. Incidences of domestic violence have been rising since 2005. Many cases go unreported. Often, children witness the violence, and sometimes they are victims. Victims come from all races, and social and economic spheres.

Who comes to the women's shelter? 82% of women accessing second stage (residential) shelters experience serious financial concern. 58% of women get their main source of income from social assistance. At the time of admission, over 70% of women are in extreme or severe danger of being killed; 2/3 of these have children. 1/3 are indigenous; 1/3 are non-indigenous; and 1/3 are immigrants.

What do they need? Safety/support/community connections for a period of 6 – 12 months. This is the most dangerous time for those impacted by domestic violence and abuse. Sonshine is in a non-disclosed location. It has double doors at the entrance. There are cameras inside and outside. There is a 24/7 staffed security desk. Calgary Police Services is connected, and a 911 call will bring them to the door in two minutes. There is a public address system if there is a breach of security which Calgary West Rotary helped fund. Counselling women and children and legal advice are provided. They also have classes for running, yoga, dance, activities to shake out the body trauma.

What about the children exposed to domestic abuse? Unfortunately, domestic violence is intergenerational. The brain development of children is affected by exposure to domestic abuse. Studies show that children exposed to abuse at a young age do not do well. By the time a child gets to kindergarten, age 4, the wiring is set. By age 4, a child's brain is 90% of the size of the adult brain. The residential shelter provides an opportunity for therapeutic intervention. They have 71 children, 45 are trauma children and 49 children have experienced at least one adverse childhood trauma incident. These children really need to be loved. With that compassionate statement, Monica ended her talk.



Linda Anderson thanked Monica for telling us about the Sonshine Community Services which is not widely known in our city. She then presented Monica with our world-famous Boltman.

Coming Events

March: Literacy Month	
4	LCS Community Project – Monica Ercolessi – Sonshine Community
11	Literacy Program - Krista Poole, CEO Can Learn
18	Armstrong the Guide Dog with Bill Faulkner
25	Noon Assembly and Team Meeting
28	Thursday Evening: Rotary West at the Joyce
April: Maternal and Child-Care Month	
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	No Meeting: Easter Monday
25	Thursday Evening: Rotary West at the Joyce
29	Dr. Marie-Claire Arrieta, U of C – Microbiome and Child Immunity
May: Youth Service Month	
6	Meals on Wheels – A Calgary West Project
13	Rotary West – In House “Fun and Fellowship” Program
20	No Meeting: Statutory Holiday
23	Thursday Evening: Rotary West at the Joyce

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27	Laura Pipolo – Youth Exchange – Adventures in Citizenship – RYLA
	June: Rotary Fellowship Month
3	Manning Innovation Awards (Tentative)
10	Dr Phil Langill: U of C Professor, Astronomy and Astrophysics
17	Gavel Turnover, Anderson To Meek. Team Meeting
24	Special Red and White Canada Day Programme
27	Thursday Evening: Rotary West at the Joyce
	July: Stampede Parade and OK Cherries Month
1	No Meeting: Canada Day
8	Stampede Yahoo
15	TBA
22	TBA
29	TBA
	August: Membership and New Club Development Month
5	No Meeting: Statutory Holiday
12	TBA
19	TBA
26	
	September: Basic Education and Literacy Month
2	No Meeting: Labour Day