

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: Bill Fitzsimmons **President-Elect:** Marlene Doherty **Past President:** Gerry Meek
Secretary: Gail Williams **Treasurer:** Don Edie
Directors: Judy Cochran, Gord Cox, Darren Grierson, Barb Hames,
Ken Montgomery, Drew Turnbull

Together We Are People of Action - Building Community

November 2, 2020 Edition: 54.15 Reporter: Mike Carlin Editor: David Williams

Don't miss a minute! Our meeting recording is accessible online

at:https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/5gDozdUvH2_FSBjuRYkRaurveRMBDZNYgeYGr6Nkh7yvFBfttDK_4Khh10SGw3o.4WXApZLbZmvNmOPf Access Passcode: sgF!dS1Q

President Bill Fitzsimmons opened the meeting at 12:04 pm with 27 online participants as well as 25 or so attendees at the Grey Eagle.

Guests included **Rob Rokachey** and **Sonja Irene McDowell**.

Orlin McMillan provided the Inspirational moment.

Charlie Chaplin lived 88 years and left us with four statements:

- Nothing is forever in this world, not even our problems.
- I live to walk in the rain because no one can see my tears.
- The most lost day in life is the day we don't laugh.
- Six of the best doctors in the world: Sun, Rest, Exercise, Diet, Self-respect and Friends

Keep them in all stages of your life and enjoy a healthy life.

- If you see the moon, you will see the beauty of God.
- If you see the sun, you will see the power of God.
- If you see yourself in a mirror, you will see God's best creation. So believe it.
- We are all tourist., God is our travel agent who has already defined our routes, bookings and directions, trust him and enjoy life.
- Life is just a journey! So live today! Tomorrow may not be.

Announcements:

- **Barb Hanes – Fun and Fellowship**
 - Our Christmas brunch is cancelled this year due to COVID 19. Perhaps we can have a meeting prior to Christmas in which we can celebrate who are by sharing our traditions
 - Order your Christmas wreaths, centrepieces and poinsettias. Note our wreath sales are only 25% of where we were last year and our booking has to be made this weekend.

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Why not buy your friends and family a wreath or centrepiece? Order online at <https://rotarywestfundraising.ca/>

- Let's not forget! November 11th is Remembrance Day. Please register for our virtual memorial as soon as possible.
- As at November 1st the following were celebrating their anniversary in Rotary: **Victoria Achilleos**, 27 years, **Joe Klassen**, 31 years, and **Bill Quinney**, 36 years. Congratulations and thanks for your service.
- **Cory Tretiak** advised that today's coffee was provided to the Grey Eagle compliments of **Karl Ward** from Caffe Monte. Cory requested we try the coffee prior to putting any cream or sugar so we could experience the true flavour. Karl also provided a bag of coffee for our 50/50 draw. Cory encouraged us to get behind this fundraiser as funds raised will be a consistent and recurring revenue for our club – similar to funds received from the CRCF. For \$34, we will deliver two bags of freshly roasted coffee to your door. Go to <https://rotarywestfundraising.ca/> for details
- **Marlene Doherty** – Service Above Self – Nomination committee is working to match the needs of the club.
 - The nomination committee consists of **Garfield Ganong**, **Sa'adat Keshavjee**, **Steve Rickard**, **Steve Strang**, **Linda Anderson** and Marlene Doherty (chair). They are working to fill the positions of president-elect-nominee, director of membership and director of fund development. Contact any committee member for the list of roles and responsibilities. Say yes if requested – you won't regret it!
 - Also, she has received 44 responses to the first survey on community service sent for the review of the strategic plan. A second survey will be sent this month requesting your input on club service.

David Watson - Calgary Rotary Clubs Foundation

One of the main reasons many of us are Rotarians is to give back to the community. As a club we do this through direct involvement and also by providing financial support to a variety of organizations. In order to do the latter we need to source funds which we raise in several ways and the more stable the source the better.

I would like to read from a presentation made in 2001 by the chair of the CRCF which emphasized this importance:

"I believe it is vitally important for each club to have a guaranteed source of funds. In today's world we are running into ourselves as we search for funds to help with the good work of Rotary. Some sources of funds are drying up. An annual return from the CRCF is indeed a foundation to our fundraising, funds we can more or less be assured of, and we can rely on, to fund that "special" project."

That "special" project has become our basic LCS projects in these COVID times. Let me compare last year's funds with our current situation:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Stampede Breakfast:	\$48,253	\$0
Casino: (allowing provision for next year.)	\$45,136 (\$67,704)	\$33,000
Strawberry Shortcake:	\$13,737	\$0
Christmas Wreaths:	\$6,395	\$5,000
Cherries:	<u>\$4,603</u>	<u>\$4,000</u>

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afterwards, COVID19 came along and the focus became on food security with lots of discussion on the Food Bank, I can for kids, Brown Bagging for Kids and Community Kitchens.

Further discussions were held on a merger between Aspen Family Services and the Boys and Girls Club of Calgary, followed by a report on the merger by MRU.

The Alberta government conducted a study on how COVID-19 affected non-profits in Alberta. The major finding was that, while there is cooperation at the not for profit level, there is very little collaboration. Funding organizations need to look at new models of funding and to incentivize funding.

The 11/12 clubs agreed to work on collaboration among clubs and request each club make a commitment to support an all-clubs committee financially. A first commitment would be each club would be comfortable with, say, \$5000 put towards a smaller project. We want to show value, we want to show collaboration and we want to show results. Nothing will be executed until there is a strong goal established, and a set of criteria drawn up.

Volunteer Opportunities

Bill Quinney outlined several volunteer opportunities, including:

- **Shoe Box Stuffing** Our satellite club/after-hours club is doing a shoe box stuffing. We need eight or so volunteers. Meet **Mel Warman** on December 12 at 20 Hopewell Way NE for a three-hour shift starting at 8.45 am. Respond to Mel and copy Bill, if you can help.
- **WINS (Women In Need Society)** – Ikea is selling Christmas trees for \$25 with the proceeds going to WINS. Volunteer are needed for unloading trees on December 7 (all other dates now full) from 5 to 9 pm at the Ikea lot near the Christmas trees. Send your name to Bill Quinney. If you are interested in doing one or more three-hour shifts selling trees, starting November 19, send Bill an email.
- **Salvation Army Christmas Kettles** The SA is still working out the requirements under COVID regulations to work the kettles at the mall – 8/10 volunteers – one Saturday. Drew Turnbull
- **Highway Cleanup** – postponed to the spring - **Clarence Buckley**
- **Tree Wrapping Fish Creek Park** – to be undertaken in the spring – 15 volunteers for three hours to wrap trees in Fish Creek Park to protect trees from the beaver - **Pat Fitzsimmons**.
- **Reset Society** – Bill Quinney– **Claude Masse**
Tear down the old fence and provide up to \$3500 to build a new one. Claude is prepared to lead a group of 10 to 12 volunteers in the spring. This would be a Saturday/Sunday project.

The Free Reading Program - Terry Felton outlined the proposal to join

The program is free for students in reading level K-6. 266 learning units and 3600 interactive learning activities. Students can begin learning at any level and advance when they feel confident. Designed to engage young learners and instil confidence through a quiz and success based teaching approach.

Free for Rotary clubs hosting the program. All that's required is our club's logo .Our club will receive a branded portal access to the program with personalized pages and a link to the program's website, which can be posted on the club website.

We need a **champion** to drive the program and search out opportunities to promote.

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THREE WEEKS of CHRISTMAS GIVING:

Community Kitchens – Bill Lawless

The LCS committee in the three weeks of Christmas (and one in January) giving will now provide a volunteer opportunity to sort and pack Good Food boxes of produce.

- December 07 - 6 to 9 pm – 15 volunteers
- December 08 – 1.00 to 3.30 – 20 volunteers

[Editor's Note: Unfortunately, these dates have been cancelled.]

- We now have 12 volunteers and looking for a minimum of three more for January 11th. Shift will start at 5PM and last till 8PM. We will be bagging produce in preparation for the next day when they put the three sizes of boxes together ready for distribution.

Alpha House - Linda Anderson

Donate **slightly used** warm clothing (jackets/sweaters) or **new** socks, mittens and underwear. Bring them to the November 30 in-person meeting. Contact Linda A or send a donation to **Judy Cochran** either by e-transfer to CalgaryWest953@shaw.ca or a check to #55 5790 Patina Drive SW. Mark it for Alpha House and request a tax receipt if required.

Bethany Christmas Stockings

Gail Williams' father was so pleased with receiving a Christmas stocking when he was in a care facility, that she recommended we do the same this Christmas for the 210 residents at Bethany. The staff will prepare and distribute the stockings (due to covid) and will send us pictures and stories. At \$20 per stocking we will need \$4,000. One of our members has donated \$2,500 so we need another \$1,500. If you haven't attended an in-person Rotary meeting, consider sending the \$30 cost to fund this shortfall. Donations should be sent to Judy Cochran either by e-transfer to CalgaryWest953@shaw.ca or a check to #55 5790 Patina Drive SW. Mark it for Bethany and request a tax receipt if required.(Remember to mark which project it is for, Alpha or Bethany).

Sudanese Community – Covid update

Bill Quinney read a letter to **Dan Doherty** from the Sudanese society providing an update on the \$7,500 provided earlier in the year.

David Williams was the 50/50 winner of a bottle of wine.

Clarence Buckley was the 50/50 winner of the pound of coffee.

President Bill closed the meeting a 1:30 pm with a thank you to **Debbie McMillan** and team 4 for club set up and **Ron Brookes** for being the club greeter. He also expressed his appreciation to Bill Quinney for stepping up to take over LCS from Marvin Pawlivsky.

Coming Events

November: Foundation Month	
2	LCS Presentation of Grants and Projects
9	Phil Levson – Wills, Estates and Rotary Foundation
16	ISC Presentation of Grants and Projects Vote
23	CFL Commissioner – Future of the CFL at this time? (Tentative)
26	Evening Meeting. TBD

30	Days of Giving / Board Election
December: Disease Treatment and Prevention Month	
7	Brian Lee: Healthcare Canada and USA (Tentative)
14	Christmas Lunch - Carols led by a noted member – To Confirm re In-Person/COVID/Zoom??
21	No Meeting – Christmas and New Year Holiday
28	No Meeting – Christmas and New Year Holiday
2021 – IT’S A BRAND NEW YEAR!	
January: Vocation Service Month	
4	VSC
11	Review of Scholarships and Initiatives
18	LCS
25	Hands on Service Opportunities
28	Evening Meeting: Past Presidents #3
February: World Understanding Month	
1	Membership, Initiatives and Recommendations
8	TBD
15	No Meeting. Family Day
18	Evening Meeting. TBD
22	TBD
March: Literacy Month	
1	ISC
8	Presentation and Proposals for DDF: Pre-approvals
15	LCS
22	Review and Updates: New Proposals
25	Evening Meeting. TBD
29	TBD
April: Maternal and Child Care Month	
5	No Meeting. Easter Monday
8	Evening Meeting. Possible Spring Assembly
12	TBD
19	Projects
26	Developing Projects and Discussion
May: Youth Service Month	
3	ISC: Project Reviews and Updates
10	TBD
17	TBD
24	TBD
27	Evening Meeting. TBD
31	TBD
June: Rotary Fellowship Month	
7	Youth
14	RYLA and YEX
21	Gavel Handover



24	President Evening celebrating Bill Fitzsimmons' Rotary Year – Date timing tentative
28	TBD