



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

September 11, 2017 Edition: 51.8 Reporter: Bill Tapuska Editor: David Williams

At 11:40 there was a big crowd milling about in the foyer surrounding the welcoming table with the doors to the meeting room CLOSED. Someone remarked that the "Brass was inside". Seems like the District Governor was meeting with our board inside to review our year! Not a bad idea though, since there was good fellowship in the foyer.

At 12 noon the doors flew wide open and the crowd surged into the meeting room much to the relief of **Garfield Ganong** and **David Impey** who were trying to collect for meal tickets.

Kurt Schurer balanced off the other end of the table with 50/50 tickets.

Ken Montgomery and **Bill Lawless** were still hanging onto summer by wearing shorts and sandals, Bill having the pleasant task of welcoming the members with name tags and special hugs for the ladies!

12:10 pm: Meeting hasn't started yet. Do we start at 12:10 or 12:15?

President Ben Kormos answered that question by starting precisely at 12:15 either right on time or 5 minutes late. [**Editor's Note:** The answer is given above on the first page of the weekly bulletin!]

The head table was graced by Past District Governor **Ted Valentine**, President-elect-nominee **Gerry Meek**, Assistant District Governor **John Fortunka**, and District Governor **Rick Istead**.

But! There was a vacancy at the head table. Mystery guest, maybe? We'll see. But lots of "Brass" as previously noted.

O Canada was sung acappella, and the invocation was given by **Denise Penner-Collins**.

President Ben thanked all the participants, front desk, hotel staff, and even noted the sergeant-at-arms, which elicited the boo birds!

Councilor-candidate **Chris Davis**, *in absentiam*, was represented by flyers on each table advertising that "Your Voice Matters". Go Chris, Go!

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



September 11, 2017

Lunch started with a delicious salad fortified with nuts, raisins and strawberries.

Bill Lawless introduced our guests, starting with two at the head table and **Elisabeth Hill**, all the way from Hampshire, England.



Attendance consisted of five full tables and the head table: a total of about 45.

As is his way, Ben played three songs on his iPhone, and, to the surprise of all, the tunes and the vocalist were easily identified.

The 50/50 of an undisclosed amount, was won by Elisabeth Hill our guest from England, who was a little overwhelmed, since our meeting was her first “make-up”. She won’t soon forget Calgary West!

Sergeant-at-Arms

David Williams took it upon himself to explain some “rules”.

But, first, he declared there would be no fines, to the applause of all!

- Maximum cumulative amount that anyone can be fined is \$2. However, he hoped that those members who could would continue to be their generous selves.
- Maximum length of time for introducing the speaker is three minutes.
- Maximum length of time for thanking the speaker is one minute.
- The job of mentors is to “keep an eye” on the new members and keep in touch.

Hot Seats

- **Marlene Doherty** reminded us of our Feed the Hungry obligation on October 22.

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My Passion, My Moments, Our Rotary

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- **ChaCha Chansiri** reminded us of the “Amazing Race” sponsored by the Chestermere Rotary Club in which our own **Darren Grierson** and **Eduardo Watman** are competing.
- Bill Lawless reminded us of the closing golf tournament at Okotoks on September 20. Four foursomes have been booked.
- **Robyn Braley** announced the “All Clubs Remembrance Day” meeting on November 11. This one sells out quickly, so get your tickets early. He also asked for support for Chris Davis and Dean Brawn, who are running for city council.

The remainder of the meal consisted of a steak sandwich, followed by variety of cakes for dessert.

President Ben read a note from **Andrew and Tracy Bitcon** expressing their appreciation for their time at Calgary West. They are now retiring to Penticton.

Guest Speaker

John Fortunka introduced Rick Istead, District Governor.

Rick Istead has been a long term player in Canadian agriculture, having worked for Syngenta Crop Protection Canada Inc. and its predecessor companies for almost 34 years in both eastern and western Canada and at its international head-quarters in Basel, Switzerland. Rick retired from Syngenta in mid-2006 and shortly afterwards established a small ag business consulting service based out of Calgary.

Now fully retired since April 1, 2014, Rick is keeping active through his involvement in Rotary. Thanks to Kent Fraser and John Fortunka, Rick joined the Rotary Club of Calgary Fish Creek in March 2007 and was club president in 2009-2010. Other club activities included the Stay in School program and he was membership chair from 2014-2016. At the District level, Rick is the past chair of the District Youth Exchange Committee. He remains a Rotary Leadership Institute facilitator and is now your District Governor. Beyond the District, Rick is a North American Youth Exchange Network (NAYEN) board member representing all of the independent Canadian Districts participating in Rotary’s Youth Exchange program. Recently he co-chaired the NAYEN 2017 conference in Calgary with PDG Fran Leggett. Rick also keeps active by volunteering at the Calgary Interfaith Food Bank, the Calgary Zoo and Westside Kings Church.

Rick is married to Pat and they have two daughters, Laura and Katherine, all of whom are also active volunteers.

A Summary of Rick's Presentation

Why is he proud to be a Rotarian?

- 112 years of making a difference
- Serve others before themselves

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- This close to ending polio
- Subscribing to 4-way test

Rick's credo for the year: one new plan, one new thing and one good laugh each day.

His priorities are who we are and what we do.

Leadership and development

- Rotary leaders are a resource pool
- Clubs need training beyond PETS and SETS
- Rotary District PI and Communication team
- Embellish Rotary's public image
- Youth Service

Membership

No 1 priority

- Attraction and engagement committee
- District membership in 2011 was 2038, in 2017, 1845
- 29 of 47 clubs lost members
- Calgary West gained four

RI Foundation

- Our District does well in:
 - Giving
 - Grant management
 - Grant stewardship
- RI should be our charity of choice
- Explained the "point system"

District Conference

May 4-6, 2018, at Hyatt Hotel in Calgary focusing on Fun and Friendship.

Q & As

Related to:

- Calgary Rotary Clubs Foundation
- Rotary Direct
- Shelter Box aid to hurricane victims
- RI Convention in Toronto
- Calgary vying for the convention in early 2020s

Rick was appropriately thanked by Ted (which took over one minute!), and was presented with our world famous Boltman.

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Coming Events

| September: Basic Education and Literary Month | |
|--|--|
| 4 | No Meeting: Labour Day |
| 11 | District Governor Rick Istead |
| 18 | Youth Exchange: A Jubilee Programme |
| 25 | Ghada Al Atrash: "Stripped to the Bone", a Portrait of Syrian Women |
| 28 | <i>Rotary After Hours — Bring a friend - Kensington Legion (6:00 pm)(+ Financials summary distributed for reading)</i> |
| October: Economic and Community Development Month | |
| 2 | Dr Charles Samuels: Centre for Sleep and Human Performance |
| 9 | No Meeting: Thanksgiving Day |
| 12 | <i>Rotary After Hours - Bring a friend - Kensington Legion (6:00 pm)</i> |
| 16 | Todd Hirsch: Economist |
| 23 | Noon meeting cancelled in favour of an evening Assembly @ Kensington Legion, 6 pm |
| 30 | Hallowe'en Programme: Costumes and Magic Tricks |
| November: Rotary Foundation Month | |
| 6 | RI Foundation and Calgary Rotary Clubs Foundation |
| 11 | Rotary Remembrance Day @ Carriage House, 10 am |
| 13 | No Meeting |
| 20 | Grey Cup Special Weekend Presentation |
| 23 | <i>Rotary After Hours: Bring a friend - Kensington Legion (6:00 pm)</i> |
| 27 | Roger Chaffin, Calgary Police Chief |

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| December | |
|----------|--|
| 4 | TBA |
| 11 | St Matthew's School Children's Choir? |
| 14 | <i>Rotary After Hours: Bring a friend — Kensington Legion (6:00 pm)</i> |
| 18 | Jubilee Programme: End of Jubilee Year |
| 25 | No Meeting: Christmas Day! |
| January | |
| 1 | No Meeting: New Year's Day |
| 8 | Inspirational Speaker: TBA |
| 15 | Dr Adam Montgomery: The Invisible Injured (Psychological Trauma in the Military) |
| 22 | Provincial Court of Alberta: TBA |
| 27 | <i>Rotary After Hours: Bring a friend - Kensington Legion (1:00 pm)</i> |
| 29 | Team Meeting |
| February | |
| 5 | TBA |
| 12 | No Meeting: Strawberry Shortcakes preparation and delivery 13th and 14th |
| 19 | No Meeting: Family Day |
| 26 | TBA |
| March | |
| 6 | TBA |
| 12 | TBA |
| 19 | TBA |
| 26 | Evening Assembly |