



September 24, 2018

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

September 24, 2018 - Edition: 52.11 Reporter: Mike Carlin Editor: David Williams

The club front desk was manned by **Eduardo Watman** (cashier), **Paul Graham** (cashier), **Garfield Ganong** (50/50 ticket seller), while **Marvin Pawlivsky** was the greeter.

President Tim Anderson called the meeting to order, followed by *O Canada* and a “lovely” invocation by **Joe Klassen** who recited St Paul’s definition of love. [**Reporter’s Note:** Congratulations to **Joe and Katherine** and **Orlin and Debbie**.]

Lunch was comprised of tomato vegetable soup [a little like Doherty’s whipped cream for SSC – foamy!]. The main course was penne and spaghetti sauce.

Tim started the meeting agenda with the introduction of the head table – **DG Dan and Marlene Doherty**, **ADG. John Fortunka**, **PDG Ted Valentine** and **PDG Steve Rickard**.

Marvin Pawlivsky introduced our visitors and guests including our exchange student, **Laura Pipolo** from Brazil and **Mrs. Doherty Sr.** (surprise for Dan).

Announcements

- **Highway Clean-up** – **Larry Doyle** thanked the nine old guys for showing up and braving the cold.
- **African Safari** – **Joe Klassen** advised that there are a few more spots available for the safari led by our own **Sa'adat Keshavjee** on February 12, 2019. Contact Sa'adat, if you're interested.
- Steve Rickard advised that the executor of the estate of **Don Axford** is looking for a “safe and secure” place to store Don’s grand piano. Let Steve know if you can help. Who is Steve anyway? A resident of a defunct mining town? Or a man with a wife 22 years younger! [**Editor's Note:** You had to be at the meeting to understand that!]

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

- **Rotary Bethany Atrium – Evelyn Buckley** advised that there will be another viewing on October 25th for those who missed the recent Sneak a Peek. Steve Rickard also read an email from **Tony Knight**, who advised that we have now exceeded \$910K of our \$1 million commitment for the atrium. CWRC has contributed \$342,355 of that amount! [more photos available on the website]



Sergeant-at-Arms – Marlene Doherty made a lot of money today. Fines for no pins. No one greeted her. And three things which are not displayed by our club; no 4-Way Test; no Rotary motto and no object of Rotary. Several happy bucks were announced including **Bill Quinney** for leaving his wife in the elevator for one hour before getting her out; Steve Rickard, who stated they had a former exchange student of 16 years ago visit (Fabio) who is now an anaesthesiologist. **Shelley Dyson** and **Andrew** who have just returned from a trip to London and Paris.

The 50/50 draw was won by Shelley Dyson, who contributed her winnings back to the club fund.

Guest Speaker District Governor Dan Doherty

John Fortunka, Assistant District Governor, introduced our very own Dan Doherty. John started off by thanking the board for allowing him to attend the pre-meeting and hear about all the good stuff our club is doing. John acknowledged that Dan has been a member of Calgary West for 36 years, having been introduced to Rotary by the late **Ron Jones**. While Dan is well known to a number of us, John stated he has drank beer with Dan, slept with him in the same room (different beds!) and worked side by side building Homes for Hope in Mexico. Two things he learnt from Dan:

- (1) Always get to know the family and
- (2) Building homes is not a “race” – it’s an opportunity to share and put your love and skill into what you do.



Dan started off by acknowledging the strong support he has received from his family. He couldn't do what his passion directs him to do without the love and support he has received from his mother, wife and family. He recalled the time he was speaking in the debate club in high school, concluding his speech by pounding the podium and breaking the podium! "Mom, I promise not to use a podium today!" 36 years in Calgary West makes him part of our family.

WOW – Dan's Presidential Theme 1999 – Look it up! It's been 20 years but it's still relevant today.

[**Editor's Note:** Since I believe that only a few can find their way around our club's website, this is what WOW stood for:

Will to change

Ordery fashion

Wonderment.]

He started off by asking the question – What do you do? What is your passion? Responses/Comments included:

- The **Atrium, Stampede Breakfast**, and building friends and strong relationships with people in **Guatemala, Mexico and Honduras**. Tens of thousands have benefited from our support.
- Being part of the **APU Malawi Girls School. Memory Mdyetseni** from Malawi, will be speaking at the Globe Cinema on Thursday, October 4, at 6 PM. Be there to hear Memory tell how her dream is becoming reality for the girls of Malawi on their journey towards independence and self-reliance.
- Our involvement in **Youth Exchange, RYLA, and RYPEN** has changed lives.
- This year will be the 15th year we have built **Homes of Hope** for the poorest of the poor. Think of the ripple effect.

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My Passion, My Moments, Our Rotary

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- In the community, we have worked the **Food bank, Feed the Hungry, and Cleaned up the Highway** for over 20 years.
- And what about immunization of the children of the world? When Rotary started there were 1000 children a day contacting polio. This year there has been 18! We are this close....the District goal is to raise \$100K on October 24th, **End Polio Day**, around the world and this will be matched 100% by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
- Rotary supports **Calgary Pride**, which exists to promote equality and celebrate Calgary's diversity.
- Fellowship and camaraderie working on projects such as **Strawberry Shortcakes, Christmas Wreaths** and **Cherry** sales.

What would Calgary “look like” if we didn’t do all the things we do and are so passionate about?



The Challenge

- **The District** has fallen from 2200 members five years ago to 1700. To make matters worse, we have taken in 1000 new members during that time frame - a real loss of 1500 members.
- **Calgary West** has lost 47 members in the last five years and 25 did not stay members for even five years.
- **The District** employed grad students from the U of C to conduct a survey to determine the reason for the fallout. 300 past Rotarians were contacted; and 100 responded within 24 hours!

Reasons

1. Did not feel they were respected. Their ideas were not appreciated. The club was governed by “cliques” or power groups who state, “We don’t do it that way”. Question: Do we know what every person in our club is passionate about? If not, why not?
2. Cost of being a member. It depends, but it is estimated a Rotarian can spend between \$1500 and \$3000 a year. After retirement, a number of members are on fixed incomes.

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We have to figure out how to become “irresistible”. Dan was on a committee with RI President Barry Rasson who asked the group to “design a club” with no “yeah buts”

Question: If you have not brought a new member to the club in the past two years, why not?

3. Past members felt there is a disconnect with the community. There was no impact and they were not engaged. The club has become fund raiser and cheque writer.

The Message

Let’s be that warm, welcoming Rotary club we like to think we are. Identify what your current passion is and work towards realizing it. Let’s figure out our membership problem. Let’s 'shoot the puck' and all row in the same direction. Just do it!

Ted Valentine thanked Dan and Marlene for their great work in Rotary, and presented Dan with our Jubilee Boltman.

President Tim closed the meeting.

Coming Events

October: Economic and Community Development Month	
1	Calgary Civic Symphony - Music Ensemble
8	No Meeting: Thanksgiving Day
10	Evening Assembly Meeting
15	International Community Service Programme
22	No meeting in favour of All-Clubs meeting, October 24
24	All-Clubs "Polio-Plus" meeting
29	Hallowe'en: Magic, Costumes and Goblins
November: Foundation Month	
5	RI Foundation and Calgary Rotary Clubs Foundation
12	No Meeting: Remembrance Day
19	Grey Cup Programme
26	Lorelei Higgins: Indigenous Relations, Rotary Peace Fellowship
December: Disease Prevention and Treatment Month	
3	Team Meeting
10	TBA
17	Children's Choir TBA
24	No Meeting. CHRISTMAS EVE!
31	Special Meeting: New Year's Eve Party – Tentative



January	
7	Motivational Speaker
14	Keith Blake, Chief of Police, Tsuut'ina Nation
21	Special Programme: Robbie Burns' Day - Tentative
28	TBA
February	
4	TBA
11	St Valentine's Day Programme
18	TBA
25	TBA