



THE ROTARY CLUB OF CALGARY HERITAGE PARK

THE STANDARD

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**PRESIDENT
BOB CLARK**

**REPORTER
MEREDITH PETRIE**

**EDITOR
ASHA PAUL**

MEETING NOTES



Duty Roster:

- Grace - Bill Hope, Bill delivered a very nice grace, read eloquently from his blackberry smart phone.
- Greeter – Lynda Campbell, Lynda bowled me over with a big smile and warm welcome the second I arrived.
- Door Sales – Zuzana Carter-Edwards, Zuzana did a great job.
- 50/50 – Clancey Ellingson, Everyone got their money's worth of tickets today with Clancey and his long arms.
- Sunshine Report – Peter Harding delivered the news with pizzazz and a few funny "how my wife and I end up in fights" jokes!
- Introduce Speaker – Brian Semeschuk - Delivered a worthy introduction with lovely elocution.
- Thank Speaker – Graham Drake gave heartfelt thanks to our speaker.
- Standard Reporter – Meredith Petrie Came to the conclusion that when she is assigned this duty again, she will be bringing a tape recorder! *hand cramp*

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Pre-Meeting Notes

People are buying 50/50 tickets with fervour – there is a HUGE pot today.
Dave McKeown starts us off with Oh Canada. I always feel out of tune here.
Grace is delivered and we are off to the races.

Visiting Rotarians:

Alic Dougall – Dove Mountain
Bob Depledge – Chinook
Steve Richard – Calgary West
John Price – Calgary South

Guests:

Kristy Bonnie
Lonny Balbi (Guest Speaker)
Tara Seitz
Sheila Tyminski (our newest member)
Katie Rennie



IMPORTANT NEWS

THE EXECUTIVE APPROVED THE APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF SHEILA TYMINSKI, WITH THE PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION OF DIETICIAN. HER SPONSOR IS GRAHAM DRAKE.

Formal Meeting Begins:

It is a full house!

- Jamie Powell is nominated to polish dishes, all dapper in his gold tie and suit. The buffet seems a bit short on fruit and they have reversed the order – bacon first? Very confusing! (sarcasm)
- Steve Richard from Calgary West does a brief talk about a micro credit program he is involved with in Liberia (Africa). He jokes that he is the tallest guy here interested in the smallest amount of money. He then showed a short video from a school that was established thanks to the involvement of this micro-credit program. He encouraged everyone to take a trip to see their work – the experience has changed his life. As a wrap up to his “mini” presentation, the Zuzana from the International Committee presented Steve with a \$4, 880.00 cheque for the micro-credit program in Liberia. Fantastic!
- Bob reminds the Club that there will be an all Presidents meeting on Monday February 7 and Tuesday February 8th will be an Executive meeting.



PODIUM DASH



John Radermacher – John encouraged everyone to take some time and go check out G.W. Skene school. We donated \$3,000 to their library for books. He commented that one can easily see the appreciation on the kid's faces and it's a great opportunity to re-connect with a supportive community project we are doing locally. See John to get more information on how to set up a visit.



Raju Paul – Raju presented a Rotary International Flag to the Club as a gift. This is a special item as it has been signed by all living RI Presidents with the exception of Rick King. A big round of applause and thanks for Raju's gift ensued.

Anniinna's Weekly Report – She starts with her traditional "Good Moooooooooooooorrrrrning" She reports spending last Friday evening at the Rotary Chinese New Year Celebration. (I am inserting a few of my own notes here) Meredith had the pleasure of sharing a table with Anniinna and a few of her fellow exchange students. Anniinna was wonderful and represented our Club with enthusiasm and maturity. I felt like a proud parent. She had a great time, was wonderful company and it turns out that she LOVES ginger beef. (End of Meredith's added notes) She went on to talk about the Hockey game she attended on Saturday (Calgary won) and that she is coping but her return to school on Monday after a month and a half break has been challenging.

Our fearless leader Bob ended the minutes by encouraging everyone to attend the pubber. With great grilled meats, gambling and some tipsy bevy's it's guaranteed to be a good time. We need to sell 50 tickets and only 33 have been sold to date. Gaucho is catering with Brazilian meat and there will be prizes too! Many club members provided positive testimonials from last year. "The pitch convinced me! I



SUNSHINE REPORT - Peter Harding

- There are no club or wedding anniversaries this week.
- Today is Doug Hood's birthday – Happy Birthday Doug!
- Gung Hoy Fat Choi (spelling?) – Happy Year of the Rabbit New Year to Everybody.
- Peter finally shared three quick jokes on how to start a fight with your wife:



1 - I took my wife to a restaurant. The waiter, for some reason, took my order first. "I'll have the rump steak, rare, please." He said, "Aren't you worried about the mad cow?" "Nah, she can order for herself." And that's when the fight started....

2 - My wife and I were sitting at a table at her high school reunion, and she kept staring at a drunken man swigging his drink as he sat alone at a nearby table. I asked her, "Do you know him?" "Yes", she sighed, He's my old boyfriend.... I understand he took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I



hear he hasn't been sober since." "My God!" I said, "Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?" And then the fight started...

3 - My wife was hinting about what she wanted for our upcoming anniversary. She said, "I want something shiny that goes from 0 to 150 in about 3 seconds." I bought her a bathroom scale. And then the fight started.....

HAPPY BUCKS

Lynda is our pot holder today.

Bill Hope: Happy that the union voted 70%, so no strikes and one sad buck because he wishes he was back in Squamish B.C. lately

Raju – Happy buck – it's good to be back from South America and too see everyone.

Doug Hood – Happy \$5 for his birthday, though he is not certain he wants to celebrate it. "Come on Doug – we all get older *wink*"

Peter Harding – Happy buck for the fact a gold sponsor for the ARF golf tournament has been secured

Jaenette Nyman – Happy buck for bringing a first time \$250,000 donor to Heritage Park

Graham Drake – Happy Buck – he is leaving for India tomorrow. (I am jealous!) He is also glad to be going with his female family counterparts, who he admits are much more organized.

Doris – Thank you buck – to Max and Kapu for hosting the ARF tournament committee meeting at their house and to everyone who came out for the meeting. We are now sitting at 70 registered golfers.

Lynda – Happy Buck for Al and Ida hosting who's coming to dinner

Bob – Happy Buck for Calgary Flames win

Bruce – Thank you buck – Graham and Holly for dinner and Max for hosting golf meeting.



50/50

\$1,268.00 Pot - the silence is deafening as the winning ticket is drawn. Mark Rowe is the lucky man today! He delivers a rocky but complete 4 way test recital in a perfect Texas drawl. No Joy! He doesn't draw the joker! Lots of clapping follows as everyone strategizes when to purchase their tickets for next week.





SHERIFF - Zuzanna Carter-Edwards

Joan, Jaenette and Lori are fined for being late.

Graham is fined for commenting on Zuzana bringing Anniinna to our meetings in a Swedish and not a Finnish car.

Zuzana continues table by table to fine people by having a fun quiz on Ground Hog day and the Ground Hog Day movie trivia. It seems our club does not fancy Bill Murray films because we didn't fare so well on the quiz. There were a lot of "clinks" as people dropped their money in the pot.



GUEST SPEAKER

LONNY BALBI, Q.C. AND FOUNDER OF BIKE TO WORK DAY

Introduction (Brian S.)

Lonny is a lawyer who actively practices Family Law. He is an accredited Family Mediator, Arbitrator and Collaborative Family Lawyer. He is the founder of Balbi & Company Legal Centre – a boutique family law firm, and is also a Sessional Instructor at the University of Calgary Faculty of Law. Lonny has been in the fitness business teaching aerobics and spin classes for almost 25 years. His passion for fitness and cycling inspired the vision of Bike to Work Day Calgary – an idea that had been brewing for a number of years. As a lead up to the Bike to Work Day event, Lonny came up with the concept of the "Suit Pursuit" – an event held one week prior to Bike to Work Day involving a fun race between a cyclist, a motorist and a transit rider. In 2009, Lonny won both the Community Achievement Award and the Environmental Achievement Award from the City of Calgary, due to his commitment to the community and the environment. This was the first time that any one individual won two awards in one year.

Lonny stands before us tall, tanned and with a broad white smile – a physically fit example of a lawyer if I ever saw one. He speaks about his passion for the community and the need for more people to consider biking to work, for both environmental and health reasons.

His Mission is to encourage Calgarians to bike to work for the good of the environment, their health and the obvious time benefits. (Less traffic jams)





The Goal for his project is to develop a unique way to create awareness surrounding Bike to Work Day. This is why he created "The Suit Pursuit". Every year the race features a celebrity as the cyclist. (And the cyclist always wins) Some of these celebrities have included: Doug Mitchell Q.C., Ralph Klein, Rick Hansen (Police Chief) and Judge Victor Tousignant.

Lonny continued on to share a story of how he almost killed Ralph Klein, his goals to grow the bike event in the coming years and his dream to see the community come together for increased participation. The Suit Pursuit this year will be Friday April 29 and Bike to Work Day will be Friday May 6. Norm thanked our speaker in his traditionally funny way and so ended the speaker portion of our meeting.



CONCLUSION

Bob's closing lyrics for today come from a great voice of the past – Ms. Janis Joplin.

"Freedom's just another word for nothing left to lose,
Nothing don't mean nothing honey if it ain't free"

Bob then urges us to "reflect on your blessings and consider the changes we can create through Rotary."

