



THE STANDARD

MARCH 28, 2025

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ISSUE 32

**PRESIDENT
BILL SKINNER**

**REPORTER
JIM DAVIS**

**EDITOR
ASHA PAUL**

MEETING NOTES



THE MAGIC
OF ROTARY



ROTARY CLUB OF CALGARY HERITAGE PARK

President Bill, after an advance warning, called us to order on time and allowed the members a few seconds to settle down. With a warm welcome to members and guests, Bill asked Stan to lead us in the national anthem, then provided a land acknowledgement.

We welcomed guests Dan Kostka, our guest speaker, Kate Paulsen, Inclusion Alberta and visiting Rotarian Dave Townsend. A couple of members tried to play the guest card, likely to queue jump at breakfast, but their bluff was called!

Doug Kinley, looking tanned and relaxed, did a fine job shining plates, with special effort for our guests!

PROGRAM

Velma introduced our guest speaker Dan Kostka starting with his extensive education and publishing background as a lead into his experience at the Slovakia/Ukraine border in the early days of the invasion.

Dan's wife and father are both from Slovakia and Dan, his wife and two young children were in Slovakia for an extended period over the winter of 2021/22. Right at the outset, Dan wanted to do something to help, and he determined a volunteer driver would be his service to the community. For five out of the next six weekends (one off to deal with COVID) he was at one of the three border crossings into Slovakia. He bought supplies for refugees and provided transportation from three different border crossings, back to the Slovakian capital of Bratislava, where he was living, a seven-hour drive. Dan's efforts and attitude helped 26 refugees (and one dog), mostly women and children, get to a destination away from the border without having to rely on the train system. Even with some language barriers, his efforts to safely provide door to door transportation was very reassuring to families in an extremely stressful situation. On his fifth weekend of volunteering, which was now early April, over 2 million refugees had crossed into Slovakia, some 400,000 would remain in the country with the rest heading to other destinations.

The role of the volunteers, and there were hundreds, help fill the needs that the large and small international organizations could not meet.

Velma thanked our speaker and compared his "how can I help?" approach to the crisis with Rotary's Service Above Self role in our communities. She then presented Dan with a certificate acknowledging a donation for 20 polio vaccinations in his name.

FRIDAYS 7 AM. GUNN'S DAIRY BARN, HERITAGE PARK, 1900 HERITAGE DRIVE SW, CALGARY



MINUTES

Brad S and Bill H provided some entertainment for a draw for an Italian Centre gift basket and two bottles of Italian wine (donated by Bill and Susan H). The two of them sold 46 tickets and the random number generator picked Eve as the lucky prize winner. The real winner was the Habitat of Humanity Guatemala project as \$460 was raised.

For the interlude during the raffle as numbers were rechecked, Sheila asked for more volunteers for the SCAS, especially on Sunday and the open slots on Friday night and Saturday. Please sign up on the website!

Tracey V gave us an update on the RI Convention and reminded us to register before the US \$70 price increase on Tuesday. There are 15, 222 registered and paid as of today. Check the RI website for the latest on speakers, schedules and events!

SHERIFF

Sheriff Graham added to club coffers with some general fines covering everyone who walks/hikes instead of driving and paying the fuel tax, travellers to the US, Bill S for his delegation skills and Stan/Vince/Bill S for the advertising and promotion of Stan's business disguised as a happy buck.

CONCLUSION

President Bill gave our thought for the week, abbreviated and paraphrased by your reporter who couldn't write fast enough... "provide for those who have too little,," Teddy Roosevelt.

As is now tradition, we closed with the Four-Way Test.

DUTY ROSTER

MARCH 21, 2025

GREETERBRAD WELLCOME
DOOR SALES.....TED WOOD
INTRODUCE & THANK.....ROB MATTHEWS
REPORTER.....SHEILA TYMINSKI

**If you are unable to fulfil your duties please
find your own replacement.**

MOTIONS

Bob Cove, on behalf of Vocational Services: (1) moves that we supply 2 computers monitors and keyboards for a total sum of \$2400 to the Prospect Resource and Employment Centre. Seconded and carried. (2) to provide Aventa two (2)_\$1500 scholarships towards vocational support. Seconded and carried.

Deb Duncanson, on behalf of Community Services, moved that we donate \$2,500 to the Abled Sailing Association to cover estimated costs for trailer repair and maintenance. Seconded and carried.

Janet Blahun, on behalf of International Services, (1) moves that RCCHP contribute up to \$2000 CDN towards flights and/or registration fees for the convention for 2 Graduates from Volcanes Kids Education Program to attend the Rotary International convention contingent on Booth approval from Rotary International. Seconded and carried. (2) moved that RCCHP provide CDN\$1000 for a global grant called Water System Improvement – Vista Hermosa, Guatemala. This grant is led by RC Lake Atitlan, Guatemala as the host club, and RC Annapolis, Maryland as the international partner club. Seconded and carried.

HAPPY BUCKS

A few happy bucks were raised for our speaker, the donors and Calgary Co-op for the SCAS and appreciation for Stan's help on the Vavrek house.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

DON MCARTHUR.....APR 6
MARLENE DOHERTY.....APR 11
TAMMY WOOD.....APR 20
CLIFF TYMINSKI.....APR 23

ANNIVERSARY

MARK & JOAN ROWE (43YRS).....APR 10

ROTARY ANNIVERSARY

DOUG MACDONALD (32YRS).....APR 13
GINNY MURPHY (12YRS).....APR 30