



THE STANDARD

NOVEMBER 21 2025

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PRESIDENT
LYNDA CAMPBELL

REPORTER
BOB CLARK

EDITOR
ASHA PAUL

MEETING NOTES



With only 8 more sleeps until Black Friday, Tracey Vavrick called the meeting to order at 7:00 am. Stan "Angel" Christmas conducted the O'Canada choir. Tracey delivered the land acknowledgement and gave thanks. Six guests, including three returnees from last week, were introduced. Guests first, and then members, were greeted at the buffet by Vince Vavrick.

PROGRAM

Lorne introduced Sheila Tyminski, our guest speaker who has been a member of RCCHP since 2011 and was club president 2014/2015. As a dietician, Sheila has published food insecurity papers.

Sheila gave a terrifying, tragic, and yet ultimately optimistic presentation regarding Rwanda. She included a warning for all to be vigilant when it comes to peace. Cliff and other members of her group were in attendance, who traveled to Rwanda in May 2025 for two weeks via Inspire Africa. Inspire Africa was started by local donors in 2006.

Rwanda is located in the middle of Africa and is the "land of 1,000 hills". The economy is based upon cattle and agriculture. Germany colonized Rwanda in 1885. The country was granted independence in 1961. By 1994 between ½ and 1 million Rwandans were living outside the country, often in poverty. This was followed by civil war. Sheila encouraged everyone to read the book: "Shake Hands with the Devil", which addresses a failed UN peacekeeping force led by Romeo Dallaire. On April 6, 1994 a plane carrying the Rwandan president was shot down. Organized mass murders of up to a million people followed. There are rows of graves with memorials and a museum memorial site. Rwanda today has a bustling main city. Rwanda is politically stable and has embraced business reforms. The rural areas are unfortunately very different, often suffering from safe water issues

What can we do? Embrace peace, recognize early signs of conflict, speak up, and remember. There are Rotary clubs in Rwanda. Inspire Africa works with local charities. Lorne thanked Sheila and her guests in attendance, including Cliff.

FOUNDATION MONTH

Tim from Dawson Creek, a past District Governor began by thanking others for their contributions including training vets in Rwanda to help gorillas, which promotes tourism and economic development.

Tim spoke about Rotary Peace Centers and Polio Angels to completely eradicate a disease which is otherwise a plane ride away.

The audacious goal for the Rotary Endowment Fund was \$2.205 billion by 2025. The reality is \$2.078 billion in 2025. This fund promotes basic education and literacy, peace, and grants. Jennifer Jones will be the next Rotarian in charge.

Marlene presented the following members for contributions to the Foundation

Paul Harris + 3 to Steve; Paul Harris + 8 to Don; Paul Harris + 8 to Sheila.

Polio Plus contributing angels: Graham; Harry; Stan.

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



MINUTES

Judy spoke about the District Youth Grant and the transformative power of RYPEN and RAYAC. Youth gain new experience, make friends, learn and have many take-aways that enable the transition to self-confident leaders.

Bill Skinner spoke about the Guatemala water supply project that has now connected 324 families. A \$140,000 project financed by RCCHP, district and grants.

Elves Marlene and Velma promoted some upcoming Christmas cheer. Be sure to get yourself onto the correct holiday list. Thursday December 11 for festive fellowship along with magic and trivia. What do you call Sir Lancelot with laryngitis? Silent Knight.

MOTION

Motion for Victory Outreach to provide \$3,580 for gift cards and a Christmas event was passed. Deb invited and encouraged to attend on December 15 for the annual bingo bonanza. Arrive with a smile and allow your heart to grow 10 sizes plus 2 as we share an evening of fellowship.

SUNSHINE

Asha returned with birthday wishes for Lynda (13th) Thampi (13th) and Deborah McArthur (17th). Phil celebrated 17 years as a Rotarian.

HAPPY BUCKS

50/50 winners from other events, including Roger at the Grey Cup party and Vince at Spruce Meadows on behalf of the Calgary Food Bank. Each generously contributed \$20.

Bill Skinner had a happy dollar and a thank you card from Ujamma Grammas.

Bob Clark had \$5 happy for 3 returning guests from last week.

Marlen had \$2 happy for 11 chili entries.

Peter Harding had \$2 happy that the chili recipe that he and Elaine created was number 1.

Saskia had \$5 for our hospitality. Bob Clark was quick to suggest next membership application steps.

50/50

AGLC raffle licence - \$97.00 in total collected. Bob Clark's guest (and potential new member, even before this) Graham Kennelly had one of his tickets selected. With Bob, Graham successfully delivered the 4-way test and then drew the Ace of Spades, which is usually a very good thing. Not this time, as we continue to play "Jig the Joker". The pot of \$48.50 rolls forward to next week. Tickets are only available at the meeting and only by cash payment.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

WYNNE BJORGAN.....Nov 25
STAN CHRISTMAS.....Nov 25

ANNIVERSARY

THAMPI & MINI THOMAS (36YRS).....Nov. 27

ROTARY ANNIVERSARY

HAROLD AITKENHEAD (17YRS).....Nov 28

DUTY ROSTER

NOVEMBER 28, 2025

GREETERDOUG KINLEY
DOOR SALES.....DOUG MACDONALD
INTRO & THANK.....LAUREN MCKAMMY
REPORTER.....ROGER SONTAG

If you are unable to fulfil your duties please

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