Rotary Club of Camrose Daybreak
Eyeopener January 7, 2020 – We Are Rotary

January – Vocational Service Month

Alan opened the meeting at 7:10 am, 11 members and Cliff’s guest Dave Solverson present, with *O Canada* and the *Rotary Grace*

Birthdays in January – Robyn and Dean
Rotary Anniversaries in January – Carol 2004, Rob 2012, Lisa 2014

Dean offered **Food for Thought** on recent experiences on night patrol in the city. Theft and property crimes are issues that consume a fair amount of police service time and resources. Recently Dean put on the uniform, strapped on the gun and joined officers on night patrol. (Staying up after midnight is hard.) it’s important to see what officers deal with. It was satisfying to see the relationships and knowledge the officers have built in the community. They know the name, date of birth, etc of alleged suspects they encounter. One of the sadder revelations of the evening was after arresting a person on outstanding warrants and new charges he was back playing VLTs at a local hotel virtually before Dean got back on the street. Dean is proud of the reputation his members have established in our community.

**Announcements**:

* Destiny invited interested members to join her at a joint meeting, social, planning get-together at the **Boston Pizza Lounge on Thursday at 6:30 pm**
* Semi-annual dues of $115 are due if you haven’t already paid. John has sent out invoices.
* Rotary Club of Camrose *Rotary Cares* raffle tickets are available. Proceeds support the Air and Army Cadet programs in Camrose. Tickets are still only $100, 12 monthly draws of $1,000, 300 tickets printed, and you are in all draws. Don’t want to spend $100, then share the cost (and the prize) with friend(s). eTransfer $100 to rotarycamrosetreasurer@gmail.com with your name, email and/or phone number in the message area and you will receive a picture of your ticket or contact Morris, rotary.morris@telus.net. The first draw is in 2 weeks – January 13th.and many tickets are still available. **Let’s support this initiative.**
* **Days for Girls** sewing events restart this weekend January 11 and 12 at the Rotary Youth Centre. Carol has details.
* John has received some funding requests in response to his emails to past recipients. Let John know of needs you are aware of so we can start the review at next week’s board meeting.

Rob drew the five of diamonds and will provide **Food for Thought** at our meeting on January 21st.

**Happy Bucks** were offered for holiday visiting with family and friends, skiing, family birthdays (even if didn’t expect to be over 40 years old), Canada Juniors gold medal, flooding lawsuit in Katy, Texas (what do you mean open the gates at 95”, no 100”, no 105”, oops too late – 15” of water in your house, 15’ in others houses. Oh, well), upcoming Kananaskis trip, invitation to today’s meeting, meeting in California – fines rather than happy bucks.

**Destiny inducted Dean** into our Rotary Club opening the world of Rotary to him. Following his induction and welcome into the club Dean shared his path to Camrose with us. Growing up on a hog farm in the Red Deer area gave Dean an appreciation for school (a way to avoid chores). His father having spent 12 years in the RCMP prior to farming sparked his interest in policing. Meeting the love of his life in high school meant following her to Calgary. In the 30 years they have been together Dean has been with the Calgary Police Service, retiring as Inspector after 26 years, with the RCMP in Airdrie for 18 months and here as Police Chief for about 6 months.

They are enjoying the community here. The 2-minute commute to work rather than the one hour commute, having time to eat lunch rather than standing in line at a food counter are just a couple of luxuries. Dean sees policing as building relationships and showing compassion while enforcing the law. The smaller community, more intimate setting allows Dean to get out on the street to build morale and feel what his members feel.

When retirement comes Dean wants to build on property near Sundre and get away from sirens, trains, bustle.

**A Conversation on Membership**

Cliff started a conversation on membership with a call for each of us to consider one or two people that would benefit from joining Rotary – and start their journey by inviting them to a meeting, service event or social. A suggestion was made that with the changes and loosening of many restrictions, especially on attendance, that we review the register of former members to reach out to see if they are interested in participating with us. We could start by developing a Friends of Rotary cohort.

District conferences and International conventions are terrific ways to expose members to the wider world of Rotary. While the speakers, training, and entertainment are top-notch the major impact is in the impromptu conversations with other Rotarians. District conferences of 500-800 people excel at building relationships with people that are in our area and clubs that are easy to visit. International conventions of 25,000 to 35,000 people excel at seeing and experiencing the diversity within Rotary while observing tie unifying purpose of Rotary – service to create a better world.

There was consensus we need to find a way to get answers to why our members left Rotary. We know the obvious – they moved out of town - suspect attendance demands affected others, but what else?

**Reminders:**

* Next Monday January 12 6:00 pm Joint meeting at Casino Hotel – Carol and Destiny presenting *Days for Girls*
* Next Tuesday January 13 7:00 am Board meeting at Certified Training

Alan closed the meeting at 8:00 am leading us in the *Four Way Test*.