Rotary Club of Camrose Daybreak

EyeOpener November 10, 2020 Battle River Watershed

November is Rotary Foundation Month

Odell played a video of *O Canada* to open the meeting with 13 members and speaker Nathalie present

Nine-year Rotary anniversary for Destiny and two-year for Glenda and Tricia this month

Patrice and Larry lost both their cats this year but have added a kitten, that was not expected to survive, to the family. Patrice shared how Miracle (Mira for short) brings the positives of pet ownership in her **Food for Thought**. Positives that pets can bring include:

* Exercise, both walking outside/playing inside
* Keep you from being lonely
* Lower stress levels
* Help make friends, especially for dog owners
* Stop children from developing allergies
* Teach children responsibility
* Companionship

Dean will offer **Food for Thought** next week.

**Presentation** – Battle River Watershed Alliance, Nathalie

The Battle River Watershed Alliance (BRWA) was created in November 2006 as a non-profit society. Shortly after its formation, the BRWA was selected by Alberta Environment, under the *Water for Life Strategy*, as the designated Watershed Planning and Advisory Council for the Battle River and Sounding Creek Watersheds in Alberta. The BWRA provides education and outreach, stewardship and assistance in managing the watershed.

The Battle River is prairie-fed from Battle Lake rather than mountain-fed. This makes it more susceptible to flow variances. However, it is a small but mighty river that flows through Alberta and Saskatchewan with its waters reaching Hudson Bay. There are lots of people depending on the river water that rely on good choices being made in the management of the resource.

Nathalie focused on the education and outreach of the BWRA. Youth programs were described:

* Caring for Our Watershed
* Explore More, supported by Cargill
* Discover Your Wetland
* Waste in Our Watershed, for grade 4
* X-Stream Science, water quality monitoring for high schools
* Future Farmers for Freshwater, possible new Eco Action grant program for 4-H

Community outreach has developed as ‘meet where they are’ programs. These include:

* Saskatoon pie making competitions
* Festival at Big Knife Provincial Park
* Finding Common Ground
	+ First was a 3-day bike tour of energy options
	+ Second was a 2-day bus tour for *Energy Ambassadors*
	+ Planned is an agriculture tour

Projects that have been undertaken to offer resources for river users include:

* *Paddle the Battle*, a guide to navigation and shuttle locations
* *Traversing Terrain and Experience Atlas*, a great gift idea

The BWRA is looking for nominees for their **OTIS** (Outstanding in Stewardship) award. Details about this award and the BWRA is available at [battleriverwatershed.ca](https://www.battleriverwatershed.ca/).

**Happy Bucks**

* Ski trails are being groomed, got out skiing
* Brought snowblower home from the cottage
* Texas election had minimal disruptions
* Massage relieved soreness from outdoor runs
* No camera flash on sliding through intersection (Dean - light has to be red when you enter the intersection to draw a photo)
* Hope roads are good for drive to dental appointment in Edmonton

**Announcements**

* Hospital linens and soccer jerseys delivered to the Emmanuel Foundation. They were very appreciative and gave Cliff and I an informative tour and story of the Foundation’s work
* Fall Learning session on *Virtual Fundraising – What Clubs Need to Know* PowerPoint is available from me. Examples from an earlier presentation are in the Learning and Development section of the District 5370 website
* The story of the *Fun Photo Scavenger Hunt* is in the November 8th issue of the Connections newsletter, in your mailbox or on the District 5370 website
* Ask Robyn about the fundraiser supporting our library

**Reminder**

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 17, 7:00 am via Zoom. Brendan Mckinstry, Camrose Disc Golf

Alan led us in the *Four Way Test* to close the meeting

Morris

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