Rotary Club of Camrose Daybreak
EyeOpener September 24, 2019

*September Theme*: Literacy and Basic Education
*October Theme*: Economic and Community Development

Meeting called to order 7:10 am with *O Canada* and *Rotary Grace*

Eleven members in attendance

Cliff offered **Food for Thought** – You know how you wonder what food you will get and how do people eat in places you travel to. Often it is contrary to your preconceived notion. I was surprised how healthy people eat in Tanzania – fresh vegetables, fruit and meats. Most people look healthy, even the wild animals are healthy.

Announcements:

* **The Hunt** – Patrice passed the signup sheet for Thursday’s hunt social one last time. Clues are being prepared, teams made up and preparations for 6:30 kickoff at 4204 64 Street Close are underway
* **TV Bingo** – John has the team set to start the bingo season next Wednesday, October 2nd. No response to social media campaign looking for technical intern. Tricia is supplementing Eastlink’s effort
* Days for Girls **Quilt Raffle** – Carol has tickets you can buy or take to sell. $5 each or 5 for $20
* **Pints for Polio** – Planning for November 1st event happening. Stay tuned for details.
* **Youth Opportunities** – We received information about RYLA in November and Human Rights Leadership Experience in Winnipeg in February (October application deadline). Glenda/Morris indicated while these are great opportunities, as a club we aren’t prepared to act on them at this time. We are trying to get Rotaract underway and lack the Interact or high school contacts to be effective.

Cliff drew the 5 of hearts and will offer **Food for Thought** next meeting.

**Happy Bucks** were offered for the non-audition choir at Augustana, 50th school reunion, hearing stories at said reunion, exchange student coming for Christmas, travel but glad to be home again, harvest progress (slow), youth action on climate change, Ikea parking lot encounter, upcoming cabin stay.

A computer was not available for the planned **presentation,** so Morris shared how having a father in the army affected his schooling and life experience. Recent conversations among people who have lived their lives predominately in one community brought out the differences moving frequently create.

Only living in my birthplace for 3 months leaves no hometown. Kindergarten and grade 1 were in London, Ontario; grade 2 in Forest, Ontario and Saulnierville, Nova Scotia (French Catholic, nuns); Grade 3, 4 and start grade 5 in Camp Gagetown, New Brunswick (2 different homes and schools); sail to Germany late October; grade 5 to start of grade 8 Hemer, Germany – half this time in accelerated class to do 3 years in 2 but mom decided to abandon it; sail home on last troop ship in late December- I do not recommend North Atlantic cruise in December; one month at city school in Kingston, Ontario; balance of grade 8 at base school, 2 different classes so I learned some things 3 times and others not at all. Got to spend grades 9 to 13 at same high school across the city and 4 years at Queen’s University in Kingston. While I spent this time in Kingston (by far the longest I lived anywhere), we moved from the off-base house to 2 different base houses (dad’s promotion). I then roomed with a friend after home left me then moved to my own place. In the meantime, dad was posted to Egypt (we didn’t go) for a year and to Royal Military College on his return. Home left me after 1st year of university when dad was posted to Cornwallis, Nova Scotia then to Germany again.

The army has regiments, like the idea of air force squadrons. In a regiment there is generally a large core of servicemen that move as a unit when they get different assignments. Friendships are built within the corps as well as in the dependents (partners and children). Dad wasn’t in a regiment but as a service corps cook was attached to regiments. As he moved up the promotion ladder, he would be transferred to new regiments quite often. This meant very few lasting friendships.

There are lots of plusses to being an ‘army brat’ but not having connections to a hometown, school or childhood friends means I have had to connect to the community I was in. Twenty-eight years in the same house in Camrose now forms most of my life.

Meeting adjourned with the *Four Way Test* at 8:05 am