



SpinoFF

ROTARY CLUB OF WEST OTTAWA
Jean Bégin, President
December 5, 2017 Editor: Graeme Fraser

Program Dec 5 Caroline De Witt- Classification talk

We begin

What a contrast it was today. Outside it was overcast and cold, while inside it was warm and inviting. The room filled up with Rotarians coming together to break bread and listen to **Caroline De Witt** give her classification talk. **Victor Mazzola** and **Dave Morton** shook our hands and invited us in and **Mary Wattie** collected our money. **Fred Christie** was clearly bored as there were no visitors to record or to introduce later, as our meeting consisted of only our own members.

President Jean Bégin called us to order and we sang the national anthem accompanied by **Rod Holmes** on keyboard and then listened as **Cletus Peters** gave a thoughtful grace.

Anup Subedi ran the Past President's Draw which was won by a very pleased **Pardeep Ahluwalia**.

Rotary Foundation

As this is Rotary Foundation month, **Doug Rowlands** was called upon to inform the membership of the importance and benefits of individual donations to the Foundation. He made a very strong case with seven points that highlighted the effectiveness of your contribution. The Club and, in fact, the District as well, have always encouraged each member to contribute \$100 per year to the Foundation. We also raise money through Foundation dinners and through the Foundation walks. Grants from the Foundation have been directed to things such as Dictionaries for Life, graduate exchange students, **Bea Osome's** well building in Africa and **Suan Cross'** work in the slums of Nairobi as well as the big global multi-club projects like the dam in Swaziland

Doug's 7 points to consider are:

1. 92% dollar effectiveness as the cost load is only 8%
2. The club matches your donation
3. It's easy to donate and any amount is welcome
4. Not only do you get a tax receipt but your contribution is also counted towards your Paul Harris Fellowship award

5. 50% of what goes to the foundation is returned to our District
6. West Ottawa takes full advantage of the Foundation and uses it to support many of our projects
7. It has a great return on investment

So please, consider donating.

Announcements:

Pardeep Ahluwalia let us know that \$2,000 were dollars raised through sales at shopping malls and retirement homes. He made special mention of the contributions **Robert Shaw-Wood**, **Mike Traub** and **Keith Fraser** had made.

Jim Maxwell alerted the Club that we would be contributing \$1275 to an initiative by other area RCs to help rebuild schools with hurricane damage in Dominica. \$500 was coming from the International Service Committee and \$775 from contributions in the last few weeks by individual members. Congratulations, members, on exceeding the \$500 target.

President Jean reminded people to sign up for the Foundation dinners on the sheets that **Joan Heyland** was circulating around the room. The dinners are a great way to get to know other members, enjoy tremendous food and help out the Foundation. Each guest contributes \$25 to the Foundation

Classification Talk

Joe Redhead introduced one of our own, **Caroline De Witt** to give us her classification talk. **Joe** gave us an overview of what we were going to hear and then handed the mic to **Caroline**.

Illustrating her talk with slides and pictures, **Caroline** started by telling us she was born in San Fernando in Trinidad and Tobago. After secondary school her parents, strong believers in education, sent her to London, England to be trained as a Montessori teacher. On completing her training, she accepted an offer from a school in Edmonton. Deciding that a change of direction was in order she moved to Toronto and earned a BA and an MA in economics from York University. After university,

she worked for several federal government departments in Ottawa focusing on program evaluation.

She gave us a brief education on the field of evaluations noting that it has existed for a very long time and in the 17th century was used to assess possible projects. In general, it is a way to measure program effectiveness in terms of value for money and to help improve project outcomes.

Caroline worked in federal departments for some thirty years, last as a Senior Analyst at what was then called Human Resources and Skills Development Canada. There she was involved in evaluations ranging from labour market outcomes to grant and contributions programs delivered through third parties some of which won performance awards.

Caroline has been and continues to be very active with both the Ottawa Jazz Festival and the RBC Bluesfest. This of course is when she is not visiting her daughter (also an economist!) who currently lives in Delft in the Netherlands.

Don Butler expressed the thanks of the club for not only the education about evaluation but more importantly for helping us get to know who

Caroline De Witt is. It was clear that **Caroline** will be yet another great addition to our club.

Happy Dollars:

Peter Fisher was happy because of the nine-month anniversary of his first granddaughter

Fred Christie threw in some coins as he was excited to be going with his brother and brother-in-law to the Roar of the Rings to watch the curling

Brett Brooking kicked in a dollar to say thanks for the help for shoe sorting

Carol Bell Thompson recommended to us a drive through Lesley Clover Park and the Magic of Lights. She said it is worth going to see and the cost is only \$25 per carload with the best time to go being dinner time as the traffic is less

Eugen Achihaei shared with us that he had enjoyed being part of the fireside chat that took place at the residence of **Merv** and **Marilyn Letts** the other night.

Close

And then **President Jean** wrapped up the meeting with a reminder to keep watching for new members.

Cash Calendar

Here are the winners of the Cash Calendar draws for the period, Nov. 29 – Dec. 12, 2017

0651 \$50 Michel Gravelle, Vars, ON
0768 \$20 Anna Janigan, Ottawa, ON
0561 \$50 Donna Koeniger, Edwards, ON
2721 \$25 David Caird, Ottawa, ON
0915 \$25 Joanne Sherk, Nepean, ON
1051 \$50 Joan Heyland, Metcalfe, ON
1918 \$50 Georgette & Bob Raymond, Timmings, ON
1086 \$20 Dallas Reinke, Nepean, ON
0045 \$100 Dorothy Young, Ottawa, ON
0345 \$50 Trina & Sean Ryan, Merrickville, ON
2967 \$25 Jean Lewis Knight, Meaford, ON
1573 \$25 Philip & Wendy McDonell, Shuniah, ON
3947 \$50 Glenna Gray, Ottawa, ON
2173 \$100 Earl McCarroll, Johnstown, ON

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

Downstairs

Dr Barry Wellar: How geographic factors affect human aspects of natural disasters

Intro: **Keith Fraser** Thanks: **Jim Maxwell**

Greeters: **Ed Balys, Merv Letts** Invocation: **Melissa White**

Reception: **Ali Pahlavani** PP Draw: **Robert Harrison**

Ticket Sales/Attendance: **Mary Wattie** Editor: **Ginette Thomas**

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Christmas Music program

Music Master: **Rod Holmes**

Greeters: **Dave Morton, Eugen Achihaei** Invocation: **N/A**

Reception: **Pardeep Ahluwalia** PP Draw: **Clive Talbot**

Ticket Sales/Attendance: **Mary Wattie** Editor: **Jack Troughton**

Tuesday, December 26, 2017

NO MEETING