



CAPRI ECHO

April 17, 2025

Newsletter for the Rotary Club of Kelowna Capri

Website: <https://caprirotary.ca/>

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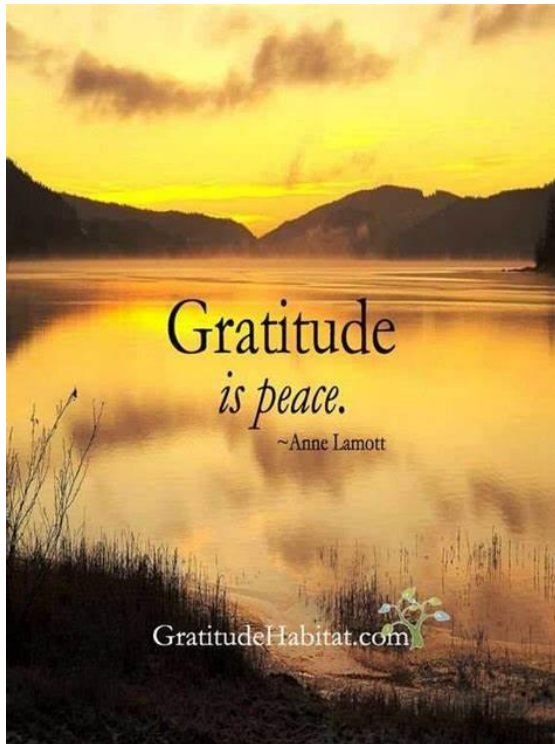
April 21 - Cancelled Easter Monday

Apr 28 – Regular Meeting

May 5 - Regular Meeting

Jun 9 – Installation Night

The meetings begin at 5:30 pm with a social period 5-5:30 pm

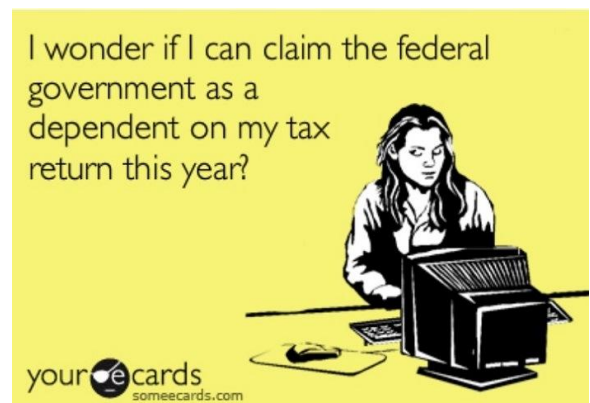


peace building club needs to be a gratitude building club.

SIGNS SIGNS AND MORE SIGNS



Not a political statement but a reminder each vote can change an election





We had two excellent speakers this evening, so the Sheriff was asked to minimize his time this evening. He had but one fine – failure to wish him a happy birthday at the meeting was worth the maximum fine.

GUEST SPEAKER

What a glorious evening. We had two speakers on two very divergent topics.



*Evan with our club pen and Peter
photo by Ron Becker*

The first speaker was Evan Burgess who works at the Kelowna Public Library. Evan spoke on

how our city library has evolved into a multi-purpose library. Sure, it has lots of books, but you can access CDs, DVDs, audio books. printing, scanning, computer access, references and research material including genealogy and local history.

Then there are the non-traditional services such as a library of digital books, Kanopy which is a TV app of independent films, Rosetta Stone that teaches languages, Press Reader that access newspaper and digital publications from around the world and Linked in Genealogy.

Then there are the items such as bird watching kit, radon kit, home energy kit, and even packages of seeds for you to grow.

There is the Makerspace where a technician will help you use equipment such as sewing machines, Cricket Maker that has a cutting arm and even a digitization station.

Finally, you can rent or borrow big and small meeting rooms, programming for adults providing skills in games and language technology and technical help for specific problems.

This is not the library you were shown as a student.

The second speaker, Gem Munroe has devoted his life and career to improving educational opportunities for disadvantaged people across Canada and abroad. Pursuit of this objective carried him into residence in unfortunate communities across most of Canada, before carrying him overseas.

He is presently a Director of Amarok Society, a registered Canadian charity that provides educational programmes to the very poor in Bangladesh and India. As well, Gem is a bestselling author and artist whose new book, *And Where the Wind Spin Them*, follows the epic adventures of a resourceful girl and her courageous little brother who struggle by wit and grit, to overcome the perils and extreme

disadvantages of children born into poverty and ignorance,

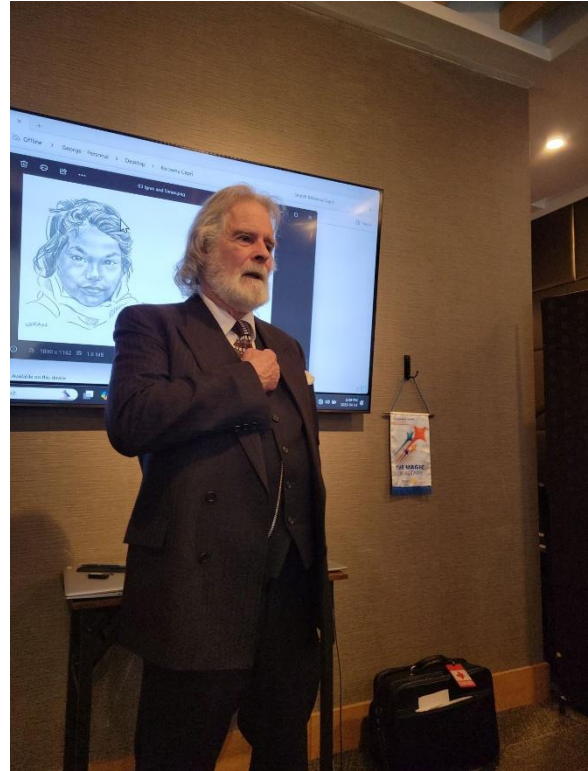
For their work, Gem and his wife, Dr Tanyss Munro, were recipients of Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medals.

(Not sure who wrote the intro but it wasn't me!)

Gem talked about the problem of trying to educate women in the worst slums in the world so that they can educate their children. It's not an environment where you "build them a school and they will come" does not work. It's a place where only one out of three children get any education at all. One Turkish Ambassador said it's the "only country that made me cry."

Facing threats from local strongmen and husbands and having to deal with religious differences they found their approach only works in villages. Essentially the mother who has a desire to learn goes to school, where she learns not only how to use a pencil but acquires a vocabulary of about 600 words and arithmetic literacy and well as health, hygiene, birth control and conflict resolution relating to 'power of content' (I'm going to leave this for you to look up on the internet yourself). Then she goes home and must teach what she learns to at least five children.

The entire presentation was the complete antithesis to life as we know it. Gem did summarize the entire moment by saying human have a natural desire to learn but if this is frustrated, this leads to frustration and depression. Their goal is to begin the transformation from pessimism and despair to optimism and hope.



Gem Munroe

photo by Ron Becker



The Three Degrees by Art of Lorenz (Germany)

Somehow this piece of artwork seemed to be entirely appropriate after reviewing my notes and writing the summary of Gem Monroe's talk



2025 Rotary International Congress



The following is an active link to the convention website:

[Rotary Convention](#)

District Conference 2025

Cancelled due to Calgary event.

Rotary Day Plans

Rotary Day event to be held in City Park on June 14th from 11 am - 7 pm. Pancakes will be served until midday then changed to burgers during the remainder of the day. Each club attending has been asked to bring club signage and to be ready to give a short presentation on their activities.

Central Okanagan Performing Arts Festival



Festival Schedule 2025

Strings & Chamber Orchestra

April 22nd – 25th, 2025

St. Andrews Church 4619
Lakeshore

Voice

April 28th – May 2nd, 2025

St. Andrews Church 4619
Lakeshore

Gala & Reception

Friday, May 16th, 2025

Rotary Centre for the Arts 421
Cawston Avenue

website: <https://copafestival.com/>

INSTALLATION NIGHT

The June 9th Installation Night will require each member to cover the expenses for themselves and any guest they bring.

WORLD HEALTH CONTAINER



Glenna and Art brought a guest Daniel from Kelowna Stands with Ukraine to report that the container has been loaded with medical supplies, a Canadian flag added and then sent on its way to the Ukraine by ship.

HUMOUR



Car drivers when they see each other:



Bus drivers when they see each other:



Pilots when they see each other:



GALLERY



Lost Spirit by The Feature Creature (Canada) – a lost magical entity, buried deep where the sun can barely grace its polished surface



Lonely Night at the Tram Stop by We All Lost Touch (Hungary)



Moonlight by Enaya Ray (Ukraine)