

## In This Issue

**1 ZOOM Networking Meeting May 28th**  
Speaker  
Gail Urquhart, Bethany Calgary

**2 Polio Update**

Did you Know ? - A Re-Run

Garth's Garden

**3 What's Up !!**

DisCon 2020

Sunshine Report

ZOOM Happy Hour

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May 28th, 2020

As an opening note, the Limerick's online ZOOM meeting was again an exceptional one. Both this month's speaker (Gail Urquhart), and last month's (Lucene Tahmazian) gave timely and very informative presentations. If you are not attending these online events, you are clearly missing something. There were attendees from multiple clubs and DG Christine was there too. Rhea Graham had invited some guests as well, demonstrating how well this platform works to introduce people to Rotary.



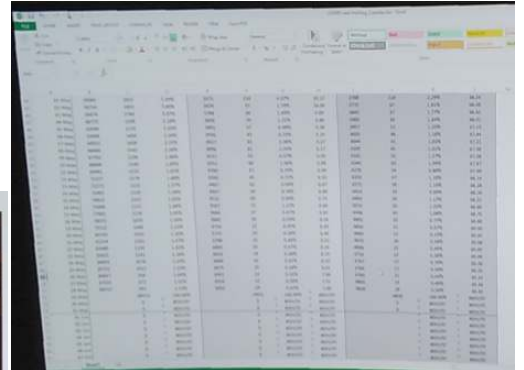
cost him!) for his wife Angela's new company doing woodworking crafts ...  
[www.rustedpetal.ca](http://www.rustedpetal.ca)

After working through updates by all present, Rob introduced the speaker, Gail Urquhart from Bethany Calgary. Gail spoke about Bethany and then went on to talk about their pandemic preparations and successes. The question and answer segment was very informative as well. She is an excellent and well spoken presenter.



All present left with better knowledge on how seniors' residences can be managed with compassion, care and in a safe manner for residents and staff ... perhaps a best practices model that can be built on.

Gail was presented with a Polio-Plus certificate (digitally) and hopefully we can get the hard copy to her in the not too distant future.



This month's meeting led off with Rob providing statistics on the Covid-19 trends. That was followed by a video done by his son Aden, who is home from school so had time to do the 'Quarantine Rap'. Check with Rob for the YouTube link to this fun presentation.

Updates by attendees included Dean White talking about his new space for his Roots 2 STEM campus and setting up for summer camps. Rob did a shameless plug (that will

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**Rotary**  
Club of Calgary Chinook



### Polio Is Nearly Wiped Out. Covid-19 Could Halt That Progress

*Excerpt from an article by Maryn McKenna in Science (reported on Wired), 05.21.2020*

The disease once paralyzed 350,000 children each year; vaccination campaigns brought it down to just a few hundred cases. Then, the pandemic struck.

The world's total number of confirmed Covid-19 cases is closing in on 5 million. But an accidental side effect of the pandemic — an indefinite pause in the worldwide campaign to eradicate polio — could dwarf its toll by allowing the almost-vanquished disease to get a fresh start.

At the end of March, on the advice of a World Health Organization panel of experts, mass vaccination campaigns against polio and measles were put on hold to prevent spreading the virus. As a result, says Dr. Michel Zaffran, WHO's director of polio eradication, "we have several millions of children below the age of 5 who remain susceptible and have not had the chance to be vaccinated."

The pause benefits the fight against the coronavirus: approximately 3,700 WHO employees, consultants, and lab personnel who staff the polio campaign in 55 countries have been loaned to the Covid-19 effort, according to Zaffran. But it is a serious operational hazard for the three-decade campaign. "Our community is concerned," says Dr. John Sever, the vice-chair of the International PolioPlus Committee of Rotary International, a partner in the campaign; its members have delivered more than 2 billion polio vaccinations.

The forced pause comes on top of a bad year for the polio campaign. After its inception in 1988, when approximately 350,000 children were paralyzed by the disease each year, the multinational effort had nearly wiped polio out of existence. In 2018, there were only 33 naturally occurring cases in the world. But in 2019, polio began bouncing back, with 176 cases of the naturally occurring type, and an additional 366 cases of what is called vaccine-derived polio. By May 13 this year, there had been

59 cases of wild polio and another 104 cases of vaccine-derived polio.

The longer the pause goes on, the more catch-up the campaign will have to do — in an environment in which national health budgets will already have been drained by the Covid-19 response, and the international donors' fund may be spent down as well.

It is hard to imagine that the pandemic could do yet more damage. But the undermining of the 32-year-effort to chase polio from the world and end the paralysis of children, could be among its worst effects yet.

## Garth's Garden

Hello gardening fans!

This is a hardy tough rose that you probably seen before. It is one of the roses planted by the City of Calgary on medians and parks. If you drive down 16th Avenue by SAIT, you will see them. They look even better with a bit more care such as in your garden!!

It's name is 'Hope for Humanity' after the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Red Cross. The petals are dark red with purple shading. Not much for fragrance, but the flowers last weeks. In my yard I look at it from my deck continually. Very nice, attracts the eye!! Some nurseries state that it grows to about 2.5ft tall. Don't believe it, mine is over 5 ft tall! But its growth is quite narrow, I find at between 2 and 3ft.



## Did You Know? ... A Re-Run

*Jim Thompson, Charter Member, Club Historian*

**Did you know?** 35 years ago, when we were just becoming established and setting our goals for service locally and internationally, we were mostly in the age group of under 50, many in early 40s and some even in their 30s. We were the 'young club in Calgary'. Our fellowship activities were those that excited age groups in those categories: golfing trips and skiing ventures over several days in the Windermere Valley, for instance, soft ball competitions with the Invermere Rotary club, family picnics at Costello's acreage or the Anderson place in Water Valley. We launched "The Rotarians" chuckwagon entry in the Stampede, had massive book sale projects in Southcentre, corn sales out of a trailer unit we owned, and we did numerous vocational tours of businesses in the Calgary area. To encourage and enlist younger members, perhaps we need to revisit those activities, or similar ones, as part of our fellowship programs.

I heard a new member recently tell another guest, "What do we do for fun? ... curling, cribbage, bridge, lunch once a year in our Nature Park, and parking cars, is about it." Sound exciting to a 40 year old? What do you think?



## Meetings

Tuesday, June 2nd

ZOOM meeting at noon ... be sure to join in!

Speaker: Craig Chandler, "Wexit" movement

Tuesday, June 16th

ZOOM meeting at noon ... be sure to join in!

Tuesday, July 7th

ZOOM meeting at noon ... be sure to join in!

Tuesday, August TBA

Annual Picnic in the Nature Park

## Conference / Convention

Saturday, June 6th

2020 District Conference "Rotary Crushes the Curve" — 1pm - 5pm  
"Covid-19 Facts and Fiction" "People of Action Crushing the Curve"  
"Happy Hour" — Screech and Kiss the Cod

Saturday, June 22nd

and Sunday, June 21st

Monday, June 22nd

through Friday, June 26th

2020 RI Virtual Convention General Session — 8am CST for 60-75mins

2020 RI Virtual Convention Breakout Sessions — 8am, 12pm, 6pm CST

## Networking Meetings

Thursday, June 25th

ZOOM e-Networking Meeting, 7-8(ish) pm

## President's Dinner

Saturday, September 19th

@ MacKenzie Meadows Golf Club  
— contact George Kimura



## Sunshine Report



Remember to contact Pat Hutchinson with any updates and information on the health of the Club!

[pnhutchinson@shaw.ca](mailto:pnhutchinson@shaw.ca)

## ZOOM Happy Hour



On Friday, May 29th we held our second ZOOM Happy Hour. We had a visit from our Honorary Member Bruce Williams, and also ex-club member Norm Myden.

Rob Wolfson

Finland has just closed their borders.

No one will be crossing the finish line.

Now is not the right time to surround yourself with positive people.

So many coronavirus jokes out there, it's a pandemic.