

### In This Issue

#### 1 ZOOM Meeting Minutes December 1st

##### Club Assembly

Peter Bickham — Strategic Plan

#### 2 Club Assembly cont'd

Moe Tynan, Rhea Graham — Membership  
Graham Boone — International Service

#### 3 Club Assembly cont'd

Graham Boone — International Service

##### ZOOM Meeting Minutes cont'd

#### 4 Chinook Rotary Virtual Christmas Party

##### December Birthdays & Anniversaries

#### 5 What's Up !!

##### ZOOM Meeting Minutes cont'd

### 2020-2021 Officers and Directors

Rob Wolfson, President  
President Elect, George Van Schaick  
Paul Gaudet, Past President  
Dale Perret, Secretary  
Al Holt, Treasurer

Bev Tonkinson, International Service  
Dean White, Youth Service  
George Van Schaick, Community Service  
Michael Spears, Club Service  
Bill Stemp, Club Operations  
Bob Gentles, Club Financial

RI President Holger Knaack  
Rotary Club of Herzogtum Lauenburg-Mölln, Germany

District 5360 Governor Mary Turner  
Rotary Club of Olds

December 1st, 2020

Scribe: Paul Gaudet

President Rob opened our meeting at 12:05 by welcoming everyone and introducing a video of 'O Canada', a colourful version featuring our National Parliament Buildings. We had 30 participants.



Rob then noted that today's scribe would be Paul Gaudet, and advised anyone who had information for our minutes to contact either Paul, or Stephen directly. He thanked Stephen and Anne for all their work preparing and distributing our e-Arch each Tuesday.

Our meeting today is an Assembly featuring updates from our Strategic Planning Committee, our Membership Committee and our International Service Committee.



Prior to getting into these reports he asked Paul, as Chair of the Nominating Committee, to announce our **next year's Executive**. The following slate of executive nominations for the 2021-2022 rotary year are appointed by acclamation:

- |    |                 |  |
|----|-----------------|--|
| 1. | President Elect | Bev Tonkinson  |
| 2. | Director        | Syed Ahmed   |
| 3. | Director        | Sandy Swan   |
| 4. | Director        | Jack Steen   |
| 5. | Director        | Garth Plunkett (1-yr term to replace the 2nd yr of Bev's term) |

Our President for this Rotary year will be George Van Schaick, who was appointed by the Board to replace Jim Hennessy, who resigned for personal reasons.

On behalf of all our members, Paul thanked the nominees for agreeing to stand for these positions and congratulated them on their appointments. Rob thanked Paul and his committee for their work on this file, and also thanked the new executive for stepping up into leadership roles.

cont'd on page 2 ...

P.O. Box # 42041  
Southland Crossing RPO  
Calgary, Alberta T2J 7A6  
info@chinookrotary.org  
www.ChinookRotary.org



Bev took over to present our **Birthday and Anniversary Report** for December. She reported that while there were no member birthdays this month, there were three spousal birthdays: Lois Beatty, Sharon Bickham and Jim Swan. We also have two Anniversaries to celebrate, Stephen and Anne Pick - 51 yrs, and Wayne and Muriel Wiebe - 57 yrs. Congratulations! Rob played a music video while wedding photos were displayed, a nice touch.

Rob then called for our **Sunshine Report** which covers the health of the Club. Only two reports: Tammy has a cold but did attend our meeting (no video), and Ian advised that his ribs have healed.



Pe-ter Bickham took the virtual podium to make his report on our **Strategic Plan**. The new report has been completed and will be forwarded to our membership later today. It has three sections. The first part provides the context, the second outlines our current position, and the final one covers our plan of action, the path forward. He proceeded to highlight several points: that membership numbers are our basic underlying problem, that our existing meeting structure might be contributing to this issue, that three potential 'Signature Projects' will be circulated to our members shortly for their consideration, and lastly that we are in the process of recommending a new educational project for our Society to get involved with so that it will have direction and purpose. He asked Dean to ensure that the new Strategic Plan was put onto our website for everyone's access.

Maureen was up next. While introducing Moe and Rhea to discuss **Membership**, Rob highlighted that everyone should be thinking about introducing new members to our Club. Similarly, everyone should be assisting to retain existing members.

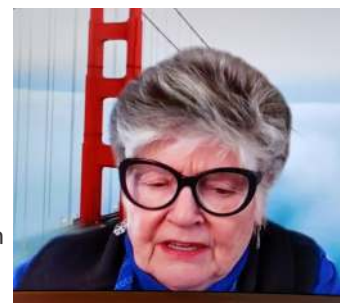


Moe advises that our main goal is retention, keeping Rotarians engaged. It is a priority shared by all the Clubs in our area. We are also reaching out to former members to see if we can interest them in rejoining Chinook. This has led to a couple of potential members but many challenges exist (old telephone numbers, email addresses outdated). Moe is working on Rotary Exchange students, and will be doing her best to contact our Ryla and Ryphen students, going back 10 years. Her Committee is also planning to contact former speakers to see if some of them might be interested in joining Chinook. She is participating in membership working sessions with other Clubs and reports the following ideas generated thereby:

- When new potential new members are identified, it is important to get a handle on their expectations and discover what they want to get out of Rotary. Get new members on committees as soon as possible.
- Fireside meetings are still being used, however it is recommended that spouses and family members are also invited to participate.
- There seems to be interest in online membership. This is an area for further investigation.
- In order to create retention we need to pick up the phone and see how our members are doing. (Note- our club is doing this).
- It would appear that the cost of Rotary is not an impediment to new members or retention.
- The downtown club has a family membership category which encourages members to bring in their spouse or other family members.

Moe wrapped up her comments by highlighting the need for all members to be on the lookout for new potential members. She then opened the floor for questions. A question was raised about widows of members and reaching out to them to become 'Friends of Rotary' or, better yet, members. Moe thought this was a great idea and agreed to follow it up. Also, a question was raised about the possibility of two (or more) clubs amalgamating for greater efficiencies. Rob volunteered to raise this issue at an upcoming 'All Presidents' meeting.

Rhea commented on opportunities to mentor with Rotoract members and develop new potential Rotary members. She advised that Chinook is doing well with retention thanks to Ro's technical skills. Ian took us back in history, and told us about an initiative whereby every member was asked to invite one prospective member to a meeting. This basic method worked well.



Bev took the floor to introduce Graham Boone as the Chair of **International Service** and advised that he would be presenting the update for this committee. Graham presented photos (each worth a thousand words) on a number of specific projects in which our Club has participated:

- Hippo Water Rollers — a new way for folks in the third world to transport and store water resources. Will save families many hours of labour. We donated \$1,000 to this multi-club effort.
- We are working through Syed to fund a hearing aid project in Pakistan and are awaiting for RI approval. There is a lack of hearing testing in Pakistan, and this project will train personnel for early detection of hearing problems and also provide for hearing aids.
- Rancho de Los Ninos Global Grant — RI didn't approve this solar power project, so we are trying to get it done anyway. It is designed to provide solar power to an orphanage in Mazatlan, Mexico and will save them thousands of pesos annually. We are asking all Clubs in our area and Rotarians to

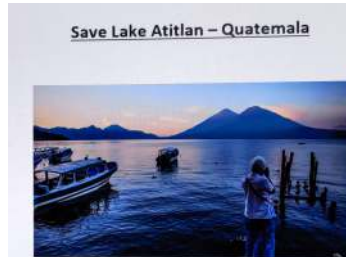
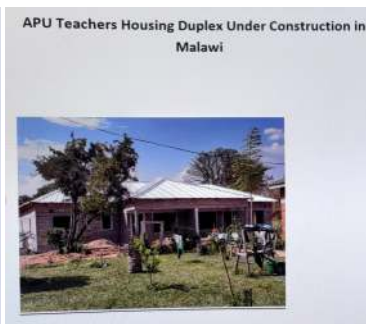




help fund this project. There is a Rotarian couple who has agreed to match \$40,000 of the project which is a wonderful start and hopefully will see that it gets done.

— Rachel and Laptops in Guatemala — delivers educational data serving students who don't have internet. Information is provided on computer discs in multi languages together with laptops to allow access to the data. We have agreed to provide \$2,000 to this project through a Rotary club in Chatham, Ontario. We can apply for a District Grant of \$5,000 so together we can contribute \$7,000 to the project.

- APO Teachers Housing Complex — to be constructed (nearly complete), working with a Lethbridge Rotary Club.
- Global Literacy Project — Rotary has provided a \$631,247 Global Grant which will provide books and teacher training in Guatemala.
- Shelterbox — a long-time recipient of donations from Chinook. This group provides disaster relief (tents, equipment) around the world where disaster strikes. We are donating to them again this year.
- Save Lake Atitlan in Guatemala — we are joining Heritage Park Rotary in an effort to clean up this major polluted lake. There are 350,000 people living around this lake at present, for which they have 14 existing water treatment plants. They estimate a current need for 80 such plants.



Bev thanked Graham for his excellent presentation which gives our members a really detailed understanding of what our Club is doing to help those in need internationally.

Syed reported that he has spoken to an RI rep who tells him that they hoped to get back to him with a decision on the Pakistan Hearing Project next week.

Bev told the club about a donation opportunity through 'Canada Helps', whereby if you donate \$20 to CRCF then they will increase it by 10%. She asks everyone to consider this opportunity.

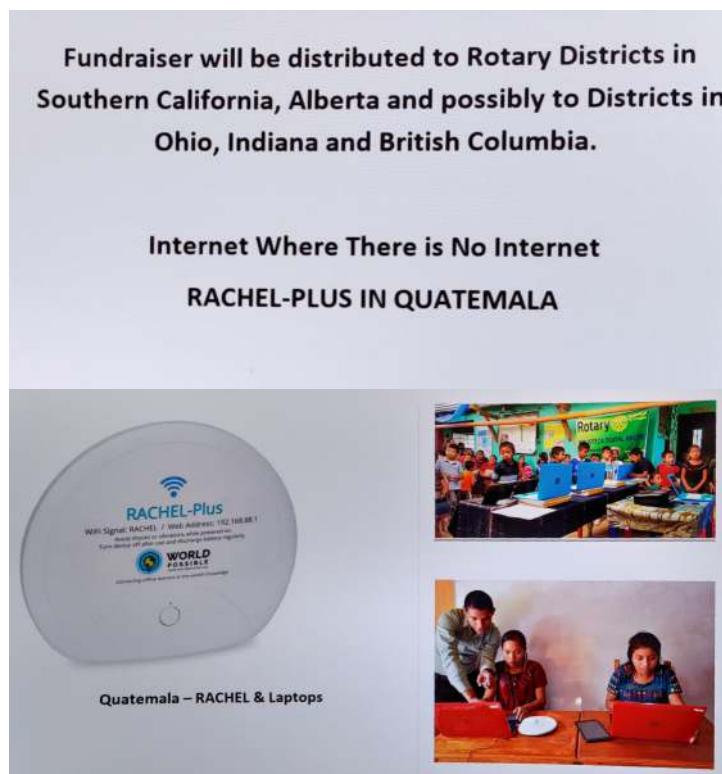
Rob took the floor to announce that our NFL Loser Pool has finally ended with Darren (President of Fish Creek Rotary) the winner (\$175), Paul G second (\$115), Tammy third (\$75) and Garth Sabirsh fourth (wins the tax receipt for \$230). Rob advised that he plans on speaking to the District about establishing a District-wide (or even country-wide) pool for the next season.

Rob raised the subject of outstanding luncheon cards. Now that we have credit card equipment at our luncheons, we don't think it necessary to continue offering prepaid cards. Anyone with unused credits has two alternatives: hold on to them and they

will be honoured in due course, or provide the cards to AI and he will redeem funds for the unused meals.

November is Foundation Month. Rob read us a Certificate of Appreciation which he

cont'd on page 4 ...





## First Ever Chinook Rotary Virtual Xmas ZOOM Party

We're having a Christmas party  
We hope you can come,  
You can bet your antlers  
it'll be second to none

**Thursday December 17th**  
**from 7:00 - 8:30pm**  
**Via Zoom**

meeting invite to be sent out closer to the date



It's sad that we cannot gather in person for our annual Christmas dinner and party, but that does not mean we cannot celebrate the season! It won't be the same but please join our **first ever Chinook Rotary Virtual Xmas ZOOM Party**. This invitation is open to members, spouses and Friends of Chinook Rotary.

We ask all members to donate at least \$20 to participate in the meeting. We will make a club donation to Toy Mountain which supports the Calgary Women's Emergency Shelter. There will NOT be a tax deduction, however we make a presentation as a club from the monies raised from our Virtual Xmas Party. Here is the website to check out the annual Holiday fund raiser sponsored by CTV Calgary.

<https://calgary.ctvnews.ca/toymountain>

You can send payment to Al Holt at [info@chinookrotary.org](mailto:info@chinookrotary.org)  
Please note Xmas Party in your e-transfer between December 1st and December 17th.

Important details about the Party:

- Come after dinner with your favourite Yuletide beverage. (Rob will have a rum and eggnog at his side.)
- This is going to be an opportunity to get to know more about your fellow Rotarians. Be prepared to share a favourite Christmas/Holiday family memory or tradition. Please bring your spouse on to the ZOOM to share this story.
- Please send Bev Tonkinson [bevtonkrotary@gmail.com](mailto:bevtonkrotary@gmail.com) an old Christmas/Holiday photo for us to share (related to the tradition or story or just a favourite family photo).
- Rob is going to put together some of his virtual fun for the meeting as well.

It is going to be a fun meeting, so do consider joining! Put it in your calendar and start looking through your pictures to send to Bev (you can do this right away if you plan on attending). At the same time we are going to raise some cash for a very worthy local charity.

## December Birthdays & Anniversaries



Stephen & Anne Pick - 51 years on Dec 20, 1969



Happy Anniversary!  
So Thankful we survived.  
I'm certain No one else  
could've put up with  
your shenanigans,  
and my  
awesomeness.



Wayne &  
Muriel  
Wiebe

57 years

Dec 28, 1963

HAPPY  
ANNIVERSARY  
to you both



## Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

December 17th

Chinook Rotary Virtual Christmas Party — via ZOOM

An evening of family Xmas stories, traditions, pictures & some holiday fun!

December 21st

Joint meeting with Lethbridge Club — details to come

Speaker: Jennifer Jones, RI President Nominee, 2022-23



## ZOOM Meeting Minutes

... cont'd from page 3



recently received from the District thanking us for our contributions to Rotary's Polio Plus campaign during 2019-2020.

Rob discussed our upcoming meeting schedule. There will be no meeting next week, or on the 15th. Instead we are

planning a **Virtual Christmas Party** on Thursday, December the 17th between 7pm and 8:30pm. It will be lots of fun! Find a Christmas memory/photo about a Christmas tradition/story and share it with the group. Send your photo(s) to Bev before the 15th so she can set them up for our party. If you don't have one to share, please still join us and hear what others are contributing. As this event has no up-front cost (no dinner), we thought it would be fun to use it a fund raising opportunity for a Christmas Charity. So please donate \$20 (to Al Holt) and we will donate it to 'Toy Mountain'.

We have accepted an invitation to join a Lethbridge Club for their meeting on Monday, December 21st, to hear from Jennifer Jones, who will be our first female Rotary President (and a Canadian). Further details will be provided.

We have finalized our collection for John Barrett's family in South Africa and have raised \$2,000. Thanks to everyone who could help. Our Club will consider adding to this amount.

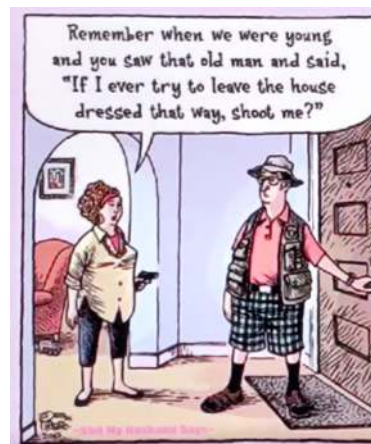
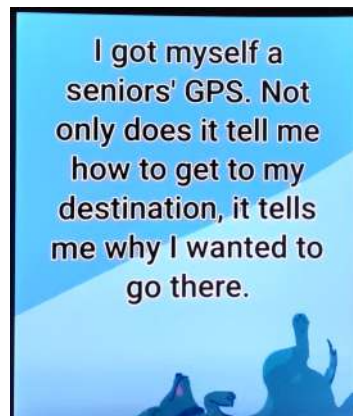
Rick Istead (Fish Creek) has offered to deliver girl guide cookies to our members for \$5 per box. Rob has the contact information.

Our ADG has asked that we consider assisting the District by helping out on a few of their committees. Anyone interested should contact Rob for further details.

Thanks to everyone who joined us last week for our evening meeting featuring Mark Stephens. If you had to miss this meeting, we will be putting his remarks on our website for everyone to enjoy. We will also include today's meeting as it provided important information on our committee activities.



Rob presented a comedic video showing cartoons as **Sergeant at Arms** material. He thanked Jim Thompson and Paul G for



contributing material. It's entertaining to break up the meeting with these funny cartoons.

As noted, there will be no meeting next week. Our Virtual Christmas Party will be held on ZOOM on Thursday, December 17th at 7pm. Please join us for a little fun during these challenging times.

Have a great Rotary week. Enjoy the sunshine. Our meeting was adjourned at 1:20pm.