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Rotary Remembers



## 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

## Rotary Remembers 2020 is on ZOOM tomorrow at 10:15 am Join in at 10:05 am



### ZOOM Meeting Minutes

November 3rd, 2020

Scribe: Tammy Truman

Our November meeting focussed on Remembrance Day. So it was fitting that our guest speaker was Dusty Rhodes. The following is the email we received after the meeting:

*To the President and All Members of the Rotary Clubs of Calgary and area,*

*I am sending this email to first off apologize to my closest dearest friends, the many clubs who have requested me to be their guest speaker, who have asked me to speak not only about my bio, but our Great Branch, Centennial Calgary Branch #285 where I am the President. I can't as this is an extremely bad time of the year for me, as I do suffer and have been suffering since 1993, with PTSD.*



*I served in all Branches of the Canadian Armed Forces, starting with the Navy for 18 months, the Airforce for 6 months, and the rest of my military career in the Army, retiring as a A/CSM in the Army.*

*There are thousands of Navy, Army, Airforce, UN Peacekeepers, RCMP Veterans and Serving Members that are suffering with this horrible situation formally called "Shell Shock", now known as PTSD. I also want to ensure that the Veterans today are not forgotten as many have experienced the same unbelievable, horrific experience that I am presently fighting with.*

*I was in Bosnia/Herzegovina in the spring of 1993 as a Sgt Convoy Commander. My task was to ensure that we replenished our soldiers that were based in the northern part of the former Bosnia/Herzegovina with clothing, rations, ammo, food, fuel, etc. Our convoy consisted of 25 to 30 large military vehicles. We departed from the coast of Bosnia/Herzegovina, Plocie Croatia on the Adriatic Coast. The attachment that I have provided will make you understand what our MSE-Ops/Truckers experienced. I am a Soldier and I will always will be a Soldier. Today I am honoured to be the President of the largest Member Branch, Centennial Calgary Branch #285 in Canada. You all know that I will be there for every Member of Centennial Calgary Branch #285.*

*With respect to all Veterans that participated in the Bosnia War, the link that I have provided below shows what we as Truckers/Soldiers experienced during our Tour of Duty. When you click on this link and it is finished, let it carry on, it will go through 4 or 5 other links that will explain the War and what all my Brave [cont'd on page 2 ...](#)*

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www.ChinookRotary.org

*Soldiers/Truckers experienced and why many of us our hurting today.*



*I am going to give you a WARNING ... THIS IS NOT RECOMMENDED to the weak at heart, as I want to ensure that you are aware what your President and many others have gone through. To all our all Royal Canadian Legion Associated Members, please be aware, you mean a lot to me and I care about each and every Member of our Branch. I will always be a Soldier first although I am retired, and now as a civilian I will always do my very best to ensure that there will always be a home for our Veterans, RCMP, Serving Members and all Members.*

*The attachment starts from 1991 and carries on. My soldiers arrived in the spring of 1993 (another waste of Humanity).*

<https://youtu.be/gMuk3t3NoTU>

*"We Will Remember Them"*

*Sincerely,  
Dusty*

P.Y. (Dusty) Rhodes, CD, PRESIDENT  
Centennial Calgary Branch #285  
Ph: 403-615-3991  
[dusty.rhodes@shaw.ca](mailto:dusty.rhodes@shaw.ca)

John McCrae penned the Poem "In Flanders Fields" on a scrap of paper in May 1915, on the day following the death of a fellow soldier. Little did he know then that those 13 lines would become enshrined in the hearts and minds of all who would wear them. McCrae's poem was published in Punch Magazine in December of that same year, and the poem served as inspiration three years later for Moina Michael, an American teacher. Moina Michael made a pledge to always wear a Poppy as a sign of Remembrance.

During a visit to the United States in 1920, a French woman named Madame Guerin learned of the custom. Madame Guerin decided to make and sell Poppies to raise money for children in war-torn areas of France. The Great War Veteran's Association in Canada (predecessor of the Canadian Legion) officially adopted the Poppy as its Flower of Remembrance on July 5, 1921. Today, the Poppy is worn each year during the Remembrance period to honour Canada's Fallen. The Legion also encourages the wearing of a Poppy for the funeral of a Veteran, and for any commemorative event honouring Fallen Veterans. It is not inappropriate to wear a Poppy during other times to commemorate Fallen Veterans, and it is an individual choice to do so, if it's worn appropriately.

Thanks to the millions of Canadians who wear the Legion's lapel Poppy each November. The little red flower has never died, and the memories of those who fell in battle remain strong.



## Remembrance Day 2020

This is a difficult year for the poppy campaign.

You can show your support for the Royal Canadian Legion at [www.mypoppy.ca](http://www.mypoppy.ca)

Receive a digital poppy for your website or emails. Your personal or

corporate pledge helps the Royal Canadian Legion to continue its good works, and foremost, shows you do not forget.

### History of the Poppy

Each November, Poppies bloom on the lapels and collars of millions of Canadians. The significance of the Poppy can be traced back to the Napoleonic Wars in the 19th century, over 110 years before being adopted in Canada. Records from that time indicate how thick Poppies grew over the graves of soldiers in the area of Flanders, France. Fields that had been barren before battle exploded with the blood-red flowers after the fighting ended. During the tremendous bombardments of the war, the chalk soils became rich in lime from rubble, allowing the "popover rheas" to thrive. When the war ended, the lime was quickly absorbed, and the Poppy began to disappear again.

The person who first introduced the Poppy to Canada and the Commonwealth was Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae of Guelph, Ontario, a Canadian Medical Officer during the First World War.

So, I encourage all of you to take some time on November 11th and pay respect to all who have been, or who still are, in service.



Members who are recovering from the **sick bay** due to various maladies are :

- Ian Burgess, broken ribs
- Paul Hussey, hernia surgery
- George Kimura, knee replacement

They are all healing okay, and we hope you are full speed ahead soon.

Past member John Barrett who moved back to Africa passed away from a heart attack recently. **Condolences** go out to Annette and Family.



**Birthdays and Anniversaries** were celebrated at this meeting. Special thanks to Bev Tonkinson who has added a nice flair with pictures. I encourage all of you when you get the call from Bev to please send a pic of your younger years, or a pic of your wedding day. It's fun to see how we all looked back in the day!??

**November Birthdays** were Harry Nazarchuk, Rob Wolfson, John McBean, Ted Wada, Dean White, Moe Tynan and Sandy Swan.

**November Anniversaries** were Ian & Gwen Burgess (60yrs), and Ted & Grace Wada (48yrs).

**Bits and Bites:**

- Rob Wolfson, club president, shared the success of Bingo 4 Polio. 37 registered players and \$1725.50 was raised. Our own Dean White won \$50. Rob reported tons of fun with players from all over the district.



- Africa is now free of wild poliovirus, so all the work that Rotary has done over the years is paying off. 2.5 billion children have now been immunized. Did you know it only costs 60 cents per shot of vaccine? Please consider giving if you can.

- November 26th, at 7pm our speaker is Mark Stephen, voice of the Calgary Stampeders. Note, due to COVID on the rise, this meeting will be 100% online.

Although we don't have official SG at Arms, I did notice both Al Holt and Ian Burgess taking a cell phone call, and Fred Jesse was really enjoying his food. I think a toonie in the hat would be appropriate??

Stay safe everyone and keep on smiling.

Cheers!

cont'd on page 4 ...



"THE RECIPE SAID TO SIMMER UNCOVERED!"

## November Birthdays and Anniversaries

	<p><b>Harry Nazarchuk</b> Nov 2nd</p>	<p>Sandy Swan Nov 4th</p>	<p>Rob Wolfson Nov 11th</p>
<p>John McBean Nov 23rd</p>	<p>Moe Tynan Nov 23rd</p>	<p>Dean White - Nov 28th</p>	<p>If you have a birthday in early November, let me with a very Happy Valentine's to your mum and dad!</p>

<p>Happy Anniversary</p>	<p>Jan &amp; Gwen Burgess Nov 22, 1960 60 years</p>	<p>Ted &amp; Grace Wada Nov 25th, 1972 48 years</p>	<p>LOVE ONE ANOTHER AND YOU WILL BE HAPPY. IT'S AS SIMPLE AND AS DIFFICULT AS THAT. MICHAEL LEUNIG</p>	<p>Happy Anniversary</p> <p>To You Both</p>
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## Rotary Foundation Month

- November 11th 'Rotary Remembers' via ZOOM 10:15 am - 12 pm — *join in at 10:05am*  
Speaker: Dr. Stéphane Guevremont
- November 17th ZOOM meeting at noon ... be sure to join in!  
Speaker: Ben Sargent  
"Calgary Hubs"
- November 26th Dixon's Networking Evening — via ZOOM, 7 - 8:15 pm  
Speaker: Mark Stephens, Stampeders Grey Cup Broadcaster

## Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

- December 1st Club Assembly — Strategic Plan and Membership Committee Updates  
Peter Bickham / Moe Tynan and Rhea Graham

## Events/Happenings

- May 14th - 16th, 2021 DisCon 2021 in Drumheller — Mark your calendar and plan on attending!



## Did You Know?

*Jim Thompson, Club History*

**Did You Know?** At this time of the year, each and every year for as long as I can remember, certainly before being asked to join Rotary, I pause awhile. The pause is to remember the valiant Canadians who fought in the many wars to preserve our democracy and freedom, and the freedom of so many others around the world.

As a school child in the 40s and 50s, we paused in an all classrooms assembly at Sunalta School here in Calgary, to remember. Some of us, more than you may imagine, had greater connections to the brave souls who fought on foreign lands as Canadians united in the cause ... all volunteers prepared for the ultimate sacrifice.

My family was totally committed. Grandfather James Thompson spent 4 years in the trenches, 1914 to 1918 of WW1 and survived. In WWII, all my uncles were enlisted, Gordon as a paratrooper, Stan in the Army, and the youngest Donald, only son of Grandpa Gavin, in the RCAF, age 22. Gordon was not injured, Stan suffered multiple wounds in heavy fighting and survived. Donald, a flight navigator in the Lancaster Bomber fleet was killed in 1943, just months after arriving in Europe. He is buried in France at a village near the crash site of the Lancaster Bomber he was in. He is memorialized on the Remembrance Wall at the BOMBER COMMAND MUSEUM OF CANADA, located just down highway 2 in Nanton, Alberta. You should visit this wonderful facility. It is a true tribute to so many who were from the prairies, lost in the war. The medal pictured is AIR CREW SERVICE IN EUROPE MEDAL, sent home with his diary ... all that my Grandparents and Donald's 3 sisters had to remember him by.



## Rotary Remembers 2020

Honouring the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of  
The Liberation of the Netherlands

Wednesday, November 11, 2020

Join virtually with your fellow Rotarians

**10:15 a.m. — Noon**

Guest Speaker

Dr. Stéphane Guevremont



Donations in support of our Veterans

will be accepted

*"Learn about the liberation of the Netherlands by the Canadian Army in 1944-45 with rare combat photos and films. Discover the Hunger Winter and the key battles to save the Dutch people at the end of the Second World War. A multimedia presentation, not to be missed!"*

**Sign-up for this on-line meeting on the District 5360 website.**

