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2020-2021 Officers and Directors

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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

Our meeting is on ZOOM ... Join in today at noon!



ZOOM Networking Meeting

October 29th, 2020

Scribe: Stephen Pick

We had a small but great group of Rotarians at the evening meeting. Multiple Clubs were represented.

President Rob kicked off the meeting, and then all in attendance had a chance to give a short update on where they and their businesses were in this new economy we find ourselves in.



Most of the updates spoke to the difficulties being faced, but also the ways challenges were being addressed and overcome for the most part. Many spoke of some of the positives that were being found and developed as we move forward, and the role Rotary can play.



We were then entertained by hearing DGE Martin Parnell's

"Top 10 Reasons to Get out of Bed during COVID-19":

10 Make your bed — it makes you feel better and starts your day off right. Martin did caution however not to

do it if your spouse is still in the bed! Just make sure you accomplish one thing early in the day.

9 Play a game — board games, chess, whatever. Link up with family over ZOOM. One resource was "chess.com".

8 Try a project — something around the home, a hobby, Rotary. Just keep active and involved.

7 Take a course — there are countless courses available on line. Try something different, step out and challenge yourself.

6 Go virtual — Martin's example was his climb Mount Everest Challenge that he did with his grandson. 14 flights of stairs up and down each day. This raised funds to help the Sherpas who have no work due to the travel lock-downs.

5 Get outside — hiking, biking, gardening, birdwatching ...whatever!

4 Phone a friend — maybe someone you have not talked to in a long while.

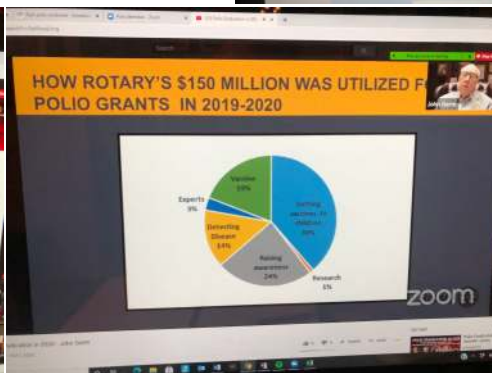
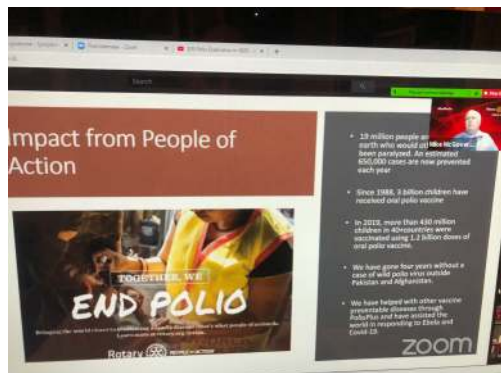
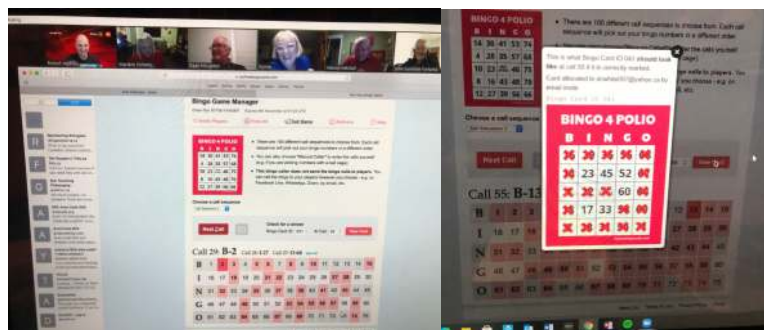
3 Set a goal — whatever it is, like walking 3km per day. Make it *cont'd on page 2 ...*

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Some pictures from our 'Bingo 4 Polio' World Polio Day fund raising event we held on Saturday October 24th.

The event was planned in coordination with Marlene Doherty our District's Foundation Chair. We had 37 members from different clubs across the district (Red Deer to Fort McLeod), and about a quarter from our club.

We raised \$1725.50 for Polio Plus, which after matching by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, will be \$5,100 towards polio eradication !!



ZOOM Networking Meeting

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fun by challenging yourself to walk to Canmore, or Vancouver, and cumulate your miles day to day. Yes, in your home or neighbourhood, not out on the TransCanada highway (no Rotarians were hurt achieving this goal!).

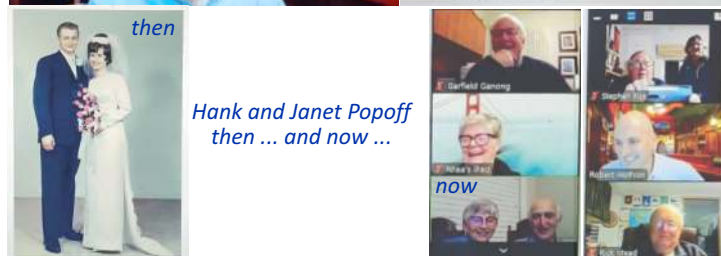
2 Help each other — there are a lot of organizations looking for assistance doing a variety of tasks, many that can be done at home or in a COVID safe manner.

1 Start a fundraiser — this is Rotary after all! Find new ways to raise funds in our new reality. It is Martin vs his Club for some physical undertakings.

And the Bonus — go to a Rotary meeting. Not just your own Club ... there are all sorts of on-line meetings happening in Canada and around the world that you can join in on.

Hope and resiliency are muscles we have to flex. How have you done looking at the list above? Alternatively, what is YOUR top ten list?

Rob wound up the meeting with the "Wear a Mask" video. It was a fun get together ... join us next month!





OUR GIRLS ARE BACK!

On March 20th, in response to increasing numbers of COVID-19 cases in Malawi, APU, along with every other school in the country, was forced to close our doors and send our students home.

During the five long months that we were closed, the news headlines were filled with devastating reports of skyrocketing numbers of child marriages and teenage pregnancies, as many girls were forced to withstand great pressure from their families and communities to give up their dreams of completing their secondary education, in favour of marriage.

Despite this pressure, APU girls mobilized themselves into peer tutoring groups, their teachers went online to support those that had access to computers, and prepared extensive paper learning packets to deliver into the hands of girls living without electricity in the villages.

On September 7th, when schools were allowed to re-open to Form Four students, APU directors Memory and Henry Mdyetseni, their teachers, along with Board Trustees and Directors in both Malawi and Canada, held their collective breath to see how many of our girls would return.

Every one of our 101 Form Four students came back. **And now, this remarkable group of young women are only one week away from writing their national exams.**



Founder and Director Memory Mdyetseni holding a meeting to encourage scholarship students to remain focussed on their education during the Covid lockdown.



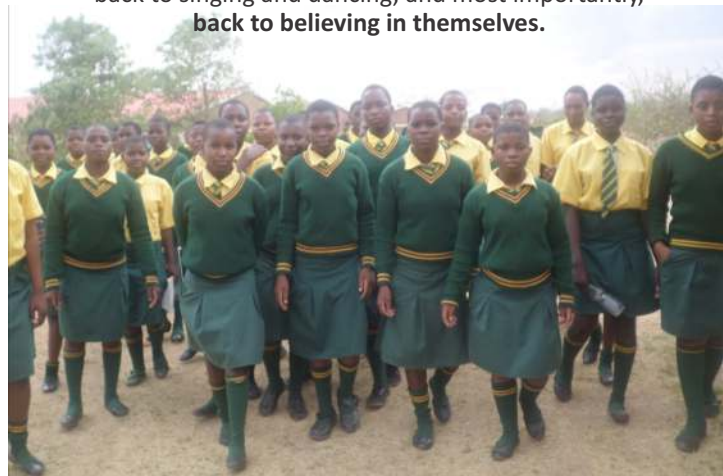
This Saturday, October 24th, they will sit down together with their teachers to enjoy a special graduation dinner. This dinner will take the place of our usual APU Graduation celebration. And they so deserve to celebrate.

This class, the class of 2020, is incredibly special. From the time they were in Form 1, they have been self starters, high achievers, kind to each other and helpful to their teachers. Memory tells me that 'there is no mediocrity in this class'. And they have returned to school with overwhelming gratitude for the education that they are receiving at APU.

APU teachers have now all returned to full work and full pay with the arrival of our Form 3 students this past Friday, the Form 2 students on Saturday, and our Form 1 students on Sunday. **Out of a total school population of 489 students, only ONE student withdrew.**

OUR GIRLS ARE BACK!!

Back to learning, back to laughing,
back to singing and dancing, and most importantly,
back to believing in themselves.



Getting used to being back in class and learning while wearing face masks.

Rotary Foundation Month

November 3rd

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

Speaker: Dusty Rhodes, President of Legion Branch 285

November 11th

'Rotary Remembers' via ZOOM 10:30 am - 12 pm

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 — Hybrid: in-person, and via ZOOM, 5:30-7 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!

Volunteer Opportunity



Breathing life into the future™

We have a volunteer opportunity during the Christmas season. Cystic Fibrosis Canada has a 'Wrapping for the Cure' project at Southcentre Mall. There are shifts for

couples, where there are only two people, and also shifts for 4 people. They are being careful with social distancing. Should any of you be interested, let me know and I'll provide further details.

Bob Montgomery

Rotary Remembers 2020

Honouring the 75th Anniversary of
The Liberation of the Netherlands

Wednesday, November 11, 2020

Join virtually with your fellow Rotarians

10:30 a.m. – Noon

Guest Speaker

Dr. Stéphane Guevremont

REMEMBRANCE DAY



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.

A TIME TO REMEMBER

Our hopes are high. Our faith in the people is great. Our courage is strong And our dreams for this beautiful country will never die.

Robert Bickham

