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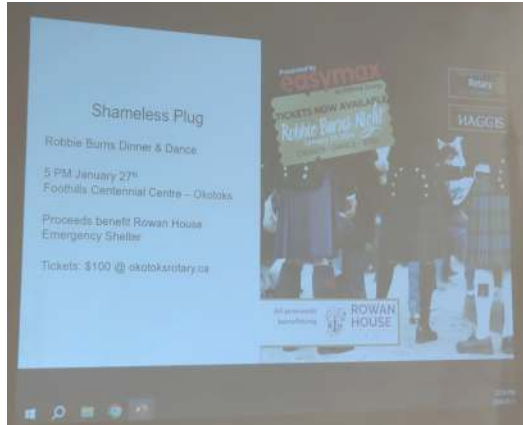
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Rob introduced our Guest Speaker, Jeff Ross, who is our District 5360 Director of Membership, and also a member of the Rotary Club of Okotoks. Jeff joined Rotary in Red Deer in 2006, moving to Okotoks in 2012. His family was in the lumber business in the Calgary area since 1889.



Jeff took a moment to announce that his home Club is hosting a Robbie Burns Night at 5pm on January 27th. Tickets are \$100 per person and additional information is available at [www.okotoksrotary.ca](http://www.okotoksrotary.ca)



Jeff began his presentation by quoting recent comments made by Stephanie Urchick, the incoming RI President for 2024/2025.

*"Every Rotary Club is different. There's not a cookbook that we can give to clubs and say, "do this, and you're going to be fine". Every club develops its own culture. Country to country, Rotary is done differently. You can have Rotary clubs in the same district that are very different. We need every club to take a moment, do an assessment, and look at the four priorities of the action plan. We have to attract people to our existing clubs, and we have to start new clubs. That's the way to grow Rotary and to have a future. It's simply the Magic of Rotary. Believe in the magic of Rotary. Spread the magic of Rotary. Build on the magic of Rotary. Celebrate the magic of Rotary."*

## 2023-2024 Officers and Directors

Anthony Tonkinson, President  
Rob Wolfson, President Elect  
Bev Tonkinson, Past President  
Dale Perret, Secretary  
Vlad Sasarman, Treasurer

Pam Montgomery, International Service  
Dean White, Youth Service  
Ted Wada, Community Service  
Sharon Fraiman, Club Service  
Neil Beatty, Club Operations  
Paul Gaudet, Club Financial  
TBD, Membership Chair  
TBD, Rotary Foundation Chair

RI President Gordon R. McNally  
Rotary Club of South Queensferry, Lothian Scotland  
District 5360 Governor Kurt Kowalchuk  
Rotary Club of Calgary Downtown

Jeff then proceeded to breakdown the process of engaging with a prospective new member into 6 sections:

1. before the Meeting
2. during the Meeting
3. during the meal
4. at the end of the meeting
5. following up
6. celebrate



Jeff noted that he was not here to tell us what to do. He is simply here to assist us in anyway that he can. When we ask prospective new members, don't ask them to attend a meeting, rather invite them to a lunch. That's how *cont'd on page 3 ...*

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www.ChinookRotary.org



President Elect Rob called our meeting to order at 12:30, welcoming all in attendance. He noted that our Rotary Theme is to “Create Hope in the World”, then led us in the singing of O Canada.

We had 32 participants at our meeting today which included three **guests**: our guest speaker Jeff Foss (District 5360 Membership Director), Haim Fraiman guest of Sharon, and Johanne Klimiuk, guest of Garth P.



Keith Wellon did a great job today as **Greeter**, and was called on to introduce our guests.



Rob thanked Paul for being our Scribe today, as well as Keith for being our Greeter and making everyone feel welcome. He also thanked Stephen and Anne for all they do for our Club, most notably the regular production of our e-Arch. And he thanked both Hank and Neil for operating our payment system.

## Club Business

### Sunshine Report

Pat reported that he had no member updates at this time. Jim Hennessey noted that Al Pettigrew had recently experienced appendicitis which was being managed with antibiotics. Al is feeling well.

### 10th Annual Rotary (Calgary West) NSTEP Plant Sale Fundraiser

Rob highlighted this opportunity to order flowers and/or vegetables as part of their spring fundraiser. You order (deadline is January 31st) from their website location (Rob or Paul have their info), and the items are provided to a pick-up site later in the spring.

### Rotary Society Poker Night Fundraiser

Dean announced this new event which is scheduled at the Deerfoot Inn and Casino on the evening of March 14th. The price for poker players will be \$225 per person, and we are hoping to attract 125 players to have a successful event. It is important to note that this event is being sponsored by Dean’s school and as a result, there is no financial risk for our Club. Funds raised will go to our Society to help fund their educational goals. There are still a few details being finalized but we expect an information flyer to be available shortly. We hope the players amongst us will sign up, and also tell your family and friends about the opportunity.



### Calgarians for Israel Fundraising Dinner

Rob reminded everyone about the upcoming Chinese Dinner event being held on Sunday, November 21st, from 5pm to 9pm. It is being held at the Regency Palace Restaurant, Dragon City Mall, in Chinatown. Sharon Fraiman is the Western Region Director for Canadian MDA that raises funds to provide medical equipment and ambulances in support of all Israeli residents. We are attempting to fill a table of 10 Chinookers and currently have 5. The price is \$88 per person and we ask everyone to do their best to attend. Please contact Sharon for tickets at [fraiman55@gmail.com](mailto:fraiman55@gmail.com) or call her at 403 815 0586

### Chase the Ace

We currently have 45 cards from which to pick. We have \$69 for the daily prize, \$92 to the Club, and our pot is at \$630 already.



Today's daily winner was Neil Beatty (ticket chosen by Jeff Foss), and Neal picked the 4 of Spades. Our next draw will be next week at our Thursday evening meeting (January 25th), at The Point Pub in Oak Bay Plaza.



Rob reminded us that members who wish to play Chase the Ace are asked to send their funds by e-transfer to our treasurer in the final week of the previous month. So to play in February, please send your \$10 per draw (there will be 3 draws in February) during the last week of January.

### Good News/Bad News

The only good news was offered by Ron May as he commented "At least the temperature is better".

### Guest Speaker Presentation

Rob introduced our Guest Speaker, Jeff Foss, who is our District 5360 Director of Membership and also a member of the Rotary Club of Okotoks.

### Dates to Remember

- January 25th      Networking/Fellowship Meeting at The Point in Oak Bay Plaza
- February 6th     regular noon meeting at the Carriage House

Rob thanked everyone for attending today and asked all to help close our meeting with a reading of Rotary's 4 Way Test.

Remember, "Create Hope in the World". Have a great Rotary week! Our meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.

## Rotary Membership and Growth

Jeff was initially introduced to Rotary in the Red Deer area. Everyone welcomed him and he felt welcome. He really didn't know that he was going to a Rotary meeting upfront. His point is "words matter".

How does Rotary fit into the life of the prospective member? This is a question that each perspective member will want to have answered, but it's more difficult to deal with it at a meeting. It's better to deal with it over a coffee, which will provide an informal situation where you can tell them what Rotary is and what Rotary does.

At the actual meeting, probe for what makes the new member tick, respond to their questions and possible concerns. Introduce the guest to fellow table members, ask them open-ended questions. Also at the meeting, we have to be cognizant that we are hosting a potential new member. Set up a Rotary "buddy" to be in charge of welcoming the prospective member, who will make sure that they are introduced around the club.

At the end of the meeting, make sure that you have the individual's correct contact information and make sure that you extend the invitation to them to attend the next event no matter what it is.

We should make sure after welcoming a prospective member to the club for a meeting that we follow up after the meeting. Someone needs to check with them and ask them what did they think of the meeting? Listen actively to their response. This is not the time to ask them to join the club. This is more of a courtship situation and we should not be asking for a commitment yet.

When they hopefully become a member, then it is time to celebrate. We need to celebrate all new members by assigning a mentor. Keep them busy, and make sure as much as possible that they are involved in committee work, and in the business of the club. Jeff likes to work with the prospective member and has what he refers to as a Rotary 101 class. This is available in the learning section of RI website, and it provides a checklist that you can give to the new member to help them become more oriented to our club.

Jeff wrapped up his presentation and opened the floor for questions. He was asked whether he believed that the upcoming Rotary International convention being held in Calgary in 2025 might provide an excellent opportunity to locate and encourage new members to join our clubs.

Jeff thought that this event would be an excellent opportunity for everyone, and that the District would be providing some guidance to the clubs to help accomplish this goal.

Paul thanked Jeff for his presentation, noting that Rotary is challenged to boost our new membership and to retain our existing members so we are grateful to receive all the ideas we can get.



## Community Service

Thanks to Garth and Lynda Sabrich, Ted Wada, Neil Beatty and son Jeff for venturing out in minus 35C to help in serving 420 homeless folks to a hot meal on this bitterly cold winter evening!



Thanks as well from the team at Mustard Seed for our generous financial support in paying for this delicious hot meal!

*Wayne Wiebe, Community Service*



# Cambodia Literacy Integrative Project (CLIP3)

A few pictures of the Cambodia Literacy Integrative Project (CLIP3) project that we are supporting.

Graham Boone



Staff photo



"CLIP3" Kick-Off meeting



Getting down to business



Science class re soap & water



Looks like an interesting subject



Some books are provided

## Rotarians @ The Fundraising Dinner

submitted by Michael Spears

TEN COURSE CHINESE BANQUET  Canadian Magen David Adom Canada KOSHER DINNER UPON REQUEST

### CALGARIANS FOR ISRAEL

A fundraiser for ALL Calgarians in benefit of Canadian Magen David Adom's Paramedics/Ambulance Fund

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2024

5 - 9 p.m. | \$88 per ticket

### REGENCY PALACE RESTAURANT

3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR  
Dragon City Mall  
- 328 Centre Street SE

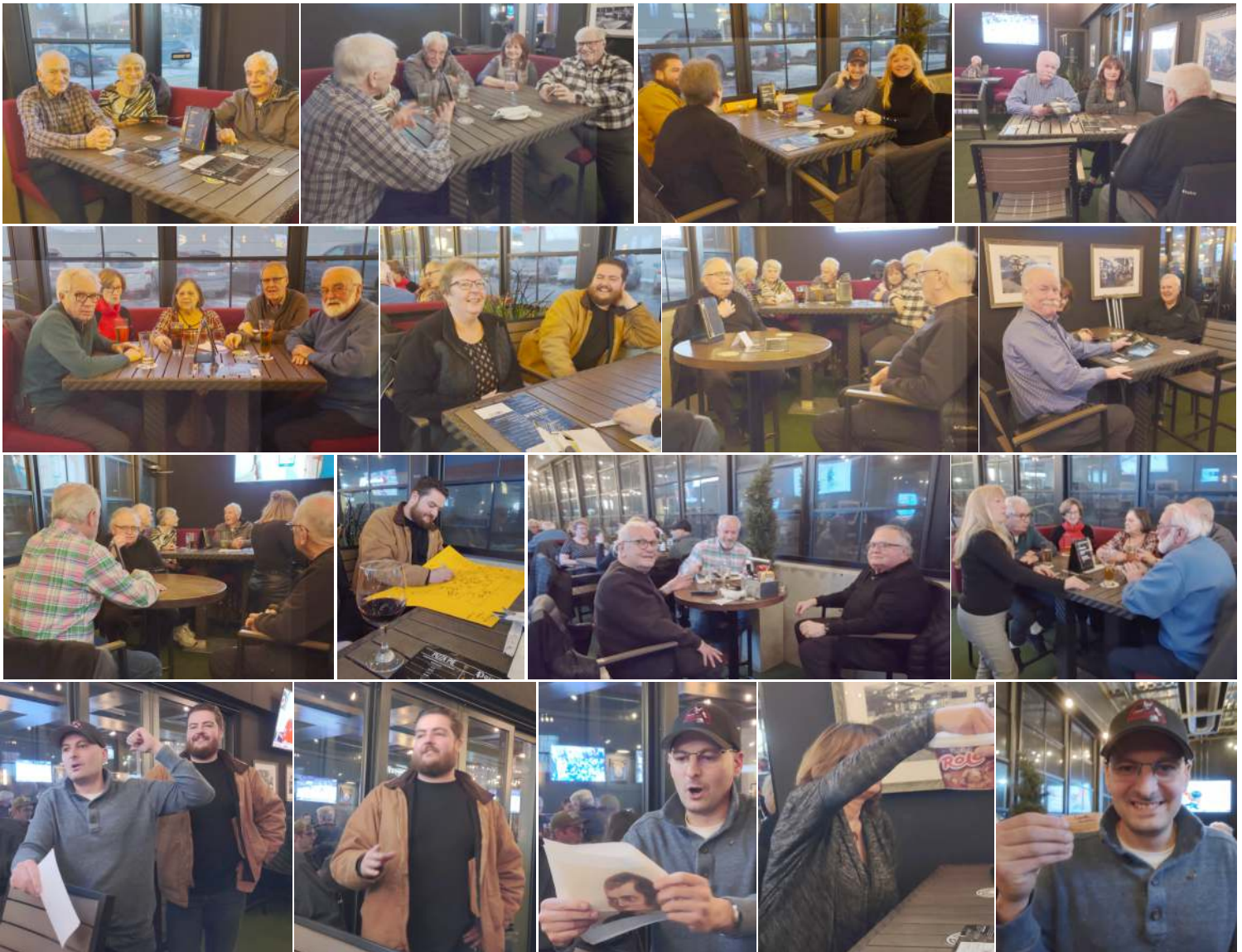
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## Lager at the Legion Meeting January 30th



Photos courtesy Sharon Fraiman



## Remembering !

*Jim Thompson, Charter Member, President 81/82*

I have enjoyed posting columns in the Arch over many years now, going back to my year as Club President. It is a good test for the grey matter of the brain, but history can also be researched through our extensive historic files maintained by Moe Tynan at her place of business. Annually, for 47 years, each Past President provides two or three ring binders containing a menu of items important to his or her year in office. Only one set before me, Ray Spokes 80/81, (who left Alberta promptly after concluding his year) and three others more current, have yet to be filed. George Van Schaick and Rob Wolfson have both filed. Our historic files and assorted memorabilia fill 4 steel double door cabinets, available to all members on a library sign-out basis, for committee research or just plain curiosity. Nothing should ever be removed permanently.

In speaking about history, I have attended the two recent social meets held at the Pointe Pub (90th Avenue & 24th Street SW). Memories stream back to a time when it was called the Point & Feather. We had a major park project in adjacent South Glenmore Park in the early 80s, planting trees along the pathway by the reservoir, each dedicated to club members, exchange students, RI presidents and local dignitaries. A large stone at the start of the path still remains with our effort identified. The project ended

due to lack of irrigation to maintain growth. A former member had installed a irrigation line to water each tree, but had not established a connection to a water source, nor did he get city approval to install a system! All was not lost. The city replaced most trees in several clusters to retain our effort as intended. We had planted nearly 300 trees over the years, celebrating the effort annually on site with a catered lunch, dignitaries invited, and club members carrying on afterwards to the Point for a few pints before ending the day.

Several years later, in 2000, after many discussions about an alternate "community footprint", I introduced the Nature Park. An Arch story for another time.



**Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month**

February 6th  
February 20th

Jeromy Farkas — "Pathfinder" presentation  
Kurt Kowalchuk, District Governor

**Water and Sanitation Month**

March 5th  
March 14th  
March 19th

Kathy Urquhart, Executive Director — Special Olympics Alberta  
Chinook Rotary Poker Night @ the Deerfoot Casino  
Dan McLean, City Councillor, Ward 13

**Maternal and Child Health Month**

April 2nd  
April 16th

Rabbi Glickman — Recent Travel to Israel  
Andrea Hill, Personal Story of a Professional Opera Singer



## Certificate of Appreciation



Bev Tonkinson in Mexico, receiving a certificate for our club to thank us for providing solar power to schools in the Jaltemba Bay area.

## Chinook Rotary Poker Night

Chinook Rotary is putting on the "Chinook Rotary Poker Night". This event is a tournament with **\$10,000 in cash prizes**, and will raise money for Chinook Rotary education programs.

The event is held at the **Deerfoot Casino** and they will run all tables with their dealers.

**Tickets are \$225 which include food and a good time.**

There is a webpage on the Chinook Rotary website for more information/ tickets, or use the QR code for tickets. This event is open to all.



**We hope you will join us and spread the word to all Texas Hold'em enthusiasts !!**

**Thursday March 14th**  
**Deerfoot Casino**