



RCCSP Weekly Bulletin August 24th, 2023
Volume Number 69, Issue Number 5

Photography: John Shield
Videography: Kathy Demorest
Administrator/Bulletin Editor: Sarah Brown

**Welcome to the August 24th meeting of the Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park.
My name is Bryan Walton, and I'm honoured to be the President of this Club for 23-24.**

Head Table: (L to R) President Bryan Walton, New Member Sue Lasher, Dorothea Schaab, Past President Penny Leckie, Sol Zia, and Joe Connelly.



Please rise and join me in the singing of O'Canada and Rotary Grace.





Announcements:

Visitors and Guests: **Roselyn Jack** did a wonderful job of introducing our guests today and we sang our beloved Welcome Song.



Health and Wellness: Health and Wellness contact is; **Dorothea Schaab**, she reports; Norm Devitt remains at the Foothills Hospital. He was excited to receive the Get Well card the club sent him. Doreen requests no visitors at this time.

Health and Wellness contact for September and October will be **David Read** Tel 403-271-5856 or 403-921-5856 or email dread@telusplanet.net

50/50 : **Jim Hutchens** asked our Guest Speaker Sol to pull the lucky ticket and the winner of \$145 was **Tony Ng** who graciously donated it to our incoming exchange student Marino.



Grants Committee: **Greg Martin** spoke, last week, about the Grants Committee now being open to accepting applications. All applications need to be in by November 30th. See the website for application and more information, click [here](#) There is also a social media campaign going on to spread the word, please share it with your networks!!!

Pickle Ball: **Deb Sands** announced that Pickle Ball will be starting on September 15th at St. Mary's High School, on Friday afternoons 4-6pm. The cost is \$50/year or \$10/drop-in. Email or call Deb Sands to get registered or to find out more information. debbie@priorityleasing.net

Incoming Exchange Student: Want an opportunity to contribute to the club and help a 17 year old athlete? This is your opportunity to host our inbound exchange student, Marino, from Italy. He arrives August 20th and is initially staying with **Stacey Johnson**. He's attending centrally located Crescent Heights High. Please reach out to **Stacey Johnson** or **Gail Williams** now with questions and interest!

-Rudy Ruberto See more info on page 6

Carol Fitsimmons Artistic Swimming: Watch Carol's performance that won her these Medals in Japan <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/gcj8omj7f00169b0rfuz3/XCOB4672.MP4?rlkey=tj242t3uwp5jb7ousjzu6xbly&dl=0>



CHI's Open House: (One of our Grant Recipients of \$100,000) Your support has made such an impact on the success of the Centre for Health Informatics at the University of Calgary, we are excited to show you all that we are up to now. I hope we will see you there! Click [HERE](#) to register and find more information -On behalf of Dr. Tyler Williamson, Director of Centre for Health Informatics

Social Committee—The Social Committee has many exciting events coming up, too many to include in this Bulletin—Please Click [HERE](#) to view the enter update and stay tuned for a more in depth update next week!

There is no video link this week as Steve was away. There will be two videos next week! Until then you can see more photos from today's Meeting by clicking [HERE](#)



Announcements Continued:

WildFire Evacuee Help—We have all heard the devastating news of the evacuations underway due to the wildfires in the Northwest Territories. Our hearts go out to those displaced and having to leave their homes without any understanding if they will survive the wildfires. If you wish to help, you can donate to the United Way NWT Emergency Response Fund, <https://nwt.unitedway.ca/2023-emergency-response/>, through this Canada Helps link. <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/90073?v2=true>.

Auction for 5 course gourmet dinner for the Ukraine Fundraiser: It finally happened!!!!

What a fine time and a large amount of money was raised for the Ukraine Evacuees. It took almost a year to book these esteemed guests at the Neuman-Weir Dining Room! What a great time was had by all.. Chefs Corey and Angie assisted the hosts to prepare a 5 course gourmet dinner. More members could partake in this simple way of raising money!! Get out the good dishes, get friends/family to help, offer a fun evening, and get the auction winners to invite a huge crowd!! Everyone wins!! What a joyous occasion!!

Thank you **Jeanette and GR!!**



As there is no video this week, there will be two next week to catch up on anything missed. Until then, to see more photos from today's Meeting click [HERE](#)

New Member Induction: Sue Lasher

Dorothea Schaab as Sponsor to Sue, introduced her to the Club, here is a bit about our new Member, Sue.

I have the greatest respect for Sue having known her professionally for more than 30 years. Sue began working in the oil patch, but a downturn in the economy gave her the opportunity to look at a career change and she began her career in funeral service at Foster's Garden Chapel in 1986 as a Junior Secretary. Sue has a profound love of giving back and she found her calling in funeral service, graduating from the Alberta School of Mortuary Science in 1990. In 1998, Sue was promoted to manager of Foster's Garden Chapel, a role that she fulfilled for twenty-five years. Over those years I have witnessed Sue's passion for serving not only the public and community, but her colleagues in funeral service as well.

She has served her profession over the years by participating in both our provincial and national Funeral service associations serving on many committees including: grief support, education, finance, compliance, government relations and convention planning. In 2012, Sue was elected President of the Funeral Service Association of Canada. She served on the national board for seven years. She has been recognized by her colleagues with a number of awards for her professionalism, long service and community outreach.

Foster's Garden Chapel (which is located across the street from Queen's Park Cemetery) is recognized for its many community service events. One of those events is their annual charity community garage sale. Foster's donates the funds raised at this event to the neighboring Buchanan School for the purchase of physical ed and playground equipment and to support a lunch program for the students.



New Member Induction: Sue Lasher - Continued

Outside of funeral service, Sue enjoys sharing time with her partner Brett Watson. She is also blessed to have her 85-year-old mother Joyce live nearby for whom she provides care, support and love. Sue also enjoys every opportunity to visit her daughter Melissa, son in law Bryan and two granddaughters Katie and Laura in Barrie, Ontario. She describes herself as a recovering marathoner. She starts each day with a seven km walk ... enjoying the pathways of Calgary ... perhaps even the Rotary Mattaway Greenway.



Sue says that serving others is not what she does ... it is who she is. She has reached a point in her life where she wants to do more for her community outside of funeral service. She has looked around and decided she could do this through Rotary ... when she reached out to ask if I would be her sponsor, I was so honoured. She has already demonstrated her willingness to serve through our club. She has joined me at the Good Food Box program; she and Brett were Dream Home volunteers and Foster's Garden Chapel was a sponsor at the recent Kids at Heart golf tournament. Sue has shared with me how much she has enjoyed participating in club events ... the banter, the friendliness, the enthusiasm and the generosity that she has witnessed. Sue, I am looking forward to sharing the wonderful world of Rotary with you. Welcome.

Past President **Penny Leckie** then Inducted Sue with a lovely speech, please watch the recording of the Meeting in next week's Bulletin to see the entire Induction.

Sue then thanked Dorothea for her support and getting her into the Club and thanked her Spouse in the audience for supporting her always and finished off with a quote that resonated with us all.



WELCOME SUE!!

Main Presentation: Sol Zia – Calgary Hotel Association



Joe Connelly Introduced Sol, who has led the Calgary Hotel Association for 4 years and has been a proud resident of Calgary for over 25 years. Sol Zia's 25+ year career with senior leadership positions across travel and tourism at Air Canada/Canadian Airlines, Sears Travel, TransAmerica, McCann Worldwide, LoyaltyOne/AIR MILES and WestJet.

In addition to his travel & tourism career he has over a decade of experience in inter-government relations and Board leadership. Sol is a champion for the visitor economy and works with all tourism stakeholders to fulfill the Calgary Hotel Association's strategic plan – a plan that is focused on advocacy, collaboration and investment. He will speak to us today about the good work going on with the Calgary Hotel Association and how they are already supporting our RI convention in 2025.



Sol then spoke on the impact the forest fire evacuees have had on the hotel industry in Calgary as well as the future protentional our Rotary International 2025 Convention will have. There was some great info in his presentation, until the recording of the Meeting is released next week, you can check Sol's PowerPoint presentation [HERE](#) for more info.



Rotary Exchange Program

HOST FAMILY APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED -By Dorothea Schaab



Gail Williams, Chair of Youth Opportunities and Leadership has asked me to advise you that we are accepting applications for host families for our inbound Youth Exchange Student, Marino Farella. Special thanks to **Stacey and Kathy Johnson** and their family for being his first host family. We want Marino to experience our diversified Canadian culture and this happens as he is involved in daily home life with a number of different families. Please give thought to this opportunity to participate in molding this young person's life.

The close bonds formed between host family members and exchange youth often lasts for many, many years. For me, I'm still in touch with students from as far back as 13 years ago. And I know some of you have attended weddings, and hosted students as they have returned to Calgary for vacations ... most recently Hannah from Austria.

So please give this consideration, especially our new members. Not only is this a life changing year for our students, but your horizons will also be expanded. Information on applying as a host family has been distributed through recent emails and it will be in the Bulletin this week as well. Please contact **Gail Williams** for more information.



2023-24 Inbound Rotary Youth Exchange student Marino Farella arrived from Italy on Sunday, August 20. Saying Benvenuto are, from left, **Stacey Johnson, host parent; Rick Jakubek; Marino; President Bryan Walton; Marietta Maier, outbound counsellor; Gail Williams, inbound counsellor and chair, Youth Opportunities.**

Dorothea Schaab, photographer.

And Marino enjoying Stampede Park



2023-24 Outbound Rotary Youth Exchange student William Wei departed for Germany on Monday, August 21. Saying Bon Voyage are, from left, **Dorothea Schaab, Marietta Maier, outbound counsellor, Gail Williams, chair, Youth Opportunities.**



And William with his Host Family in Germany!



Rotary Exchange Program—Continued



Host Families Needed

The Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park
requires host families
(September, 2023 through July, 2024)

Meet our 2023-2024 Inbound Student, 16-year-old Marino Farella from Italy

- ♦ Lives in the historical town of Rutigliano, Bari in the south of Italy
- ♦ Is close to his parents and older sister who is attending university
- ♦ Loves soccer; super fan of INTER, the famous football (soccer) club of Italy.
- ♦ Enjoys watching TV series with family, cooking and has a passion for travel and beautiful places.
- ♦ Will attend Grade 11 at Crescent Heights High School



Who Can Be A Host Family?

- **Any caring and responsible family** with an interest in hosting a young person from another land.
- **Families with small children** make great host families. Young children experience having a Big Brother or Sister; Exchange students may share a new language for the young children.
- **"Empty Nesters" or retired couples** often have more time than younger families to spend with the exchange student and they enjoy having a young person to host.
- **Families with high school age children** help the exchange student integrate into the school activities.
- **Single parent families or single adults** make good hosts.
- **Families do not need to be affiliated with Rotary** to host Rotary Youth Exchange Students.

How Long Will I Host a Rotary Youth Exchange Student?

The typical length of stay is about two to four months. This provides the student with an opportunity to experience different cultures and family traditions. The student is in Calgary from late August 2023 to July 2024.

Rotary Youth Exchange Changes Lives

Whether you're a student or a host family, Rotary Youth Exchange opens doors, opportunities and minds.



For more information on the Host Family program
or for an application to host
Contact Gail Williams
or email gailwi45@telus.net
Rotary Club of Calgary at Stampede Park





THIS WEEK'S MEETING LINK: Will be in next week's Bulletin

In Closing:

Next week's Meeting: We are back here in the Blue Room for a visit by District Governor: Kurt Kowalchuk.

Closing Words: As you go about your business this week remember simple acts of kindness go a long way to *Creating Hope in the World*.

And with that, our meeting is adjourned. Thank you for coming. Have a great Rotary week!



Final reminder to register for next week's Meeting by tomorrow morning

www.rotarystampedepark.com



Annual General Meeting & Assembly
Waterton Lakes National Park
Alberta, Canada
21 – 24 September 2023



Register Now!! Join Us For This Exciting Event

Waterton Peace Garden Service Project and Peace Pole Dedication

Golf Tournament (optional \$\$)

Waterton Lake Boat Trip to Goat Haunt (optional \$\$)

Hike the Great Divide Trail – Goat Haunt to Waterton Township (optional \$\$)

Opening Reception

WGIPPA Annual Assembly with International Recognized Speakers

Fran Leggett | Jeff Mow | Cam Stewart | Jenny Feick

WGIPPA Annual General Meeting | All Rotarians are Voting Members

Peace Park Assembly Gala

Craig Davidson from Rick Steves' Europe | Youth Exchange Students | Entertainment

Non-Sectarian Celebration of Peace, Love, and Life

Hands Across the Border Ceremony

Waterton Village Area Hotels are Offering Discounted Rates | CALL EARLY!

Aspen Village | Waterton Lakes Lodge | Crandell Mountain
403-859-2255 403-859-2150 403-859-2288

Call the Hotel Directly for a 15% Discount Code PCEPRK

Bear Mountain Hotel

403-859-2366

Call the Hotel Directly for a 15% Discount Code WGIPPA

Northland Lodge

403-859-2353

Offering a 12% Discount for Upstairs Accommodations

Registration is Now Available at

<https://Registrations.DACdb.com/Register/index.cfm?EventID=77619583>



Protecting Vulnerable People Policy Requirements 2023-24

It is critical that our Club is following the requirements for certain Club members to volunteer with the vulnerable population. The requirement to be an approved volunteer is to be screened following District 5360 procedure. Currently, District 5360 has identified the following Committees where volunteers should be screened:

- NGSE, RYLA, RYPEN, RAYEC Program Lead
- District Board
- Protecting Vulnerable People Committee
- Club Interact Advisor
- Club Stay-in-School Mentor (when student is under 18 years of age)
- Club Youth Service Committee
- Club Youth Scholarships & Awards

Club Vulnerable People Programs (e.g. Seniors, New Immigrants)

In addition to the above there is a separate application and set of requirements for a family hosting a student.

Screening Requirements:

There are 4 requirements to be approved as a volunteer working with the vulnerable population:

1. Interview of the potential volunteer by the Club;
2. A current Police Information Check (including a Vulnerable Sector Check);
3. Current training in the Youth Protection Awareness course (online), and;
4. Three independent references (not family and only one Rotarian).

Once all of these requirements have been met, the volunteer is approved to commence working with the vulnerable population. The current Policy requires this screening be completed before any one to one activities occur with a member of the vulnerable population.

The pandemic stopped most, if not all activities and programs in Rotary for the last 2-3 years and the District database shows most of our members don't have any of the requirements to volunteer with the vulnerable population. This is NOT required if you don't have any one to one involvement with the vulnerable population. For example, If you wish to take our inbound student for an activity or drive them to our Club meetings and have another adult (or adults with you) with you, you do **not** require screening.

My plan is to communicate with all of the Chairs of Committees who have the potential to have one to one contact with the vulnerable population and advise of the requirements. I will work with those Committees to ensure screening is completed before any activity with the vulnerable population takes place.

Please contact Carol Graham (Club Protection Officer) at grahamca1120@gmail.com or (403) 861-4225 with any questions or assistance.



Partners in Print

We start Book Club again on September 18, 2023. The cost is \$20 for a yummy breakfast buffet and discussion about books that you have read. Email janetopp@shaw.ca if you'd like to join us. Our Book Sale will be on September 6th 2023 at the Partners luncheon. **Jane and Maureen**



District 5360 Opportunity

Here is an opportunity for Young Professionals in your club to attend this event in September. Over the past several months Phoenix MacLaren and Kamil Kanji have been developing a two-day training during the upcoming "Learning to Lead" event in Toronto to bring Rotary and Leadership Development to members ages 25-40... those a little newer to the work world, newer to the Rotary world.

What will go down:

- We will discuss different District Committees and how to become actively involved- honing their leadership skills, while providing excited committee members for your district.
- We will explore The Rotary Foundation by developing grant projects- smaller projects to apply for District Grants; larger projects to apply for Global Grants; understanding how DDF works and the importance of giving, especially how easy Rotary Direct makes
- We have invited Toastmasters to join us, a partnership started a few years ago, to enhance public speaking skills - finding our voice in an organization of leaders.

Finally, we will address Communicating Across Generations - for the first time, we have 5 different generations working together - let us all learn to communicate better with each other.

More information can be found on the website - <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/50077/page/2023-learning-to-lead>

Costs to attend include; airfare, registration (\$575 – includes all meals except breakfast), and hotel accommodation (\$175).



RIBFEST VOLUNTEERS: Please note that you will not be able to edit the schedule however it is to be used as a guideline for the categories of activities and specific shift times and vacancies available. September 8-10th at McMahon Stadium.

Should your members wish to support our Ribfest project then they need only select the category and shift time and email the information back to me and I will enter their information into our schedule. The schedule is constantly updated so if they select a shift then the next day they can click on the link and see that their name has been entered. We ask that they provide their mobile number so we can enter it beside their name and also confirm if they have taken AGLC's Proserve Course. The Course is not necessary to volunteer but we need to confirm to AGLC how many of our daily volunteers have taken it. This year we are hoping to raise funds in support of mental health and wellness through local services including "I can for kids", CUPS, and "It's a crime not to read".

Volunteer Link: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1vvaCBHzJlcfFn1rdrJybotBarOnCmDCzF5uSNdbSVA/edit#gid=0>

A brief description of volunteer categories are:

- 1) Greeters - will meet guests at the entrance area to make them feel welcome, collect donations and count the attendees.
- 2) Rotary info tent - providing information about Rotary to interested guests.
- 3) Ticket sellers - selling 50/50 and beverage tickets. Should be comfortable on your feet and interacting with guests.
- 4) Beverage runners/servers - working to serve both beer and non alcoholic beverages. Will help restock inventory as needed.
- 5) Table clean up - ensure the tables are clean for patrons to use. Will include using and changing garbage bags as needed.
- 6) Assistant accountants - helping collect and manage the cash flow and information transfer at the request of our accountants.
- 7) Children's area - working with the children, guiding them and keeping an eye on their activity.

The set up on Thursday and take down on Monday involves setting up or taking down tents, tables and chairs. it's a fun 3 days/ evenings with great bands playing throughout, a market with a dozen vendors, a family section, a variety of Rib trucks ribs and cold beer.

Any questions let me know and I'll do my best to supply an answer.

Yours in Rotary, Paul Gaudet. E-mail: gaudetco@shaw.ca

Hiking Club

There were only 2 keen hikers that traveled 12.2km return to Hidden Lake which is just south of the Upper Kananaskis Lake. The Lake is very low for this time of year. We enjoyed our lunch beside the Lake. On our return trip we spotted two moose beside the road.—**Ted Rowsell**





Welcome Back to Regular Programming

August 31st:

Kurt Kowalchuk— District Governor Visit



September 7th:

Patti Pon—Developing Arts in Calgary



September 14th:

Ron Ghitter—Politics in Our Changing Community



September 21st:

Spruce Meadows—OFFSITE—Field Trip

