

THE BULLETIN of The Rotary Club of Calgary South **Gem Munro: Amarok Society**



November 2nd, 2017: Volume 63, Issue 16 Bulletin Chair: Bev Ostermann

Editor: Photographer: Clive Pringle

Glenn Potter

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Rick Scott introduced our guest speaker Gem Munro. "Gem Munro has devoted his life and career to improving educational opportunities for disadvantaged people across Canada and abroad. Pursuit of this objective carried him into residence in troubled communities across most of Canada, before carrying him overseas. He is presently a Director of Amarok Society, a registered Canadian Charity that provides educational programmes to the very poor in Bangladesh and Pakistan, and is now beginning an initiative to develop opportunities for Indigenous youth in Canada.

Gem is also an author and artist whose current book, (which he has here today), is a critically acclaimed novel drawing upon his years of extraordinary experiences with aboriginal communities in Canada. (Sale of his book is a major fundraiser for Amarok Society.) For their work, Gem and his wife Dr. Tanyss Munro, were both recipients of the Queen Elizabeth II, Diamond Jubilee Medal."

Gem thanked the club for once again having him back. This was his fourth time speaking to us.

He spoke of the appalling conditions in the slums of the world, but most especially those in Bangladesh. His primary concern was for the kids in slums who receive absolutely NO EDUCATION. The normal procedure of building a school and then hiring teachers is a system doesn't work in these types of conditions. Over 1/3 of the children cannot get an education and it's not cost effective and cannot be sustained. Instead he and his wife have developed a program of working with the Mothers of the children. They are eleven years into the project and have met with a great deal of success. He showed us several videos of what Mother can do.

The first video was of a young girl who was married at the age of 11 to a man 38 years of age. She went to live with her in-laws in a room about 12" x 12" which housed anywhere from 6-10 people. She effectively became a "domestic slave" tasked with all the menial chores for the family. She became a typical slum woman in Bangladesh. However, under Gem's educational program she became part of the School for Mothers program. Everything she learned would then be taught to between 4-5 other children. Eventually even the Grandfathers became part of the educational process.



THE BULLETIN of The Rotary Club of Calgary South Gem Munro: Amarock Society



Gem feels very passionately that the "natural state of the Human Mind is NOT one of ignorance." The natural state of the mind is one of learning and from learning we can TEACH.

Another video showed the Grandfather learning to read English. He had to enter English words on a page and his granddaughter insisted that he complete his assignments. As a result, the Grandfather loves Canadians and is extremely grateful for his opportunity to learn so late in life.

Gem feels that our greatest failure in the West is that we have not committed to educating ALL peoples. Extremism is going be our greatest challenge. Especially that posed by ISIS who are committed to the ideal of killing and rejoice in the concept of death for a greater cause. Rotary has the capacity to counter this by providing WISDOM and developing educated, reasoning minds.

Gem shared his experience from 30 years ago when he held his first child in an isolated community in the far north. It was a community of very grateful but extremely poor people. His observation was that, "all children as newborns make exactly the same sounds". Unfortunately, our history of educating our Indigenous peoples is abysmal. Our educational doctrine is motivated by a political objective to ensure that these people are able to live within their communities but are NOT educated to become part of the REAL WORLD. Regretfully many of the young people within these communities live to go to prison – not university. They become the victims of the predators, especially the drug pushers and they do not develop "high aspirations". It is important that we assist them to develop educated young people who can serve as models and mentors to others in the community.

Don Taylor expressed our thanks to Gem for providing us with an informed view of his efforts to provide an education to the young people of our world.

President Bill indicated to our guest speaker that \$100 was donated to our "Stay in School" program on his behalf.















THE BULLETIN of The Rotary Club of Calgary South Club News





President Bill LeClair welcomed everyone to the Rotary Club of Calgary South meeting of Nov. 2nd, 2017. He invited everyone to join with Lisa Fernandes and our head table in the singing of O Canada followed by Rotary Grace.

This Day in History:

In 1983: President Ronald Reagan signed a bill establishing the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Also 1983: The "Thriller" single was released worldwide by Michael Jackson.

No Joke today!

Head Table: Rick Scott, Gem Munro (Guest Speaker), Craig Stokke, Shellie Marshall, Lynn Grant



Bulletin Editor: Glenn Potter

Bulletin Photographer: Clive Pringle

Guests: Sandy Dougall introduced Gem Munro (Guest Speaker), John Amonson and Max Feldman (Guests: Dilan Perera), Walter Flores (Guest: Ron Prokosch), Christine Holstein (Guest: Keith Davis) and our YEX Student Maisa Piazza Costa

50/50 Draw: Ben Steblecki made up for the lack of humour on the part of our President by telling the story of the two Jims, and a girdle. He then presented a cheque for \$151.00 to today's winner, **Glen Godlonton.**



Stampede Lotteries Cheque Presentation: Lynn Grant (Chair: Stampede Lotteries Committee)

was pleased to present to the club, Stampede Lotteries in the amount club and all our volunteers but committee.

President Bill seconded Lynn's that this was **Lynn's** last official



the largest cheque ever issued by the of \$634,182.18 Lynn thanked the most especially **Craig Stokke** and his

thank-you remarks and informed us function as Stampede Lotteries Chair.



Election and Nomination Report: **Past President** Ken Farn gave us a <u>reminder to get</u> <u>your votes in.</u> The ballot box will be available on **Nov. 16th**. You can use email to download your ballot and then bring it to the club on the 16th.

(Our next meeting is the Remembrance Service and **no** ballots will be accepted at this meeting). <u>**OR**</u>; You can send your ballot via email to Don Bacon at: <u>donbacon@shaw.ca</u> <u>**We**</u> **would like to have a 99.9% member vote**.



Sergeant-At-Arms: Joe Connelly fined several members because if "you snooze – you lose". He drew attention **to Jim Bladon's** son who is quite a hockey player and but fined Jim \$2.00 for failure to return an important car key. **Keith Davis** paid \$5.00 for apparently "dishing" the mayor. **Bill Sumner** paid \$2.00 for not knowing what ½ of all Americans live within 50 miles of.! (He wasn't alone in not knowing the answer)





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Rotary Recruiting Minute: Shellie Marshall brought us a Rotary Recruiting Minute, introducing an initiative of President Bill's. **President Bill, Fellow Rotarians, Visitors and Guests**: I wanted to present the Recruiting Committee to you today and bring you a Rotary Recruiting Minute. Thanks to the support of **President Bill** we have successfully launched a Rotary Recruiting committee this year. We affectionately refer to ourselves as the *Fisherman of the club*. We are out there looking for Business Leaders, Business owners and People JUST like you and I to join our club. We are making a list ...and are creating a database to keep in touch with possible new members, more than twice... rather on an ongoing basis to continue to build our club membership. I will



ask the Rotary Recruiting team to please stand. Norm, Keith, Sid and Chloe and Murray my co-chair who is away

We are out there telling and selling stories of our club, the great projects we work on and the positive impact a service club like ours has on a community

Please Come to ANYONE of us if you have someone that you have talked to a few times or several time about becoming a member and you want us to reach out to them for you, or just for recruiting information, help or ideas about approaching new members.

I also wanted to introduce YOU! **YOU** are ALL the best Recruiters for our club ! And To remind everyone that - We all know of potential members out there who would make fantastic Rotarians. Let's invite them in.

Remembrance Service: Jim Fitzowich reminded us that our meeting is on November 11th at the Carriage House rather than Thursday, November 9th. Jim also reminded us of our commitment to remembering those who fought for our freedoms. The cost is \$30 a ticket if you purchase online and \$35 at the door, family and friends welcome. See registration link, full agenda and details in the bulletin on Page 6

Feed the Hungry: Harry Pelton indicated that Feed the Hungry is on Sunday November 12th. Thanks to everyone who has volunteered. We still need 10-15 volunteers for the afternoon of Sunday Nov. 12th for the afternoon shift from 2:30 to 6:00 pm Please let Harry Pelton know if you can help out. Call: 403 585 2625 or 403 244 9140. Mid next week the details about, where, timing and the schedule indicating who has volunteered will be sent out via email.

President Bill announced the follow items:

Cleven Award Ballots – are available and you're asked to give them to Bryan Targett. **Christmas Luncheon - Dec. 14**th - tickets are available on line as of today. **New Rosters: Bev Ostermann** is handing out the New Rosters, make sure you get one from him

Health and Wellness:

- Jim Burns is at the Rehab Building at the Peter Lougheed and can receive visitors
- **Bernie Benning** has suffered a detached retina and is flat on his back with orders NOT to move his head

This meeting is adjourned, Have a GREAT week. See you on November 11th at the Carriage House Inn







Bulletin Committee Request: All Speakers, Intro presenters and Thank you presenters need to provide electronic copies before or immediately after the meeting to the Weekly Bulletin Editor or to: kathyann@rotarycs.org. Also note that if you ask to speak at the podium on any other matter at a weekly meeting, President Bill will be expecting you to submit an electronic copy of your information as well. Thanks very much for your assistance.

Cleven Awards: You are invited to nominate an active member of our Rotary Club for this year's Cleven Award. The criteria for the award are outlined on the Form which is attached to the email for this week's bulletin. Nominations should be sent to: <u>tgallen1@telus.net</u> or given to Bryan Targett no later than **November 16th 2017 Terry Allen: Chair: Cleven Award Committee**

Feed The Hungry: We still need Volunteers for November 12th Dinner for the afternoon shift from 2:30 to 6:00 pm Please let Harry Pelton know if you can help out. Call: 403 585 2625 or 403 244 9140. Mid next week the details about, where, timing and the schedule indicating who has volunteered will be sent out via email.

Health, Wellness & Transportation:

Contact **Don O'Dwyer at:** <u>dpodwyer@hotmail.com</u> or: 403 680 2072 if you know of anyone that is not well, that could use a visit or a ride to a Rotary Meeting.

Don O'Dwyer: Chair: Health Wellness and Transportation Committee

House Committee: Power Point for November: Members wishing to have information placed on the Power point slide show for November please contact **Jamie Moorhouse** at least one week prior to the meeting date. Jamie's e-mail is jamie@talkinglightmedia.com

Terry Allen: Chair: House Committee

New Rosters: Bev Ostermann has the latest release of our Club Roster. Grab yours at the November 16th meeting.

Bev Ostermann: Chair: Rosters and Badges Committee

Office Matters: Please be aware that Kathyann Reginato will be away from the office from October 30th, 2017 to November 5th, 2017

Please direct any questions you may have to Don Bacon, Club Secretary at: donbacon@shaw.ca







Rotary Clubs of Calgary Remembrance Service "Rotary Remembers" November 11th, 2017 (Saturday) The Carriage House Inn: 9030 MacLeod Trail South 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Guest Speaker: Lt. Col. (Ret) Jim Hennessy

Tickets are <u>\$30.00</u> if you register <u>before</u> Friday November 3rd online Tickets are <u>\$35.00</u> at the door

Here is the link to Register for the Rotary Club of Calgary South:

https://portal.clubrunner.ca/952/Event/2017-rotary-remembers

Agenda for the "Rotary Remembers" Event

10:00 am:	Gathering of Rotarians, Spouses and friends
10:30 am:	Master of Ceremonies: Brian Guichon
	Welcome: District Governor Rick Istead
	O Canada: Robyn Braley (accompanied by Ruth Wylie)
	Blessing: Harold Aitkenhead
10:40 am:	The meaning of Remembrance Day : Frank King
10:55 am:	"In Flanders Fields": Des Defreitas
11:00 am:	Last Post (Bugler): MCpl. (ret) David Ramsey
	Two Minutes of Silence
	Reveille: (Bugler): MCpl. (ret) David Ramsey
	"They shall not grow old": Des Defreitas
11:10 am:	Rotary "Honour Roll" Club Presidents or representatives
11:30 am:	Introduction of Guest Speaker: Doug Hood
	Presentation: Lt. Col (ret) Jim Hennessy
	God Save the Queen: Robyn Braley (accompanied by Ruth Wylie)
Noon:	Lunch



THE BULLETIN of The Rotary Club of Calgary South 2017 Christmas Luncheon







THE BULLETIN of The Rotary Club of Calgary South Maisa's Memories and Partners In Print





This past two weeks I've done a lot of really cool things. On the weekend of October 21st all the exchange students met and we had our Halloween celebration. We had Pumpkin carving, costume completion, bowling night. It was really great to see all the other exchange students again.

This Sunday my host family had pumpkin carving with some relatives. It was a lot of fun, it was the second time I ever carved a pumpkin and I'm really proud of my results. On Halloween night, I went trick or treating with my host sister, who is 10. I was dressed up as a Zombie Hockey Player and she was the Grimm Reaper. We got a lot of candies and it was a really good experience, since I've never done this before. On Wednesday we went to the We

Day event. It was a really good experience and I really loved it.

Here are some pictures of me with my host siblings on Halloween night and with the Exchange students.





Calgary South Rotary Partners

Christmas Luncheon

Saturday, December 2, 2017 at 10:00 A.M.

Calgary Golf & Country Club

(1 1/2 blocks west of Elbow Drive on 50th Avenue SW)

Tickets \$35 - Guests Welcome!

Please R.S.V.P. by November 25 to Millie Huson 403-686-0828 or ehuslink@telusplanet.net Send cheques payable to "Calgary South Rotary Partners" to: Donna Kennedy, 37 Mahogany Manor SE, Calgary AB T3M 0Y3

Door Prizes! 50/50 Draw! Bring loonies and toonies for "Beads of Courage".





NOVEMBER 2017		
Nov 11:	Rotary Remembers: Carriage House Inn	
Nov 12:	Feed The Hungry: Volunteers Needed	
Nov 16:	Rotary Foundation Presentation	
Nov 16:	DEADLINE FOR ELECTION BALLOTS	
Nov 16:	DEADLINE FOR CLEVEN AWARD NOMINATIONS	
Nov 20:	Board Meeting	
Nov 23:	Meaghan Farquharson: Peace Scholarship Recipient	
Nov 30:	Reid Henry: C-Space Plant Tour	
DECEMBER	DECEMBER 2017	
Dec 7:	Sundae Nordin: Calgary Community Kitchen	
Dec 14:	Christmas Luncheon: Carriage House Inn	
Dec 18:		
Dec 21:	Cleven Awards and Christmas Social	
Dec 28:	No Meeting re: Christmas	
JANUARY 2018		
Jan 4:	President Bill LeClair: Mid-Year State of the Union Address	
Jan 11:	Brian Farrell: REVV52	
Jan 18:	ТВА	
Jan 25:	Robbie Burns Day	
FEBRUARY 2	<u>2018</u>	
Feb 1:	Jeannie Everett: New Alberta Curriculum	
Feb 2:	Larry Kwong Chinese New Year Dinner	
Feb 8:	Valentine's Day Luncheon	
Feb 15:		
Feb 22:	Brett Enders: Virtual Construction	
MARCH 2018		
March 1:	ТВА	
March 8:	Nancy Mannix: Palix Foundation	
	St. Patrick's Day	
March 22:	Art Borzel: Rotary Profile	
March 29:	ТВА	
<u>APRIL 2018</u>		
April 5:	ТВА	
April 12:	ТВА	
	New Member Celebration Evening Meeting: Carriage House	
April 26:	Terry McDonough (Deceased): Rotary Profile	
MAY 2018		
May 3:	Dream Home Registration Kick off	
May10:	ТВА	
May 17:	ТВА	
May 24:	Stay In School Luncheon: Carriage House Inn	
May 25:	President's Party: Acadia Rec Centre	



THE BULLETIN of The Rotary Club of Calgary South Active Links and Contact Information





If you are still reading to the last page then you deserve a technology tip ... Whenever you see light blue emails and web pages within this bulletin then you should know these "links" are active.

Here are some of the links in this bulletin that you can click on

Rotary Remembers:

https://portal.clubrunner.ca/952/Event/2017-rotary-remembers

Discon 2018 Registration:

RI Convention 2019 Registration:

http://www.riconvention.org/en

http://discon5360.ca/registration/



All those emails listed below are active too!!!!!

Rotary Club of Calgary South

Suite 120, 200 Rivercrest Drive SE Calgary AB T2C 2V5 (403) 244 9788

Contact: Kathyann Reginato email: <u>kathyann@rotarycs.org</u> Visit us at: <u>www.rotarycs.org</u>

2017 2018 Club Officers

President: Bill LeClair: President-Elect: Ron Prokosch: Past President: Ken Farn: Club Secretary: Don Bacon: Treasurer: Larry Kennedy: Partners President: Karen Grant:

2017 2018 Directors

District 5360 Representative: Sherry Austin Club Service: Operations: Steve Mason Club Service: Membership and Social: Glen Godlonton Club Service: Ways & Means: Gordon Weicker Community Service: Jim Hutchens Community Service: Ways & Means: Dana Hunter International & Vocational Service: Kevin MacLeod Youth Service: Stacey Johnson

Other Important Contacts

Audit Treasury and Finance Chair: Don Mintz Dream Home Chair: Craig Stokke Health Wellness & Transportation Chair: Don O'Dwyer Large Grants Chair: Bob Brawn Small Grants Chair: Mark Ambrose Social Committee Chair: Toby Oswald-Felker Stay In School Scholarship Program Chair: Bill Sumner Programs and Tours Chair: Jim Fitzowich World Community Service Chair: Jamie Moorhouse

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