

## BULLETIN



**Meeting date:**                      **February 13, 2024**

**Virtual or In-Person:**            **In – Person**

**Visitors / Guests:**

- Bill Bryant (Victoria-Saanich Rotary Club)
- Glen Godlonton (Calgary Stampede Park Rotary Club)
- Vicky Clarke (Guest of Krista)
- Kushal Vipani (Guest of Ed)

**Announcements:**

Paul Harris +2 presented to past president Ben Smillie (by Terry and Joan)

Our club was recognized for its contributions to the Polio Plus fundraising efforts during the 22/23 Rotary year. District AG Dave Maxwell presented a certificate from Rotary International to Terry and Joan Toone

**Program Overview:**

**(1) Vocational talk by Margaret Black**

Margaret grew up on the family farm, in a house built by her great-grandfather in 1856. She shared her story of how a girl with a twin sister, born to a farming family in King, Ontario, became a pioneering lawyer, opening the first all-female law firm right after passing the Bar exam, practicing law for 15 years, and then returning to her hometown to become Mayor for 16 years until 2010. And after all that, returned to practice law.

Margaret helped move her son and his family to Victoria and she and her husband liked Oak Bay so much that they bought a home within 3 weeks of being here! Her grandchildren are 4 and 6 years old.

Margaret joined the Rotary Club of Oak Bay and is part of the youth services committee and the mentorship program.

**(2) Flag Program Presentation by Lorna:**

*Why we do it*

The flag program is a major fundraiser for our club. Without these funds we cannot support projects in our community, so we need everyone's help.

*What we raise:*

Flag subscriptions are \$55 per year and we sell approximately 500 subscriptions.

We raise approximately \$25,000 annually!

***How does it work:***

We sell flag subscriptions in the community (friends, neighbours, co-workers, family)

Three times per year (May long weekend, July long weekend, and September long weekend), flag installers circulate the flags, placing them on subscribers' lawns, in their flower beds or in back gardens. Flags are installed a few days before each weekend and picked up a few days after each weekend.

***What we need from club members:***

- (1) Sell subscriptions (talk to people on your street, family etc.) Flag subscriptions are not limited to Oak Bay – flags are installed throughout Greater Victoria
- (2) Volunteer as an installer or to assist an installer.

**(3) Presentation by Bill Bryant (Victoria-Saanich Club)**

Bill promoted his club's Easter Plant Sale (only \$25 per plant). Like our flag program, the plant sale is a source of funding for their club to spend on local projects. Bill had some printed order forms to hand out. President Chris Kershaw emailed an electronic order form on to members.

**Celebrations Master:**

Jack provided a timely public service announcement: tomorrow is Valentine's Day. He then opened everyone's wallets and checked in with each table to share something that they learned from their tablemates in conversation today.

Many Happy dollars shared – Lorna says "See you in April"; Vicky's mother is turning 99!; Claire sold his house in 9 days; Glen (from Calgary Club) thanked us for having him; Bill (from Victoria-Saanich Club) also thank us for the conversation and the meeting.

50/50 winner -- \$50 to Lorna!

**Next Meeting: In-person Tuesday February 20 @ Rec Centre. The guest speaker is Bruce Williams, CEO of the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce**