

Meeting date: **Tuesday October 17, 2023**

Virtual or In-Person: In-Person

Visitors / Guests: An amazingly well-attended meeting for guests and visitors (10 guests/visitors including the speaker).

Kevin Toone (Guest Speaker); Cassie Stockamp (Returning visitor); Maureen Powell (Ron Cooley); Angelika Weis (Club guest); Merla Murphy and Sarah Toone (Terry & Joan Toone); Paul and Liz Lecavalier (Heather Aked); Allana Harris (Jack P); Jenny Toews

Presidents Welcome:

Chris welcomed all members and guests who were in attendance and acknowledged our presence on unceded First Nations Land.

Invocation by Joan P. – Joan informed the club that Mark Bedford, a previous club member, recently passed. He and his wife moved to the interior a number of years ago.

Announcements:

1. Reminder from Joan Toone - For the month of October the club will match your donation to The Rotary Foundation for polio eradication. A donation between \$35 and \$99 will be matched with 100 Paul Harris points from the club. A donation greater than \$100 will be matched 3 for 1 with points from the club. You can donate online or bring a cheque to a meeting. If donating online, be sure to email Terry Toone so that he can do the paperwork to get you your Paul Harris points
2. Janette gave us an update on Anawim House shoe box fundraising. Still accepting in new condition toiletries, gloves/mittens, socks, toques to fill shoe boxes for those in need. Look out for more information on a Christmas stocking fundraiser in the near future
3. Soap for Hope – stay tuned
4. Peter gave an update on the Lansdown Middle School volunteering. 8:00am to 8:30am each morning to prepare breakfast for school kids (toast, bagels etc.). Contact Peter for more details or to get signed up to help
5. Our thoughts are with John Jordan after he shared with us how the Israel/Palestine conflict has directly impacted his family.

Celebrations Master:

Judy was our celebrations master. Judy reminded us that as a club, we are sponsoring a project in Mexico, through the international committee. We all have the opportunity to visit and lend a hand to Casa De La Paz in February 2024. John Jordan will be providing details of costs and timing, so stay tuned.

Many, many happy dollars were shared by members today. 50/50 Draw – Clair won \$51

Program Overview: Guest Speaker:

Terry Toone introduced his son, Lieutenant-Colonel Kevin Toone. Kevin has had a fascinating career. He walked us through the process to become a pilot in Canada (you only have to be 17, complete grade 10, and be Canadian to enroll!). But the pass rate is only 10%. After we all made it through basic training, we learned about Search & Rescue (SAR) operations in Canada: The 3 main bases of operation (West Coast, East Coast and Central); the statistics of SAR incidents (only 4% of incidents occur north of the 55th parallel); Canada is in the process of upgrading its helicopters and retiring the Hercules; and so much more.

A big reminder that if you are going on a trip by land, sea or air, always plan ahead. Let someone know your route and if you purchase a personal location beacon, be sure to register it properly with the correct authorities.

Jack thanked Kevin for sharing with us today. And on behalf of all of us, thanked him for the work he does saving lives.

Next Meeting:

November 7, 2023 – Oak Bay Rec

No club meeting October 24, 2023 – Board Meeting