

Rotary Club of Calgary West (Service through Fellowship)

The *Monthly* WESTERNER

Box 4572, Station C, Calgary, Alberta T2T 5N3
Elbow River Casino, Fridays 12:15 pm

President: Garfield Ganong **President-Elect:** Lynne Thornton

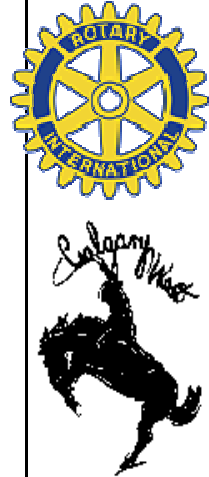
Past President: Mike French **Secretary:** George Edwards

Treasurer: Mike French

Directors: Brent Barootes, Mark Ferguson, Garth Evans, Bill Lawless,
Marie Rickard, Brenda Sali

April, 2008, Edition

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The mission of Calgary West is to uphold the ideals of Rotary in all avenues of service, with a focus on aiding the disadvantaged and developing the potential of youth, in Canada and internationally, in a spirit of fun and fellowship.

Garfield's Cogitations

Yea! Spring is here. What a great time of renewal. The days are longer. There are more hours of sunshine (especially with the new daylight saving time start) and we begin seeing people out and about in our neighborhoods. Birds start returning to our back yards, plants start poking through the ground, and we see the explosion of new life all around us. What a great time of year! I find that spring brings renewed energy. I feel more alive and wanting to reengage myself in my family, work and, of course, Rotary. It is a time to remember one of the main reasons we all joined Rotary and that is Fellowship. Without a strong commitment to fellowship everything else that we do as Calgary West Rotarians would not happen. We need to continuously remind ourselves to be inclusive of everyone that comes to our meetings. We all have made close friends within Rotary and sometimes when we only get to see these people on a weekly basis we want to talk to them, sit with them and have fellowship and forget that there are other members, guests, visitors, etc, that also want to be included. There is nothing more destructive to fellowship and eventually the health of our club than ignoring someone that may not be participating in the fellowship. I realize that walking up to someone we might not know that well or a new member may

be outside some of our comfort zones, but we need to do this. I don't believe that we have a cliquy club but I have heard the comment made and I have seen and heard of guests, visitors and even members who have not been included. It is spring! Time for renewal! I ask everyone to renew their commitment to the Rotary Club of Calgary West and to Fellowship Through Service.

With the return of Spring we are also seeing the return of many of our members who have been away. Welcome back! I hope that everyone who has not had an opportunity to make recent meetings comes out. Attendance is important to Fellowship and it has been weak over the past month. I encourage everyone to come out and get reengaged. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

President Garfield
Service Through Fellowship



Rotary Club of Calgary West Board Meeting March 17, 2008, Central Memorial High School

Attendance: Garfield Ganong, Mike French, Brent Barootes, Garth Evans, Mark L.P. Ferguson, Bill Lawless, Marie Rickard, Brenda Sali, George Edwards

Regrets: Lynne Thornton

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 as the required quorum was present.

The motion by Mike French/Brent Barootes to approve the minutes of February 25, 2008, was carried. A further motion was introduced and carried to include the minutes of the special meetings conducted via email to attend to business resulting from the February meeting.

Business Arising:

- A motion related to celebrating other special days of ethnic groups was discussed and defeated.
- The matter of Lynne Thornton's signing authority was tabled until her return.
- Regarding the club motion about our club's non-involvement in the formation of a "new members club", emails were sent to District Governor Bernie Carriere and Rotary International requesting both to enter this information into their documents and/or the club history. Both have acknowledged receipt of our request and the information will be recorded.
- The Challenger Park request for funding was revisited upon the request of Ron Jones and after discussion the motion by Mike French/Garth Evans that Calgary West would donate \$10,000.00 to the Rotary Challenger Park carried.
Among the points discussed was: the club's desire to become involved in the long term funding of Rotary Challenger Park, whether or not this is a project worthy of long term funding, and the protected right of every member to challenge any board decisions.
- A letter addressed to John Petryshen regarding attendance, unpaid dues and possible termination will be signed and sent to John by Gar-

field.

- A Volunteer Appreciation Day will be held before the end of June 2008.
- Marie Rickard reported that Jim Willson, Lynne Thornton and Karl Herzog are attending the sponsorship workshop. The club will pay for an additional member to attend.

Reports

President

- Mount Royal has invited members of our club to attend a celebration on April 5, 2008 thanking persons involved in supporting their scholarship programs.
- Ronald McDonald House is having a barbeque sometime in June and has invited members of our club to attend. Garfield Ganong will contact the organisers of this event to inform them of the club's interest in attending and depending on the date will cancel our regular meeting for that week so that all members could attend to show their support for Ronald McDonald House.
- The board meeting in May will be a joint meeting of the present board and the incoming board and the transfer meeting will occur at the June board meeting.
- Garfield Ganong is very concerned about recent attendance at regular meetings. Information about attendance will be prepared by George Edwards and sent to Mike French. The board discussed whether or not it should be concerned with attendance rather than the contributions that members make to the club. It was decided that the contributions of members to the projects was more important than overall attendance. There will be a special member day within the next two months.

There were no reports from the treasurer, the secretary, club administration and club activities.

Community and Service

- A proposal has been received from Gerry Madigan to assist youth dealing with depression. The proposal is under review and recom-

mendations will be presented at the next board meeting.

- The presentation of \$10,000 to the Feed the Hungry organisation has yet to be finalised.
- The project with the Flames Foundation will proceed and Ron Brookes will chair the committee.
- The committee is considering two joint projects with a Ukrainian Rotary club to assist youth and schooling.
- The additional \$5,000 donation to the Ensenada project for a specific local Rotarian initiative was confirmed by a special meeting conducted by email.
- Evelyn Buckley will report on the Guatemala project at a future meeting.

Youth

- The March 14 – 16 Youth Exchange Orientation Weekend was attended by: Matthew Hanrahan, Pauline Evans, Fran Burns, Verneil and Doug Martin and outbound student, Emily Halleran, and Masha Pronina.
- The motion by Brenda Sali/Marie Rickard to approve Pauline Evans as the youth exchange inbound counsellor for the Rotary year 2008-2009 carried.
- The AIC committee has selected Triston Smyth a student from Westmount Charter School to represent Calgary West in Ottawa this year.
- The Westmount Charter School will send three students to compete in our club's Four Way Speech Contest.

Membership

- Garfield Ganong and Mark L.P. Ferguson met with President Pat Hutchison of the Chinook Club on February 28, 2008 to discuss Chinook's membership increase success. The onus for new members was placed upon the members; each member was expected to introduce prospective members to Rotary. To help them, special regular meetings were planned that extolled the many successes and contributions of Rotary to local and international service projects. Members and non-Rotarian guest speakers spoke about Rotary activities and triumphs. Chinook plans to hold similar meetings on a regular basis throughout the year that

are planned to ensure that new inductees are well informed about the activities of Rotary and how they can contribute.

- A partners' coffee party is planned for April 16, 2008.
- The club history from 1991-2007 is complete. Garfield Ganong is following up with Chris Davis for the write-up of his year as president.
- Present club members were to follow up on prior members to inquire as to their interest in returning to Rotary. The idea to canvas past youth exchange or youth representatives or previous Ambassadorial Scholarship recipients at Rotary sponsored events is good but the information on past representatives is sketchy. To ascertain the names requires member input.
- Nothing is currently planned for vocational awareness.

New Business

- The motion by Brent Barootes/Mike French to accept the resignation of Adam Joyce carried. A letter signed by Garfield Ganong will be sent to Adam.
- The motion by Brent Barootes/Bill Lawless to send the minutes of the three special meetings sent to board members for approval carried.
- The motion by Marie Rickard/Mark L.P. Ferguson to donate \$3,000.00 to the Wilf Wilkinson Peace Scholarship. The Rotary Club of Calgary West will also request a matching grant from the existing funds of the District to go toward this Scholarship fund (i.e. without special assessment). The motion carried.
- *Garfield Ganong will contact the District clubs recommending that they make a similar request.*
- We respectfully declined the Sarcee Club's request to assist their Art Auction fund raiser by contributing silent auction items because of our silent auction at our May fund raiser. The motion by Brent Barootes/Brenda Sali to purchase a table(s) to support the Rotary Club of Calgary Sarcee's Art Auction fund raiser carried.
- Marie Rickard will submit the necessary applications for Rotary awards.

The next meeting will be on April 21, 2008.



Hearts and Hands - Bryden Horwood



I would love to see Calgary West partner with Jan Townsend. To develop a project that would synergize with what she already does. To take a more holistic approach by including support for education of the children. We all know that education is the key to breaking the poverty cycle. It is also an R I priority.

Jan is a member of the Canmore Rotary Club, so she knows all about Rotary.

What is the project?

To build a two-classroom school for 80 students, equip it with desks, blackboards and school supplies. The budget is \$28.5K, and the schedule is to build it this summer. Additional funds will be provided for teachers' salaries by others.

Where is the project?

It is in a community of approximately 3000 people, called El Pinal. It is in an area that was severely affected by the civil war. Hearts and Hands has been working in this area. These are the reasons for selecting this location.

How is this being financed?

It's a bit complicated, but it's a good story. And Bill Lawless deserves an awful lot of credit.

Three years ago, Rotary formed a national organization called **Canadian Rotary Collaboration for International Development**, or **CRCID**. It offers one-stop shopping for Canadian Rotary clubs applying for Canadian government matching grants. CIDA gave CRCID a three-year budget three years ago and is expected to repeat it again next year.

A Rotary club in Winnipeg has been successful in getting matching grants from CRCID for projects in Guatemala. They have completed more than **30 projects**. They call it **the Ripple Effect Program**.

As a result, they have established contact with Rotary clubs in Guatemala; and these clubs have established a project management committee which provides guidance in the selection of projects, in consultation with local authorities. They also provide financial management of projects and prepara-

tion of financial and progress reports; this reduces the work load for Calgary West.

In our case, we will have in addition, Jan, who will be overseeing and approving the execution of the project. She will be our eyes and ears.

How did this all come together?

When the Buckleys and Jan were in Guatemala recently, they met with the key local Rotarians and the Rotarian from the Winnipeg club, Alex Zahradnitsky.

Jan met with the mayor of the local community and got his agreement to provide funding for teachers salaries.

Bill Lawless pushed the agreement through the Winnipeg club and CRCID. They got it to all come together.

I have to tell you that when I see what they have accomplished, I am proud to be a Rotarian

Where do we go from here?

The mandate given to the International Committee was to identify and develop international projects that would run for up to three years. I believe that we have one here. We have board approval for \$10K for this project. With the \$5K contribution from the Canmore Rotary Club and \$13.5K matching grant from CRCID, we're there. **Also, members will be able to go to see the project and make a sweat equity contribution, if they wish.**

The board has advised us that \$15K will be provided in each of the next two years for an appropriate project. Likewise, the Canmore club has indicated that they intend to contribute \$5K in each of the next two years. There is also the possibility of using Wild Rose matching grants and getting other Rotary clubs in our District to participate. We are also optimistic that CRCID will get another three years of funding. We can grow this project.

I thank everyone for their contribution. I also want to **thank my boss, Brent Barootes, for his support.**

Service and Matching Grants - Brent Barootes

CLUB MAKES FURTHER COMMITMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

At the board meeting on March 17 the board passed a motion for a further contribution to Rotary Challenger Park of \$10,000 for this year towards their present capital project. This is in addition to the monies already given to the park earlier this year and the financial commitment allocated for 2008-09. Ron Jones is the champion on this project.

Also the board has allocated \$3000 towards the naming of a RI Peace Scholarship in the name of Canadian RI President Wilf Wilkinson. Our contribution is in addition to monies provided by other clubs in the district with a goal to raise \$50,000 for this scholarship in Wilf's name. The club also passed a motion that our district, through existing funds should match

each of the clubs in the district contribution to the naming of this scholarship. That would mean if the clubs raised \$50,000 the district would match with an additional \$50,000 in making this an endowment of \$100,000 from our district to this Peace Scholarship. President Garfield will email our motion to all the club presidents in the district to encourage them to also pass such a motion. This will be followed up at the district level by ADG Mike French.

In addition, the club will also be contributing an additional \$5000 to the Ensenada project in 2008-09 with this money going towards a project in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Ensenada.

"Fun" Raising Report for April

I love the energy and enthusiasm of Joe Klassen, Jim Willson and the committee who have put together some great advertising and promotional information for our next big event in support of Hull Homes and Big Brothers and Big Sister. Go to www.calgarywestrotaryclub.org and click on "Broadway Show" to find out more details. Tickets and posters will be available the week of March 24th.

In the meantime, here are the details:

An Evening on Broadway Featuring Dennis Dubbin & Co

Date: Friday, 30 May 2008
Venue: Quincy's - 609 7th Avenue SW
Parking: City Parkade 9th and 5th St SW or adjacent to Quincy's (Enter from lane between 8th and 7th Avenue SW)
Format: Reception, Dinner, Silent Auction, Show
Tickets: \$125.00 each
Dress: Business Attire and Cocktail Dress

Marie Rickard, Director, Fun Raising

Masha's Page

Here is what I have been doing the last couple months.

In February, I enjoyed delivering strawberry cakes a lot.



I also went to Prince George, BC! That was great!!! They have more similar winter to my home. It was cold and there was a lot of snow. But I really liked being there, because I visited my friend, who was an exchange in Russia last year.



I have been at two meetings of the Calgary Sarcee Rotary Club and I gave my presentation there.

I also enjoyed my weekends in Red Deer very much. That was a lot of fun with other exchange students, out-bounds and Rotexs. For the first time in my life, I saw the Easter eggs hunt! We don't do it in Russia.



I changed my host family on the 24th of March, so now I am staying with Pauline and Garth Evans.

So, these are the most interesting and important things that have happened to me.

Masha

Greetings from Kearstin Plemel in The Netherlands



Hello all!

I am terribly sorry that it has been a while since my last update, but I am sure you understand that things tend to get quite busy over here! These last few weeks have been a whirlwind of excitement.

I was lucky enough to go on winter sport two times in two different countries!

The first time was with my third host family (the Van Berk Household). We went skiing in Austria! It was my first time in about six years, so I was a little rusty. (I know, I live a 2 hour drive away from the Rockies and I don't go skiing every winter, it's bad.) But my Host Dad, Lex and a family friend Michelle helped me out and by the third day I was careening down red slopes no problem! I also had my eighteenth birthday in Austria, and we went out to a Greek restaurant to celebrate!

After we arrived back in the Netherlands (after a sixteen hour drive, stuck in traffic most of the way) I had to pack up and go to The Hague for a weekend with the other YEX students! We had a tour of the main museum, the Maritz Huis, a bus tour of the city, saw the world Peace flame and were taken for a very nice lunch at the McDonalds.

Right after the weekend in The Hague I had to pack up once again and move to my Fourth and final host family! They are wonderful people. The father is a member of my host club, and is an Architect. The mother helps him out in the business and my host sister was sent on a Rotary YEX to America. I had been with this family for four days and

then we were off to Switzerland! My host parents own a vacation house on a mountain very close to

Brig. We went skiing, (I snowboarded) for ten days over the Easter vacation. It was so beautiful. We had great weather and more than enough snow! For Easter dinner we ate Swiss cheese fondue, and ate a bunch of Swiss chocolate! I also went into the city of Brig for the Easter market. I had never seen anything like it before.

I am still volunteering two days a week at the senior citizens home, and giving English lessons at school. I am also still participating in Karate. I attend my Rotary meetings weekly and give verbal updates to the club each time. I am now proud to say that I am fluent in Dutch. I was also selected to speak at a District conference about my experiences with the YEX program.

My host club has set up a "Buddy" program for me, and their future exchange students. Every week a different Rotarian from the club is selected to do an activity with me. It can be simply a cup of tea in the afternoon, or an excursion to Amsterdam for a day, whatever we decided on. I find this a great opportunity for me to get to know the people in my club (and vice versa), and to experience my host country to the fullest. I would encourage every Rotary club to initiate the same sort of program for their exchange students.

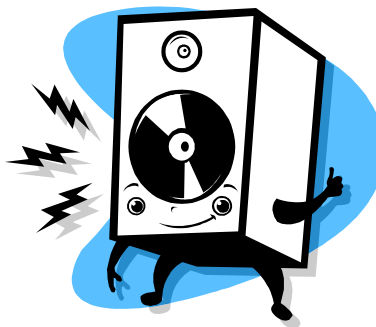
Wishing you all the very best,

Until next time,

Kearstin Plemel

Speakers' and Reporters' Page

Speakers for April



April 4	Tim Anderson presents his trip to a Special African Village
April 11	The Solar Car winning team from U of C
April 18	Jeff Spalding from Glenbow Museum
April 25	Dr David Marshall, President of Mount Royal College

Reporters for April

April 4	Lynne Thornton
April 11	Don Axford
April 18	George Edwards
April 25	Sa'adat Keshavjee



The reporters for this Rotary year are:

Don Axford

Larry Doyle

George Edwards

Garth and Pauline Evans

Mike French

Sa'adat Keshavjee

Margot McDermott

Bill Tapuska

Lynne Thornton

If any reporter cannot meet his/her commitment for a particular date, PLEASE arrange for a substitute from the above list.

Calendar of Events

August: Membership and Extension Month

- 3rd and 4th Calgary West Casino
29th and 30th Habitat for Humanity Casino

September: New Generations Month

- 7th-9th Waterton Peace Park Assembly - 75th Anniversary
14th Fall Lobster Social
21st District Governor Visitation

October: Vocational Service Month

- 17th Assembly
19th No meeting

November: Rotary Foundation Month

- 5th World Interact Week
9th Remembrance Day Celebrations
16th Christmas Party at Calgary Golf and Country Club
18th Feed the Hungry

December: Family Month

- 7th Club Elections
16th Christmas Brunch at Pine Brook

January: Rotary Awareness Month

February: World Understanding Month

- 14th Strawberry Shortcake Deliveries

March: Literacy Month

April: Magazine Month

May

- 21st Spring Assembly
23rd No meeting

June: Rotary Fellowship Month

- 25th President's Ball

Visit www.calgarywestrotaryclub.org/events for up to date information