

Rotary Club of Calgary West  
(Where Rotary Works)

# The Monthly WESTERNER

Box 4572, Station C, Calgary, Alberta T2T 5N3, Danish Canadian Club, Fridays 12:15 pm

**President:** Mike French **President-Elect:** Garfield Ganong

**Past President:** Chris Davis **Secretary:** George Edwards **Treasurer:** Murray Hunter

**Directors:** Brent Barootes, Frank Burns, Stan Cichon, Marg Henschel, Bill Lawless,  
Brenda Sali

August Edition

Publisher: David Williams



**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, both in Canada and internationally, in a spirit of fun and fellowship.**

## *Mike's mind!!*

### *Joining the Dots*

Joining the dots of Rotary sounds easy, but where does one start?

I was asked by a relatively new member the other week a question about just how does Rotary work. And then, hearing all the different announcements about projects and foundations, etc., at the meetings, asked how does it all come together?

Then, at the club, why am I on certain committees and how do I get involved in what I'd like to do?

Wow, I thought, we can no longer assume that Rotarians take a lot for granted: we need to give out more information; we need to have those "Firesides" (information sessions); we need to have Rotary moments each meeting; we need to inform our new members more about the purpose of what we do.

So, I checked out the publication "Rotary Basics" and we'll order some of those to distribute. But that's just the start: we need

Rotary information at meetings and in the bulletin. We need to involve new members in what they want to do, as well as what they need to do to learn about Rotary.

Luckily we've started a committee under the leadership of Jim Willson to address this issue: the member fulfillment committee.

Think about Rotary and try to simply "Connect the Dots". If you succeed, please submit your article for the next monthly bulletin to Brent at [brent@partnershipgroup.ca](mailto:brent@partnershipgroup.ca).

And what about our club? Where are our origins, and why do we do what we do? Who are we? I will be passing out a little of our history at each weekly meeting – one year at a time – so our newer members can understand a little of our heritage, and maybe to remind our older members just in case they've forgotten!



So, please share your Rotary experiences with each other around the table. Help the newer members understand why we do what

we do; and help them to share their passions with us all so that “Rotary works” for all our members.

## **A Couple of Other Items to Note**

### **BOARD ANNOUNCEMENT**

The board has approved a dispute resolution procedure for members to be able to voice their concerns. The procedure has been developed to ensure that all members of the club can feel open about concerns they may have with decisions, or otherwise. This has been posted on our web-site in a members-only access area. Details are available from any board member at any time, who can provide you with a copy of the procedure upon request.

### **MEMBERS FORUM**

The newsletter is also your forum to ask questions and get answers, or just to make a comment you want aired. Please send any questions or comments you have, and we'll get you the answer. Your name is required when you send them in, but if you don't want it published just let us know. Please send your queries to Mike at [mike.french@rbc.com](mailto:mike.french@rbc.com)

### **SERGEANT-AT-ARMS UPDATE**

If you suddenly hear the bell at lunchtime during announcements, it probably means too much chatting. The sergeant will dole out fines later, so please help us all to respect the speaker!

### **CHANGES?. . .YES!**

The meeting format will be changing! The change has been developed for testing and designed to ensure more fellowship, less distractions and quiet during announcements so all can hear and be heard. The proposed change should also fit nicely with our new buffet format. Wait for it, give change a chance and then we'll discuss it at the assembly on September 13<sup>th</sup>, or send your thoughts to the members forum in the newsletter.

## **BRIDGING THE WORLD**

R.I. Convention meets its objectives, bringing about 15,000 Rotarians and partners together from around the world.

Beautiful Malmo, Wonderful Copenhagen  
A perfect setting to talk Rotary.

This was my first International Convention as a participant, rather than as a volunteer, and it was worth every moment. The local Rotarian volunteers made everyone welcome from stepping off the plane, to wondering the streets and, yes, within the

convention halls as well. Rotary information centres were strategically placed to ensure we all enjoyed a trouble free convention.

Whether one attended the formal luncheons and functions, or zone events, good food, great speakers and new friendships abounded. Informal gatherings in the house of friendship attested to the social side of Rotarians as they gathered more information about projects or fellowships around the world, or just shared time with new or old friends. And there was much useful information to be gleaned from the numerous booths, including Rotary and the

Rotary Foundation.

Major workshops on membership recruitment and retention, as well as The Rotary Foundation and a Polio Plus updates, provided solid information for Rotarians stepping into key roles in clubs or districts. The general sessions provided an opportunity to see Rotary at work, especially highlighted by the hearing of a special appeal on the Rotary International President-elect-nominee. This process demonstrated the openness and transparency of Rotary business and provided leadership to all Rotarians in settling disputes.

But, to me, the highlights were the keynote speakers in each of the three general sessions. The first was Sister Ethel Normoyle, Director of the Missionvale Care Center in South Africa. Her talk on poverty alleviation and the importance of literacy was very emotional and passionate, culminating with her singing a closing song.

The next were two Rotaract members, a man from Sweden and a lady from Denmark. They spoke of the impact that Rotary had made on their lives and why they joined Rotaract. They had obviously worked hard on their presentation and showed every Rotarian why we should be involved in Student Exchange, Youth programs, Interact clubs and the like, because that's where Rotaract members come from. And then they reminded us that we should not neglect or forget Rotaract members, because that is where our Rotary members should come from.

The final keynote speaker was Jeffrey Sachs, author of "The End of Poverty", a must-read for all Rotarians. Jeffrey, who is Director, Earth Institute at Columbia University, spoke about world leaders and how they have an impact. He spoke not of

the world leaders that are elected, but of the need for world leaders that make things happen. He spoke of Rotarians as the true world leaders because, if you want to get something done, you ask Rotarians.

Rotarians perform!

He talked about how Rotarians performed in an understated and often under-recognized way to eliminate Polio, almost. And he asked Rotarians to "Lead the Way" again in the alleviation of World poverty.

And that's how the conference finished, with our Rotary International President, Bill Boyd, asking us to "Lead the Way".

Next year, the convention is in Salt Lake City and their representatives promise a great convention and ask us to "Rendezvous in the Rockies" for the most economical convention of all times. If you have never attended an international convention, then this might just be your best opportunity to do so. Mark it in your calendar: June 17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> 2007.

Mike French



## Brent's Club Management Update

Boy, it is hard to imagine that we have only completed our first month of the Rotary year. As director of club management, I am excited to report that all of the committees are working diligently to launch their objectives for this Rotary year.



Margo has begun already to organize our first club assembly of the year (September 13). Under her direction, it will be a more streamlined event, less "director reports verbally" and more club interaction. She is working on the theme and location for the event and the focus of the discussion and interaction will be on two topics. Fundraising is one: what are we doing to raise funds and how is it all going? As well, President Mike will be looking for feedback on the new lunch format.

Ron Brookes and his environment team are working on how we can be "greener" Watch for updates in the coming months. Rick Dreja has begun with his committee to work on a volunteer program. This should be exciting and more to follow. As you can see the new monthly bulletin is up and running and improving by the month. Congratulations to David Williams. In the fall we will hopefully marry our Westerner with our web-site and bring everything up to snuff. Karl is working with many committees to bring this all together. Gordon has done an outstanding job on the roster. If you need to make changes, please let Gordon Rodrigues know so he can update. Garfield has moved forward with building continuity in the club for future boards and committees, and some of his work, as well as that of Jim Willson's committee, are referenced in "Mike's Mind" article.

Ray Falk and his committee on vocational service are also advancing. Watch for updates on members and their vocations. It is great to learn more about our own new and not so new members!! (I didn't want to say "old members" and offend Ted Valentine.) As well, watch for some exciting announcements and articles in upcoming monthly bulletins as we draw closer to Foundation Month in November. I know Sa'adat is working hard to make us a leader in RI Foundation work and Paul Harris Fellowship Sustaining Memberships. Sa'adat and members of his team will be attending the District Foundation conference next month and will bring us great information. Keep up the good work Sa'adat.

That's about it for this month. Please feel free to chat with me or any of the committee chairs in club management on ideas, concerns or general feedback.

## Membership Matters at Calgary West

Membership development in a club is an essential issue that involves **ALL** members and requires year round effort. The **identification and selection of qualified prospects** are the first steps of a productive membership acquisition program. "Qualified" is translated as men and women of good character with an excellent business or professional reputation. Plus, someone who, in **your** judgment, would help Rotary achieve its goals, extend Calgary West's influence in our community and provide greater avenues for fellowship. Our goal this year is 15 new members. The number is not as important as the acceptance of the concept of growth and the acquisition of new members, as an obligation as a Rotarian. There has been some deviation from the established procedures in the past that have created some logistical and personal difficulties. The

membership committee appreciates everyone's enthusiasm, but we must operate according to our own guidelines

## **Guide for Proposing Members in Calgary West Rotary Club**

The proposer submits the name of prospective member and general information to club secretary.

The club secretary requests report from membership committee on suitability of classification and membership.

The membership committee will arrange for a personal interview with the prospect to assess suitability for membership in Calgary West

Board reviews the proposal and the committee report and approves the proposal and secretary notifies the proposer of the decision.

The proposer (and a member of the membership committee or senior Rotarian) informs the proposed member of the privileges and responsibilities of Rotary membership and obtains written permission

to publish their name and proposed classification to the club membership.

The prospect's name is published in the bulletin. If no objections are received by the board (through the secretary or designate) within seven days of publication of the prospect's name, then, upon payment of initiation fee and annual dues, they are considered to be a member. If an objection is received, then the board reviews the objection.

An induction ceremony is held to formally welcome the member to the club. Club secretary reports the new member's name to Rotary International.

The new member is invited to participate in the activities of the club based on information in the proposal and from the proposer.

(Condensed from the Rotary Club of Calgary West Constitution and Club Bylaws.)

## **Summary of July 17 Board Meeting**

We met – we discussed – we decided.

We met at Operation Eyesight Universal at 4:00 pm.

We discussed:

- The contract with Danish Canadian Club and food.
- Food service at the Elbow River Casino will be different at the three meetings; buffet, served by members from the centre of the table, and full service. Members can decide which format they like best.
- The possible purchase of LCD projector and laptop computer.
- The Harold Sharlow songbook and the cassette tapes that Jo Johanson made.
- The monthly newsletter and our first regular meeting.
- The upcoming District Governor's visit on September 29.

- The Stampede Breakfast: preliminary figures indicate that we made \$11,000.
- The Strawberry Shortcake fund raiser and where we stand with Calgary Co-op.
- Habitat for Humanity's key passing celebration on August 2 at 12:00 noon.
- The events that the media committee will promote this year.
- Membership, as August is membership month.
- The proposal of a new member.
- Youth Exchange weekend in Fort Macleod starting on August 18.
- How our web-sites are changing new member recruitment. It was pointed out the new members are invited to join Rotary, they do not decide to join.
- The abuse of our club's database, that is, members are receiving material that is not club related and are not happy about this.

We decided:

- To renew the contract with the Danish Canadian Club.
- To delete from the community budget the \$10,000 allocated to Opportunity International.
- To develop a prototype of the Harold Sharlow songbook by the August board meeting.
- To have Stan Cichon research whether or not we can purchase an LCD projector and laptop computer for approximately \$2,000.
- That the committed funds will be shown on the financials.
- To convey to the Stampede Breakfast committee that it is a fund raising event, but that special consideration should be given to Calgary West members and their families.
- To send the presidents, past, present and elect, and the directors and chairs of the Habitat for Humanity to the "key passing" celebration on August 2.
- To accept the Disputes Resolution document. This document will be posted on the ClubRunner and hard copies will be given to members who request it.
- To conditionally accept a new member.
- The next meeting of the board is **Tuesday, August 15** at 4:00 pm at Operation Eyesight International.

## **Sick & Visiting**

Just a reminder to all that we may have Calgary West members who are in need of fellowship or comfort. Please contact Don Axford if you are aware of any circumstances/situations that require

attention. Don has agreed to act as the Chair/committee for the sick& visiting portfolio to facilitate awareness and club responses.

Contact Don at [Daxford@telusplanet.net](mailto:Daxford@telusplanet.net).

## **THE FOUNDATION COMMITTEE'S EARLY CHALLENGE: CLUB TO MATCH UP TO \$200US**

Chairman Sa'adat and his team challenge every member in this club to contribute US\$100 to the RI Foundation this year (November 2006). This gives you an opportunity, for a worthy course

with a charitable receipt, to consider starting a new sustaining Paul Harris membership for yourself or for a special person in your life. The club is offering to match your contribution (up to a maximum of US\$ 200). Please reflect on this and let the Foundation team know. We plan to see 100% club participation and plan to provide 100% publicity to this special endeavour. Let's make it happen!

## **Stampede Breakfast – Something That Did Happen! \$11,056.02!**



**The crowd begins to gather to view the one-and-only Rick Guthrie in his Steve – oops! Stephen – Harper stance.**



One, two, three, pour!

The Rev Mr Black! He exists! What plan is he and his henchman, Grant Ritchie, plotting?



Great work Crawford Casswell and Calgary West!

# **Rotary Club of Calgary West Calendar**

## **August: Membership Month**

- 2** Habitat for Humanity “key passing” celebration at Sun Court in Dover Community
- 4** Regular meeting at Danish Canadian Club
- 11** Regular meeting at Elbow River Casino
- 18** Regular meeting at Elbow River Casino
- 18** Start of the Youth Exchange Re-entry Weekend in Fort Macleod
- 25** Regular meeting at Elbow River Casino

## **September: New Generation Month**

- 1** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club
- 8** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club
- 13** Club Assembly, venue to be announced
- 14** Start of RYPEN weekend (14-17) in Medicine Hat
- 15** No regular meeting
- 22** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club
- 22** Fall Barbeque
- 29** District Governor’s visit to our regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club
- 30** RI Foundation Seminar and Dinner

## **October: Vocational Service Month**

- 7** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club
- 14** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club
- 21** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club
- 28** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club
- TBA** Highway cleanup

## **November: RI Foundation Month**

- 3** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club (Interact Week)
- 10** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club
- 17** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club
- 17** Formal Christmas Party at the Calgary Golf and Country Club
- 19** Feed the Hungry at St. Mary’s Hall
- 24** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club

## **December: Family Month**

- 1** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club
- 8** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club
- 8** Confirmation of the new executive
- 15** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club
- 17** Christmas Brunch at Pinebrook Golf and County Club
- 22** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club
- 29** Regular meeting at the Danish Canadian Club

An Englishman, a Frenchman and a German were arguing about the respective merits of their languages.

The Frenchman said that French was the language of love, the language of romance, the most beautiful and pure language in the world.

The German asserted that German was the most vigorous language, the language of philosophers, the language of Goëthe, the language most adaptable to the modern world of science and technology.

When the Englishman's turn came, he said, "I don't understand what you fellows are talking about. Take this (and he held up a table knife). You in France call it *un couteau*. You Germans call it *ein Messer*. In England, we simply call it a knife, which, when all is said and done, is precisely what it is."

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A member of parliament in an after-dinner speech went on for an incredibly long time. When he finally sat down, he said to his neighbour, "How did that go?"

After a few moment's thought, the neighbour replied, "Well, at least it helped to shorten this ruddy winter."

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The scene is a small mail steamer from Glasgow on its route up the west coast of Scotland. On the bridge, there are the captain and two lady schoolteachers he had invited up there. Suddenly, a heavy shower of rain approaches.

The captain shouted down the voice-pipe to the saloon below where one of his crew is in charge of the bar; "Is there a big mackintosh down there that would cover two ladies?"

"Noo, but there's a wee MacGregor here that's prepared to try."