

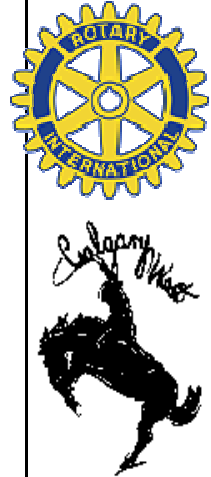
Rotary Club of Calgary West
(Service through Fellowship)
The Monthly WESTERNER

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

February, 2008 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, in Canada and internationally, in a spirit of fun and fellowship.

Garfield's Cogitations

By the time you read this our Valentine's Day Strawberry Shortcake fundraiser will be in full swing, with cakes already pre-sold as of February 8th and deliveries scheduled for the 14th. We have come a long way with this major initiative borne out of the imagination of a few key club members, including the founder of the concept Marie Rickard. A lot of work has gone into this fundraiser by virtually every member of the club. From the phenomenal marketing and media coverage, logistics, multi-year partnership with Co-Op, sponsorships, sales and delivery, our club can be proud of the entire project results no matter how many cakes we sell. It has been a fantastic concept and the club is to be commended for their support. The money raised will go to help many less fortunate than ourselves. Great job Calgary West!

Much like the origins of the Strawberry Shortcake fundraiser, Calgary West now has the opportunity to bring a Broadway musical to Calgary featuring the Dubbin family. Many of you had the opportunity to hear Dennis Dubbin at our club meeting sing a sample of some of the music from the proposed show. He received a standing ovation! We have an enthusiastic committee led by Joe Klassen and Margot McDermott who will be seeking your support to make this May 30th show a success. The board of directors has voted to support this initiative and we encourage everyone to get behind the committee and help. It will be fun, innovative and provide unique opportunities for member involvement. This club has a history of successful new initiatives led by a dedicated few Rotarians. We can do it again!

Speaking of our accomplishments, I think that it would be informative to everyone to be reminded of just what we have supported already this year through our fundraising and sweat-equity efforts. Here are a few:



- Multi-year commitment to Habitat for Humanity
- Multi-year commitment to Feed the Hungry Hearts and Hands Foundation (stoves in Guatemala)
- Clowns Without Borders (Canada)
- MicroCredit Programs
- Rotary Challenger Park
- Ensenada, Mexico House Build Project, eye-sight restoration and back to school program
- Multiple youth programs, both local and international
- Seniors' Dental Restoration
- Multi-year highway clean-up commitment
- Uganda Adopt a Village program

Calgary West you are a great group of committed Rotarians. Let's keep up the good work for the remainder of the 2007-08 Rotary year and for years to come. Thank you for all that you do for Rotary.

President Garfield
Service Through Fellowship

Rotary Club of Calgary West Board Meeting January 21, 2008, Central Memorial High School

Attended by: Garfield Ganong, Mike French, Lynne Thornton, Brent Barootes, Garth Evans, Mark L.P. Ferguson, Marie Rickard and George Edwards
Regrets: Bill Lawless and Brenda Sali

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm as the requirements of a quorum were satisfied.

After a question of clarification regarding the minutes of December 10, 2007, was answered, the motion by Brent Barootes/Lynne Thornton to accept the minutes of December 10, 2008, carried.

Business Arising

- Members will receive information about matching grants and the Calgary Rotary Clubs Foundation.
- Follow-up on membership dues is near completion. Our newly inducted members are David Rodgers and Charles A. Buchanan.
- The Ronald McDonald House barbeque to recognise sponsors and contributors to Ronald McDonald House will be held on a Thursday in June.

Reports

President

- All directors will meet with Garfield to review and update mandates (if necessary).
- The Board discussed the future of the Integrity Awards in the light of the Downtown Club's decision to refrain from giving an award.
- The Board also discussed the Four Way Speech Contest and will discuss it fur-

ther once the Board receives information from the District.

- A presentation about the Calgary Rotary Clubs Foundation was given to the All-Presidents' meeting and each club receives 5% of the earning on their capital account plus 50% of the earnings over 5%. The 3 top clubs are Downtown, South and Calgary West.

Treasurer

- The directors received the Society's filings for 2005-2006 and for 2006-2007.
- Gordon Rodrigues continues his work on the financial review and has the minutes for the Board meetings for these years.
- Murray Hunter is working on the Community Service account and as a charitable organisation the Club is not meeting the required condition of 80% - 20% related to the dispersal of funds so the Club has to be careful about allocating money.
 - ◊ The Club has a choice of being a non-profit or a charitable organisation. This will be researched further and recommendations will be presented to the Board.
- The Club now has online access to our accounts with the Alberta Treasury Branch.
- The report carries forward 2006 commitments for International projects and this will impact the succeeding Board's budget. To make the Board aware of its commitments, budget items are reported so that obligations for preceding and succeeding years are shown.
- Updates for the Casino account and the 80% - 20% on the Community ac-

count are forthcoming and the Board will receive advice about the dispersal of funds.

- The Stampede Breakfast financial situation is clearer now. Some money is missing in the form of un-cashed cheques and the process of contacting the parties is underway to have new cheques written (as the previous cheques are now stale-dated). The review is continuing to determine where the other unaccounted money has been placed.
 - ◊ Once again the Board reiterated that all committees must provide a risk assessment for all projects for the approval of the Board, that the committees must follow the procedures for receiving and dispersing money and that the committees must give a final accounting of the event within a reasonable time after the event (30 days).
- It is very important for all Board members to carefully review the financial statements.
- The motion by Mike French/Lynne Thornton to accept the Treasurer's report carried.
- The Board thanks Gordon Rodrigues for his outstanding service and contribution to the Club.

Secretary

The semi-annual report is completed and needs only President Garfield Ganong's signature and a cheque issued to Rotary International.

Community and Service

- The motion by Brent Barootes/Bill Lawless to have the Club donate \$250.00 to the District 5360 Group Study Exchange Team going to Brazil in May

2008 carried. The cheque payable to the Rotary Club of Red Deer will be sent to Gerry Winia, District 5360 GSE, 12 Anderson Close, Red Deer, Alberta, T4R 1E2.

- The recent meeting with the Flames Foundation was very positive.
- The International Projects committee under the leadership of Bryden Horwood is recommending that our Club withdraw from the Thailand project (see Community Service report for details).
- Therefore, the motion by Brent Barootes/Garth Evans to rescind the Board's previous motion to support the Thailand project carried.
- The Board discussed the recommendation to extend the term of the International committee for the purposes of continuity.
- The Board thanks Bryden Horwood and his committee members for their outstanding work and service to the Club.
- The Hearts in Hands project is likely to go ahead now that potential matching funds may be received.
- The committee has received suggestions for International projects. The Club needs the formal application and a Club member to champion the project.

Youth

Youth Exchange

- 2008/09 outbound student has been selected. She is Emily Halleran from Bishop Carroll High School. The application has been submitted to the district so all is underway.
- Kearstin Plemel has provided a report for the January bulletin and appears to be doing well and enjoying herself in the Netherlands.

- Masha is having a good exchange here in Calgary. It is the responsibility of all members that Masha has a positive experience this year.

Future School Partnerships

Kurt will be holding a committee meeting on January 24th to move this forward the next step.

RYLA/RYPEN/AIC/It's A Crime Not to Read

The Ottawa Rotary Club has accepted our application to participate in the 2008 AIC program. Roger will be working with club members and one of our alliance schools to secure a student for the program.

Four Way Speech Competition

Follow-up continues with possible partner-schools while the Club waits for information from the District.

Club Administration

Rotary International donations (to Dec 31, 2007)

- Club membership - 90
- # Donations/ contributions received – 35 (39%)
- # Individual Club member who donated – 28 (31%)
- # Club members making multiple donations – 4
- Total \$Cdn donated - \$5,769.00
- Total \$US donated - \$6,624.00
- Total Club matching - \$5,746.00
- Total Calgary West \$US contributions - \$12,370.00
- Average contribution per member - \$137.44
- There is still time to contribute to Rotary International for the year 2006-2007.

The President's Ball is on Wednesday, June 25, 2008. A correction for the roster will be sent to Gordon Rodrigues.

Fund Raising

Strawberry Shortcakes Committee

- Tigertel will process credit card payments; a new account with Alberta Treasury Branch has been established. The price of the shortcakes is \$6.00. The target is 10,000 cakes
- Jim Willson is recruiting drivers.
- Robyn Braley is pursuing the advertising.
- A budget has been submitted.
- The Board would like to have sponsor added value and GST costs included in the budget.
- The Board would also like to see a comprehensive list of projects and charities the Club supports on materials promoting the Strawberry Shortcakes program.
- The motion by Marie Rickard/Lynne Thornton to approve the Strawberry Shortcakes budget subject to the addition of the sponsor added value and GST values carried.

Stampede Breakfast

Refer to the notes in the Treasurer's report.

New Initiatives

- Joe Klassen has accepted the chair of a new initiative to raise money for the Club. The project proposed is a one night fundraiser at Quincy's Restaurant which would be in the format of Dinner – Broadway Musical Show and a silent auction for 300 people.
- The Board has given its approval to move forward.

Membership

- The induction of Charles A. Buchanan will occur at the January 25 meeting.
- President Garfield Ganong and Mark

L.P. Ferguson will meet to discuss membership mandates.

New Business

- The motion by George Edwards/Brent Barootes to present a Paul Harris Fellow to one of our Club members carried. Member details will be announced at a later date.
- Jim Willson meets the requirements of

exemption as per the by-laws.

- The matter of a proposed New Club extension in the form of a new immigrant's club was tabled until the Board receives additional information.
- The next meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2008, at 4:00 pm at Central Memorial High School.

Service and Matching Grants - Brent Barootes



STILL SEEKING INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS AND CHAMPIONS

The International Committee continues to do excellent work in reviewing opportunities and ensuring our club project investments are both worthwhile and fiscally managed. If you are aware of a International Project that needs funding and are willing to champion it, be sure to fill out an application and let's see if the club can assist your cause.

THAILAND PROJECT UPDATE

After considerable ongoing discussions and further investigations, the board, with the direction and support of the International Committee, has chosen not to participate in the proposed Thailand Project. This project was lead by Calgary Centennial Club.

Though our goal was to work closely with Centennial and a Thai Rotary club, the likelihood of obtaining matching grants through RI were not likely to occur. As well, other considerations were taken into account. We wish the best to all those who continue to be involved with the project.

LOOKING FOR LOCAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS TO SUPPORT

As the club passes the halfway point, we continue to look for two to three key additional projects to support in the Calgary area. Our recent announcement of \$10,000 to Feed the Hungry for new kitchen equipment still leaves us with some monies to support worthy local projects. If you know of a good cause seeking financial support for anywhere from \$500 to \$15,000, and are willing to be the club champion on the project, have them submit a proposal as soon as possible. The more details the proposal can provide (how much money needed, background on the cause, projected outcomes, etc.), the quicker the proposal can be processed.



Masha's Page

I'll start with my Christmas. That was just wonderful! I was at Sa'adat Keshavjee's house with a lot of little children running around, and that was just great! And I thank our club for a great Christmas present!



Then it was New Year. That was very good too! Thanks to my host mum, Margot, and some Rotarians who came to our house that night.

I went to a couple of concerts. One of them was a Christmas concert with Clarence and Evelyn Buckley. And another one was a Phil Collins concert with Brenda Sali.

I went to three hockey games, with Bernie Ward, Pauline and Garth Evans and Ron Morrison.

I went to Banff with Margot and I also was at a Christmas party at her son's place.

I also had my 18th birthday on the 4th of January and I thank Rotary Club of Calgary West for a lovely congratulations on this day! And I gave a presentation on the 11th.

The most amazing thing for me was that I went snowboarding at Sunshine. I never thought that I will do it again! I gave it up two years ago and was sure that I would never do it, but I did!

I went to Garth and Pauline Evans' place for a dinner, and also I went for a dinner to Murray Hunter's place.

A pretty amazing thing was the Chinese New Year in the Regency Palace.

I was at the Glenbow Museum with Karl Herzog and I enjoyed it a lot.

So, that's all for now.

Masha

Greetings from Kearstin Plemel in The Netherlands



August 2007

My flight began on a huge airplane. I got settled in, and a mom and daughter pair sat beside me. They were from LA and wanted to know all about Canada, so we talked basically nonstop for 8 and a half hours. We also ate lasagna and a nice continental breakfast. Then we got to Heathrow airport and went our separate ways. This airport is so huge. I had to take a shuttle bus to get to my terminal, then walk another two km to get to my airplane. CRAZY! I met two very nice Dutch guys about 20 and 19 who had been backpacking around Canada for the last month, so we sat and talked for a bit!

So, we finally reach Schiphol airport in Amsterdam and I have to get my luggage which is still in the security area. I didn't realize you had to push the bars on the cart down to get it to move, until some Dutch lady came up to me and pushed it down firmly, laughed at me and walked away!

I proceed out of the security area and there's A HUGE BANNER WITH WELCOME TO THE NETHERLANDS KEARSTIN! written across it and about 10 people waiting for me! I walk up and smile and they all run up and say HI KEARSTIN HOW ARE YOU? in absolutely perfect English, and introduce themselves. Then they gave me some Stroop waffles. (Dutch cookies, syrup waffles essentially, 2 thin cookies with syrup in the middle SO GOOD!)

We went down to the KASSE translation cheese, which is the parking lot. I kid you not there was a sign that said KAAS ---> WITH A PICTURE OF CHEESE AND CARS BESIDE IT... I rather enjoy Dutch humor, we went home got cleaned up a little and went to "Moeders Resturant" to eat . I had a dish with fresh made pasta, a cheese cream sauce, steamed peas and beans and a really good rolled pork with bacon and rosemary inside!

With every meal they serve complimentary fries with mayonnaise and mini grilled potatoes with mayonnaise!

By the end of dinner I was just like a zombie, I had been up for like 32 hours and so we went home. I called Verneil to let her know I arrived safely,

showered and then crashed into bed!

I woke up around 1 today to a beautiful table spread out with cheese bread and many thing to put on it. We had coffee and chocolate, and then went bicycling around town. SO BEAUTIFUL! Many old style European houses and markets with bikes everywhere and cars and people all walking and driving on the same path! We visited my school, the recreation center and the supermarket. We then went home and made fruit salad. I went to the bank with my counselor Rob to set up an account for me, and then got a cell phone then off to a lovely barbeque, where I met many people, ate some more Dutch food (some thing like a shish kabob, different salads and of course, bread and cheese). We then had coffee and chocolate, discussed things like the national anthem hockey and ice hockey and such. Then my host family, (Paul, Saskia, and Vivian ten Velden).

Second report Mid August

I'm officially one week into my stay, and I am loving it! I couldn't be happier!

Right now I am in Wijdenes! It's about 10 minutes outside of Enkhuizen, which is where I go to learn some Dutch This week with all of the other exchange students! I am ahead of my class in the Dutch teachings!

I am staying with a very nice family Hank and Tine, And their grandson Alex, who is a Rotex student. He recently returned from a Rotary youth exchange in New Zealand! They have a crazy boxer dog named Kas who drools everywhere and likes to try and eat my feet. He went to lick my face and I screamed and fell off the couch. Hank found it amusing: dog 1 Kearstin 0...Hoorah.

Right now I am being berated by Alex, with a New Zealand decoration (whakapakoko it is a moari weapon).

So what else is new? These been a dizzying flurry of bread and chocolate, I tried Filet American it's a paste of minced meat and some sort of deceptive red dye.

OH Here's an amusing tidbit of language foopah. We were eating pancakes at the table and the pan-nen-koecken (pancakes) and I was like How do you say this..pan-a-cakan??? There was an awkward pause then LAUGHTER apparently "kakken" is a very bad word in Dutch. Oh then I cut the cheese on the table wrong, and I face planted in the grass while the dog tackled me (Kearstin 0 dog 2).

I'm going to Dutch school this week and all of the exchange students that are in The Nederland are here. It's fun! Today we went boating in the canals, I was disillusioned the romanticism of it all when the boat stopped working because a dead fish got caught in the propeller! There was also a rubber boot floating and many beer cans.

We went walking around in Enkhuizen and went to the market, and I ATE RAW FISH!!(raw herring with raw onions is quite a popular dish here). I also witnessed a rather rough looking Dutchmen grab a live eel out of this net of writhing sea habitants, throw it up in the air, chop its head off mid flight, and smoke it on a barrel covered in a potato

September, 2007

Hello everyone!!

I cannot believe I've already been here for a month! Time flies when your being Dutch!

So, what events can I regale to you all?

So, my host sister just got back from Greece Yesterday! She's looking all tanned and lovely! Sander is at a film festival in Venice Italy! Laurens is back in school so he only comes home on the weekends.

I will begin school on Monday, I was supposed to start this week but there was a mix up with schedules, so I got a few more days to sit at home and relax, *sigh* life is so hard!

This past weekend was a blast. Laurens and I went to Sassenheim on Friday to watch his friends in a dance competition. The show was about to start when all of a sudden it started POURING RAIN I mean, POURING! It was hilarious, we all looked liked drowned rats and the show went up anyway and people were cheering and throwing umbrellas up in the air! The Dutch are great dancers. After I got home, I wrung out my clothes, (yes that's how

sack. Apparently this is a very Dutch delicacy. There were quite a few of these little eel death smoke barrels set up along the lake, with people happily munching on whole smoked eel. And they think Canadians are strange.

My first host family took me sailing from Medemblijk to Enkhuizen, it was a great experience.

So far this has been a great experience and I cannot wait to see what this exchange has in store for me!

Until next time!

Kearstin Plemel

though I'm really looking forward to biking to school and meeting all of my new classmates.

Until next time.

Kearstin Plemel

bad it was) and towed myself down, said goodbye to Sander because he was leaving on a journey to Italy and France at 3.30 that morning.

On Saturday I went to Madurodam. It's basically all the sites in The Netherlands, shrunk and put together in this fun little town. I was like a kid in a candy store, romping through the paths and taking pictures.

It was great they had mini windmills with mini sheep, mini palaces and everything I could have ever hoped for in a tiny Dutch utopia.

Later that evening Laurens, Wouter, Bianca, Paul, Denise and I went to Leiden! Its basically a student city, with lots of interesting sites to see. We got back a little after dinner time, so we sat in the garage, ate some Krokot and chatted for a bit. It was nice to have a night with great times with wonderful people.

The next afternoon, Laurens Denise, Wouter and I went boating across the lake, and through the canals, it was so cool we just sat in the boat with music playing, talking and having a great time. We stopped along the canal for coffee and the most amazing ice cream I've ever had, then meandered

back to the dock. That was probably my best day here so far. It was so nice to have nothing to do, just be with friends, not doing anything of importance, but still having a wonderful time, good freaking times.

Then Laurens and I watched a Dutch show about this wonderfully entertaining man running around The Netherlands interviewing people, watched rush hour 2 and went to sleep.

The next day we went into Leiden and bought shoes!

I learned how to polish silver! My host mom has a

bunch so we sat around and talked and polished for a few hours, great bonding time. Its amazing how months and years of filth can be wiped away with the right tools and a little care. Little metaphorical life lesson I suppose.

Not much else has been going on, things have really slowed down here (for now) and I like that, though I'm really looking forward to biking to school and meeting all of my new classmates.

Until next time.

Kearstin Plemel

Report for January, 2008

So, another month gone by in a flash! January was a great start to the new year, and as always, was packed full of exciting and new experiences. I have been doing many activities here such as teaching English two or three classes per week, and orchestra once a week with the church. I am no longer with the local drama program, due to the fact that their performance is during the time of my euro trip. I do, however, stop by to watch their progress and help out when I can.

Tonight I will be going to a small city outside Amsterdam called Beverwijk, to give a speech about the Youth Exchange Program to prospective clubs who are interested in becoming part of it.

I will be starting volunteer work this week at a senior citizens home. I'll be going there every Monday and Thursday to help out however I can.

The new students from the southern hemisphere are starting to arrive and there is a meeting with them on February

16th. I am quite excited for that.

Rob Batenburg, my inbound counsellor, had me put together a wish list of things I'd like to do and accomplish while being here. He then gave it to everyone in my host club, and so far there has been a great response!

Arthur Karl, a member of my host club, has offered to take me to the opera! On February 19th, we are going to see Mozart's "The Abduction from the Seraglio" in Amsterdam.

Another member, Mr. Bakker, has offered to take me to a national soccer game in Amsterdam!

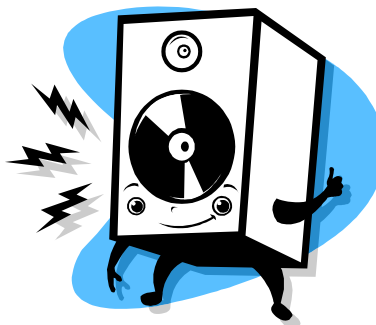
Verneil, as always, has been keeping me updated on everything back home, and offering me guidance and support when I need it!

Best wishes,

Kearstin Plemel

Speakers' and Reporters' Page

Speakers for February



February 1st	Kathryn Valentine: Assistant Director, Exhibits and Communications, Royal Tyrrell Museum
February 8th	Bill Walsh: Leadership and Rotary in the 21st Century
February 15	Corey Olynik: Author, Speaker, Leadership Effectiveness Coach
February 22	TBA
February 29	TBA

Reporters for February

February 1st	Bill Tapuska
February 8th	George Edwards
February 15th	Sa'adat Keshavjee
February 22nd	Larry Doyle
February 29th	Don Axford
March 7th	Bill Tapuska



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