

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

November 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.**

### Mike's Mind

Over the 20 some years I've been in Rotary, and happily so at Calgary West, I have in the past struggled with some of the concepts and programs that Rotary projects and promotes.

With "Service above Self" as a guiding motto, it is easy to see how the charitable gifting serves those in need, be it by a hand up or a hand out. And one can see how certain youth programs through vocational schools help those that need skills to attain them, or to provide a breakfast they wouldn't otherwise have, to feed their brain, so they might be able to concentrate on learning.

These are the straightforward programs that we can all readily relate to.

But, when it comes to some of the programs directed towards higher education, sharing of ideas and traditions or providing youth with international experiences, then perhaps that doesn't always meet our idea of charity.

Our club is actively involved in Youth Exchange, which is a club-expensed program. But we also have enjoyed meeting many

Group Study Exchange teams, selecting participants for out-bound teams, as well as welcoming Ambassadorial Scholars and World Peace Scholars.

These latter programs are funded through the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International, the Foundation of the organization of which we have chosen to be a member.

The Foundation covers more than just educational programs, it also includes humanitarian programs and our extraordinarily successful Polio Plus program, all of which you can read more about online at <http://www.rotary.org/foundation/programs.html>

From time to time, though, I hear the question, "Why do we provide the educational programs when there is so much need in the world?"

When we feed the hungry we accomplish an instant, though temporary, relief to a major problem. Through Micro-credit we attempt to build sustainable relief to the poor through their own endeavors. By giving the gift of



sight, we hope to restore self-respect and self-sufficiency, and so on.

Through Youth Exchange, Rotary creates awareness of different societies and compassion for those of other nationalities. Through Ambassadorial scholarships we hope to create world leaders who are truly leaders of the world, united for world peace. And through Group Study Exchange we wish to foster international understanding and co-operation so that nations may work better together.

All of these participants when asked the question, "Could you ever go to war against your host countries or the friends you made from different countries?" answer "Never".

So, from my perspective, Rotary manages both the macro and the micro problems of solving world peace and understanding, as well as helping those in need, both near and far, along the way.

What we can do to help Rotary succeed is to support our club in its projects, support the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International so the full range of Rotary projects can be funded, as well as support our local foundation to provide an endowment fund to help those in our local community.

Please read the other articles in this issue of the Monthly Westerner for more details on how you can contribute and how your contributions will provide a brighter future for everyone.

### FINANCIAL MATTERS (A note to all members)

Please ensure that as you order materials, book halls, send flowers or otherwise commit the club to an expense, that the board member responsible for that particular budget item must sign an authorization.

We noted at the last board meeting that a few expenditures are going through without the knowledge of board members.

We are trying to ensure that we keep within the budget numbers that were approved and presented to you.

Many thanks for your co-operation.

#### **New Member Forms Now Available**

The membership committee would like to thank those who are actively pursuing potential new members and making proposals. There is a variety of generic membership referral forms available from RI. However, please use the process and format outlined for Calgary West specifically. These are available on the Website, or from George Edwards or Frank Burns.

#### **ARTICLE AND INFORMATION SUBMISSIONS**

If you have an article or announcement that you would like included in a monthly publication of the Westerner, please email directly to [brent@partnershipgroup](mailto:brent@partnershipgroup) before the 20th of the preceding month. That means contributions need to be submitted no later than the 20th of November to be included in the December publication, and by the 20th of December for the January publication, and so forth.

Thank you.

## Summary of the Board Meeting of October 16 (Held at Operation Eyesight Universal)

### **We discussed:**

- Having the Harold Sharlow songbook finalised.
- Following up with insurance companies to obtain a copy of the policy, to determine liability coverage for directors for both the club and the society, and to determine if further refunds are forthcoming.
- Attendance records at the reception desk to ensure accuracy.
- Operation Eyesight Universal's request for funds to offset renovation costs for their Calgary facility.
- The Paul Harris Society that requires a donation of \$1000 every year for life and how the club would recognise members of the Paul Harris Society, while at the same time recognising all members who donate to the Foundation regardless of the amount donated.
- Having a meeting to educate board members about the Rotary Foundation and how it works.
- The District Governor's meeting.
- The directors' reports.
- Integrity awards and requesting that all members consider persons within their professional communities who are deserving of recognition.
- Our appreciation to the barbeque committee and the highway clean-up committee for jobs exceedingly well done.
- Sign up sheets for the upcoming Feed the Hungry dinner on November 19, 2006.
- Potential projects with Centre West Campus.
- The board's appreciation for Ray Falk's vocational interviews.
- Upcoming articles in this month's Westerner.
- The following fellowship activities have or will start soon: Bridge and Dinner Club.
- Club extensions, CyberClub, corporate memberships and the classification review.
- The Museum of the Regiments event on November 10.
- The induction of two new members.

### **We acted upon the following items:**

- Gerry Madigan's resignation.
- The continuation of our contribution to Alpha House via the "socks and mittens" program.
- The continued provision of 25 spaces for Accessible Housing at our annual Stampede Breakfast.
- Passed a motion requiring all directors to approve all expenditures prior to the commitment of funds. Complementary to this motion is the requirement that directors approve all invoices prior to payment.
- Passed a motion to donate \$500 to Inn From the Cold.
- Passed a motion approving the International Project Criteria and Application forms while at the same time ensuring that all present projects are "grandfathered".
- Submitted a report to the Wild Rose Foundation of Alberta to secure matching grants for the Dr. Akil Bin Abdul Kadir - Welfare Eye Hospital Expansion.
- Passed a motion to sponsor a Feed the Hungry dinner on November 8, 2007 and to donate up to \$4000.
- The Strawberry Shortcake fund raiser. The District Governor has signed off on our application to Rotary International for \$3000 to be used to promote the Rotary Club in Calgary. Also, a meeting is planned between our club and Calgary CO-OP to establish a plan for this event.
- To have a thermometer to show the club's progress toward our Foundation goal.
- To hold a regular meeting at Rotary Challenger Park next year.
- The cost of \$80 per person for the Christmas Gala on November 17 includes a bottle of wine.
- The cost of the Christmas Brunch is \$25.
- To invite six Lion's Club members to our Museum of the Regiments meeting on November 10 at Calgary West's expense.

George Edwards

## Brent's Club Management Update

As always in Rotary, it has been another busy month. At the board meeting on October 16, when I reminded the board members that their articles were due for the November Westerner, they all said in unison, "It can't be that soon. You are moving up the deadline date for submissions." I did not move it up, there is just so much happening, it is amazing!! This bulletin has lots to offer in the way of musings, news and other matters. Please feel free to email me or grab me at a meeting to let me know your thoughts on the monthly bulletin and how we are doing.

Speaking of the monthly bulletin, what a great job everyone is doing with the effort. Board members submitting articles, committee chairs submitting articles. Next thing you know we may win a Pulitzer! But a great deal of KUDOS goes to David Williams, who not only edits, lays out and publishes this great monthly rag, but he is also working with new software and doing a great job. Next time you run into him let him know how great it looks. We are really getting professional! Thanks, David.

### **Media**

Robyn Braley has been working up a sweat. Over the last month he has put together a full fledged proposal and submission to RI in Chicago for a possible grant of \$3000 towards promoting Strawberry Shortcakes. As always, Robyn did this behind the scenes and is to be commended for his fine effort. If we get the grant. we will use it to buy media to promote shortcake sales and profile our club. We should know if we will be awarded the money by the end of November. Rotary clubs from around the world are applying for the same grant.

That's not all. Strawberry Shortcakes is still (as I write this) four months away and Robyn has already begun to prepare the plan for the marketing and communications of the fundraiser. He is in talks with Calgary CO-OP on

how we can gain exposure through them and for them, ensuring the web site is operating well, beginning to contact and plan articles, interviews and community and corporate awareness for this great fundraiser. KUDOS to Robyn. Thanks and keep up the great work.



### **Foundation**

Sa'adat is the chair of this committee and, boy, is he moving fast. Rotary Foundation month is this month, November and Sa'adat was moving ahead in September. He has already announced one full and three sustaining Paul Harris Fellowship memberships. For each Paul Harris Sustaining Membership started or contributed to by a club member (which can be for them, a loved one, in memory, or for a stranger) the club will match up to \$200 USD. That means, if you start or contribute to a sustaining membership (or more than one) before November 30 and contribute at least \$100 USD, the club will match your contribution for each sustaining membership for up to \$200 USD each. At that rate you could have a full Paul Harris Fellowship in less than three years for a mere \$500! Sa'adat's goal is to raise over \$10,000 in Paul Harris Fellowship sustaining memberships this year. Are you up for the challenge? Jump on the bandwagon and write your check today.

Sa'adat has also informed me that, to show their own leadership to achieve this goal, every member of your Board of Directors has committed to either contribute to an existing sustaining Fellowship they already have going or by beginning one. Yes, that means Mike French, Chris Davis, Murray Hunter, Bill Lawless, Brenda Sali, Marg Henschel, George Edwards, Stan (Grumpy) Cichon, Garfield Ganong, Frank Burns and myself have all committed to at least one sustaining Fellowship each. Congratulations to the board members

on setting the standard!

And when talking about the RI Foundation, how could we not mention the work that John Rymes does behind the scene? If you have questions about RI Foundation, John is the man to talk to. He can tell you all about why you should donate, the programs RI Foundation supports and, most importantly, he takes care of all your paperwork. All you have to do is make the check out to Rotary Foundation Canada and he does the rest. He can even tell you where you stand in regards to your existing status as a sustaining member, so you might just want to top it right up to get that Paul Harris Fellowship this year! KUDOS to John, thanks for all the hard work you do behind the scenes as well.

**Vocational Awareness**

It is the month of November, and last month was vocational awareness month! I just wanted to single out two people who have done a tremendous job in moving forward the awareness of our members' vocations. Throughout the month of October, Ray Falk delivered great "man on the street" interviews

with several of our club members. Through this fun and witty approach, I feel we have learned a great deal more "behind the scenes" about our members, their vocations and their lives. Boy that Ray, what an investigative reporter! The way he delves into members' pasts, pulls out the skeletons and all done so professionally, too. It's a good thing his stint with Calgary West Rotary Radio (CWRR) is only part-time or else we all might have been exposed. Ray, thanks for doing the 'reporting; it was fantastic. We look forward to more throughout the year, if you have the opportunity, and a good story!!

Staying on the theme of club members and vocations, KUDOS to Pauline Evans! Since August, Pauline has been contributing a monthly article on one or two of our members as well. This feature column in the Westerner Monthly Edition focuses on the members' vocations so we can all be enlightened a little bit more about what we all do in the outside world, and how we can take Rotary into our vocations. Thanks, Pauline, for your ongoing efforts. They are most appreciated.

**SPEAKERS**

Date	Club Co-ordinator	Speaker	Subject
October 27	Bryden Horwood	Dr Michael Keren	Israel after the Lebanese War: A Personal Perspective
November 3	Mike French	Neil Swensrude	Group Study Exchange
November 10	Bob Kerr	Major Bob Herold	Role of Modern Veteran in Canadian Society
November 17	Bernie Ward	Fabio Magistris	Student Talk
November 24	Ted Valentine	Irene Lewis	President of SAIT
December 1	Bill Tapuska	Michelle Coulter (nee Cameron)	Olympic Gold Winner (Synchronised Swimming)

## **Charitable Gifting Director-Bill Lawless**

### **Local Projects Committee**

#### **Chair - Mike Carlin**

Two donations have been approved by the board:

- (1) \$5,000.00 for the YWCA and the purchase of an awning for their daycare center.
- (2) \$500.00 for the Inn from the Cold program to purchase supplies for their XMAS bag program.

This committee met on October 11<sup>th</sup>. Any member who has in mind a project where by the club and it's members can have an involvement with the program is requested to submit their idea. The term we are using is *Hands On*. We believe there is an opportunity in the community to be more involved with education, needy, disadvantaged or youth programs for example that will require more than just a dollar donation. Please submit any ideas you have to Mike Carlin for evaluation by the committee

### **International Projects Committee**

#### **Chair - Des DeFreitas**

The criteria and application form mentioned previously mentioned will be on the website in two formats:

- (1) PDF format for reading.
- (2) The other format is in Word format so you can use the form to fill in on line if you desire rather than print the document.

Are you prepared to put forward a project that has World Community Service aspects? There are a great number of projects that will enable the club to get more involved with. The general belief in the district is that all clubs should be more active in seeking out projects that our club can contribute not only Dollars but also some involvement as well of our members. The Adopt-A-Village program is a tremendous program that touches a lot of Rotary Interna-

tional goals. However, it is not a project that we can get involved with as a club other than to send MONEY.

### **Feed the Hungry Committee**

#### **Chair - Ron Morrison**

We will need volunteers, so contact Ron Morrison. Please call Ron and volunteer.

### **Integrity Awards Committee**

#### **Chair - Marmie Hess**

The Integrity Awards Committee, made up of Marmie Hess, George Edwards and Gordon Rodrigues, are looking to all Club members to assist them in selecting a suitable candidate for this prestigious award. The type of person being sought will be a non-Rotarian who serves the Community; and wouldn't be recognized if it wasn't for us. The individual will be an unpaid volunteer, not well known who is honest and true in all their dealings. What does integrity mean to you? Do you know someone who has gone that extra mile to perform an act with integrity? He or She does not need to be well known but well deserving.

The award will be presented on March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007, at the Stage West Theatre however, there are a number of things to be done prior that time and the Committee is looking for members to respond by November 10, 2006 with the name of their choice of a suitable individual. More than one name may be submitted.

The name of suitable candidates should be sent to George Edwards, by telephone or e-mail. Please also provide George with a written summary of the nominee's qualifications, setting out the reasons why you think your nominee deserves this coveted award. Club members may contact any Committee member if they need more information.

## Getting to know you!

This month we will be getting to know **Matthew Hanrahan**, a new Rotarian and the newest member of our club, and also **Gordon Rodrigues**, one of our long standing members.

**Matthew** was inducted into the Rotary Club of Calgary West in September with the classification of Auto Sales and Marketing.

Matthew works for Stampede Pontiac Buick where he is the Used Vehicles Management Assistant; his duties include the sale of new and pre-owned vehicles, finance, insurance and internet marketing and leads.

Pat Hanrahan, Matthew's father, was a member of a Rotary club in Smiths Falls, Ontario, and is a Paul Harris Fellow. Growing up, Matthew developed an interest in how young people were helped by Rotary; this has left him with an interest in the youth programs that Rotary offers. Habitat for Humanity is another program that Matthew would like to participate in. He thinks that to work on a project from start to finish would be very satisfying.

Matthew is a member of the Youth Exchange Committee and the Membership Committee.

**Gordon** was inducted into the Rotary Club of Calgary West in 1977 and has the classification of Banking.

Gordon is now enjoying retirement from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. His working life was spent managing one of their branches. During the time that Gordon was a bank manager, he was the representative of the bank and had the authority to manage the bank and was responsible for all of its daily operations; whereas today the banks have different specialists to handle all of their different aspects.

Gordon has put his managerial skills to good use as a Rotarian. Earlier this year, he was the secretary of the District Convention Committee and acts as secretary taking the notes at the committees he serves on. The ideals and fellowship of Rotary appeal to Gordon: here he can meet people with the same standards and outlook on life.

Gordon serves on the Integrity Awards Committee and the Management Committee, where he does such a good job of keeping our roster up to date.

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Mark Twain was once invited, as the guest of honour, to a dinner at which all the great leaders of the American Civil War were present. When it came to the speeches, the military leaders made their lengthy and somewhat heavy remarks. In due course, Mark Twain was called on to speak and he rose - rather unsteadily - to his feet.

"Gentlemen," he said, "Caesar is dead; Hannibal is no longer with us; Napoleon has long since passed away; and Wellington is under the sod. And, to tell you the truth, I'm not feeling too good myself."

And with that he sat down.

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A clergyman boasted that he could preach a sermon on any subject at a moment's notice.

To test him, one of the church wardens handed him a slip of paper as he went into the pulpit. On the paper was written one word: "constipation".

Without hesitation, the clergyman said, "My text, today, is taken from the Book of Exodus, chapter 34. 'And Moses took the tablets and went up into the mountain.'"

## “Balance” is the Toughest Word in Life to Spell!

In 1982, I had a summer of extremes. I was going to graduate school on a Leave of Absence from my employer and needed to make some big money during the summer. On the other hand, my sabbatical was all about finding some meaning for how I was spending my life. To make a long story short, I spent the first six weeks in the Beaufort Sea on an icebreaker and then flew immediately towards the equator to Zaire (now Congo) for the final ten weeks. I did accounting work at a small African missionary hospital that served five million people who couldn't afford any medical treatment. Talk about extremes: temperature, priorities and pace of life. Amidst those extremes I couldn't help thinking how important, and elusive, balance is in life. It's our most constant personal battle.

Some of my friends thought my balance was a bit misplaced. Their argument, and I've heard it 100 times since, was that there is plenty of very visible need here at home in Canada, and in Calgary, without going half-way around the world to try to assist others who don't even know they should be more unhappy. It must be a constant battle, too, for our governments as they struggle with the right percentage of foreign aid versus domestic needs for the underprivileged in Canada.

When I joined Rotary, it was also with balance in mind. “Service Above Self” suggests that we all need to be acutely aware of others' needs as well as our own. Our Rotary club gives us a vehicle to practice that theory and make a difference in our community. And I have been glad that Rotary has an overseas balance too – it makes me feel better to invest time, energy and money.

BUT I have a confession to make: I've heard many times about the Rotary Foundation, but I

don't really know very much about what it does. How about you? Can you name some of the international humanitarian, educational and cultural exchange programs? The Rotary Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation that supports the efforts of Rotary International to achieve world understanding and peace through these three avenues. From an initial investment of \$26.50 in 1917, it now invests more than \$118 million each year in projects as famous as PolioPlus to many more strategic initiatives behind the scenes. I'm guessing that many of you may know a lot more than I did about RI Foundation, but I'm also certain this month is an opportunity time for many others of us as well.

So, how is your balance in life? I'm sure you think often about work vs. family, debt vs. savings, or living for today vs. saving for retirement. But how's your “Service Above Self” balance? You may be active in Habitat for Humanity, or Feed the Hungry, or many of the other great investments our club makes. But how much do you know about the RI Foundation?

Maybe you're like me and need to do some research online – and then make some balance decisions for yourself.

I can assure you of one thing: you'll be proud to be a Rotarian when you see how much our collective efforts are achieving all around the world for those less fortunate.

Let's make November our “balance” month!



Doug Chisholm

# Calendar of Events

## November – Foundation Month

November 6	Interact Weekend
November 10	Remembrance meeting – Museum of the Regiments. Partners welcome
November 17	Christmas Party – CGCC – Formal/Business attire
November 19	Feed the Hungry – St Mary’s Hall

## December – Family Month

December 8	Club elections
December 15	Partners meeting – Children’s carols – TBC
December 17	Christmas Brunch – Pinebrook G&CC

## January – Rotary Awareness Month

January 19	Partners Welcome
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## February – World Understanding Month

February 14	Strawberry Shortcake Deliveries
February 16	Partners welcome
February 23	Rotary’s 102nd Anniversary

## March - Literacy Month

March 12 - 18	World Rotaract Week
March 16	Partners welcome
March 21	Fireside

## April - Magazine Month

April 20	Partners welcome
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## May - Membership Awareness Month (Unofficial)

May 11 - 13	RYLA
May 18	Partners welcome
May 23	Spring Assembly
May 25	No meeting
May 25 - 27	Rotary District Conference - Red Deer

## June - Rotary Fellowship Month

June 14 - 20	Rotary International Convention - Salt Lake City
June 27	President’s Ball—TBC

## Photo Page



### Highway Clean-up Saturday, September 30

This was a resounding success! The weather was glorious: you couldn't ask for a nicer day. Well, you could, but you'd never get it!

Sixteen people attended and all the work was done thoroughly and well. The number of participants was just about right, so the work went quickly and easily. However, about 19 participants would be ideal.

We had a meal at the truck stop, which was enjoyed with all the appetite and gusto that good honest work gives you! Much good fellowship was also had.

We had a contest for the weirdest object found. Candidates included a pot complete with lid, a half set of antlers, and a couple of IV bags and needles. The IV bags and needles won in a close vote!

People went away with smiles on their faces!

And here is Ron Morrison presenting a cheque for \$3,600 to Donna Rawlyck on behalf of Feed the Hungry.

On Sunday, November 19, Calgary West Rotarians will be at St Mary's Church to help prepare a meal for those far less fortunate than we are.