

Rotary Club of Calgary West
(A Year of Rotary Fun and Fellowship)

The Weekly WESTERNER

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

President: Lynne Thornton **President-Elect:** Karl Herzog

Past President: Garfield Ganong **Secretary:** Ron Morrison

Treasurer: Mike French

Directors: Stan Beveridge, Garth Evans, Mark Ferguson, Margot McDermott,
Marie Rickard, Jim Walker

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President Lynne kicked off the meeting by introducing our guest speakers being the Rotarian dynamic duo of **Jacquie and Wayne Brown** about whom more will be said later!

Don Axford at the piano led us in the singing of O Canada and also delivered the grace.

Kurt Schurer introduced our visitors and guests.

Joining President Lynne at the head table were new member **Dave Rodgers** who would be thanking our guest speakers and Lynne's spouse **Bob Hamshaw**. By the way, today was Lynne's and Bob's tenth anniversary. Congratulations Bob and Lynne!

President Lynne also welcomed back three members who have recently been unwell. These were **Alex Coelho, Jim Walker** and **Vasile Douros**.

Karl Herzog announced that his Motive-action Golf Tournament was a rousing success with three CWRC foursomes and many CWRC helpers. As an aside, the foursome of **Bill Tapuska, Holland Berry, Larry Doyle** (with **Murray Hunter** there in spirit!) won second place with a net score of 61. The tournament earned approximately \$40K for Karl's organization.

Mike Carlin, standing in for **Dan Dougherty**, updated us on the Mexican house building trip Dan is leading to Ensenada. There are another six spots available, so, if you are interested, please contact Dan or Mike.

Ted Valentine read out the month's birthdays which included **Marie Rickard**, whose birthday was Friday thus coinciding with Lynne and Bob's anniversary! Also having August birthdays are **Jim Barnes, Don Axford** and **Robin Braley**.

Bernie Ward announced the birth of his new granddaughter. Apparently, she is the first girl in the last 15 births in the Ward family. Congratulations Bernie!

Ron Jones stood to promote the Challenger Park Tournament which is coming up next month.

President Lynne mentioned dues are due! They can now be paid at the front desk with credit cards.

50/50 DRAW

Jim Walker won the 50/50 draw of \$30. A fine welcome back present!

SERGEANT AT ARMS

Past-president **Garfield Ganong** finally managed to tread the boards in his debut in this egregious position! He didn't do a bad job either, fining many and sundry for offences both real and imagined!

PROGRAMM

Bob Hamshaw introduced our two guest speakers. As previously mentioned, they were Wayne and Jacqui Brown, two Rotarians, the scale of whose participation in Rotary and more generally in life, can only be described as awesome! Jacqui is a realtor and currently her club's treasurer and has served on many district committees. Her husband, Wayne (an accountant!!!), has been the president of his club and has just succeeded Bob Hamshaw as the district treasurer. If this were not enough, they both spearhead a project to provide the wherewithal to keep Mexican kids in school. Additionally, they are going to be the host parents for our incoming exchange student who will be arriving shortly. It is their project they came to speak to us about today.

Jacqui and Wayne raise funds from a variety of Rotary clubs, Wild Rose and others for their Becas 2007 Project. The project's purpose is to keep selected Mexican kids in school as long as possible. Schooling in Mexico is provided free of charge, however the cost of supplies, etc., must be made up by the students and this is beyond the reach of many. In 2006, 40 kids were helped and in 2007, 54 kids were helped, which required \$12.5K in 2007. Eight computers were also provided. There is a dynamic in Mexico where kids go to school up to their early teenage years then the females become pregnant and drop out. This precludes further schooling, so it becomes impossible for them to get more than a basic education. In order to climb out of the rut of poverty which the early family creation causes, a higher education is required. This is the end Wayne and Jacqui's project seeks to serve.

As an additional project, Jacqui and Wayne feed kids at the dump in Mexico. There are children living at the margin of existence from what they can glean from garbage dumps and in partnership with a Mexican Rotary club some food and clothing is provided to them as well.

The courage and commitment to take on projects like this, in addition to earning a living, is something I can't begin to imagine and I'm more hopeful for the world to know that it has people like Jacqui and Wayne in it.

Dave Rodgers thanked Wayne and Jacqui and presented them with their Boltmen.

NEXT TWO WEEKS

Our next two meetings will be at Il Gallo Nero.

Next week, **Hans Weisner** from Red Deer East will speak to us on his Walk for Polio Plus.