

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

The Weekly WESTERNER

Box 4572, Station C, Calgary, Alberta T2T 5N3
Holiday Inn, McLeod Trail, Fridays 12:15 pm

President: Karl Herzog **President-Elect:** Sa'adat Keshavjee

Past President: Lynne Thornton **Secretary:** Ron Morrison

Treasurer: Des DeFreitas

Directors: Stan Beveridge, Ron Brookes, Bryden Horwood, Margot McDermott
Bernie Ward, David Williams

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President Karl hit the gong and the conversation continued. Karl hit the gong and the microphone wouldn't work. Finally, the meeting came to order and we sang the national anthem. **Mike Carlin** gave the invocation.

Prior to the gong show, **Bill Lawless** had an animated meeting with six guests. What was the meeting, and was \$15,000 mentioned?

Robyn Braley arrived looking wonderfully healthy: oh so good!

Who paid the big money to get the Canadian flag cleaned? Spiffy, what! (Was it a Canadian-American, or a red berry?)

Ron Jones pitched Habitat for Humanity, August 22nd, and, of course, the golf tournament for Rotary Challenger Park.

At the head table: RYLA guests **Ross Chaudhry** and **Joe Crawford**, **Dan Doherty**, **Mike French**, **Chuck Morrison** and President Karl.

The usual thanks came for the staff of the Holiday Inn – **Vicki**, **Chris**, **Rosie** and **Josh**. Special thanks were also given to maintenance person, **Brent Cowan**, who built shelves for the club in the store room.

We shall be building a house at Ensenada, Mexico, for the club and donations (private money) will come for a second house.

Kurt Schurer introduced visitors and guests followed by a raucous version of the welcome song. Piano, anyone?

World Skills event: **Jim Barnes** asked the club's volunteers to visit his e-mail.

Sa'adat Keshavjee gave a written and verbal report about our visioning efforts. An improved world, one project at a time is vision statement. MISSION STATEMENT: To serve and to lead through local and international projects that enrich lives and brighten the future for all.

Proposed values statement: We do this with truth, fairness, goodwill and leadership.

If any Rotarians has any comments, please let the committee know.

Carolyn Christison announced a welcome for **Marco Bersani** at her home for Friday evening. Mario said he was looking forward to seeing snow and a hockey game. (Not a great hit for discussion in August!)

The 50/50 draw was won by **Garfield Ganong**.

Then Garfield, as sergeant-at-arms, proceeded to fine everyone. A certain scribe suggested that he put in some of his winnings, but this was not seen to happen.

Guest Speakers

Dan Doherty introduced RYLA local attendees who also attended RYLA International in Birmingham: from Olds, Joe Crawford and from Calgary, Ross Chaudhry.

Joe attended the U of C event with the sponsorship of Olds Rotary. Ross was sponsored by our club.

JOE CRAW FORD

Joe was an exchange student in Thailand. He was recently named youth citizen of the year in Olds. Whilst in Thailand, Joe created a water conveyor for a village. He also provided a washing machine for a home assisting street women. He mentioned that the Thai club really did not appreciate his projects, but he felt a passion to do something. Oh and teddy bears for kids. Neat! He described the RYLA event as a life-changing experience. He told us of meeting like-minded teens from across southern Alberta. He mentioned the team building exercises that were uplifting. It was a joy for him to meet his peers aged 15-18.

Both Joe and Ross went to RYLA in Birmingham, England. There, 100 RYLA students aged 18-30 were present from 30 countries. The aim was global understanding. How does one make the world a better place?

Joe will attend the U in New Brunswick.

Joe and Ross brought RYLA to life for many of us. They attended and then returned as leaders. The smile on Dan Doherty's face told it all. Way to go Dan, cuz you helped to make it happen.

ROSS CHAUDHRY

Ross is an engineering student at Queens. He spoke about a project he helped create in Sierra Leone. The project gave hot meals to school children for a year – 500 young people were fed. The project was complicated but Cause Canada assisted Ross in his efforts. (My recollection is that Cause Canada is based in Canmore and we have worked with them.) Local farmers provided the food and made a living. Chefs were hired and trained by the project. Everything was based locally. Ross raised \$15,000 to do the project. The children could attend school and be fed. Their families could not afford to send them. Ross was a student at Westmount Charter School. We have done many things with these young people, including our outbound student.

Mike French presented a Boltman to Ross and Joe. Thanks guys you made our day.

It was a fine meeting.

Coming Events

August 28	Mayor Victor Perez – Uspantan, Guatemala
September 4	Membership Development
September 11	Calgary Children’s Hospital – Field Trip
September 18	Kevin Nevue – CEO, Precision Drilling
September 25	Laura Lockman – USA Consul General in Calgary