

Rotary Club of Calgary West  
(Service through Fellowship)

# The Weekly 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, Garth Evans, Bill Lawless, Mike Reikie  
Marie Rickard, Brenda Sali



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**President Garfield Ganong** called the meeting to order at 12:15. He commented on youth exchange and called for the singing of the national anthem *O Canada*.

Introduction of the head table: **Verneil Martin**; President Garfield Ganong; **Essya Chikmoroff**; **Matt Hanrahan**; **Roger Joki**; and **David Elson**.

**Bill Lawless** introduced our guests and visiting Rotarians. Special guests (although all guests are special): **Brian and Alberta Chikmoroff**. The welcome song was sung with enthusiasm. Da Da Dada Da Bang Bang

The reporter for Friday was **Sa'adat Keshavjee** under disguise as **Don Axford**.

The invocation by **George Edwards** stuck in traffic was spontaneously given by who else Don Axford. He was heard to say that he would not be the sergeant cuz it was **Ron Jones**.

Family Day at Rotary Challenger Park is September 8<sup>th</sup> from 2-5 PM.

Rotary Challenger Park golf tournament is on September 13<sup>th</sup>. There was a plan to give members a \$50. Discount, but, after discussion, this idea was dropped. Instead the club gave a \$1000 donation. Cheers were heard at the announcement. Cost: \$275.

**Dan Varvos** was shopping for a cashier for the Habitat for Humanity casino and **Bob Hamshaw** volunteered,

On Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, **Larry Doyle** will be testing for his black belt. The event will run from 10 AM – 2PM. Dan Varvos suggested arriving at 12 because it can be boring. **[Editor's Note: For the non-martial artist, grading tests can be boring. But that is because of a lack of understanding of what is involved. For the students being tested, boring it ain't!]** Dan's step-son will be testing as well. Because we will be receiving this after the event please remember to deliver kudos later. The place for this grading test is Hillhurst Sunnyside Community Centre, 6Ave and 14<sup>th</sup> Street NW. It's opposite Riley Park.

Members were informed of former member **Jack Swinton's** death.

## **A banner exchange from Kapuskasing Ontario!**

### **Adopt a Village**

**Tim Anderson** journeys to Uganda to see how the project is faring. Tim asked us to bring seeds and he shall deliver them.

### **Global Youth Conference**

**Meredith Johnson** reported on her attendance at the Global Youth Conference in Washington, D.C. and New York City. She thanked the club for assisting her to go with \$500.

### **50/50 Draw**

The 50/50 winner was **Wyatt Petryshen**, son of **John and Sue**. Way to go Wyatt. The Joker is still in the deck.

### **Sergeant-at-Arms**

Ron Jones acted as Sergeant-at-Arms. Pay a buck if you did not have your badge or pin. He fined Garfield for his opening eulogy – too long ! He assaulted people like me with colourful shirts. He suggested that Verneil had a new hair do. Verneil said it was an emergency hair do, but I thought it made her look svelte.

### **Guest Speaker**

Verneil introduced our guest speaker Essya Chikmoroff.

Essya has just returned from her year in Hungary. She graduated from Henry Wisewood with an International Baccalaureate. She leaves to study at UBC in Commerce.

Essya told of the mild winter she had experienced in Hungary She enjoyed her host families and became close with one house mom. Hungarian is not an easy language to learn, but Essya managed to speak it. She was even able to console her host mom when the mom's child was in difficulty in Brazil.

Essya's close friend was a student from Brazil on exchange in her own town. They spent weekends in Budapest on the mighty Danube. Europe is small condensed and packed. I remember standing on a mountain in Switzerland and looking out to see Italy, France, Germany, Austria and Lichtenstein. Soooo, when Essya talked of her trips to Estonia, Venice, Vienna, and Austria, it brought back memories.

Essya prepared a Canadian style meal for her host family. When she was asked what she cooked she replied pancakes. Laughter was heard. Essya had trouble trying to explain that her pancakes were different than the Hungarian model. Their pancakes are light and are enfolded over some other food.

Off to Austria in the snow to ski and play. The Brazilians had not seen snow. So Essya taught them how to make snowballs and do snow angels. They also created a snowman.

The Rotary Exchange students did a final tour of Europe visiting many places including: Florence, Barcelona, Monaco, Andorra, Bordeaux, Paris, Versailles, Bruges, Amsterdam and, wait for it, Hurrah for Prague.

In mastering Hungarian and taking German, Essya and her Brazilian friend were complimented by their German teacher for their excellence.

David Elson thanked Essya on behalf of the club and presented her with our famous Boltman. Born in England, David said he knew of Europe, but was in awe of Essya's experience. I think we were all in awe.

### Calgary West Calendar

August 31	Ray Falk and The Barbershop Quartet
September 7	Dr Lucy Miller, Chief Superintendent, Calgary Catholic Schools
September 14	Dariel Bateman: Calgary Reads
September 21	Alice Nelson: Clowns without Borders
September 28	District Governor Bernie Carrier

### And finally . . .

“Our country is the world; our countrymen are all mankind.” William Lloyd Garrison (1805 – 1879)