

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, David Elson, Garth Evans, Bill Lawless,
Marie Rickard, Brenda Sali



Date: December 7, 2007 Edition: 41.22 Reporter: Don Axford Publisher: David Williams

We gathered at the Elbow River Casino to hear a Canadian Citizenship presentation by **Judge Raymond Lee**. Our guest speaker was a tad late and, because of his presentation, we did not sing the national anthem at the beginning.

Mike French was called forth to conduct club elections. Your scribe was unable to write as fast a Mike talks. We applauded those who have served and are moving along. We saluted our incoming president, **Lynne Thornton** and were introduced to **Karl Herzog**, who will follow Lynne.

At the head table was: **Rick Guthrie, Gordon Rodrigues**, Judge Lee, **Al Rosen, President Garfield Ganong** and at the piano **Don Axford**. At a side table was **Marmie Hess** and other assorted guests (Judge Lee's staff and his partner in life).

A truly interesting invocation was presented by Al Rosen. We heard of Chanukah, Christmas and the Muslim Id. For all our traditions, we gave thanks. Thanks, Al.

INTEGRITY AWARD

Jim Willson reminded us to think of proposing someone for the award by January.

MASHA

Masha had been to a hockey game and also has been shopping and bought new shoes.

Margot McDermott gave a sheet of the twelve days of Christmas, as a wish list for Masha.

1. Zoolights	2. A Christmas concert
3. Skiing	4. Decorating the Christmas tree
5. Skating	6. A picture with Santa
7.	8. "Christmas Carol" Theatre Calgary
9. Tobogganing	10 A sleigh ride
11 The city's Christmas lights.	12. A Christmas church service

OK, Margot what was 7?!

If you can provide any of these opportunities, call Masha @ 542 2352, or Margot @ 287 0254

SALLY ANN CHRISTMAS KETTLES

Chuck Morrison asked those who have signed up to please go to Westbrook Mall. One should use the Starbuck's entrance.

PINEBROOK

Our fabulous Christmas brunch is almost sold out according to **Bill Tapuska**. One table is left!

QUESTIONNAIRE

Suzanne Furlong, the citizenship officer who works with Judge Lee, had distributed a questionnaire used by the Citizenship Court for new Canadians to answer. Some of our members did not know that Nunavut exists! Most of us were not certain which four colonies formed Canada. I knew that Sir John A was our first prime minister, because my grandma said he was her cousin. I know my great grandfather and John A played poker and drank booze at GG's Metcalfe home!

There are four mandatory questions:

1. Who can run as a candidate in a federal election?
2. Who can vote in a federal election? How old must you be?
3. What should you do if you do not receive a notice telling you where and when to vote?
4. What is printed on a federal election ballot?

There was much laughter in the room with some of the answers we provided.

Suzanne and the judge retired from the room and returned making our meeting room a citizenship court.

The introduction of Judge Lee was given by long-time friend, Al Rosen.

Judge Lee is an Albertan (Crossfield), but, when his father arrived in Canada in 1917, he had to pay a \$500 head tax. Judge Lee led the battle to have those taxes repaid. Ray did his BSc degree at Utah. He has been an economist for Imperial Oil. He sits on the Senate of the University of Calgary. He has been active in the Sing-a-long Society as leader and now as emeritus.

Judge Lee reminded us about our journey to multiculturalism and our Charter of Rights.

He spoke of our freedoms and how they were developed. But, most importantly, he established our meeting room as his court and led us in a ceremony of affirming our Canadian Citizenship. We repeated after him our affirmation in both French and English.

It was a solemn moment for all of us. The ceremony was followed by *O Canada*.

Marmie Hess thanked Judge Lee for us all. It never ceases to amaze me just how many awards Marmie has been given, including the Order of Canada. In speaking to others afterwards, we expressed how diverse and amazing our club is in its membership.

Suzanne spoke afterwards what it is like to receive 100 new Canadians at a court. Each person is presented to Judge Lee and given their citizenship. She said she cannot look at the group when they sing *O Canada* because their tears are brimming down their faces.

At the conclusion of the meeting every member present was given a personalized certificate, a pin for Canada and a book with the answers to the questions.

OK that is what I heard and saw.

Compliments of the season, as outlined by Al Rosen.

Calgary West Calendar

December 7	Judge Ray Lee, Immigration Court Judge for Alberta; "Reaffirm your Citizenship"
December 14	Radisson School Choir
December 21	Social and Ensenada presentation, and songs
December 28	NO MEETING
January 4	Bruce Hilton, Past Potentate of Al Azhar Temple - "Introduction to the Shrine"

REMINDER

For those club members who still wish to make a Rotary Foundation contribution this year, please bring your cheque to the club next Friday, December 14th, payable to The Rotary Foundation - Canada. The club will match your donation up to a maximum of \$US 200. The official RI exchange rate for December 2007 is 0.98, ie: \$CND 200 is approximately \$US 204.

Please advise if your donation will be in your name or in a named recipient of your choice.

A Recognition Contribution Form will be completed on your behalf and, with your cheque, will be mailed to TRF Canada on Monday December 17th. In due course, you will receive a Year 2007 Canadian Tax Receipt.

FEED THE HUNGRY

Chris Lee wants you to know that, on November 20, our club contributed to an occasion when 450 guests sat down to a meal.

And finally . . .

"A hungry man is not a free man." Adlai Stevenson (1900-1965)

[Please allow for the fact that, today, "man" is an all-encompassing term for "anyone".]