

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 Thornton** kicked off the new Rotary year auspiciously as our club's first female president. She reminded us of new RI President D.K. Lee's motto urging us to "Make Dreams Come True" for people around the world and for ourselves. We can do that by "Providing a Hand Up" this year in Calgary West!

**Don Axford** at the piano led us in the singing of *O Canada* and **Clarence Buckley** delivered one of his inimitable graces.

Joining President Lynn at the head table was **Helen King**. Helen ran the front desk last year and will be heading up the Stampede Parade Breakfast Committee this year. Also joining President Lynn were **Kurt Schurer**, **Crawford Caswell** and our guest speaker **Cathy Torfason**. Not to mention the redoubtable **Bob Hamshaw**, who was at the head table in his new capacity as "First Hunk". Now that is something to conjure with! Since we have never had a female president before, we have never had someone in Bob's capacity before. Several titles were considered such as First Stud, First Person, and Primary Primate. Perhaps we should have a contest to select one. Very likely we will have to use it again in the future!

President Lynne next introduced our new outbound exchange student, **Emily Halleran**, who is going to Brazil.

She also asked us to keep **Jim Walker** in mind. He had an accident working around his house and suffered some injuries which resulted in him being sore and bruised.

President Lynne also indicated that the dues invoices have been sent out and payment by the end of the month would be appreciated.

The club needs host families for our incoming exchange student. Please consider becoming one, if that is a possibility for you. Presently we are suffering a shortage of host families which may threaten the continuance of the program, should it persist.

Cherries will be available on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of July. Be sure to get your orders in!

## STAMPEDE BREAKFAST

This year's Stampede Breakfast went well and, while the final tally isn't in yet, it looks like we made about 6K\$. Kudos are due to the committee of **Karl Herzog, Crawford Caswell, Marg Henschel, Bill Tapuska, Don Alexander, Jim Willson and Jim Walker** who did all the hard work to put the event on. And to the rest of us as well who showed up early in the morning to put the event on.

### **OUR MOVE**

Next Friday is our last day at Sam's casino as our space is being renovated for use as a comedy cabaret. For the time being (from July 25 to August 29<sup>th</sup>), we will be at Il Gallo Nero, the restaurant next door to the casino on 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue. There is parking on the east side of the restaurant and Sam says we can continue to use the underground parkade and use the elevator to the first floor street level. The restaurant is just a few steps east on 17th Ave. **Garth and Pauline Evans** tried the restaurant out and reported that the food was outstanding. A committee has been struck to investigate new premises. If you have any ideas please speak to Garth Evans or President Lynne.

### **50/50 DRAW**

**Joe Klassen** won the 50/50 draw of \$43.50.

### **SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**

Due to time pressures, the functions of the sergeant-at-arms was thankfully dispensed with, thus spoiling PP **Garfield Ganong's** debut in this office, no doubt much to his chagrin. A bit of poetic justice, eh? Be warned, though, because he'll be back bigger and meaner than ever!

### **INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBER**

In another auspicious start to the new year, a new member was sworn in. He is **Brian Wintonyk**, a friend of PP Garfield Ganong. PDG **Ted Valentine** delivered the charge.

### **BANNER EXCHANGE**

**Brent Barootes** presented a banner from a club in Greece he had visited. Additionally, a banner from a club in Switzerland was presented by a visiting Rotarian from there.

### **PROGRAMME**

Kurt Schurer introduced our guest speaker, Kathy Torfason. In addition to holding down a full time job with the Calgary Board of Education, Kathy is the chairman of the communication sub-committee of the Historical Committee for the Calgary Stampede, as well as being the chief cook and bottle washer for her active kids! Kathy was in this year's Stampede Parade and walked the entire route as she has done for many years. When she can, Kathy also enjoys a round of golf. I would, too, if I were any good at it!

The Historical Committee is only one of the 46 outstanding committees of the Calgary Stampede. The Stampede has over 2,000 volunteers and 5,000 staff during the Stampede that make it such a success year after year.

The Historical Committee's function is to share the history and heritage of the Calgary Stampede through recording and collecting all information and artifacts relating to the Stampede.

Cathy gave us a brief history of the Stampede from 1884, when a predecessor organization was formed, to 1912, when Guy Weadick arrived on the scene starting the Stampede to the current day.

One of the projects recently completed was the mural programme. A variety of historical murals giving us a glimpse of past Stampedes are located throughout the park.

The Stampede has extensive archives located on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Grandstand Building, where an extensive collection of Stampede memorabilia is kept. Kathy brought several examples and passed them around the room. If anyone wants to see the archives, they are open to the public for research purposes. All that you have to do is contact Ron Getty, the archivist, and he will be happy to show you around.

The Stampede is always looking for artifacts and, if you find any clearing out your garage or attic or some such thing and would be willing to donate it, Ron will be happy to accept your donation on behalf of the Stampede. Ron can be reached at 403-261-0407 or by email: [archives@calgarystampede.com](mailto:archives@calgarystampede.com).

One of Cathy's other big projects is a sub-committee to concentrate on celebrating the Stampede centennial in 2012. The head of that sub-committee is our own President Lynne. My, she does get around!

Finally, there is the Stampede School program where students of all ages are given the opportunity to explore and discover the agricultural and rodeo legacy in Alberta. The programmes are varied and are set up in conjunction with the Calgary Board of Education.

Helen King thanked Kathy and presented her with our world famous Boltman.

### **BREAKING NEWS!!**

On Wednesday, July 16, five Rotarians, including yours truly, played gold at the Canal at Delacourt and had a grand time. I had never played this course before and I recommend it highly. I'll play it again. Our next golf event is Karl's tournament on July 30, so, if you want to play, call Larry Doyle (270-9308), or Karl Herzog at 287-3132.