

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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At our welcoming table there is a “changing of the guard”. **Jim Barnes** has relinquished his long-held position of welcoming guests and collecting for the lunch. That heavy mantle has been give to the capable hands of **Bill Lawless** and **Roy Thurm**. Jim immediately celebrated his new found freedom by “bellying up to the bar” for a well deserved libation!

Kurt Schurer, masquerading as the sergeant-at-arms, was seen busily hovering over the newly commissioned welcoming table ostensibly to make sure it was adequately staffed. There was a suspicion that he was keeping his eye on a bottle of royal and ancient Glenfiddich scotch, delicately placed on the table by **President Karl Herzog** having brought it back from the Convention in Birmingham for the benefit of a lucky future silent auction winner. Good thinking, Karl!

So that no one would be missed, Karl then proceeded to place a gift wrapped package of cookies at each place setting, another memento of his (and Cindy’s) trip to the Rotary International Convention.

All the while there was a PowerPoint presentation, rotating on the screen, pulled together by our multi-talented secretary, **Ron Morrison**, showing all that was happening and will be happening in our club! Well done, Ron!

By this time, Kurt Schurer had divested himself of the sergeant-at-arms mantle having talked an unsuspecting **Chuck Morrison** to taking it over. Chuck seemed to be standing a little taller. He wears the mantle of authority well!

Special guest **Cindy Herzog** was seen checking on Karl. With that kind of attention, it’s going to be good year!

And who could not notice **Marg Henschel**, looking her sartorial best, with matching hat, jacket and shoes?

The room was graced by six tables of eight, plus the head table.

The very first meeting of the new Rotary year was started right on time by President Karl.

Don Axford in his summer uniform, shorts and sandals, led us in the anthem.

The invocation was given by **Robyn Braley**, who firstly recognized the Canadian soldier, lost the day before in Afghanistan, followed by an appropriate thanks for our meal.

Our members, obviously a little more laid back for summer, resisted the usual chaotic rush to the buffet, and were rewarded by an assortment of salads, spinach cannelloni and chicken Alfredo.

The sinful dessert bar was so extensive that **Ron Jones** was seen puzzling over which dessert to choose, then gave up and took one of each!

President Karl started the new Rotary year by thanking the staff from the Holiday Inn, *by name*, a nice touch and obviously appreciated by our food and beverage staff.

Our head table featured Furrier **Grant Ritchie**, head table guest **Steve Shrout**, incoming president, **Sa'adat Keshavjee**, recent new member **Brian Stalwick**, and **Frank Burns**.

Marie Rickard introduced our guests including **Valerie**, **Emily Tedman**, Cindy (first lady) Herzog, **Bob Braun** and **Bill Hoppe**.

Valerie rose to give us the bad news; this will be her last meeting; she doesn't want to leave; it's been the best year ever!!!!

President Karl announced a pot luck at the Rickards' on Tuesday evening to bid Valerie bon voyage!

Ron Jones asked for more help on Habitat for Humanity. Help needed on the golf tournament for Motive Action on July 23. **Larry Doyle** is looking after the golf registrations.

President Karl gave us a light hearted presentation on his and Cindy's trip to Birmingham for the International Convention.

There were 15,000 registrants and Karl was caught on candid camera with Nicole Kidman and peeking over the Queen's shoulder at the opening ceremony. Highlights for Karl were the talk by **Jane Goodale** and the House of Friendship visiting with Rotarians from all over the world!

The 2010 convention is in Montreal and the Canadian contingent was there in full force along with the Mounties. Should be a great convention in Montreal!

Other highlights were the vast amount of Rotary "shopping" areas, tours to Warwick Castle, River Avon, "Julius Caesar" of Shakespeare fame and walks around Birmingham!

[**Editor's Note:** When will you guys learn that place names in the UK are ***NOT*** always pronounced the way they are spelt! For example, "Birmingham" is NOT pronounced "BirmingHAM", but "Birmingham", and "Warwick" is NOT pronounced "WarWICK", but "Warrick". But, of course, the Welsh name of Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogoch is pronounced exactly as it is written.]

President Karl hopes for a large delegation of Calgary Westers to Montreal next year and the trip will be in part subsidized by our club!

Auctioneer **Mike Carlin** raised mega bucks at \$5 a bid, and the prized bottle of Glenfiddich brought back from Birmingham with TLC, was won by **Bernie Ward** followed by an unsubstantiated rumour that Bernie was a teetotaller and only proper that it be re-auctioned.

Caroline Christison claimed the 50/50 - a popular win!

Sergeant-at-arms Chuck Morrison allowed numerous happy bucks and **Steve Rickard** was one who obliged, never passing on an opportunity to talk on Micro Credit.

Guest Speaker

Sa'adat introduced our guest speaker, Steve Shrout.

Steve is the publisher of "Metro News", a free daily newspaper in Calgary and Edmonton.

Metro News is attracting the readership of "YAMS", young, active metropolitans. YAMS represent the non-traditional readers, are in constant motion, aware, smart and savvy and, most importantly, influenced by "brands".

In Calgary, Metro appeals to the 18 to 34 year age group and circulation is growing compared to traditional newspapers. Metro is a "hybrid" which can interconnect to its website and back again and can be read on I-phones and Blackberrys.

The stories are short to appeal to the YAM's short attention span intermingled with lots of "Rafts", short for advertisement particularly "brands"

60,000 copies are printed each day with only 5000 returned. Each paper gets read at least twice.

Newspapers will not be replaced by the electric media, but it has to be the "right newspaper".

Steve was thanked by Gant Ritchie.

Karl ended with a quote from Benjamin Franklin: "If you think education is expensive, try ignorance"

And for the good of Rotary, the meeting was adjourned!

Coming Events

July 24	Gerry Meek: Director, Calgary Public Library
July 31	Angela Knight and Dariel Bateman: "Calgary Reads"
August 7	Rockyview Hospital: Grief Counselling
August 14	Two Exchange Students: one inbound and one outbound
August 21	Membership Growth: Club Program
August 28	Mayor Victor Perez: Uspantan, Guatemala