

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

The Weekly WESTERNER

Box 4572, Station C, Calgary, Alberta T2T 5N3, La Joie de Vivre, 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 called the meeting together. A moment of silence was held in honour of the late **Betty Switzer** – wife of our own **Sam Switzer**. Betty was due to leave hospital and go to new digs on Saturday. It is with profound sadness that we remember one of our own.

The moment of silence was followed by the national anthem.

The invocation was given by **Joe Klassen**.

At the head table: President Lynne, exchange student **Valerie Lauener**, golfer **Larry Doyle**, **Garth Evans** and **David Watson**.

Two Apologies from your scribe

- (1) Last week **Brent Barootes** introduced our new member, **Bruce Taylor**, not **Holland Berry**.
- (2) Somehow last year's Integrity Award winner **Eddie Wong** was misnamed in the bulletin. My apologies. Eddie was very proud of his Integrity Award and we were proud about him.

Don Bateman led the highway clean up on Saturday. I was not there – were you?

Larry Doyle will lead a group of golfers to the Elbow Springs course.

David Watson brought greetings from Nova Scotia and Past President **Bob Millar**

MEETING ALERT

Club assembly is on October 8 at our new meeting place La Joie de Vivre. This is a Wednesday and there will be no meeting on October 10th.

Agenda:

Budget approval – Treasurer Mike French – 15 minutes.

District Conference - 5 minutes.

Who are we and where should we go? Round table discussion - 40 minutes.

What might our goals be around: socials; community; international; youth, service and membership.

HEALTH WATCH:

Robyn Braley has been given medical leave.

Garth Evans reported on the Glacier Peace Park event. He and **Pauline** really enjoyed the event. Sadly, there were very few folks from Calgary. Maybe next year there will be more.

The guests were introduced by **Ron Jones** and the welcome song was sung.

The 50/50 was won by himself – the second time in seven years - \$32.50. Yippee! I went out and bought a 6.49 and Super Seven. I am crossing my fingers. It will be over by the time you receive this.

ELAINE RUSSEL gave a presentation about Jacket Racket. Teachers noticed that children were coming to school without adequate clothing in winter. They organized a gathering of clothes. The garments are then mended, cleaned and distributed to needy children identified by the school systems. **They are in need of a sorting venue for November.** If anyone has any spare space, please contact Elaine. Oops, maybe next week there will be a number posted here.

The Millennium club tried to outnumber us to advertise their Black Tie Bingo. Tickets are \$75.00 or a table for \$600. The date: Thursday October 23. The Place: where we now meet. Surf and Turf- silent auction – and western attire. Tickets are available from Wayne Brown, Dale Shurvell or Asif Abdul. On the info sheet: their telephone is 403 123 4567. Bingo. Money raised will go to Servants Anonymous and the Youville residence for women.

Guest Speaker

Garth Evans rose to introduce our club speaker from Davos, Switzerland, Valerie Lauener.

Valerie stayed with Garth and Pauline for the first few weeks and then went to stay with Jackie and Wayne Brown. Garth said that becoming involved with Valerie is a blessing, as she is a delightful young woman. Valerie has an appetite for wonder. Her brother is in Australia on an exchange.

Valerie spoke about her country, her city, her family, her friends, her YMCA, and showed pictures of each vista. She also introduced us to her cat, Pico, and her dog, Chico. She has a variety of interests: Y leader, guitar, clarinet, snow boarding and camping.

Davos is a city of 13,000 people that swells to between 40,000 to 50,000 in winter.

We would know about Davos because of the Spengler Cup held at Christmas time (hockey) that Canada participates in as one of six(?) countries. This has been an ongoing event since 1923. Davos is also the centre for the World Economic Forum. Valerie said that this event draws world leaders and protesters.

Switzerland is 1/16th the size of Alberta with 7.5 million people. The population density is 171 people per square km. The national capital is Bern. Four languages are spoken: German- French- Italian and Romanisch. Swiss products are chocolate, watches, chocolate, Swiss army knives, chocolate; banking and chocolate.

Valerie's family: Dad, Franz, is a medical doctor specializing in sports medicine and he is team doctor for the Swiss wrestling team. Mom is Elizabeth Roth. Her parents are divorced. They do things together on a regular basis: hiking camping, etc. Her brother, Lukas, is in Aussie land on exchange.

On behalf of the club, David Watson thanked Valerie and presented her with our Boltman.

NEWS ALERT

We are encouraged to get to know Valerie. Mr Doyle took her golfing. Margot and she were out together. Jackie Brown took her to Lethbridge, where Jackie was speaking, and then on to Invermere. Oh, and her nickname is Yakari which means Indian – the YMCA you know.

COUPON BOOKS

Valerie is going with her school band to eastern Canada and coupon books are for sale at \$40 and \$60.

PLEASE TAKE TIME to get to know Valerie and a huge vote of thanks to those who already have! And thanks to Karl and Cindy Herzog for their participation.

The speaker on October 3rd will be Jennifer Neden from the GSE-Brazil Team.

There will be no meeting on October 10.

Hello Rotary Club of Calgary West.

I am on the PR committee of Rotary Sarcee and I have been asked to contact all the Calgary clubs to ask them to add our event to their District events calendars. We are trying to do as much ahead of time as we can to help make this our most successful fund raiser ever.

As your club is our sponsoring club, we have always appreciated your help and support in the past.

"Art from the Heart" Art Auction and Dinner
6 pm at the Red & White Club on Friday May 8, 2009

I will follow up in 2009 with more info when it becomes available as to the price for dinner and who the designated charity will be.

Thanks for your help, and of course I would be happy to publicize any of your club's events in our club's weekly newsletter.

James Cameron
Rotary Club of Calgary Sarcee