



The Weekly Westerner

Box 4572, Station C, Calgary, Alberta T2T 5N3
Holiday Inn, McLeod Trail, Fridays 12:15 pm

President: Grant Ritchie **President-Elect:** Don Bateman

Past President: Sa'adat Keshavjee **Secretary:** Brian Wintonyk

Treasurer: Des DeFreitas

Directors: Dick Brown, Frank Burns, Marnie Cardell, Mike Carlin,
Murray Hunter, Duncan Stanners

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The welcoming team of **Stan Beveridge**, **Denise Penner-Collins** and **Malcolm Harrison** were efficiently conducting the cashier, attendance recording and 50/50 sales, presenting name tags and greeting duties, respectively. On this day, two more tables were set up to promote the Annual Family Christmas Brunch, and the Rotary Foundations.

President **Grant Ritchie** arrived just in time to continue leading the meeting, after Past President **Sa'adat Keshavjee** filled in to keep the schedule on track. Following the national anthem, **Robyn Braley** gave the invocation, and then **Brent Barootes** stepped up to the role of sergeant-at-arms to send the people at the chosen tables to visit the buffet. A warming beef stew with roasted potatoes, steamed red pepper pieces and kale welcomed all.

President Grant called the meeting to order and introduced the head table. They were **Ron Brookes**, **Bill Lawless**, **Clarence Buckley**, and Past President Sa'adaat Keshavjee.

Past President Sa'adatt introduced the visitors and guests:

Name	Guest of
Gail Williams	Jim Wilson
Wynne Carr	Dick Brown
Tom Miller	Holland Berry
Andrew Bitcon	Brent Barootes
Brooklyn Barootes	Brent Barootes
Brian Scoble	Garfield Ganong
Glen Richardson	Rotarian from Calgary South

who were given Calgary West's traditional greeting.

Announcements

Bill Tapuska announced the club's annual Family Christmas Brunch to be held at the Pinebrook Golf and Country Club on Sunday, December 18, 2011. Tickets are now on sale and will be again next Friday, December 9.



Robyn Braley announced that next week's meeting will be held at the Danish Canadian Club. The topic will be focussed on youth activities.

Sales of the Christmas wreaths were over 200 this year. **Helen King** said that the wreaths are to arrive in Calgary in time for deliveries to take place on Saturday, Dec. 10. Volunteers are needed to help with the deliveries. Please contact Helen at 403-271-0545.

Dan Doherty announced that the next house building trip to Ensenada, Mexico, will be depart on March 8, 2012 and return on March 11, 2012. Three houses are planned to be built and participation from the Kids Cancer Care Foundation and several Rotary clubs, including Calgary West, will be there. Contact Dan Doherty for additional information, if you would like to participate at 403-281-0774.

Duncan Stanners and Dan Doherty participated in the "Movember" fund raising to raise funds for prostate cancer by growing moustaches and getting pledges. Both Duncan and Dan offered to have their moustaches shaved off at the meeting for some additional contributions. An envelope was passed around and Dan had Duncan start to shave Dan's moustache. However, time constraints prevailed and they had to finish the shaving later.

The 50/50 draw was won by Ron Brookes, and he immediately put his winnings into the "Movember" envelope.

Programme

Ron Brookes introduced Bill Lawless and outlined Bill's involvement with the Guatemala classroom project since 2007. The project involves building new classroom additions onto current schools in the Municipality of Uspantan, Quiche, Guatemala. He had recently returned from a visit to Uspantan and put together a PowerPoint slide presentation to show what has been accomplished.

Bill's presentation outlines the history of the work since it started in 2007 in conjunction with the Hearts and Hands Foundation here in Canada. Since the start, there have been school additions built in seven villages and the presentation showed a pictorial record of the additions.

Bill went on to describe the trip he made this past October to the village of Las Chivitos. He was one of sixteen people to visit the town. They included 10 from the Hearts and Hands Foundation and five Peace Corps members from the U.S. The goal of adding two new classrooms during their stay was achieved.

The multi-year project objective is stated as "Building Basic Education in Guatemala", and working with "Hearts in Hands" Bill showed the number of students has dramatically increased after the additional school rooms have been completed. Additionally, the number of students that are staying in school to grade six is also growing. Along with school rooms, the project has been able to add or improve the kitchen and latrine facilities at the school sites.

Bill's presentation is well worth looking at and it is being added to the Calgary West's web site in the very near future.



Clarence Buckley thanked Bill for his efforts, not only in the project, but also in sharing his experiences with the slide show, and presented him with his own well deserved, personal Bolt man.

Coming Events

	Rotary Family Month
December 9 Danish Canadian club	RYLA Presentation: Report from participants
December 16	Special Christmas programme
December 18	Rotary Family Christmas Brunch, Pinebrook Golf Club
December 23	Meeting Cancelled
December 30	Happy New Year – Special Program