



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

December 30, 2011 Edition: 45.24 Reporter: Jim Barnes Publisher: David Williams

Our calendar year 2011 ended on December 30 with one of the smallest sized luncheon groups of the year. At the same time, it hosted a large number of guests and will be remembered as a break from the traditional Rotary meeting.

Upon arrival, the scribe noticed that someone had arrived early to decorate the tables with party favours and New Year's hats. Also, there was no head table.

As is the usual custom, the registration of guests and payment for meals and 50/50 was being conducted by **Duncan Stanners and Ben Kormos**.

President **Grant Ritchie** called the meeting to order and asked **Robyn Braley** to be the lead singer of our national anthem.

Accompanied by a professional keyboard and musician (**Trevor Waters**), each singing Rotarian and guest stood a little straighter and sang with a bit more gusto than usual. **Chuck Morrison** prefaced the meal with an appropriate grace. **David Hamilton**, acting as sergeant-at-arms, proceeded to organize the movement to the buffet. As usual our president left the podium for the buffet, and was followed by the musicians table. Each table had numerous guests, and Mr Hamilton was somewhat at a loss as to which tables should have priority to visit the buffet. As our attendance was lower than usual, no one had to wait long.

Following the meal President Grant introduced Ben Kormos who introduced our singing entertainers: **Robyn and Meg Braley, Lorraine Braley, Trevor and Bev Waters**.

List of Special Guests

Gail Williams, a new member, was introduced, as was **Audrey Morrison** (guest of Chuck), **Marlene Doherty** (guest of Dan), **Lu Horwood** (guest of Bryden), **Cathy Hamilton** and **Julie Platten** (guest of David Hamilton), **Cheryl Gagnon** (guest of Garfield) **Sharon Jones, Bette Williams** (guests of **Ron Jones**) and **Minella Rulla, June Pinter, Lynette Lac Cup**, and



Natasha Fisher (all guests of **Chris Davis**). Our exchange student, **Knut Buene**, was also with us.

Jim Willson reminded Rotarians of the Million Dollar Dinner coming up in February to support the Rotary Foundation. Members have received emails recently on this project that is strongly supported by **D.G Mike French**. Jim encouraged each Rotarian to consider their own circumstance and to consider being involved.

President Grant introduced Robyn Braley as the chairman of the program.

In addition to Robyn and Meg, who have sung to us before and at Christmas Brunch at Pinebrook, Trevor Waters was introduced. We had already heard Trevor play his keyboard for *O Canada*, so knew what he could do. While his background is that of a music teacher in the school system, he has also performed and taken leadership in city community choir and provincial music development over the past thirty years. We were invited to follow the words on the screen and sing along with Robyn, Meg and Trevor to songs we all knew.

The Oldies: *Good Old Summertime, Somewhere Over the Rainbow, Sugar in the Morning.*

Local Connection: *Four Strong Winds, Red River Valley, Alberta Bound.*

Meg and Robyn have sung professionally and one of their originals, *Loving You*, was sung for us.

Unusual Choir Songs: *Jeremiah was a Bullfrog, Love me Tender, Leaving on Jet Plane, Sweet Caroline, Cowboy Christmas.*

The singing ended with **Sleigh Bells Ring**, *Happy Trails to You* and *Auld Lang Syne*.

Trevor was presented with a Boltman, and then pulled a winning 50/50 ticket for winner Chuck Morrison.

Coming Events

January 6	Darlene Davies and Laverne Bissky: Personal Polio Journey, Polio Plus
January 13	Vince Caleffi, Key Player in the Start-up of Alberta Sheriff's Department
January 20	Joy Johnson-Green, ED SonShine Community Services (Domestic Violence)
January 27	
February 3	Paul Miller, SVP Oil Pipelines, TransCan, Keystone
February 10	
February 17	Family Day Weekend
February 24	Din Ladak, CEO Catholic Immigrant Service



March 2	Flex Date
March 9	Peter Menzies, CRTC Commissioner
March 16	Karl Herzog, Organiser of Rotary Everest Trek 2012
March 23	
March 30	Kimberly Cornish, Permaculture Project, Eastern Namibia/Botswana
April 6	Meeting Cancelled
April 13	
April 20	Assembly
April 27	