



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

September 2, 2011 Edition: Reporter: Duncan Stanners Publisher: David Williams

Meeting Volunteers

- Set up – **Don Alexander**
- Cashier – **Malcolm Harrison**
- Attendance & 50/50 Sales – **Alan Waters**
- Audio-visual technician – **Gordon Rodrigues**
-

Head Table:

Stan Cichon, Dan Doherty, Brad Rains, Sadiq Vialla, Cory Tretiak, Geoff Hughes.

Stan welcomed us all, and enjoined us to celebrate “National Beheading Day”, and not go crazy and lose our heads.

Des DeFreitas led us through the national anthem. Frank Burns gave a stirring invocation.

Visitors and guests: introduced by Alan Waters

- **Ben Kormos**, guest of Sa'adat Keshavjee
- **Chris Ritter**, guest of Duncan Stanners
- **Brian Scoble**, guest of Joe Klassen and Garfield Ganong
- **Wally Gardiner**, president-elect from Rotary Club of High River
- Geoff Hughes from Rotary Club of Calgary South
- **Terry McDonough** from Rotary Club of Calgary South
- **Glen Richardson** from Rotary Club of Calgary South

Profile

Gordon Rodrigues was profiled by Bob Kerr.

Announcements:



- **Ron Jones** thanked the club on behalf of the Rotary Challenger Golf Tournament. They raised about \$60,000.
- **Marg Henschel** reminded us all of Lobsterfest which happens Saturday, September 10.
- **Steve Rickard** reminded everyone of the Microcredit conference at the Canadian Danish Club on October 1: www.calgarymicrocreditconference.com

50/50

Our visitor, Glen Richardson, was the lucky winner of \$31.

Sergeant-at-arms – Marg Henschel

Marg fined the entire club for not visiting with **Lynne Thornton** and **Larry Doyle**, who are both in hospital.

Guest Speakers

Dan Doherty ably kicked off our first meeting of Rotary’s New Generations month. The objective of the New Generations Program is to make youth a higher priority. Dan described his meeting at the conference in New Orleans in May. What he heard is that today’s youth are into social activism. They want to be involved and change the world. The program rests on three pillars: Engagement, Empowerment and Encouragement. In District 5360, there is an effort to establish an on-line community to connect youth in RYLA, RYPEN, Rotaract, Youth exchange, 4-way Test speech contest and Ambassadorial Scholarships. This program is helped by Servus Credit Union, which has agreed to partner with Rotary International Districts 5360 and 5370 on youth programs. What does that mean? Servus will provide \$75,000 in funding per year for three years for the two districts:

<http://www.clubrunner.ca/portal/SitePages/SitePage.aspx?did=5360&pid=52365>

Dan described a conversation he had with a Rotaract member, who said he was not going to become a Rotarian. Why? Because “Rotarians don’t do anything except have lunch and raise money”!!!

Dan introduced Brad Rains, a member of Kids Cancer Care. Brad gave a moving story about how he was diagnosed with lymphoma at age 6, and the impact this had on his life. He was one of the 14 kids on the house building in Mexico this year, and thanked the club for our support. His final message: “I can. Kids can. We can.”

Next up was Sadiq Vialla. Sadiq participated in our 4-way test speech contest, and then was invited to RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards [http://www.rotary.org/en/studentsandyouth/youthprograms/rotaryyouthleadershipawards\(ryla\)/pages/ridefault.aspx](http://www.rotary.org/en/studentsandyouth/youthprograms/rotaryyouthleadershipawards(ryla)/pages/ridefault.aspx)). He described his experience as amazing. The energy, sense of acceptance and belonging and skills learned have had an impact far beyond RYLA. He also participated in RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment



The Weekly Westerner

September 2, 2011

<http://www.rotaryyouth.com/templates/rypen.html>), a four-day camp for 13-18 year olds who are “at risk”. He learned that “at-risk” youth are just average people who are in the wrong place at the wrong time, disadvantaged by circumstances beyond their control. The program teaches them how to be a leader and overcome barriers. Sadiq is now on the District 5360 New Generations Committee.

Cory Tretiak, president of the Calgary Metro Rotaract Club, briefly described Rotaract, an organisation for 18-30 year olds which can be university or community-based. There are two other Rotaract clubs in District 5360, one at U of C and one at U of Lethbridge. Globally, there are 8,400 clubs in 170 countries. They are very similar to Rotary clubs in their beliefs and operations. His club works for the Peter Laugheed Children’s Centre. Last year, they gathered clothes and toys and raised \$1,800 for the Centre. He invited us to participate in their meetings, held every Tuesday at Ruth’s Chris Steak House, 94, 115-9th Avenue SE, 2nd Floor at the Calgary Tower. Dinner is only \$15!

Geoff Hughes, the district RYLA Chairman, briefly described how Rotary often encourages, but fails to enable Youth.

Geoff then thanked all of the speakers.

Stan rounded out the program with his closing remarks: “As we move into this Labour Day weekend, remember as Rotarians we need to get to work. God alone can save the world, but right now he could use our help. Like the fellow on the golf tee who said to his companion ‘I’ve got to do well here, that’s my mother-in-law sitting on the clubhouse porch’. “Don’t be silly’ replied his friend ‘That’s over 200 yards....you’ll never hit her from here!’”

Upcoming Events

September: New Generations month

- Sep 9: Joy Dirks, Citizenship judge
- Sep 10: Lobsterfest
- Sep 16: Roy Herbert, Alberta manager IBM 100th anniversary
- Sep 23: Pam Swan, CNIB Field Trip
- Sep 30: District Governor Mike French

October: Vocational Service month

- Oct 1: Microcredit Conference, Canadian Danish Club
- Oct 7: Dr Elisabeth Cannon, U of C President
- Oct 14: Inbound and Outbound students
- Oct 21: Vince Caleffi, Alberta Sheriff’s Department
- Oct 28: Hallowe’en surprise



September 2, 2011

The Weekly Westerner

November: Rotary Foundation Month

Nov 4: Bercusson (Tent)

Nov 10: Remembrance Day at the Ogden Legion

Nov 11: No meeting

Nov 18: Rotary Foundation Dan Dougherty

Nov 25: Grey Cup special program

December: Rotary Family Month

Dec 2:?

Dec 9: RYLA Presentation report from participants

Dec 16: Special Christmas program

Dec 18: Christmas Brunch, Pinebrook Golf Club

Dec 23: No meeting

Dec 30: Happy New Year – Special program

Please consult the calendar on our website to view and sign up for all upcoming events

<http://www.calgarywestrotaryclub.org/Calendar.htm>