

THE STANDARD

THE ROTARY CLUB OF CALGARY HERITAGE PARK



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President:
David McKeown



Editor:
Joe Klassen

Reporter:
Laurie Jacques

FOUR WAY TEST

In all things we think, say or do

1. Is it the TRUTH ?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIP
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Meeting Highlights

Led by Peter Harding, today's breakfast meeting got under way with a rousing rendition of our national anthem. Dennis Tillotson **offered** grace.

Guests were limited to just our guest speaker, Doreen Richards. Jamie Powell, absent for a good portion of the summer had the honour of dusting plates and re-acquainting himself with members in the process.



Jamie Powell

Minute Minders

Jacque Brown is rounding up teddy bears and dollar donations in support of two projects in Mexico: (1) Keep the Kids in School in Puerto Vallarta; and (2) Feed the Children at the Dump. Please bring these items by November 1.

Peter Harding reports that response to this year's "Guess Who's Coming to



Guest Speaker: George Brookman

Past DG Raju Paul had the pleasure of introducing today's guest speaker, Doreen Richards, Chair of the 2008 Board of Directors for Operation Eyesight Universal (OEU). Born in the Ottawa Valley, Doreen's early education was taught in a one-room school. Finishing her formal education with a law degree from Toronto and a degree in geology, Doreen practised law for 30 years before turning her attention to real estate development. Doreen and her husband, Andy Crooks of the Calgary downtown Rotary Club, have resided in Calgary since 1977 and have 2 sons, one living in Nanaimo, B.C. and one who goes to the University of Waterloo and works in Montreal in between school terms.

Doreen's topic, "Why Water?" certainly begs the follow-up question, "Why would OEU be concerned about water?" As it turns out, OEU is the largest water development agency in Kenya...even larger than the Kenyan government.

Traditionally, OEU's programs were focused almost exclusively on a "treatment" approach to blindness; that is, doctors would restore eyesight to those in underdeveloped countries where the source of blindness was treatable with surgery, medication and eyeglasses. Since 2003, however, a more pro-active approach to the prevention of blindness is proving to be very effective.



By way of background, Doreen explained that infectious trachoma is the leading cause of preventable blindness in Africa; in some of the drier areas of Kenya, over 30% of the rural population is afflicted with this very painful infection; several recurrences of the infection in one person will leave enough scarring on the inside of the victim's eyelids to cause the eyelids to curl inward. The eyelashes, in turn, will damage the surface of

Make Dreams Real



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Meeting Highlights

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Dinner” is very positive, and there is still room for more participation. Please contact him.



Speaker: Geprge Brookman

the eye, resulting in vision impairment or blindness.

Trachoma is transmitted by flies to humans, and then from person to person via contact without proper sanitation. The basis of sanitation (i.e. clean hands and faces) is, of course, clean water. And this is where OEU becomes connected to water: In 2007 Operation Eyesight implemented a Trachoma Control Project targeted at the 400,000 people who reside in the Narok District of Kenya. This project involves the implementation and coordination of the WHO-endorsed SAFE strategy (Surgery, Antibiotics, Face-washing and Environmental Infrastructure), as well as the provision of 50 deep water wells.

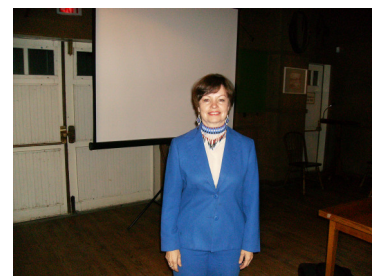
OEU's entrée into clean water provision occurs because the wealth of a given Kenyan community is dependent on its herd of cattle and goats. Since all living animals need water to survive, those communities need water to survive. OEU's fundamental policy is to assist only those Kenyan communities where there is a commitment from the community to want a change. That commitment requires the community to create a "water committee" that will ensure the provision of funds raised within the community, not only for the initial drilling of a water well, but for the ongoing maintenance of the well.

The objective of this control project is to create enough wells that no one in a given community has to walk more than one hour each way to the water source. The provision of a clean water source has many spin-off benefits: (1) it encourages teachers to live in the community, leading to a higher literacy rate which, in turn, leads to lower poverty levels and less reliance on NGO's for survival; (2) green-houses have been developed, and trees are planted at the well sites, with the shade helping to prevent contamination of the well water; and (3) combined with broad spectrum antibiotics, clean faces and hands, and the proper locating of latrines, other communicable diseases (malaria, respiratory tract infections, diarrhoea and skin diseases) are in decline.



Why water? The buy-in component for each Kenyan community to "own" a source of potable water, and training in the basics of clean hands and faces, will allow the rural areas of the country to reduce disease and, ultimately, to overcome poverty.

Questions: Betty Little was amazed by Doreen's contention that a 45 minute rain in Kenya can leave enough water to last a com-



SUNSHINE REPORT

The original "Sunny Boy," Norm Haines, cited birthday boys and girls Asha Paul (today) and Martin Harvey (October 5). Celebrating wedding anniversaries are Jeanette & Dennis Pyle (October 8) and Al & Donna Black (October 9). In lieu of Norm's seldom thought-provoking "thought for the day," Asha & Martin were called to the front where a fantastic birthday cake (courtesy of Raju) followed a not-so-fantastic rendition of "Happy Birthday."

Those brave enough to eat the cake after Raju and Martin blew out the [two] candles were treated to a well-iced serving of chocolate layer cake...a perfect way to cap off another of the delicious breakfast buffets provided by Joan Beleck and fellow Heritage Park staffers who make our breakfast meetings a pleasure to anticipate every Friday.

Honourable mention went to Al & Ida Hardstaff, organizers & hosts of the 2008 annual highway clean-up project, held this past Saturday near the Hardstaff's Water Valley property. Despite the sunny weather, however, Al & Ida were disappointed that only five members from the Club showed up for ditch de-litter duty. (Say that 3 times real fast...backwards!)

Happy Bucks

Graham Drake is celebrating his autumn harvest of happy grain clients. Jacquie Brown has a sad dollar for her Mom in Invermere, who is not doing so well, but a happy buck for being nominated as a possible recipient of the Tom Saunders award as a realtor. Betty Little is happy about her two weeks in Saskatoon with relatives. John Radermacher is happy to have participated in the 50/50 draw, and highly recommends Cape Cod after vacationing there for a week. Peter Harding, the overly-optimistic banker, celebrates the cyclical arrival of "economical" stock prices (oh, Peter, you're desperately in need of some counselling). Raju has a mixture of sad and happy events: sad to report that a recent visit to Curly Galbraith in the Rockyview Hospital found Curly is not doing well; happy that Asha has another birthday to celebrate (but sad that she is another year older).



Sheriff: Din Peerani

Din Peerani, having arrived today at 6:29, flipped out when he found only two other members of the "weekly duty roster" in attendance, so those failing to show up at the appointed time were fined a dollar each. Asking selected members (and guest) to rise, those who remained seated were then fined for failing to show up "properly attired" (trust a clothier to dream that one up). Also failing to escape Din's keen eye were pre-7:00 attendees who gathered around the coffee dispensers. Post-7:00ers Laurie Jacques and Max Patel had to cough up a loonie each for their conspicuously late arrivals. And, finally, anyone without both Rotary pin and badge were asked to contribute to the Club's coffers.



50/50 JACK POT



The pot stands at \$1,069 and, fortunately, John Radermacher, whose ticket was selected by guest Doreen Richards, drew a card other than the notorious joker, and was immediately rewarded with a round of cheers and applause. Quoted President David, "Another popular loser!"



Dear family of Rotary,



The Rotary Foundation is recognized as one of the most respected private foundations in the world. Through the Foundation, we as Rotarians have an unprecedented opportunity to use our global grassroots strength and international prominence to help solve major problems such as food and water security -- if the Foundation's financial resources keep pace.

The twin pillars of Foundation support -- the Annual Programs Fund and the Permanent Fund -- are crucial to meeting world needs. The Foundation enables our clubs and districts to multiply their service efforts many times over. This effect is increasing as the Foundation's humanitarian grant projects become larger in scale to profoundly improve the lives of more people.

We can help *Make Dreams Real* for children and their families today by giving at least US\$100 to the [Annual Programs Fund](#) through the Every Rotarian, Every Year initiative. And we can help ensure their needs will be met tomorrow by building a strong endowment through contributions to the [Permanent Fund](#).

Our Foundation's humanitarian grants, Rotary World Peace Fellows, and other programs are essential to realizing a better world. Together, let's embrace both pillars of Foundation support and expand our capacity to improve health, support education, alleviate poverty, and light the way to peace.

Jonathan Majiyagbe
Foundation Trustee Chair



**THE ROTARY CLUB OF CALGARY
HERITAGE PARK**

**P.O. BOX 30261
CHINOOK RPO**

Phone: 403- 215-2183

Fax: 403-237-5546

E-mail: david.mckeown@shaw.ca

**WEAR YOUR
ROTARY PIN**



The Rotary Club of Calgary Heritage Park Announcements

Oct 10 2008 [Susan Scott](#) *Homeless Women*

Oct 17 2008 [Georgina Villeneuve - CIBC Trust](#)

Oct 24 2008 [Bill Liske - GSL Auto Future: Hybrids](#)

Nov 14 2008 [DG Mark Starratt](#) *DG's Club Visit*