

THE STANDARD

THE ROTARY CLUB OF CALGARY HERITAGE PARK



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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

Lead by Jim Hennesy, today's breakfast meeting got under way with a rousing rendition of our national anthem. Raju Paul, a last-minute fill-in for the absent Joan Bedard, offered Rotary's Grace.

Every table had at least one guest today...some nine in all (including our guest speaker, Kim Laing)...Al Stewart from the downtown Rotary Club, along with Charlie, Michael & Bob (no last names please) from the South Club, and Alexis Beddoe of the Fish Creek Club were

visiting Rotarians; and Elaine & Myron Semkuley, here on behalf of Medical Mercy Canada.

Club Vice-President Bob Clark had the honour of shining plates (no spit-shines, please & thanks) for guests and members lining up for the excellent breakfast buffet. And, as always, our hear-felt gratitude goes out to Joan Beleck and the other Heritage Park staff who make our breakfast meetings a pleasure to anticipate every Friday.



Bob Clark



Guest Speaker: Kim Laing

Betty Little had the pleasure of introducing today's guest speaker, Kim Laing of St. John Ambulance Society. Kim, a resident of Monarch, has lived in southern Alberta all her life. She is employed as Director, Regional Development (South), and brings a wealth of education, experience and enthusiasm to this morning's breakfast meeting. Kim is a natural-born volunteer and, with her medical training, she has assisted others in bringing relief to victims of natural disasters (the tornado at Pine Lake, the great flood in Manitoba, Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana).

Speaking first about St. John Ambulance, it is the oldest charitable organization in the world, dating back to the middle ages. St. John Ambulance provides [first aid](#) and community service throughout the world and is a Christian based non-profit organization. The Order of St. John Ambulance is well-known and respected throughout the world.



Having recently returned from several months in Kenya, Kim shared her experiences with us, assisted with a collage of photos and a video presentation. Kim's decision to visit Africa was influenced by three factors: (1) her father's wish to "live vicariously" through his daughter's travels; (2) a passion to compare our culture to those in Africa; and (3) she had never visited a third world country.

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Meeting Highlights

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Minute Minders

Walter Zuk presented a \$1,900 donation to Elaine and Dr. Myron Semkuley, representing Medical Mercy Canada, a very worthy charity, providing unconditional help to impoverished persons in the Ukraine and on the Burmese borders.



Sorry Myron, but it's the only picture I could get of you. Thanks for being a sport

Martin Harvey spoke of this week's visit to the recently completed Transitional Family Shelter, a major project of the *Inn from the Cold* organization. Martin and Club President David McKeown saw the "Kid's Room" that was built by RCCHP's \$65,000 sponsorship. See page 4-5

Alexis Beddoe, Ambassador to Calgary for Shelterbox, reminded us of the September 15 Gala Dinner & Silent Auction at Stage West, where Tom Henderson is the guest speaker. Tom created Shelterbox to provide portable refuge to victims of disasters around the world. Since 2001, his organization has worked in more than 45 countries, supplying aid to 600,000 plus people. Funds raised will go towards Shelterbox; for more information, please visit www.shelterbox.ca



Speaker: Kim Laing

The recent 2007 – 2008 Kenyan crisis offered an opportunity for Kim to achieve her goals and to put her medical training and experience to good use. This clash refers to a political, economic, and humanitarian crisis that erupted in [Kenya](#) after incumbent [President Mwai Kibaki](#) was declared the winner of the [presidential election](#) held on [December 27, 2007](#). Supporters of Kibaki's opponent, [Raila Odinga](#) of the [Orange Democratic Movement](#), alleged electoral manipulation, a notion widely confirmed by international observers.

At her own cost, Kim traveled under the auspices of A Better World, first to Nairobi and then to Nakuru. After assisting at clinics in these areas, she then traveled by truck to offer medical aid in remote villages with MAP and the UN. Victims of violence (rape, mutilation, burning) and of the ever-present AIDS were offered whatever relief Kim's sponsoring organization could provide. In return, Kim had a first-hand opportunity to observe the value system of a third world country, thereby gaining a better understanding of societies where the daily focus is, simply, survival.

Kim concluded her remarks by saying that her Kenyan visit was very rewarding as "making a difference" at a very personal level. Having brought a quantity of candy with her, Kim was appreciatively mobbed by children, who quickly learned a single English word...sweets. One of Kim's photos struck a poignant chord with today's audience...it showed a Kenyan gentleman wearing a red Calgary Flames cap.

In thanking Kim for her often-emotional presentation, Walter Zuk presented her with a certificate, naming a person in India whose eyesight has been restored with a donation from The Rotary Club of Calgary Heritage Park.



SUNSHINE REPORT

President David's normally enthusiastic introduction of today's Sunshine Reporter was somewhat subdued when he announced, "Sorry, it's Norm." Celebrating recent wedding anniversaries were David & Lynn McKeown (August 25) and Bob & Angela Price (date = ?). Birthday boys and girls include Doris Kutrowski (September 4) and Peter Pallesen (September 6). Following Norm's "thought for the day," President David quipped that the Club "used to have standards for jokes, but it appears we will have to strike a committee to re-establish them [the standards]."



Happy Bucks

There were loonies aplenty to celebrate the return of school classes, ranging from kindergarten (Helen Buchanan's daughter) to Master's degree programmes (adult children of David McKeown & Graham Drake). For the most part, these were "happy" bucks, but there was a bit of "melancholy money" floating around too, as some children's pursuit of higher education will take them farther afield. Others with happy bucks included Jim Gray, Bob Clark, Doug Hood, Alexis Beddoe, Walter Zuk, Wynn Bjorgan, Jim Hennesy, Peter Harding, Martin Harvey and Asha Paul.



Sheriff Jim Davis: You're BUSTED!

Jim Davis, barely able to curb his enthusiasm, rushed the podium and, in short order, added to the Club's coffers, thanks to the misfortune of several in attendance. Breaches were cited for (1) wearing shorts, (2) arriving late, (3) not wearing the club pin, and (4) driving a car that is conspicuously not an energy-efficient hybrid [Harry Kim's Corvette]. Even guest Alexis Beddoe failed to duck the greedy gaze of judicious Jim Davis. Woe indeed!



50/50 JACK POT



The pot stands at \$942 and, fortunately, David McKeown, whose ticket was selected by Alexis, didn't draw the correct card from the ever-diminishing deck. Quoted David, "This is the only Club that celebrates losers."



A Place of Hope for Homeless Families (article courtesy of Inn From the Cold)

Homeless families will now find the hope and help they need at Inn from the Cold's Emergency Family Shelter. The Shelter – a first for the Calgary community - is the result of many years of hard work, as well as tremendous community support.

The Inn's Emergency Family Shelter, located at 110 – 11 Ave S.E., opened to families in mid-September, and provides a safe and stable place to stay as they begin to prepare for housing.

At any given time, up to 100 family members can stay at the Shelter. Building features include 59 semi-private rooms, ample storage and washrooms, laundry facilities, a playroom for kids and two communal living areas. A large kitchen will enable volunteers to prepare delicious hot meals and provide hospitality. In time, a roof-top garden will provide a welcome retreat and outdoor play area for kids.

A highlight of the Shelter is the Rotary Heritage Park Kids Room, which offers kids a comfortable place to 'hang out', socialize with friends, watch TV and just enjoy some time being kids.

Thank you to Rotary Club of Calgary Heritage Park for your generosity and compassion in caring for those in need. You are helping to create a place where hope begins.

Please visit www.innfromthecold.org for more information.

Check out the photos on the next few pages.



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**WEAR YOUR
ROTARY PIN**



The Rotary Club of Calgary Heritage Park Announcements

Aug 22 2008

[Fraser Edwards](#)

Sunlight Water Purification Program Uganda





