



November 12, 2010
Volume 12
Issue 17

The Standard

The Rotary Club of Calgary Heritage Park,
Meets Friday at 7:00am; Gunn's Dairy Barn

Our recent Meeting

By Laurie Jacques

Today

My alarm tells me it's 5:30 a.m. - outside, I hear no sounds of snow falling, and that bodes well. After all, it's the second Friday of November and, in just over an hour and a half, there'll be a world-class buffet breakfast with my name on it. And nobody, but nobody, enjoys a Heritage Park buffet breakfast more than yours truly. (or perhaps editor Joe)

In the beginning...

Our "syncfang" specialist, Dr. Colonel (retired) James "Horatio" Hennessy, threw caution to the wind (and, in the process, threw the rest of us as well) with rendition of Oh Canada that was ever-so-slightly slower than the special Remembrance Day video, followed by graceful Joan Bedard, offering a very graceful grace...gracias Joan.

The Guests

Mykayla Work (and Mykayla's grandmother, Veronika), Reid McFarlane & Ryan Wild, all from Juno Beach Academy, are today's guest speakers in honour of Remembrance Day. Christine Aitkenhead is a guest of her husband, Harold; Joey Bleviss is the club's guest and represents The Calgary Poppy Fund and the Veterans' Food Bank; Kristina Wlodarczak and son Zak are guests of Rob Burton; Jackie Kinley is Doug's better half; and Anniina is our favourite (and only) in-bound youth exchange student.

Visiting Rotarians on hand for this special breakfast meeting

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*Christmas celebration
will be December 10 at
6pm*

*No meeting on
December 24 & 31 on
account of the holidays*

included Al Stewart (Calgary Downtown), and Anne-Marie Simoneau & Henry Dunfield were on hand, representing the Fish Creek Club.

The Club Business

- First up was President Bob, first with a note about the forthcoming Annual General Meeting, to be held on Friday, December 3RD. Club directors will have five minutes each to update our general membership on what's happening in their respective areas of responsibility. In addition, financial statements for the club's fiscal year ended June 30, 2010 will be presented for approval, along with the final budget for fiscal 2011.
- Next, Brother Al (Hardstaff), filling in for the absent Bill Hope, circulated a sign-up schedule for the club's annual Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Campaign (try saying that three times real fast...backwards). As with casinos and Harry Hays breakfasts, this is an important "Sweat Equity" component of each Rotarian in our club, and you are politely requested to fulfill your obligation for at least one shift.
- Still with Brother Al, and still in a sign-up mode, a schedule for the March 15TH and 16TH casino was circulated.
- Past President Martin grabbed Mike (the microphone) just long enough to remind everyone that another important component of our club's December 3RD AGM is the election of officers & directors for the next club year, commencing July 1, 2011.

*Remember your pins and
badges!*

The Sunshine Report

Ever popular, our perpetual cheerleader, Norm, tried to perpetuate warm & fuzzies with announcements of club birthdays, anniversaries and deaths. Fortunately, there were none. Norm then related a cute story about a hypnotist entertaining residents at a seniors' home. Oh, Norman...remember, too funny but, in keeping with the Remembrance Day theme, remember there are young impressionable ears in the audience.

The 50/50 Draw

Ticket pusher Al Black, announcing "nine-oh-five" had everyone scrambling for their tickets, looking for that magic combination of winning numbers. Ever the practical joker, Al said that was only the potential winnings in the pot. Mykayla's grandma, Veronika,

drew the lucky ticket, belonging to Martin Harvey who, after reciting the four-way test...perfectly...then drew from the deck of cards...a card other than the joker...to thunderous applause and cheering. Way to go, Martin - you're our kind of loser!

Happy Bucks

John Radermacher (food bank donations), Rob Burton (Kristina & Zak out of bed early to attend), Brian Semeschuk (going to see the City of Lights with Bonnie), Henry Dunfield (happy to be part of the Remembrance Day proceedings on behalf of RCC Fish Creek) and Bob Clark (welcome to all guests) all dug into their pockets voluntarily with some cold cash.

The Sheriff

Sheriff Jim Hennessy, starting with everyone's perennial target, Wynne, extracted (that's a dental pun) funds from Norm (for his feces-laden joke), Jamie (in absentia - Jamie was to have been the Sheriff), and Al Black (forgot to bring the deck of cards with him for the 50/50 draw). Not content with such paltry parting of the pennies, President Bob augmented the club's coffers, citing anyone: (1) not wearing a poppy; (2) not attending a Remembrance Day ceremony on November 11TH; (3) having to leave today's meeting early; and (4) failing to bring a non-perishable for the Veterans' Food Bank.

The Guest Speaker

Today's meeting, being a Remembrance Day commemoration, the guest speaker segment began with Rotarian Doug Kinley introducing three students from Juno Beach Academy. Aided by a PowerPoint presentation, Reid McFarlane was first, with a brief description of JBA's participation in the school's annual ceremony at Queen's Park Cemetery. Ryan Wild recited the well-known poem, "In Flander's Field," followed by Mykayla playing a very poignant tune on her bagpipes. Well done, Mykayla!

Following Doug's thank you to the three students, Harold Aitkenhead brought Joey Blevis with him to the podium, presenting Joey with the club's community service cheque in the amount of \$1,500 as our annual contribution to the Veterans' Food Bank.

On behalf of that very worthy organization, Joey took a couple of moments to thank our club for the most generous donation. The Calgary branch of the Veterans' Food Bank alone averages 72 hampers each month. Joey reminds us that many veterans are diabetics, so our non-perishable food donations should be sensitive

*"Rotary is a fellowship of
noblemen; not a
hereditary nobility but a
nobility that
must be earned and re-
earned....Nobility is
measured by its
obligations, not by its
rights and
privileges...service
above self."*

— *Rotary in the March of*
Mankind, *THE ROTARIAN*, July
1951

to the special needs of diabetics.

The End

Quoting lyrics from U2's "Sunday Bloody Sunday" (noted for its militaristic drumbeat, harsh guitar, and melodic harmonies), President Bob closed out today's meeting on a rather somber note, reminding us all of why we take time out to recognize Remembrance Day:

“And the battle's just begun
There's many lost but tell me who has won
The trench is dug within our hearts
And mothers, children, brothers, sisters torn apart”



Meeting Adjourned!

Rotary Club of Calgary Heritage Park

Meets Friday at 7:00 am
Gunn's Dairy Barn – Heritage Park

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Coming events

Nov 19	Diane Reid—History of Rotary in Calgary
Nov 26	Bill Skinner – Guatemala project
Dec 3	Club assembly and directors
Dec 10	Christmas Party; Evening event
Dec 17	Mohammad Ayaz
Dec 24, 31	No meeting due to the holidays
Jan 7	Katherine Anderson; Slice of Calgary blog
Mar 14-15	Casino Fundraiser; Volunteers needed