

COG

The Rotary Club of Calgary



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This week's reporter
Ralph Lundberg



The Rotary Club of Calgary is an organization of professional and community leaders who come together through commitment and fellowship to create opportunities and a better future for generations to follow.



Volume 30

No. 02

July 13, 2012

District No. 5360

Stampede Luncheon !!

The provision of a pair of cash bars took the edge off a long wait for members and guests to enter the Crystal Ballroom, where our entertainers were staging a last minute rehearsal. Once the food lineup was perceived to be sufficiently short, the head table entered to the music of Michael Pierson on piano. President Doug MacDonald called the meeting to order from the middle of the dance floor, from whence a talented Young Canadian miss led us in the anthem, (English version only).

Carol Rosdobutko's western theme invocation followed: this one should be a standard for future years' Stampede luncheons. There was a colourful moment as Barbara Young exchanged banners with a visiting Rotarian from the Grapevine, Texas, Rotary Club.

We were privileged to have all the Stampede Royalty with us. Under duress, George Brookman had reluctantly agreed to share a table with these lovely ladies: Stampede Queen Candice Lee, her two Princesses Jessica Manning and Dani Gariepy, and our Indian Princess, Amelia Crowshoe, who all spoke briefly but eloquently...and none said anything bad about George!

Current Stampede President Mike Casey was introduced (loud cheers) and proceeded to introduce the seven past presidents of the Stampede who joined us for lunch; a tradition that highlights the close association our club has with the Stampede. Records show that three of our current club members have served as Stampede presidents, indicating that we share a history of being organizations that get things done!

Following a period of lively fellowship, Ralph Lundberg grabbed the mic and described the unique contribution Bill Avery and his Young Canadians make to our club gatherings, particularly at such a busy time as Stampede week. With that, Bill took the floor and introduced various musical and dance acts which turned the Crystal ballroom into a magical place for half an hour. We thought we were hearing Patsy Cline for a bit before being amazed by a troupe of five athletic lariat-wielding gymnasts from China ...I'm betting they could take a

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President: Doug MacDonald • Vice President: David Bromwich • RI President: Sakuji Tanaka • District Governor: Fran Leggett



President Doug starts us up

steer down in less than four seconds! This act was followed by a beautiful dance duo, a combination of dance and gymnastics usually only seen in the figure skating pairs freestyle.

The Young Canadians presented a colourful cascade of song, a solo version of "I've Got Friends in Low Places" got the crowd singing and clapping along, while a nine-year-old chanteuse charmed us with her rendition of "Both Sides Now".

For many of us the highlight was the amazing cycling/gymnastic performance of another Chinese troupe. No wonder Bill needed the whole central part of the ballroom for his show. At one point each bicycle (were there four or five?) sported performers three high as they circled the floor, surrounding one of the big chandeliers. The amazing thing is: these performers had never been in the ballroom before their 10:00a.m. rehearsal.

As the music faded, President Doug thanked Bill and his entourage for this outstanding show. Next week, like the rest of town, we will be getting back to normal as we hear about a club-supported education mission in Guatemala.



Banner exchange with Grapevine Texas Club



Takes two to tango...



Dance finale



Stampede Queen, Candice Lee



Where's the bike path?



Chinese acrobat/bikers

What's Happening – Fellowship Calendar

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT
Bi-weekly	Mastermind Group	Steve Stein stevejstein@gmail.com
June 28 – July 15	Jersey Boys Musical Discount tickets for groups of 10+	Nicholas nmelymuk@dancaproductions.com
August 29	Calgary Airport Authority Challenger Cup (9:30am shotgun start)	donaldross@shaw.ca
September 15, 16	Rotary Music and Motion	Rick Erven RotaryMusicandMotion.com



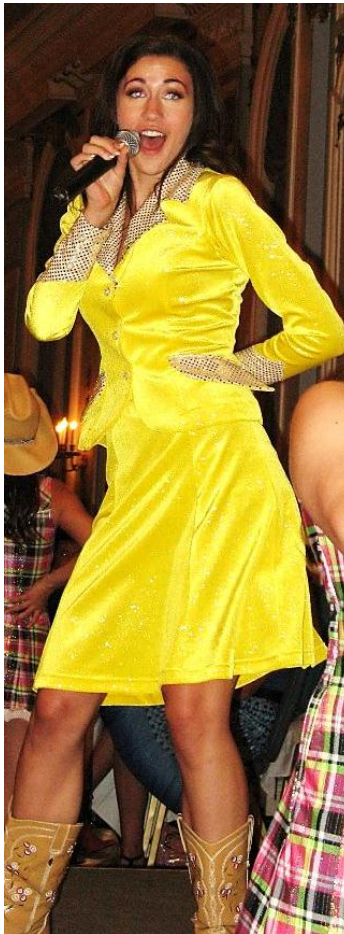
Indian Princess, Amelia Crowshoe



Patsy Cline, our version



"I've got Friends in Low Places..."



Singing "Nine to Five"



Bill Avery presents his performers



Stampede Princess, Jessica Manning

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July 13 issue**

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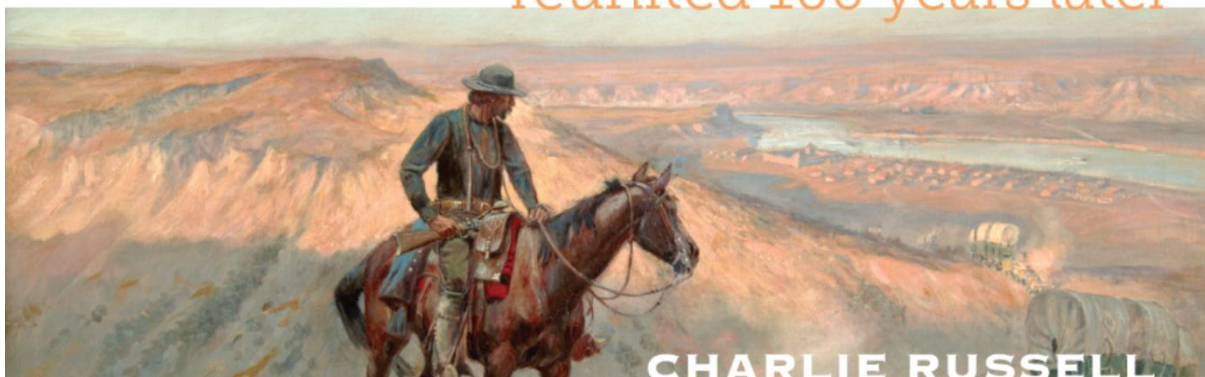
Upcoming Luncheons

- July 17 Bill Lawless – Building Basic Education in Guatemala
- July 24 Corey Poirier – 21st Century Leadership
- July 31 Glenda Standeven – Learning to Smile

Many thanks to this week's COG sponsor,

**Kirstin Evenden &
The Glenbow Museum**

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**CHARLIE RUSSELL
AND THE
FIRST CALGARY STAMPEDE**

UNTIL JULY 29, 2012



Charles M. Russell, *The Wagon Boss* (detail), 1909, Collection of Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Glenbow Museum
www.glenbow.org