

March 18th, 2014
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ALBERTA BEES AND BEEKEEPING

Eliese Watson

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Our Arch Supporters
THANK YOU !!

Bart introduced our captive(ating) Beekeeper Eliese Watson.

Eliese gave us a brief biography of herself, growing up on a farm in the Crossfield area with her own menagerie. She went off to U of C, but missed the farm and the animals and wild life. In searching for something she could have as a pet or a responsibility she discovered that rooftop beehives were "in".



A very enthusiastic speaker, Eliese took us from her one hive, to a larger group of almost 400 roof top hive keepers in the city. Alberta is the fifth largest province but has 789 beekeepers, and 274,600 colonies. These each produce 125 to 200 lbs. of honey annually. A problem for the Alberta keepers is that although we raise 35% of the canola in Canada, the seed producers treat all the seed with "neonicotinoids". This chemical is toxic to the bees and hence many of them die. This makes it very difficult for commercial or large scale apiarists in Alberta.

Hobbyists are taking over the beekeeping industry. They are small enough to withstand losses of a reasonable amount, without being forced into bankruptcy. In the process they are building a sense of community in the beekeeping world, much like the bees do.

Eliese then took us through a six step system of building a community:

1. accessible
2. forum
3. collaboration (amongst hobbyists)
4. education and monitoring
5. neighbours part of equation
6. reliability

She gave us a short course in bee physiology and sexuality, demonstrating her considerable depth of knowledge about all things "bee".



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March 11th, 2014

Scribe: Ian Burgess

President Terry Green called the meeting to order at 12:15 with Ruth Wylie playing O Canada to accompany us on the piano.



Al Pettigrew introduced our five guests including two of George Kimura's friends; two Rotarians, Allan McMillan (Calgary) and Bryan Targett (South); as well as our guest speaker, Eliese Watson.



Harry was dragged kicking and screaming to the microphone to announce that our fellow Rotarian, Lyle Davidson is now well enough to be in attendance to hear the report of his improving health.

Dale Perret made a plea

Beekeeping

.... cont'd from page 1

Bees require genetic diversity for the colony to survive. Swarming is one of the methods that allows bees to maintain the diversity of the colony.

Eliese offers a beekeeping certificate and has graduated 400 level one candidates. There is also a 22 week apprenticeship program. The group has monthly field days and potlucks and home to hive bicycle tours. There is also a mentorship program.

An important outgrowth of this community building is that Calgary now has a queen rearing program, the first in 35 years. Normally there are 278,000 queens imported into Alberta.

An aside was that Eliese noted that 80% of the "new" beekeepers were engineers and they were always producing "flow charts" of their hives' production and activity!

Eliese also runs a "Bees 4 Community Program". If you want more information from this most enthusiastic and knowledgeable of beekeepers check out her web site:

www.backyardbees.ca

Eliese was thanked by George Kimura and given our certificate indicating a donation to PolioPlus in her name.



for members to consider attending the District Conference in April, and to fill out a survey as to why we might not be inclined to go to Lethbridge in April.

Norm Moro announced the cribbage tournament was scheduled for March 18th (Lew Reid Memorial Trophy). The "Final Game" cash tournament is Saturday, April 5th at 9:30 am.

Paul Gaudet announced our first parking assignment of 2014, at the Horticultural Show and Fair (April 12 and 13).

Berto reported he had been curling more this week and it was a good week as his team won. He played for the PETs and SETs session at Red Deer, and is to play at the RI President session, and at the district conference in Lethbridge. On his most recent performance he was dressed all in black, hence his new nick name "Berto Cash". Incidentally any money paid towards Berto's performances is received in the name of the club, and goes to the charities supported by Chinook Rotary Club.

The 50/50 draw was won by Dave Wylie, who sang the usual song about it being the first time in history ...

The Sergeant at Arms was Peter Bickham filling in for an ailing John McBean. He did a creditable job and collected from a wide swath of the club, including David W, Linda, Dale (crib winner), Rena, Linda. Ron Smith (in absentia) and Gord who volunteered some bad news bucks.

Bart took over and introduced our speaker Eliese Watson.



2014 Rotary International Convention

Broaden your appreciation of Rotary's global impact and strengthen your commitment to service.

Join Rotary members from around the world in Sydney, Australia, 1-4 June. The 2014 RI Convention will bring together some of the world's leading experts on water, polio, and social media. You'll find new ideas for service — and perhaps a new partner for creating change — in the House of Friendship.

Find registration details at: www.riconvention.org



Literacy Month

March 18th	St. Patrick's Day Program
March 18th	Cribbage Club — play for the Lew Reid Memorial Trophy
March 25th	Bob Greenwood and Dana Luebke, Sun Ergos Theatre
March 25th	Mustard Seed — food service

Magazine Month

April 1st	Ton Loszchuk, Calgary Drop In Centre
April 5th	Cribbage Club — Final Game / Cash Tournament — 10am
April 6th	Ronald MacDonald House — meal prep
April 8th	Alessandro Massolo, Urban Coyotes
April 12th -13th	District Conference, Lethbridge Lodge Hotel & Conference Centre
April 12th -13th	Parking @ Spruce Meadows for the Horticultural Show
April 15	Roger Kingkade, CHQR Talk Show Host
April 22nd	Fairview School Meeting
April 29th	Youth Evening Meeting

Promote RI Convention Month

May 6th	John Hufnagel, Coach / GM, Calgary Stampeders
May 24th	President's Dinner
May 27th	Karla Tejeda, Outgoing Exchange Student
May 29th	Brown Bagging for Kids — lunch bags prep

Rotary Fellowships Month

June 1st - 4th	Rotary International Convention, Sydney, Australia
June 2nd	Brown Bagging for Kids — lunch bags prep
June 3rd	Meeting moved to June 4th
June 4th	Fellowship Event @ Spruce Meadows — a non-parking event ... watch the horses jump!
June 4th - 8th	Parking @ Spruce Meadows for The National
June 24th	Club Assembly — Passing of the Gavel



Berto's Blog

Hello everyone!

One more exciting and really busy week for Berto, I am just feeling awesome!

After a lazy Monday and a really good meeting Tuesday (I never thought that bees could be so exciting), I had my last Rotary curling game, something that I will miss a lot! I just want to say thank you for everyone that helped to make it possible, it was fantastic! And thanks for Joe, Mau and Bruce for this last game, it's always good to finish up with a victory!

After the game we went to the Willow Park Golf Club for a dinner and prizes for the season, what was a lot of fun! I got to play a few songs, a really good dinner, and a really good surprise: even with the Brazilian on the team, Paul Hussey won the B division, probably the first Brazilian winning something on curling in the history! Thanks to Terry, Rod and Paul, you guys played REALLY well to win that with me pushing you down! The season was awesome!

On Friday, just to keep the tradition, we got down to one more skiing weekend. And on a spring Saturday, after an unexpected meeting with a tree (something that is causing a huge pain in the last few days) and some other runs, on the

last opportunity to kill the Brazilian, my host family dragged me down to "The Chutes", the hardest runs at Castle. And, for my surprise, I found my way down with no broken bones!

Just to celebrate, I made some barbecued ribs and shrimps for dinner, and of course, went crazy with the guitars!

And to finish off the weekend, a really wet Sunday came to get us! It could be worse, some good powder and turns made all the work turn into a good thing!

Now it's time to expect and hope for another warm week and a good start for the spring break!

See you guys next week with more exciting news!

District 5360 Conference 2014

Engage Rotary ... Change Lives
April 11th - 13th, 2014
Lethbridge, Alberta
www.discon.rotary5360.ca

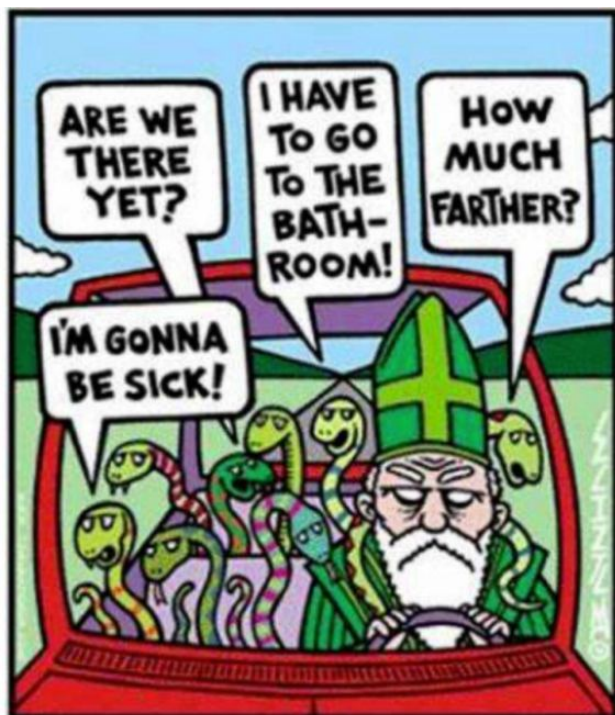
Saint Patrick's Day or the Feast of Saint Patrick (Irish: Lá Fhéile Pádraig, "the Day of the Festival of Patrick") is a cultural and religious holiday celebrated annually on 17 March, the death date of the most commonly-recognised patron saint of Ireland, Saint Patrick (c. AD 385–461).

Saint Patrick's Day was made an official Christian feast day in the early seventeenth century and is observed by the Catholic Church, the Anglican Communion (especially the Church of Ireland), the Eastern Orthodox Church and Lutheran Church. The day commemorates Saint Patrick and the arrival of Christianity in Ireland, as well as celebrating the heritage and culture of the Irish in general. Celebrations generally involve public parades and festivals, céilithe, and the wearing of green attire or shamrocks. Christians

also attend church services, and the Lenten restrictions on eating and drinking alcohol are lifted for the day, which has encouraged and propagated the holiday's tradition of alcohol consumption.

Irish Sayings!!

1. May the luck of the Irish be with you!
2. If you want praise, die. If you want blame, marry.
3. Here's to a long life and a merry one. A quick death and an easy one. A pretty girl and an honest one. A cold pint and another one!
4. If you're enough lucky to be Irish ... you're lucky enough!
5. May you have the hindsight to know where you've been, the foresight to know where you are going, and the insight to know when you have gone too far.
6. A man may live after losing his life but not after losing his honour.
7. "All the world's a stage and most of us are desperately unrehearsed." – Sean O'Casey
8. You've got to do your own growing, no matter how tall your father was.
9. It is often that a person's mouth broke his nose.
10. It is better to spend money like there's no tomorrow than to spend tonight like there's no money!
11. May you always have a clean shirt, a clear conscience, and enough coins in your pocket to buy a pint!
12. May neighbours respect you, trouble neglect you, the angels protect you, and Heaven accept you.
13. It's easy to halve the potato where there's love.
14. "Some cause happiness wherever they go; others whenever they go." – Oscar Wilde
15. Here's to me, and here's to you. And here's to love and laughter. I'll be true as long as you. And not one moment after.
16. May you live to be 100 years, with one extra year to repent.
17. "There is no such thing as bad publicity except your own obituary." – Brendan Behan
18. May you die in bed at 95, shot by a jealous spouse.
19. Here's to women's kisses, and to whiskey, amber clear. Not as sweet as a woman's kiss, but a darn sight more sincere!
20. There are only two kinds of people in the world, the Irish and those who wish they were.



St. Patrick driving the snakes out of Ireland.

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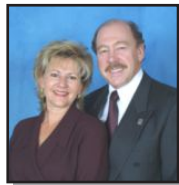


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