

August 18th, 2015 Volume 39, Issue 5

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The Wonderful World of Stamps Peter Fleck, Philatelist

Bart surprised the club by rather rudely insulting our speaker Peter Fleck during his introduction and then made fun of him — apparently they have known each other for a number of years.

Peter has a diploma in Social Sciences and also did Journalism at SAIT. He has written for numerous publications, and founded Calgary Light News.





He now buys and sells "discount postage" and also handles large estates including one that contains at least 4 rooms full of stamps.

Some of the facts Peter told us were amazing. The earliest reference to postage was in the bible and as early as 1230BC. Clay tablets were used as

"mail", by 589BC leather was used, and 134AD papyrus.

Chinese, Babylonians, Egyptians and Assyrians used mail before the European countries.

The first stamp issued was a "Penny Black", in England in 1840. The second country to issue a stamp was Brazil in 1843, the U.S. was next in 1847. Canada was the 11th country to issue a stamp in 1851 — it was a 3 penny (?) beaver.

Before Sir Rowland Hill introduced postage stamps in England, the recipient of the letter had to pay for privilege of receiving a letter, and people started refusing to do this. They got smart and put a "Code" on the envelope that told the recipient what the contents of the letter were so they didn't have to pay for



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it. Stamps put an end to that!

Nowadays all sorts of people appear on stamps, but in the past famous people were honoured by appearing on them. Ghandi, Hitler, the Queen and St. Nicholas are among the well-known faces to be seen.

cont'd on page 2....



Meeting Minutes



August 11th, 2015

Neil Beatty and a late Bruce Bohnet greeted all Rotarians and guests warmly.

Our President, Dale Perret, opened the meeting at 12:15 and we all sang O Canada lustily as we had musical accompaniment — thank heavens!



Our guests Dick and Betty French from Grande Prairie Sunrise, Grant MacEachern from the Olympic club, Neill Magee and Jack Thompson from the South Club, and Peter Fleck, our guest speaker and hi wife, Doris.

Garth S. talked about parking for the up-coming horse event at Spruce Meadows and also about the new parking assignments for the "Run" events at Spruce

Meadows. This Saturday, the event is "Run Through the Meadows" in support of Alberta Fire Fighters Burn Camp. The next one comes up on September 6th "Summer's Gone – Run On!" in support of KidsSport Calgary. Other runs will happen in October and December.

World of Stamps cont'd from page 1



All sorts of people have collected stamps over the years and not everyone is rich and famous — F.D.Roosevelt, Heidi Klum are a couple but it could be the people who live next door.

Stamps are used as an investment. The most expensive is a British Guyana (?) 1 cent magenta that sold for \$9.5 million!

Not all valuable stamps are old. Sometimes a printing mistake will turn a present day stamp into a sought-after item thus driving up the price.

Rotary International had a stamp issued on June 18, 2010 to commemorate its 100 th anniversary. It has also appeared on stamps issued in 130 other countries.

I found this speaker very interesting as I used to collect stamps and some of them were very beautiful.

Scribe: Sydney Richmond

Rob has another wager going on for the PGA and a page was passed around.

Joe Hooper presented the club with a \$12,000 cheque from all the parking we did for the North America at Spruce Meadows.

Tammy had a special draw for 2 very good tickets on the 45 yard line for the Saturday Stampeders game against Ottawa. Paul Hussey won.

SAA, Paul Gaudet, told us all about 6 ways to make a difference and we should all have paid attention. He then quizzed us about golf and the Shaw Classic which a few of our members attended. I hope he asks us questions we can answer.



Our 50/50 winner was Tom Sorensen.

Dick French presented the club with a banner from his new club in Grande Prairie.



Good news/bad news:

Bev and Gareth received tips from the AKC and they put them into the kitty.

Dave Saunders gave a report about Jan Tollefson. She is now in the new Dulcina Hospice, 110 Evanspark Manor NW and

can be reached through her sister at bevdelong@shaw.ca. Her sister would like Rotarians to share their photos of Jan and the trip to the Dominican Republic they went on. She would like to put them in a book for Jan.

Bart introduced our speaker, Peter Fleck.



Photos courtesy Stephen Pick



What's Up !!

Membership and New Club Development Month

August 18th	Todd Standing, Yeti Hunter
August 25th	Lynnell Ible — Making Sense of People

Basic Education and Literacy Month

September 1st	Nature Park
September 8th	District Governor Martin Harvey's visit
September 9th - 13th	Parking @ Spruce Meadows for The Masters
September 15th	Classification Talk — Bill Stemp
September 22nd	Vicki McLaughlin — The Cinderella Project
September 29th	Drs Margaret Korble and Lesley Lussier — Hearing Loss

Economic and Community Development Month

October TBA	Grillin' and Servin' — Kathy's Run, Glenmore, 11am–2pm
October 6th	Alan McMillan — Rotary Employment Partnership
October 13th	Anam Kazim, Calgary Glenmore MLA — SW Ring Road
October 20th	Karla Tejeda-Inglesias, 2014/15 Outbound Exchange Student to Germany
October 27th	Interact
	Call for nominations for President Elect, Vice President and 3 Directors for 2016/17

Rotary Foundation Month

November 3rd November 10th Ann Stang — Alberta Family History Society Nominating Committee report

"Run Through the Meadows"

Photos courtesy John Beatty







Membership Minute



Rotarians have a lot of fun while helping others. Rotary combines service with opportunities to make professional connections and friends.



Club Membership - we need to grow!

We have had a few years of decline where new members inducted do not offset those departing. So 2015/16 is a year to focus on membership.

You will receive a letter, club brochure, and a "free lunch" card for you to use in inviting a prospective member.

On October 22nd from 6:30pm to 10:00pm, the club is having a membership planning session. We need you to attend this brainstorming session to come up with ways to enhance our success at member recruitment and retention. Come be part of this process and help us develop a plan. We will have a facilitator who will run the session and squeeze the most ideas out of us.

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