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## The History of Wheat

Trevor Bacque

The wheat grown in the Maritimes was originally imported from Scottish farmers in Scotland in the 1800s. While it grew in the Maritimes, it was no good on the Prairies. It was too short a growing season. The government and others were advertising the Prairies and indeed they advertised land for free. So they had to develop a better wheat with a shorter growing season. They first tried Red Fife and Marquis, and then many developed more varieties over the years.

David Fife started the development of wheat varieties, and indeed the first variety grown in Canada was Red Fife. Many others have evolved from that small start, including the Neepawa variety which caught the ear of those listen from there. The varieties of wheat developed in Canada, were adopted many times in the Northern States and evolved to become their own variety and rename.

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## Membership Mix 'N Mingler

by Gord Billings and Stephen Pick

Members started to arrive early for the this evening meeting. (Was the bar the draw, or was it the finger food, or, most likely the chance to talk about Rotary to potential new members.). Soon the room was a buzz with guests and members in various discussions.



Rob Wolfson acted as MC and called upon George Van Schaick to lead us in the singing of the National anthem. Rob, Rhea Graham and Dawn Rennie were the worker bees who organized this great event with others toiling in the background as always to pull off this great event.

The goal of this meeting was to introduce Rotary, and more particularly Rotary Chinook to potential members. There were 11 guests at this first annual event with around 40 members in attendance. A variety of finger

food was supplied and one could get drinks at the bar. For the first 45 minutes members and guests circulated and discuss Rotary.

Rob Wolfson described how Rotary began with Paul Harris early last century. Rob related how he found out about Rotary



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Rotary  
Club of Calgary Chinook



The Greeters were Imma and Neil.



Alex Soutar, the President, got the meeting started on time.

The meeting, as usual, started off with the introduction of guests. Neil introduced Kathryn



Breaker guest of Dean White, of course Will Schmidt, and our Guest Speaker Trevor Bacque and family. There were 48 who paid for lunch.



## Minutemen:

- Jim Hennessy announced that the first assignment of parking at Spruce Meadows will be



April 14th and April 15th, and that Fish Creek Rotary Club and Red Deer Lake United Church were on board. The event sign-up is on line so sign up there!



- The next up was Peter Bickham reminding us of Cribbage on Thursdays, with the wind-up on Saturday April 15th, which is the same date that Spruce Meadows starts, so check the dates before you sign up.

- Rhea Graham was next

and talked about the upcoming membership mixer, and other membership initiatives.



- ADG Dave Wylie

reminded us that all members involved with vulnerable sector activities (youth and seniors) must have a Police Check done. He is available to help with getting that done.



## Sunshine Committee:

We welcomed back Pat Hutchinson who had a visit to hospital but

## Greeter Schedule



March 27th	Michael and Ian
April 3rd	Dave Wylie and Garth P
April 10th	Dean and David I
April 17th	Dick and David Wartman
April 24th	Evening Meeting

he is alright now, and reported that everybody is as well as can be expected.

50/50 draw was won by Dick Snel.



## SAA was Ian Burgess

He posed some skill testing questions which nobody was able to answer. He fined all and sundry. He turned to Good News Bucks and several came forward.

## Induction of a New Member

Will Schmidt: Tammy Truman introduced him as born in Coaldale and he moved to the US at age 6. He moved to Ontario and from there he moved to Winnipeg and attended University of Manitoba. He started the hotel business and worked in Winnipeg Vancouver, Edmonton and finally in Calgary at the Carriage House Inn. He retired as GM of the hotel in 2015 after winning various in the Calgary Awards. Upon retirement he moved to Vancouver Island, but then he moved back to Calgary to be near his family.



Paul Gaudet administered the oath. Please welcome Will Schmidt back to the club.



Our Guest Speaker was introduced by Bart Dailley. Trevor Bacque is the President of Bacque 40 Communications, and a seasoned Agricultural Communicator.

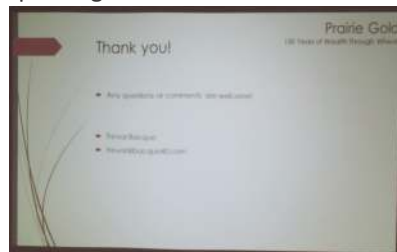
*Photos courtesy Stephen Pick*

## The History of Wheat

.... cont'd from page 1

The biggest export market until the end of First World War was to the USA. The original experimental farm was located in Ottawa. Over time, other experimental farms have been developed in the 3 Prairie Provinces and else where.

The President our Club presented the usual Certificate for speaking to us.





The Club has committed \$2,500 to supporting a rainwater harvesting global grant in central Mexico. This is Calgary Chinook's fifth (?) time in supporting this program that began in 2009. Since that time, 1,102 ferro-cement cisterns have been built with a capacity of 12,000 litres each. The groundwater throughout the region is contaminated with arsenic and fluoride at levels that cause many illnesses in the rural communities.

The goal is to raise US\$200,000 to build 280 more rainwater harvesting systems. Currently it is about 75% of the way there. 21 Rotary Clubs, 6 Rotary Districts and 4 International Foundations are supporting our next grant (GG1861650). 12 individuals are also taking part.

A quick orientation on this project can be seen with this video. The statistics are out of date but it explains the project very well in only seven minutes: <https://vimeo.com/228521179> (In fact, Calgary Chinook was a partner in producing the video.)

Currently the project proponents are seeking our assistance in asking our District to join in the funding.

## Rainwater Harvesting in the Independence Aquifer

San Miguel de Allende Mexico

**Why water?** In 2008, Rotary Midday conducted a thorough community needs analysis. We discovered that there was a water crisis in the rural villages that was not being address by either the government or other local NGOs.

**The problem:** The water being extracted from the aquifer is contaminated with fluoride and arsenic that far exceeds WHO norms.



Consuming this water leads to dental and skeletal fluorosis, kidney failure, cancers and up to a 20% reduction in IQ among children.

**The Solution:** 12,000 liter ferro-cement cisterns capture enough rainwater from existing roofs to provide a family with all the drinking and cooking water needed for one year.

Every US\$500 invested provides a family with a safe and permanent water source. Mothers complete an 3 day education program. They are trained in the self-construction and maintenance of rainwater harvesting systems, and they receive building materials for one family owned cistern.

These women work in teams of six families to self-construct a family owned cistern in each others home.



**What can you do?** We need Rotary Clubs and Rotary Districts to help fund this ongoing initiative. *Every dollar you give will bring \$1.50 to the project.* If your Rotary district matches your contribution, it will bring \$3.50 to these mothers who are trying to turn their dreams into reality.

## Why is this successful?

- “ The 12,000 liter cistern will supply a family with all the drinking and cooking water needed per year
- “ A comprehensive three day educational program teaches water issues and water safety
- “ Cisterns are self-constructed by teams of six mothers who build one cistern at each home, thus providing the pride of ownership
- “ Five days hands-on training in cistern construction and maintenance
- “ Six months of monitoring and evaluation following the construction phase
- “ Cooperating partners who have long term presence in communities to assure sustainability
- “ Mothers beginning a “process” that will keep them working together to undertake additional projects to become autonomous and self reliant
- “ Mothers invest 250+ hours in earning their family cistern that will provide safe water for generations to come



## Achievements:

7000+ Direct beneficiaries	5 Rotary Foundation Grants
1,100 Family owned cisterns in 54 rural communities	24 Rotary Clubs participating
13,200,000 liters of rainwater captured per year	12 Rotary Districts participating
10,000 Rotary volunteer hours	US\$650,000 Invested
220,000 beneficiary women hours of self - constructing their cisterns	

See our video: <https://vimeo.com/228521179>

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## Water and Sanitation Month

March 27th

Tara Nelson, CTV 6pm News Anchor

## Maternal and Child Health Month

April 3rd

Bob Henderson, President, Wild Horses of Alta Society

April 6th

Roots 2 STEM Mentoring Program for Fairview School students

April 10th

Maria de la Paloma Villaseñor Vargas, Mexican Consul

April 14th

Cribbage Windup and Trophy Night @ The Legion — contact Peter Bickham

April 17th

Kimberly Williams, MRU — Booze, Broads and Brothels

April 24th

Evening meeting — Annual Youth Services Night

April 27th

Roots 2 STEM Mentoring Program for Fairview School students

## Youth Service Month

May 1st

Katie Graham, Alberta Speleological Society

May 8th

John Hufnagel, President and GM, Calgary Stampede

May 11th

Roots 2 STEM Mentoring Program for Fairview School students

May 15th

Jeromy Farkas, Calgary City Councillor

May 22nd

Eva Friesen, CEO, Calgary Foundation

May 25th

Roots 2 STEM Mentoring Program for Fairview School students

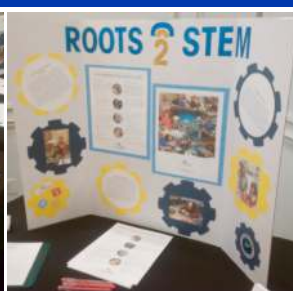
May 29th

Prairie Mountain Fiddlers



## Membership Mix 'N Mingler

.... cont'd from page 1



through Pat Hutchinson taking a break from parking at Spruce Meadows and meeting up with Angela Wolfson who had a craft booth at the Christmas market. As a good wife Angela prompted Rob to look at Rotary again, and the rest is history. Pat told him "Rotary" was a verb, not an noun, and he has strived to live up to this axiom. As one of our younger members he had to work to find the right balance between Rotary, his work and his family life. A challenge all younger members will face.



Polio Plus started 30 years ago, to less than 10 cases so far this year.

Rick Istead, the District Governor of 5360, and a 11 year member of the Rotary Club of Fish Creek spoke next. He talked about how he became a member of the Rotary Club by volunteering, and told us about his "Rotary Moment".



Currently over 60% of our club are over 70 years old and we need new members. We have been described as a bunch of old guys sitting around having lunch. However, that is far from the whole story. Between fundraising, fellowship activities, and project activity, both local and international, the 70+ members of the Club are rather busy. PP Paul Gaudet did a short recap of a year in the life of the Club ... we have great lunches, but far more than that, we are a busy bunch of Rotarians!

Rob continued his overview on Rotary International and mentioned the efforts for Polio Plus. Rotary has raised enough funds through our fund raising and the matching funds from the Gates Foundation to effect the world. Except for three countries, the curse of polio is past. From over 350,000 cases per year when



mentoring and many other community activities. Then an overview of the Club's International involvement. Then Fellowship — curling, cribbage, dinner club, and others, and others. For fundraising, he mentioned casinos and our 40 year relationship with parking cars at Spruce Meadows events. One got tired thinking about all the Club has done over just one year. Multiply that by 41 years and one can imagine the impact our one club has made — now multiply that by 1.2 million members and thousand of other clubs, and you can begin to imagine the impact of Rotary for good in the world.

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Dan Dougherty, the incoming District Governor of 5360 then took to the podium to talk about Rotary and his own "Rotary Moment". Dan travelled to take part in a Rotary Immunization Day. He reminded us that as far as Polio in Canada is concerned, we only became Polio free in 1992. Rotary immunization teams work in places around the world, such as Somalia, where you need armed guards. At the event he worked at, many women travelled for miles to get the "Drop of Life" for their children, which is the Polio vaccine.



He spoke on his other Rotary experiences, such as meeting up with a young girl, 9 years old, who came from an abusive home. Six years later he spoke to the same girl and she was working and happy with life thanks to assistance provided through Rotary.

Rob Wolfson closed the meeting looking at fundraising efforts by the Club over the short 3 years he's has been in Rotary. The funds were raised by casinos and our parking efforts, and recently the

\$52,000 raised by the "Kickin it Country" event starring Calgary born Lindsay Ell (who is now booked to star at this year's Stampede). The Club is open to many fundraising opportunities and mentioned his own "Pool Boy" role that has raised over \$5,000 through raffles and pools he organized for the Club.

Rob mentioned that the Club had various membership and fee options, so if interested, contact the Club and we can resolve most issues barring your membership.

Rob finished the meeting by quoting the 4 way test:

In the things we say or do:

- 1) Is it the truth?
- 2) Is it fair to all concerned?
- 3) Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

In addition to the presentations and various handouts around the room, Anne Dale had a display detailing her work for "Days for Girls", and Dean and Eeva White had a display on Roots 2 STEM where the Club is mentoring some students through our educational partnership with Fairview School.

*Photos courtesy George Van Schaick*

## Arch Supporters

To help support publication and distribution of the Arch to members, please contact Stephen Pick at 403-938-2876 or [stephen.rotary@ontheridge.ca](mailto:stephen.rotary@ontheridge.ca)

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