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**BULLETIN CHAIR:** Bev Ostermann

**EDITOR:** Glenn Potter

**PHOTOGRAPHER:** Clive Pringle

South Christmas Luncheon brought out the usual large and spirited crowd to take advantage of the excellent facilities and service at the Canyon Meadows Golf and Country Club. A big thank you is extended to **Toby Oswald-Felker** and her Social Committee for organizing this most enjoyable event. The food, arrangements and fellowship was appreciated by all.

Upon entering, we were greeted by carolling from the St Mary's Choir Ensemble, and a very jolly Santa Claus handing out treats.



**President Ken Farn**, doing an excellent job of herding cats, got everybody seated and welcomed us by noting that we are fortunate to live in a country that has an excellent health system that has enabled many of our members to overcome issues and be with us today.

We also live at a time and place where we can celebrate the wonderful gift of Christmas, knowing that we have the freedom to acknowledge the true *"Reason for the Christmas Season"* – and not a *"Happy Holiday"* season.



**HEALTH AND WELLNESS:** Contact Dick Shaw at [atlanticclipper@gmail.com](mailto:atlanticclipper@gmail.com) if you know of anyone that is not well or is there anyone you know that could use a visit.

**TRANSPORTATION:** Contact Bonar Irving at [bonar@shaw.ca](mailto:bonar@shaw.ca) or: 403 254 8476 if you know of anyone that may need a ride to meetings

**President Ken Farn** then asked us to join in O'Canada with the assistance of **Glenn Potter** and **Lisa Fernandes**.



Thank you to our wonderful Santa Claus, who made an early visit to Calgary to help us get into the Christmas spirit. And to all of those who brought unwrapped toys that will be delivered to the Salvation Army.

Our guests today include 12 members of the St. Mary's Student Choir, and we thank them for adding their wonderful singing voices to our Christmas luncheon. Also, a special welcome and thank you to Choir Director, **Monica Hnatiuk** and St. Mary's Principal **Frank Durante** for your support of the choir music program.

Other guests include **Louise van Erve**, Counsellor and Coordinator for St. Mary's Interact Club, **Emily Tedesco White**, President of the Calgary Rotaract Club, Outbound Exchange Student **Lucas Rasmusson** and his Mother, **Tannis**, and **Pablo Ruiz**, our Exchange Student.

**President Elect Bill LeClair** offered a toast to the ladies, both Partners and Members. I quote from his notes (hopefully I have deciphered them with some degree of accuracy):

*"What do you say when part of your duties as President Elect is to toast the most wonderful group of women you know? You could say, I'm done – did great – do the toast and sit down. Ain't going to happen, I am a lawyer, I get paid to talk.*

*All of the women in this room are wonderful. Let me read you a quick excerpt from the "Ladies of Rotary" ([www.oneworldrotary.org/Stories/ladies-of-rotary](http://www.oneworldrotary.org/Stories/ladies-of-rotary)). 'Up until 1987.... RI was technically an all-male organization. Technically being the operative word because as you all know behind every great man one finds a truly magnificent woman, and God help the man who argues with that point.' Our female Members are great contributors to our Club, as are the Rotary Partners. They used to be RotaryAnns, but I think one of the best things that ever happened was the name switch from Anns to Partners. The history of the name RotaryAnns is laid out in the website referenced above (so your Editor will not reproduce it).*

*If you google 'Rotary Partners', the third bullet that appears is Rotary Partners/Rotary Club of Calgary South. I don't know of another Club that can say that or has partners as such an integral part of their Club. It is no small testament to your part in our Club that we have entrusted you with \$70,000 in each of the last two years for your own charitable distributions. Teri mentioned to me that you wonderful ladies support one another, which is a great aspect of what you do, together with your charitable work. As well, you support us as both life partners and Rotary partners in all of our endeavours, and we toast you for who you are, what you do and how you do things.*



*My toast is to all of the ladies in the room. That may be a departure from previous years, so if I have veered too far off course, you can either take me out to the parking lot and shoot me, or less invasively, send me an email. No matter how big or how small your contribution to Rotary, you are all part of the Rotary Family, and we thank you and toast you.*

*Gentlemen, stand and raise a toast – 'may you live as long as you want to and want to as long as you live'."*



**Rotary Partners President Pat Farn** replied on behalf of the Partners:

*"At Christmas we think of friends and family. Today all around us are friends and our Rotary family. How fortunate are we to have so many blessings through our connections to the Rotarians. Thank you for sharing with us all of your projects, fund raisers, parties, volunteer opportunities, bulletins and lives. Think about it – we are so interconnected."*



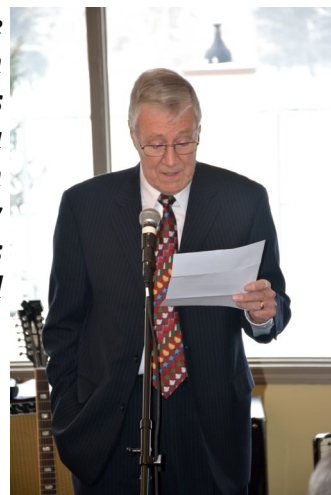
*Happily, the Rotary Club of Calgary South has a Partner group. To my knowledge, no other club has a surviving Partner group. As an aside, when the Club decided to accept female Members in 1996, the Partners also decided to become inclusive and welcome male Members. To date, no male has joined the group, but they are still welcome and could contribute in many ways.*

*We wish our Rotarians a good New Year, success in endeavours both local and international, and fulfillment in this year's Rotary objective – 'Rotarians Serving Humanity'. Partners, let's raise our glasses in a toast to those we can't do without – the Rotarians."*

**Sandy Dougall** presented the Grace:

*"In the immortal words of the famous Christmas celebrity... 'Tis the season to be jolly, Ho Ho Ho'. But this season is about more than being jolly. It is a time to enjoy friends, family and fellowship. It's a time to give thanks and reflect on all the comforts we enjoy. It's a time to think of absent friends and those who are faced with health problems. It is a time to think of those who are being uprooted by war and political strife. And it's time to be reminded of the words in the Grace we sing each week, sometimes out of tune! It's all about Service..."*

*O' Lord and giver of all good  
We thank Thee for our daily food  
May Rotary Friends and Rotary Ways  
Help us to serve Thee all our days,  
Amen".*



After a delicious traditional turkey lunch, we were treated to some entertainment. **Ted Stack** introduced the Rotary Band, with our own **Glenn Potter** on keyboard, **PP Murray Flegel** on guitar, **PP Dave Marchant** on harmonica and the ever effervescent **Jim Burns** on accordion, joined by special guest musicians, **Paul Baily** on guitar, **Noel Grant** on harmonica, and **Phil Forsey** on drums. **Noel** led off with a beautiful rendition of "I'll Be Home for Christmas", and then the Band swung into a number of traditional carols, accompanied by the St. Mary's Choir.





The Choir also treated us with other contemporary and traditional Christmas songs. This ensemble represents the St. Mary's Concert Choir, a choir of 80 members from Grades 10, 11 and 12.

They rehearse three times a week outside their regular high school schedule. They perform a multitude of events in and around the community, including liturgies, concerts, festivals and collaborative opportunities with other choral groups.

Their repertoire ranges from sacred to show choir. Gold award winners at the local, national and international level, these students are a dedicated group of singers who love to share their joy of singing.

**Lisa Fernandes** gave us a beautiful rendition of "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus", receiving well-earned and enthusiastic applause.



**George Deegan** explained to us why "Good King Wenceslas" was his favourite Christmas song.



Written in the 1850's about a Bohemian king from the 10<sup>th</sup> century who is now the patron saint of the Czech Republic, it exemplifies the true spirit of Rotary - Service Above Self

- as found in the last line of the lyrics "*Ye who now will bless the poor shall yourselves find blessing*".

**Maureen** and **Jim Hutchens** then performed the song with help from the audience on the chorus.

Well done, everybody!



Thanks to these guys today for helping to herd the "cats"



**Corinne Wilkinson** and **Pablo Ruiz** entertained us with a Spanglish version of "Twas The Night Before Christmas". **Corinne** was obviously well coached on her Spanish by **Pablo**, and their version was unique and very well received. Well done!!

The entertainment closed with "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" while **Pablo** and **Lucas**, with the assistance of choir members, handed out ginger bread men to everybody.

**Glenn Potter**, reporting on Health and Wellness, asked everybody to recognize and acknowledge all of those attending who have dealt with the illness of a Member or Partner over the last year. Their help is sincerely appreciated by those of us who needed it!

**Lynn Grant** announced that the toy drive filled a minivan with toys that will be delivered to the Salvation Army, along with over \$500 donated today.

**Michael Ruttan** was the lucky winner of the door prize from the drive. Congratulations to everybody who contributed.



**President Ken** closed the meeting with thanks to the chef and all of Canyon Meadows' staff for the great food and service. He had hoped that **Norm Legare** and **Charlie Goldsborough** would have brought their "ProServe cards" to help the bartenders, but their help was not needed. He also acknowledged and thanked **Tom Jezersek** of Southland Transportation, who kindly donated the bus transportation for the choir, and **Dorothea Schaab** for organizing those services again. **Jim Bladon's** Christmas sweater also received some special notice.

Next Thursday we are back at Rotary House for our Club Social and the Cleven Awards.

We thank you for coming today and hope our entertainment has warmed your Christmas spirit. We sincerely wish you a wonderful Christmas Season. May friends and family be part of your celebration.

**MERRY**  
**CHRISTMAS**





**President Ken** had planned on presenting this story as part of the program, but in the interest of time, decided not to do so. We have accessed it on the website noted below, and include it for your inspiration

<http://www.weboflove.org/i/christmas-stories/true-meaning-of-christmas>



## True Meaning of Christmas

### Inspiring Christmas Story Reveals Real Meaning of Christmas

The short, inspirational Christmas story below reveals the true spirit and meaning of Christmas. It was originally published in the December 14, 1982 issue of *Woman's Day* magazine. This moving story inspired the creation of The White Envelope Project, a caring nonprofit organization dedicated to de-

veloping the next generation of givers, civic leaders, and philanthropists.

May this inspirational story remind us all of the true meaning of Christmas and giving during the holidays and throughout the year.

## Christmas Story: For the Man Who Disliked Christmas

By Nancy W. Gavin

It's just a small, white envelope stuck among the branches of our Christmas tree. No name, no identification, no inscription. It has peeked through the branches of our tree for the past ten years.

It all began because my husband Mike disliked Christmas. Oh, not the true meaning of Christmas, but the commercial aspects of it – overspending and the frantic running around at the last minute to get a tie for Uncle Harry and the dusting powder for Grandma – the gifts given in desperation because you couldn't think of anything else.

Knowing he felt this way, I decided one year to bypass the usual shirts, sweaters, ties and so forth. I reached for something special just for Mike. The inspiration came in an unusual way.

Our son Kevin, who was 12 that year, was on the wrestling team at the school he attended. Shortly before Christmas, there was a non-league match against a team sponsored by an inner-city church. These youngsters, dressed in sneakers so ragged that shoestrings seemed to be the only thing holding them together, presented a sharp contrast to our boys in their spiffy blue and gold uniforms and sparkling new wrestling shoes.

As the match began, I was alarmed to see that the other team was wrestling without headgear, a kind of light helmet designed to protect a wrestler's ears. It was a luxury the ragtag team obviously could not afford.

Well, we ended up walloping them. We took every weight class. Mike, seated beside me, shook his head sadly, "I wish just one of them could have won," he said. "They have a lot of potential, but losing like this could take the heart right out of them." Mike loved kids – all kids. He so enjoyed coaching little league football, baseball and lacrosse. That's when the idea for his present came.

That afternoon, I went to a local sporting goods store and bought an assortment of wrestling headgear and shoes, and sent them anonymously to the inner-city church. On Christmas Eve, I placed a small, white envelope on the tree, the note inside telling Mike what I had done, and that this was his gift from me.

Mike's smile was the brightest thing about Christmas that year. And that same bright smile lit up succeeding years. For each Christmas, I followed the tradition – one year sending a group of mentally handicapped youngsters to a hockey game, another year a check to a pair of elderly brothers whose home had burned to the ground the week before Christmas, and on and on.

The white envelope became the highlight of our Christmas. It was always the last thing opened on Christmas morning, and our children – ignoring their new toys – would stand with wide-eyed anticipation as their dad lifted the envelope from the tree to reveal its contents. As the children grew, the toys gave way to more practical presents, but the small, white envelope never lost its allure.

The story doesn't end there. You see, we lost Mike last year due to dreaded cancer. When Christmas rolled around, I was still so wrapped in grief that I barely got the tree up. But Christmas Eve found me placing an envelope on the tree. And the next morning, I found it was magically joined by three more. Unbeknownst to the others, each of our three children had for the first time placed a white envelope on the tree for their dad. The tradition has grown and someday will expand even further with our grandchildren standing to take down that special envelope.

Mike's spirit, like the Christmas spirit will always be with us.







**calgary** TELUS convention  
centre  
be part of the energy

## A CHAMPION'S IDEA COULD SEE CALGARY HOST ITS BIGGEST EVER CONVENTION

Craig Stokke's mission to host the largest convention in Calgary began by a chance meeting in Italy.

A member of the Rotary Club of Calgary South, Stokke was in Rome in 2015 when a man there told him he'd attended the Calgary Rotary International Convention in 1996. The event attracted nearly 25,000 people from 126 countries and remains the largest convention ever held in the city.

The man said he enjoyed Calgary so much that more than 25 years later he gave his daughter and son-in-law a trip to the city and the Rocky Mountains as a wedding present.

Afterwards, as Stokke was going for a run around the Colosseum, he thought: Why not bring the Rotary International Convention back to Calgary? With up to 30,000 people now attending the event each year, it would be an opportunity for Calgary to set a new record in convention attendance.

"I didn't know where to begin," Stokke says. "But I was quickly channelled to Meetings + Conventions Calgary (MCC). And I realized it was a one-stop shop to connect to all the right people and groups."

A partnership created between the Calgary Hotel Association and the Calgary TELUS Convention Centre, MCC works with North American and International meeting and association planners to attract meetings, conventions and incentive business to Calgary. Supported by the BMO Centre and the TELUS Convention Centre, MCC works with people such as Stokke, through its Calgary Champions program, to educate them about how they can leverage efforts to bring major meetings and conventions to the city.

"Calgary Champions have led the efforts to bring 13 conventions and 17,000 delegates to the city, since 2013" says MCC executive director Dave Sclanders. "As well, Champions have played a role in seven confirmed future conferences with nearly 6,000 delegates."

"It's a total partnership between Champions, Calgary meeting venues and hotels and us all working to position the strongest bid for our city."

Together MCC, Stokke and the the Southern Alberta Rotary District want to bid to host the 2023, 2024 or 2025 Rotary International Convention. They've submitted a letter of intention and are one of 12 cities selected to bid for the conventions.

"MCC has helped us show Rotary International that Calgary has everything they need to host such a prestigious international event," Stokke says.

If successful, Stokke hopes the city's second Rotary convention also inspires attendees to send their children to Calgary two decades later.

For more information on becoming a Calgary Champion contact Meetings + Conventions Calgary at 403.261.8500 or [info@meetingscalgary.com](mailto:info@meetingscalgary.com).

[calgary-convention.com](http://calgary-convention.com)



**Food Bank Hamper Distribution: Confirmed Dates:**

December 19th: 9:45 am to 1:00 pm (Shifts are filled)

December 22nd: 2:30 to 5:30 pm (**5 more volunteers are required**)

December 23rd: 2:30 to 5:30 pm (Shifts are filled)

**Email Corinne Wilkinson** by clicking this link:

[corinne@whitehathospitality.com](mailto:corinne@whitehathospitality.com) to volunteer for **DECEMBER 22nd**

**FEED THE HUNGRY CONFIRMED DATES**

- \* Wednesday January 4th: Prep and serve dinner at Ronald MacDonald House
- \* Tuesday March 14th: Prep and service dinner at Mustard Seed

**MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**Ronald MacDonald House has difficulty getting volunteer groups to make and serve dinner early in the New Year.**

**Our club has committed to preparing and serving the dinner meal on Tuesday January 4.**

**We need 5 or so volunteers to help out.**

**Please contact Harry Pelton at either: Cell: (403) 585-2625 or**

**Home: (403) 244-9140**

**Adventures in Citizenship:** Contact **Shellie Marshall** if you know of an exceptional Student (age 17-18 ) who would be interested in traveling to Ottawa to participate in the 2017 Adventures in Citizenship program:

[shellie@matrixstaffinggroup.com](mailto:shellie@matrixstaffinggroup.com)

- 20-30 students from across Canada meet in Ottawa to learn about what it means to be a Canadian and our Government
- They stay with selected Rotarian family while in Ottawa
- An app form & essay need to be completed
- Students visit parliament, attend a Citizenship ceremony, learn about being a Canadian, try out our democratic process, how it works and why.
- They break into a mock political party, based on their views...
- Chance to meet Prime Minister and / or other Parliament figures
- trip is Scheduled for: April 30 - May 3
- All expenses paid (other than pocket money)



**Hello  
Friends  
of  
CAPD**



Bob and I are happy to be back home again, but a part of us remains in Colombia.

This last blog shows some of the activities in our last weeks there.

open by clicking this link:

[www.capdcalgary.org/blog-en](http://www.capdcalgary.org/blog-en)

**Merry Christmas,**

**Marlene Wiens**

## WORLD COMMUNITY SERVICE



War Child Canada @WarChildCan · 25m

This #holiday @RotaryCalgary is asking YOU to join them and donate to #WarChild! Let kids be KIDS! [bit.ly/2glzU2A](http://bit.ly/2glzU2A)  
#BiteTheBullet







**Rotary**  
Calgary South  
SOCIAL COMMITTEE



LARRY KWONG  
**CHINESE  
NEW YEAR  
DINNER**

**Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Regency Palace Restaurant**  
335 Centre Street South

**CELEBRATE THE YEAR OF THE ROOSTER!**

**MENU:**

Grilled Pork Dumplings and Spring Rolls  
Won Ton Soup  
White Rice  
Ginger Beef  
Cashew Chicken in Black Bean Sauce  
Beef and Broccoli  
Pea Pods and Shrimp  
Salt and Pepper Squid  
Cantonese Chow Mein  
Chicken Fried Rice  
Egg Tarts

**Cocktails: 6:00 PM**

**Entertainment: 6:30 PM**

**Dinner: 7:00 PM**

*\$50 per person or Table of 10 for \$450.  
To order and pay for your tickets, go to:  
[www.rotarycs.org](http://www.rotarycs.org) and follow the links.*

*Seating limited to 250, so purchase your tickets ASAP.  
Payment required at time of placing ticket order.*

### DECEMBER 2016

- Dec 19** Calgary Food Bank 9:45 am to 1:00 pm
- Dec 22** Christmas Social and Cleven Awards Day
- Dec 22** Calgary Food Bank 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm (NEED VOLUNTEERS)
- Dec 23** Calgary Food Bank 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm
- Dec 29** NO MEETING DUE TO CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

### JANUARY 2017

- Jan 4** Prep and Dinner Service at Ronald MacDonald House (NEED VOLUNTEERS)
- Jan 5** Mid Year State of the Union Address
- Jan 12** Garry Lamb: Alberta Transportation: Calgary Ring Road
- Jan 19** Robbie Burns Day
- Jan 20** Larry Kwong Chinese New Year: Regency Palace (See Bulletin for Details)
- Jan 26** Legends Profile: Terry Allen

### FEBRUARY 2017

- Feb 2** Wendy McDonald: Rotary Employment Partnership
- Feb 9** Valentines Day Luncheon: Carriage House
- Feb 16** TBA
- Feb 23** Dan Doherty: Rotary International Polio Plus

### MARCH 2017

- March 2** Energy East Pipeline Presentation
- March 9** Legends Profile: George Adam
- March 14** Prep and Dinner Service at the Mustard Seed
- March 16** St. Patrick's Day
- March 23** Alana Asuchak: Stress Busters
- March 30** Charlene Bearden: Club Runner Presentation

### APRIL 2017

- April 6** TBA
- April 13** Jon Fennell: Following The Molecules
- April 20** New Member Celebration: Location to be announced
- April 27** Janice Eisenhauer: Canadian Women for Afghanistan (Possibly at Clubhouse)

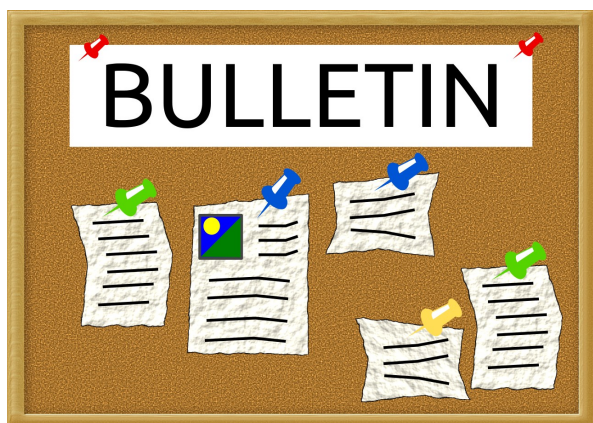
### MAY 2017

- May 4** Dream Home Registration Kick off
- May 5-7** District Conference (Red Deer)
- May 11** Bob Dubask: Myths About Reverse Mortgages
- May 18** Legends Profile: Ted Rowsell
- May 25** TBA
- May 26** President's Party: Details to be provided later

### JUNE 2017

- June 1** Stay In School Luncheon: Carriage House Inn
- June 2-4** Radium Fellowship Weekend: Details to be provided later
- June 8** Charities Day: Possibly at Carriage House Inn
- June 22** YEX Presentation: Returning Student
- June 29** Changing of the Guard





Please submit all bulletin submissions in the following format:

- Word Document or PDF
- Please ensure that all email addresses and phone numbers have been listed on your announcements
- Please make sure to include dates and times of events etc...
- Please submit by Thursdays for submission in the bulletin (anything later cannot be guaranteed)

contact me at: [kathyann@rotarycs.org](mailto:kathyann@rotarycs.org)  
(just click this link)

or call: (403) 244 9788 if you have questions

Thanks,

**Kathyann Reginato**

## Contact Us

**Administrator:** Kathyann Reginato  
Rotary Club of Calgary South  
L103C, 9705 Horton Road SW  
Calgary AB T2V 2X5  
(403) 244-9788

[kathyann@rotarycs.org](mailto:kathyann@rotarycs.org)

Visit us at: [www.rotarycs.org](http://www.rotarycs.org)

### **2016 2017 Club Officers**

**President:** Ken Farn: [kgfarn@telusplanet.net](mailto:kgfarn@telusplanet.net)

**President-Elect:** Bill LeClair: [leclair@calgarylaw.com](mailto:leclair@calgarylaw.com)

**Past President:** Murray Flegel: [mjf@bosslubricants.com](mailto:mjf@bosslubricants.com)

**Secretary:** Ted Rowsell: [rowselle@telus.net](mailto:rowselle@telus.net)

**Treasurer:** Larry Kennedy: [treasurer@rotarycs.org](mailto:treasurer@rotarycs.org)

**Partners President:** Pat Farn: [patfarn@telus.net](mailto:patfarn@telus.net)

### **2016 2017 Directors**

#### **Club Service: Operations**

Steve Mason

Email: [steve@talkinglightmedia.com](mailto:steve@talkinglightmedia.com)

#### **Club Service: Memberships and Social**

Glenn Potter

Email: [agpotter@telusplanet.net](mailto:agpotter@telusplanet.net)

#### **Club Service: Ways & Means**

Jack Haman

Email: [hamanj@telus.net](mailto:hamanj@telus.net)

#### **Community Service:**

Luanne Whitmarsh

Email: [luannew@kerbycentre.com](mailto:luannew@kerbycentre.com)

#### **Community Service: Ways & Means:**

Charlie Gouldsbrough

Email: [charlie@albertasleepcentre.com](mailto:charlie@albertasleepcentre.com)

#### **International & Vocational Service**

Bryan Walton

Email: [bwalton@cattlefeeders.ca](mailto:bwalton@cattlefeeders.ca)

#### **Youth Service**

Stacey Johnson

Email: [sjohnson@printthree.ab.ca](mailto:sjohnson@printthree.ab.ca)