





MAY 7 2015

### **Bonar Irving and Cammie Laird**



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Bulletin Chair: Bev Ostermann Bulletin Editor: Gail McDougall Bulletin Photographer: Mel Gray

### **BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU**

Bonar Irving introduced Cammie Laird, executive director of the BBB. Cammie has a background in journalism and communications, She has worked at news and business publications in Calgary and BC. Cammie was most recently at the National Music Centre. She is also a musician and painter.

#### What is the BBB?

The BBB began in 1912 in the U.S. and started in Calgary in 1955, with Rotary being a founding member. There are 112 chapters in the U.S. & Canada that provide 248 million individual services. It is a non-profit resource for business and consumers. There are 8 ethical standards a business must meet to be eligible for membership. It is not a consumer advocacy group.

Scams: The BBB provides information and prevention education regarding many types of scams. The typical victim is male, college educated, above average net worth and is an experienced investor. The general categories of scams are financial including Ponzi schemes where one person is paid dividends from the next person's investment or deposit, pyramid schemes, "pump and dump" where a penny stock is hyped and purchased by an "inside group" then sold as a stock with inflated value, the original "investors" sell off their stock at the artificially inflated price. There are misleading investment ads and seminars, as well high pressure sales and affinity fraud. Affinity fraud is where the criminal uses friendships, church groups clubs etc. to gain new investment victims.







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#### THE BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU: CAMMIE LAIRD

Charity scams crop up whenever their is a world catastrophe, with fraudulent websites accepting money for relief funds. Always check that a charity is registered with the CRA. If you are donating money at the door check the credentials of the volunteer.

"Sweetheart scams" are relationships that often originate on dating websites but also happen in person. The fraudster moves quickly to declarations of love and talks a lot about the importance of trust. eventually they begin to "borrow" money. People have been taken for up to 1 million dollars. One man who was caught had 4 online "girlfriends" sending him money. Never wire money to someone you do not know.

The same advice can prevent the "grandparent" scam where someone phones pretending to be a grandchild stuck in some foreign country or jail and needs money right away to get out.

There are employment scams, rental scams, windfall and inheritance scams. A new scam cropping up is a Skype fraud, You see your friends face but the audio is "not working" so you see your friend typing, a request for help. That facial Skype video has been stolen online and it is not your friend in real time.



### A few more great tips:

- ⇒ Always check bank and credit card statements.
- ⇒ Delete all spam.
- ⇒ Never give out personal information over the phone or online to someone you don't know.

A good thing to remember: "If it has to be NOW then it has to be NO."

Mel Gray asked the only question:

"Is the Alberta New Democrat Party a Member of the Better Business Bureau?"

... The answer was "No"





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## **RCCS: CLUB NEWS**

**President Al** welcomed all with the singing of O Canada and Rotary Grace. He then introduced the head table: Sherry Austin, Terry Allen, Lynn Grant, Bonar Irving and Cammie Laird (BBB).

**Guests: Roselyn Jack** introduced our guests including members from Millennium, and our Former member, Virginia Spring from the Downtown Club.

**President's Ball: President Al** thanked everyone for coming to President's Ball and recognized **Sherry Austin** with flowers for her great job as emcee.

Rotaract: President Al and Murray Flegel attended the AGM of the Rotaract Club where Dorothea Schaab was made an honorary member. Congratulations Dorothea.

**SISSP Golf Tournament: Len Hamm** gave us an update. We have 100 golfers registered and are working towards \$100,000 in pledges and donations. There is a group called "friends of the classic" donating \$100 each (or more) to help with prizes and auction items. Glen **Godlonton** presented the exciting new website: <a href="https://www.stayinschool.ca">www.stayinschool.ca</a> that has information on the program, our students, the tournament and our sponsors along with links to their websites.

**50/50: Bill Sumner** gave away \$160 from the 50/50 to **Mel Gray**. Since Mel was our photographer today he promptly took a "selfie" of the winner (himself)

Sergeant At Arms: Lynn Grant promptly asked Mel how many years since he won, 30 was the answer so \$30 was the fine. Glen Richardson and Len Hamm were fined for the free advertising they received with the presentation of the SISSP website. Glen Richardson was also fined for standing up his date, Jack Thompson at President's Ball.

His excuse was "Jack always wants to lead"

Gord Weicker, Virginia Spring and Rod Bower





LEN HAMM



**MEL GRAY'S SELFIE** 









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# **RCCS: CLUB NEWS**

**CRCF: Sherry Austin** presented the following CRCF recognition pins;

Norm Devitt + 2 Norm Legare + 2 Gord Weicker +2 Jack Thompson + 3

**Dream Home Moment: Dana Hunter** advised us that we received 200 surveys back from our volunteers last year which has resulted in the following changes: more change in the pouches, more cashiers at shift change and healthier snacks.

We have also clarified the relationship with Rotary and the Dream Home. The home is the project of the Stampede Lotteries committee and we are contracted to sell tickets for which we share the profits.

President Al closed the meeting reminding us to "Light Up Rotary" this week.















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#### **ROTARY CLUB OF CALGARY SOUTH EVENTS CALENDAR**

**MAY 2015** 

May 14 Gem Munro: The Amarok Society: Rotary House

May 21 Dr. Monique Dube: Alberta Energy Regulator (AER): Rotary House

May 28 SISSP Luncheon: Carriage House Inn

May 29, 30, 31 ANNUAL RADIUM FELLOWSHIP WEEKEND

**JUNE 2015** 

June 4 Dr. Elizabeth Canon: University of Calgary: Rotary House

June 8 Mustard Seed Dinner Prep
June 11 Charities Day: ClubHouse

June 18 Bart Rasmussen: The Future of Golf: Rotary House

June 23 Mustard Seed Dinner Prep

June 25 Changing of the Guard / WCS and Large Grants Reports: Rotary House

**JULY 2015** 

July 2 Dream Home Kickoff: Ranchman's Cookhouse & Dancehall

July 9 <u>No Meeting: Dream Home Operations</u>

July 16 Presentation from our Exchange Student, Jimmy Cho: Rotary House

July 23 Dr. Mintz: Underwater Photography: Rotary House

July 30 No Meeting: SISSP Golf Tournament

**AUGUST 2015** 

Aug 6 Wendy McDonald: Alberta Assoc. for Community Living: Rotary House

Aug 13 Inaugural Address: Rotary House

Aug 20 Presentation: Returning YEX Student: Daniel Padron Curiel: Rotary House

Aug 27 TO BE ANNOUNCED

**SEPTEMBER 2015** 

Sept 3 TO BE ANNOUNCED
Sept 10 Brock Warner: War Child

Sept 17 Trish Lund: Alberta Guide Dogs: Rotary House

Sept 24 TO BE ANNOUNCED

OCTOBER 2015

| Oct 1  | TO BE ANNOUNCED |
|--------|-----------------|
| Oct 8  | TO BE ANNOUNCED |
| Oct 15 | TO BE ANNOUNCED |
| Oct 22 | TO BE ANNOUNCED |
| Oct 29 | TO BE ANNOUNCED |







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#### **ROTARY CLUB OF CALGARY SOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

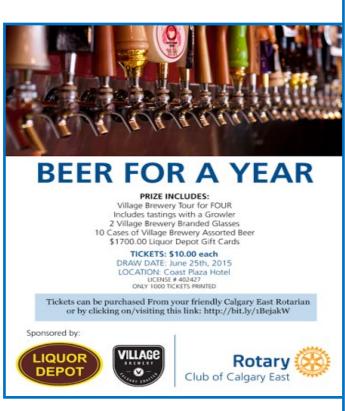


The Board approved the following two individuals for membership in our Club. In accordance with our Bylaws their names must be published in the Bulletin. If there are any objections notification must be sent to Ted Rowsell, Secretary, by May 18, 2015.

**Amy Giang: Classification: Automotive/Lube Service**Proposer: Murray Flegel Seconder: Allan Johnson

Kathy Demorest: Classification: Ice Painting/ Maintenance and Supplies

Proposer: Allan Johnson Seconder: Sherry Austin











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### ST. MARY'S SPEECH WINNER: REBECCA MESAY

Good evening ladies and gentlemen, today I shall be presenting to you a partial case study that I made using the Four Way Test upon which Rotary is based. They being, is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and friendship? Will it be beneficial to all concerned? I must admit at first I was at a loss as to what I was supposed to write about, I mean, what exactly is "it."

After some research I discovered that Herbert J. Taylor, a businessman, created the Four-Way test during the Great Depression to improve the way in his company functioned. But I have no experience in business, and seeing as how today, Rotarians use this test all around the world in various situations, I realized that I didn't have to limit myself. And so, after many failed attempts, I finally had my ah-ha idea, which I would like to present to you all today.

Exactly, two years ago this July, I went on one of the most incredible experiences I have had in my life. I, with the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation, a coalition of NGOs and international development agencies, traveled to Nicaragua, a country in Central America. Now when I explain what we were doing there, I always have difficulty. We were not missionaries. We were not going to build a school. We weren't going to save the world. If I am being perfectly honest, we did not do anything to improve the life of the people we met. We went there to learn; we went there to gain something from the country. One of the main focuses of our journey was our ever-changing climate and the effect we were having as Canadian on people thousands of miles away. We went to Nicaragua, one of the most impoverished countries in Central America to find ask in essence, is it the truth? Are all of the issues they are facing real? We discovered the answer to this question the moment we stepped off of that plane. Yes, it was the truth.

We understood that the issue of the environment was not one that any Nicaraguan could put on the back burner as we have here. One of the scariest moments of our journey happened, not a result of someone attacking our group or trouble at the borders but rather because of Canada. How? Halfway through our trip, we were supposed to visit a village of the name El Limon. Near this village was a gold mine, which a Canadian company of the name B2Gold, owned. B2Gold might be a name some of the adults in the room have heard of before. Anyway, we were making our way to this particular village because B2Gold had built a tailings pond, over the aquifers of the village. A tailings pond, that collects the waste of a mine, was built on the main source of water of these villagers. Not only did this ruin the ecosystem, but this company also deprived these people of their human right to water! The people of the village have received no compensation and must now trudge miles upon miles to another water source. Many of them have already fallen ill as a result of the contaminated water and yet the gold in that mine is sold for more than they will make in their entire lives. Is this fair to all concerned? Yet again, we knew the answervery quickly. No it is not.

Now as I mentioned before, this situation was fairly dangerous to all concerned. Let me explain to you why, when the villages saw how the mine and the tailings pond were affecting their quality of life and they saw how their children and elderly were dying, they fought back. How, you are probably wondering, does a small-impoverished village protest against a multi-billion dollar company? They protest peacefully, they organize demonstrations by the mine. They say, "We need water." "Necesitamos el agua." How does this Canadian Company react? They call upon their Nicaraguan allies; they call on the president of Nicaragua, Daniel Ortega, and they say, stop them, they are keeping us from doing our work. The work that included polluting the water of people who could hardly sustain themselves in the first place. The response of the Nicaraguan government was swift. Within hours, they sent in troops to attack the villagers with tear gas and rubber bullets. These individuals who wanted only what was rightfully theirs, the water. Who worked at the mine for a company that mistreated them and who no longer wanted to work under three month contracts, so that they could have health benefits and take care of their families. We being under the protection of ACGC were not allowed in the village because at this point, a Canadian company, B2Gold, had El Limon under lock and key. They didn't want outsiders seeing the human rights abuses that were occurring. Nor did they want to give the villagers more fuel to their fire. "No canadiense!" Will it build goodwill and better friendship? No. There are many in Nicaragua who do not like us. Will it be beneficial to all concerned? No. These people's livelihoods and families were taken from them.

Only one of the four tests was applicable to our journey of discovery about Nicaragua's climate and environment. As difficult as it was to accept, we were witnesses of the result of the issues that these people faced. They were telling us the truth. Their situation was not in any way fair nor was it likely to promote goodwill and friendship amongst Nicaraguans and Canadians. At every location affected by the mines, people were immediately suspicious simply because of our nationality. Finally, what is happening evidently does not benefit Nicaraguans, but it does not help Canadians either. How can we claim to be a representative for anything good and just when our economy is based off the pain and suffering of others? It is our obligation as Caradians to work to ensure that everything in our country is just and fair, will always create goodwill, friendship, and be beneficial to not only us, but to all people

Thank you

Rebecca Mesay







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### **60th ANNUAL PRESIDENT'S BALL PHOTOS**



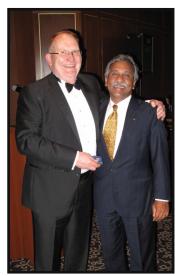






















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#### **PARTNERS IN PRINT**



The Partner's Book Club will hold their May meeting on May 11th at 10:00 am at The Calgary Golf & Country Club, 5900 Elbow Dr. SW. Contact Arlene by May 7<sup>th</sup> if you do plan to attend at: 403-271-2257 or: a.flegel@shaw.ca

### **Partners Spring Luncheon**

We had several guest speakers. Kathy Christiansen presented Wendy and Susan with a plaque in honor of the donation partners gave to Alpha house last year. Tony and Penny Marshall spoke about their Organic farm "Highwood Crossing Farm" and President Al joined us for a lovely lunch.









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# **District Conference 2015**

Remember to pack your running shoes and come to the District Conference – May 8,9, and 10 in Medicine Hat!

Join Kurt Kowalchuk (Calgary Sarcee) and District Governor Garth as they run or walk on Saturday morning at the District Conference. They plan to meet at 6:00 am in the lobby of the hotel to enjoy the sunrise in Medicine Hat and are looking forward to having as many of you as possible join them.

There is still time to register at www.discon5360.ca

Your conference committee

### **Contact Us**

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http://portal.clubrunner.ca/952

#### 2014-2015 Club Officers

President: Allan Johnson President-Elect: Murray Flegel Secretary: Ted Rowsell Past President: Keith Davis Partners President: Linda Legare

#### 2014-2015 Directors

Don Bacon (Ways and Means) Geoff Hughes (International Service)

Neill Magee (Membership)
Gail McDougall (Community Service)

Toby Oswald-Felker (Club Service)

Larry Stein (Club Operations) Craig Stokke (Youth Service)

# 2015-2016 Incoming Directors

Charlie Gouldsborough Glenn Potter Bryan Walton Luanne Whitmarsh