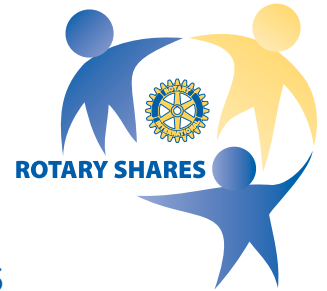




the Arch



February 19th, 2008
Volume 31, Issue 24

GAMMA GIRLS
Jill Kulhawy

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..... THANK YOU !!!**

Past President Bart introduced Jill Kulhawy, B.N., Community Education Director, Pregnancy Care Centre.

She founded the Gamma Girls programme which is to be mentors to teenage girls. She talks to a lot of teenagers. The Gamma programme is 10 weeks long – with dialogue leading, it is hoped the young girls will become better able to cope with their difficult world.

She tells us that in Teen Culture: reality is subjective, temporal, negotiable and situational. This culture is fast-paced and unforgiving, unlike the one we experienced. They are constantly subjected to media which includes TV, radio, billboards, videos, magazines, Ipods, cell phones, movies, computers with chat rooms, Facebook, Myspace and porn. Many parents are disengaged or absent, and teenagers try to fill their lives with whatever it takes. This often leads to unhealthy choices such as drugs, alcohol, sex, gambling, shopping all of which can become addictive.

Teens want to be loved, they want freedom, they want to be seen as individuals but not seen as different. They want to fit in but be noticed. They crave relationships and entertainment. They want to mark events, sometimes with tattoos or piercing and they want to share experiences. They want to make adult choices without responsibility for the consequences.

The teen brain is not fully developed until age 25 so they are not able to assess risks vs consequences like adults, and decisions tend to be emotionally based. Life experiences are needed for maturity. Involvement in volunteer work, sports, reading, being a mentor, club memberships, etc, develop the brain in a way to give healthy life skills and lead to sound decisions in future years.

Teens need to have mentors who are healthy adults who can be role models and help them learn decision making skills. Teens are sponges for learning but can learn both positive and negative strategies through stimulation and reinforcement. Today's teens are experimenting – with drinking, drugs, sexual activity. There is much of this in the media bombarding them. There is also the peer pressure.

A new study reveals a third of songs have explicit references to substance abuse and most placed these substances in a positive light associating them with sex, partying and humor. Most teenagers listen to at least 2.5 hours of music each day. Parents, schools, community, extended family members are all needed to help teenagers get through the difficult years. They have to be honest, open, truthful, involved, and show the kids they are valued. Today's teenagers have a lot tougher time than previous generations getting through to maturity.

This was a thought provoking presentation.

Pres. Pat presented to Jill the Certificate showing a Dominican republic family has received a LED Solar Powered Lighting.

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The Arch is published weekly. Please forward any items for inclusion to Stephen Pick.

Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook

Chartered March 14th, 1977

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Meeting Minutes



February 12th, 2008

Scribe: Ed McLean

President Pat rang the bell at 12:18 sharp and we all were happy that Betty was back at the piano to lead us in O Canada and the Rotary grace.

This was followed by a moment silence to reflect on Alistair Limpitlaw who passed away on February 10th and also for the passing of new member Garth Sabirsh's mother.

Peter Robison introduced the 6 guests and 5 visiting Rotarians to the 36 members in attendance. There seemed some doubt about Fred Ronecker's attendance but he stood and asserted himself to remove any doubt.

Pres. Pat advised us Irene Deeson (who joined our club recently under the name of Johnson) is still in the Foothills Hospital and will welcome visitors.

In our continuing attempts to attract new members and to raise our profile in the community, Norm Moro has arranged for a booth to be set up in the South Centre Mall on March 29th & 30th near the Carleton Card store on the main floor. Volunteers will be needed so be prepared.

Eric Roston, classification Education-Secondary Teacher, gave a brief classification talk. He hails from Weyburn, SK and earned his B.Ed. at U of S, S'toon a while ago. He has taught in Calgary since 1988 and at Fairview for past 8 years. He has been married for 16 years and has 2 children ages 15 and 12. He comes from a

very small family and evidently could hold a family reunion in a phone booth if there are any left. He likes to play golf and basketball and to cycle. He was a marathoner at one time. He was convinced by Pres. Pat to join Rotary. Eric says he has found it a challenge to motivate students. He is an advocate of maintaining our partnership with Fairview School.

Past Pres. Bart reminded us to try to attend the Integrity Awards dinner on March 3rd at Stage West. The club's nominee will be in attendance at next week's meeting.

Bart also reminded us the meeting on February 26th will be at Cantos Music Society at 11th Avenue and 1st Street SE. There is limited parking so a bus may be available if enough members are interested.

Sergeant-at-Arms Paul Gaudet had some history questions for us today which earned some money after those with no Pins or Name Badges were fined. There were some GOOD/BAD News Bucks. All members were happy to see Tammy back in our midst and one member even put 5 bucks in the GOOD News pot to welcome her. John Beatty was also back and had to put in his own buck! Good for you, John and it was nice to see you back, too.

P.P. Bart introduced our speaker, Jill Kulhawy, B.N., Community Education Director, Pregnancy Care Centre.

Upcoming Events

February 19th
February 22, 23 & 24
February 26th

Dave Moberg — Banff Springs Hotel
Rotary District Bonspiel — Grande Prairie
Cantos Music Foundation Tour

March 3rd
March 4th
March 11th
March 18th
March 25th
March 29 & 30th

Integrity Awards — Stage West @ 6pm
Jennifer Hedayat — Engineers Without Borders
Syed Soharwardy — Muslims Against Terrorism
Special Induction Meeting
Marg Pollan, Researcher — Asian Bird Flu
Chinook Rotary Information Booth at Southcentre Mall, main floor
— call Norm Moro to volunteer

April 1st
April 8th
April 15th
April 22nd
April 29th

High School Debaters
Mike Olnycky — Ukrainian Council of Calgary
Erin Lawrence — Global TV News Producer
Ricot Leon — Missionary to Haiti
John Gilchrist — Herald Food reporter

May 6th
May 13th
May 23rd-25th

Jim Amsing — Calgary Police Service
Alexis Beddoe — Rotary Shelter Boxes
District Conference "Rotary Is Light, Light for the World", Lethbridge

June 15-18th

Rotary International Conference, Los Angeles

The first Rotary Club meeting was held on the 23rd of February 1905 in Chicago.

Throughout the years, Rotarians have continued to celebrate on the 23rd of February.



Rotary Chinook Nature Park

The Beginning



Building Project / Heritage Fund Account

The Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook was chartered on March 17th, 1977. Shortly thereafter, the chartering Board of Directors proposed that the Club should establish a "Special Fund" for the purpose of eventually developing a permanent meeting site that would also serve as a permanent monument to Rotary, as well as provide community facilities for public use. The Club unanimously approved this project. The program established was to take 10% from all fund raising efforts annually, deposit the same in a no-risk trust type investment and maximize the return of our growing investment. The members determined and agreed that the project to be developed would be a permanent meeting site, most likely at the south end of Glenmore Park where we have our special tree-planting project. The ideal building structure was to be a "heritage type structure" (like an historic barn) that could be relocated there, completed in the interior to serve the community's needs for a meeting place, with a restricted covenant of a guarantee permanently for our meetings, Tuesday of each week, plus our Ladies' Evenings, annual President's Ball, and other functions on a first-right basis. It was the intent to seek matching grants from the corporate community, Civic Government and/or Provincial Government to maximize the investment. A target of \$100,000 was considered reasonable for a base, corporate matching would raise it to \$200,000, a Provincial match would raise it to \$400,000 (perhaps private donations would take in another \$100,000 or so - total \$500,000!).

In 1983, the then Board of Directors responded to a plea from a charity and depleted this fund, which had accumulated in excess of \$12,000, for a special project. As a result, the growth of the fund was set back and it has taken a number of years to return the fund to expected levels. Subsequent Boards have remained steadfast in not interfering with the long-term objective and growth of the fund.

The project intent remains unaltered. Possible exceptions, discussed on several occasion, would be to develop a building or some other form of permanent monument to the Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook that may not necessarily fulfill our meeting location obligations. This facility might still serve the community of South Calgary, or a special needs project, while acknowledging a permanent display remembrance of our community service commitment. Another possibility, a rare opportunity, is to develop our own "Nature Park" in cooperation with the Government of Alberta on Crown Land on the east side of the Bow River, adjacent to Highway 22X, within the City of Calgary limits. The parcel is approximately 30 acres and would form part of the Fish Creek Provincial Park. Until one project is clearly identified, and agreed upon by 100% of the membership, the continued growth of this "Heritage Account" is to be maintained. The name "Heritage Account" has been used occasionally and perhaps it would be a more appropriate title, clearly indicating to those who may wonder about the fund, what the fund's intent is. Thousands of Clubs throughout Rotary's world have been successful in establishing high profile, permanent

community facilities, and there is no reason our Club should be an exception. Look at what the Rotary Club of Calgary South has done with Rotary House in Stampede Park!

Proposed Development

Establish Development Committee and Budget

Phase I

Finalize pathway systems, waterfowl blinds, rough overall layout of entry gate (Rotary tribute), design and install a roughed in parking lot. Contact agencies for matching grants and donations of vegetation.

Phase II

Complete pathway system. Construct first picnic structure (2 or 3 possible). Establish natural growth tree and bush areas. Contact other Calgary and area Clubs for pre-designed rest bench donations in the Club name. Work with Phase Budget.

Phase III

Dedication for 25 Year Anniversary. Continue additions for observation of wildlife and nature appreciation. Add amenities as identified and approved by Alberta Parks and Recreation. Work within Phase Budget.

Ongoing

Annual outing, continued plantings, nature observation areas, possible convenience or other service structure, additional grants from third parties, other events on site, etc.





THIS AND THAT



World Community Service Report

This report involves a project adopted by our Club in 2003 to assist the Towns of Dajabon and Loma de Cabrera, located in the Dominican Republic. The Massacre River is the water source for these towns and its level had been sharply reduced due to soil erosion and disrupted forest microclimate. The people living in the area depend on this water source and were afraid that it would be completely lost if remedial action were not taken promptly.

The reasons for the reduced water level in the river however were man made. In their quest to earn a living, the ranchers and farmers who lived along the river had cut down trees in order to plant crops and graze cattle, thereby leading to the erosion and changing micro climate. Our project was designed to restore the forest along the river, while keeping the farmers and cattle ranchers on the land by teaching them sustainable crop and grazing techniques. The cost of the project was \$31,000 comprised of our Club's contribution of \$10,000, matched by Wild Rose Foundation for a second \$10,000 and completed by a grant from TRF of \$11,000.

Due to the lack of available saplings at the start of the project, the funds were directed primarily towards educating the about 200 families living in the area which is the starting point for the river, high up in the mountains. Forestry technicians worked side by side with these families and taught them how to grow

crops and trees that would prevent soil erosion, while still allowing them to eat and sell some foods/fruit/wood in order to make a living. Thus, a large proportion of the program funds went to the Camara Forestal Dominicana, a forestry service group that did the teaching out in the field, as well as holding community workshops, demonstration field days, etc. Over 50,000 saplings were eventually planted.

The Dajabon Rotarians are happy with the results, as they report that the 200 families have learned a tremendous amount, have changed their habits, and the water coming down the river is much cleaner, meaning less soil erosion is occurring.

Rotarians from our Club were able to play an active role in this project as Norm Myden and Harry Nazarchuk visited the area at the time the project was originally proposed in 2003, and in February of 2006 Dave Saunders and other Alberta Rotarians visited the project and were taken to various replanted sites.

Rotary Chinook Workshop

Jim Thompson, and the other Past Presidents, have volunteered to put on a workshop on Chinook Club by-laws, constitution, associations with district and RI, etc.

It is proposed that the incoming Board of Directors attend, as well as all other members who are interested. It would be particularly useful for newer members.

We are looking at holding the session (about 4 hours) in May.

The reason for this early notice, is that we would like to book the venue, and we need to have an idea of how many members to plan for.

Please advise Monty if you have any interest.
Tel 278-6675 or email montcor@shaw.ca

Greeters

February 19th Peter Robison, David Wylie

February 26th Cantos Music Foundation Tour

March 4th Eric Roston

If you are unable to GREET on your assigned day, please arrange a substitute.



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