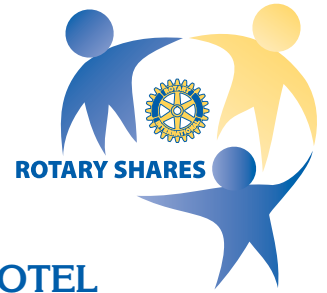




# the Arch



February 26th, 2008  
Volume 31, Issue 25

## BANFF SPRINGS HOTEL Dave Moberg

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



The Fairmont Banff Springs is an internationally recognized symbol of Canadian hospitality. William Cornelius Van Horne maintained tourism was an intricate ingredient in getting people to ride CPR and was conscious of the financial possibilities attached to the western mountain scenery. His philosophy reflected this awareness, 'Since we can't export the scenery,' he said, 'we'll

have to import the tourists.' To enhance traffic on the CPR, Van Horne envisioned a succession of lavish resort hotels along the railway line through the Rocky and Selkirk Mountains.

In 1886, CPR began developing three hotels to reflect Van Horne's idea of luxurious accommodations. The Mount Stephen House at Field, the Fraser Canyon Hotel at the North Bend and the Glacier House at Rogers Pass. Van Horne hired Bruce Price of New York, one of the leading architects of the time. With Price heading the project, construction of the Banff Springs Hotel began in the spring of 1887 and the hotel publicly opened on June 1, 1888.

By the start of the twentieth century, the Banff Springs Hotel had developed into one of the top three mountain getaways in North America and Van Horne's vision had been realized, the scenery had been undeniably capitalized.

The 1930's were also a high time for promotion and the hotel saw a growth in members of high society, including heads of states and actors visiting the hotel for photo opportunities in order to promote the persona or place needing exposure. The likes of Helen Keller, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth visited the hotel and Benny Goodman was influential in Banff obtaining a landing strip, as he wanted to stay at the hotel but could only do so if there was an area to land his plane. Stanley



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

2007

*Cont'd on page 2 ...*

## Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook *Chartered March 14th, 1977*

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[www.chinookrotary.org](http://www.chinookrotary.org) • [info@chinookrotary.org](mailto:info@chinookrotary.org)



# Meeting Minutes



**February 19th, 2008**

**Scribe: Don McKenzie**

President Pat Hutchison called the meeting to order. Betty French played the national anthem followed with the Rotary Grace.

Total attendance was 47, with 5 guests and 5 visiting Rotarians. Our outbound exchange student Ashley Morrison introduced our visitors. We greeted them with our usual warm welcome. Well done, Ashley.

Ron May was the winner of the 50/50.

Please sign up to go to the Integrity Awards to be held March 3rd at Stage West @6pm.

The planned Cantos Music Foundation Tour on February 26<sup>th</sup> had to be cancelled as we could not get enough of our membership to attend. Our next meeting will be at the Carriage House unless otherwise advised.

A number of new members will be inducted at our March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Hopefully we can have good attendance by our members for this occasion.

Sergeant-at-Arms Paul Gaudet had some good questions on geography. Our members had all the right answers, and Paul is becoming a very popular Sergeant-At-Arms.

Congratulations to Grampa Anthony Tonkinson on the birth of his first grandchild.

We were privileged to have Dave Moberg, Guest Relations Manager for the Fairmont Banff Springs hotel, as our guest speaker. Dave has been employed by the hotel for 45 years. He gave a very interesting talk on the history of the hotel which dates back to 1870. The first hotel opened in 1888 and the existing hotel was built 1911 to 1914. There have been many changes since then.

*... cont'd from page 1*

Thompson, a world recognized golf course designer was selected to construct the world's greatest mountain golf course. By 1940 the effect of World War II had reached the hotel. By 1942, the hotel had closed its doors and with it the greatest era in the hotel's rich history. It wasn't until 1945 that the hotel re-opened. Through the 1950's and 60's the hotel struggled to reclaim the success it had before the war.

By the 1970's the hotel had reached a pivotal point, for the first time the Banff Springs Hotel would remain open for the winter season and the hotel would move away from its seasonal past to becoming a resort destination open all year. Targeted marketing campaigns were thrust into foreign markets, especially Japan.

Today The Fairmont Banff Springs continues to deliver the service and excellence expected while still exhibiting the growth and adaptability that has been so common in the history of the hotel. Providing guests and visitors with an unparalleled attention to quality of service, the hotel meets the demands of sightseer and casual tourist, to business visitors and prominent members of society.

## Greeters

February 19th	Eric Roston, Ghalib Abdulla
February 26th	Jack Leuw, Albert Amaniampong
March 4th	Ron May, John Beatty
March 11th	John McBean, Neil Beatty

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

## Upcoming Events

February 22, 23 & 24	Rotary District Bonspiel — Grande Prairie
February 26th	Alexis Beddoe — Rotary Shelter Boxes
March 3rd	Integrity Awards — Stage West @ 6pm
March 4th	Jennifer Hedayat — Engineers Without Borders
March 11th	Syed Soharwardy — Muslims Against Terrorism
March 18th	Special Induction Meeting
March 25th	Marg Pollan, Researcher re Pandemic Preparedness — Asian Bird Flu
March 29 & 30th	Chinook Rotary Information Booth at Southcentre Mall, main floor — call Norm Moro to volunteer
April 1st	High School Debaters
April 8th	Mike Olnycky — Ukrainian Council of Calgary
April 15th	Erin Lawrence — Global TV News Producer
April 22nd	Ricot Leon — Missionary to Haiti
April 29th	John Gilchrist — Herald Food reporter
May 6th	Jim Amsing — Calgary Police Service
May 23rd-25th	District Conference, Lethbridge — "Rotary Is Light, Light for the World"
June 15-18th	Rotary International Conference, Los Angeles — "See The Stas"



# Rotary Chinook Nature Park

## The Continuation



The Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook (one of 13 Rotary Clubs in Calgary) has, since 2002, quietly developed a special 60 acre park in Calgary's SE adjacent to the very busy highway 22X. This unique project is described as a "Nature Park".

The Nature Park Committee comprises Jim Thompson as Chairman, Ron Smith as Assistant Chair, and basically all active Club members willing to assist on semi annual treks to the site. We were denied access during the last 2 years, due to the 22X expansion construction, but will resume our custodial responsibilities this year.

The Park is located on the east side of the Bow River below Cranston, is accessed via McKenzie Meadows Drive, and forms part of the Fish Creek Provincial Park lands. A former gravel pit, it has been reclaimed to its original natural quality, with special added features provided by the Club and several corporate and other Rotary Club donors. Features include 4 gazebo shelters, a dozen rest benches, paved parking area, a walking pathway around the two wetland ponds, and a natural bridge between them. On May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2004, as Phase II, the Club members completed the planting of 650 native plants and trees on the site as part of an ongoing commitment to this very special community footprint. The TD Bank Friends of the Environment Foundation and Golden Acres Garden Centre's Wade Hartwell, donated funds and plant stock to this Phase, which were planted in organized areas for ease of identification for visitors. School classes who visit find this of particular interest in developing knowledge of Alberta's wildlife and native plants, right in the city.

This not an off-leash area for pet owners, but rather a special walk about park adjacent to the river, providing visitors with an opportunity to stroll around in peace and solitude, with the added bonus of seeing plants, birds and animals, in their natural habitat, within the city limits.

The Park can also be accessed via the city's bike path system. Rotary International is dedicated to community service, and has developed parks all over the world. Another major Rotary Park project underway in this city is Rotary Challenger Park in the NE, an all Club and donors effort with major multi-million dollar recreational facilities for the disabled.

The 'Coke' Assembly Gazebo will be erected near the Park parking lot. It will be the largest of 5 on site, will be maintenance free, environmentally friendly and will contain the Rotary slogan, "Service Above Self" as well as a large Rotary logo on the north facing gable.

The other 4 gazebos, scattered throughout the park, each contain one of the 4-Way Test statements as well as a plaque honouring the donor. There are 12 permanent concrete park benches scattered throughout, each dedicated by a Rotary Club in the Calgary community of Rotary. We have provided the railed passageway between the 2 ponds, the paving of the parking lot, 3 permanent cairns – 1 of which honours the outside donors – the figure 8 pathway system within the park that encircles the ponds, and the planting of thousands of native trees and plants to restore this former gravel pit to its original natural state.

The park is part of the Province of Alberta Fish Creek Provincial Park land portfolio, isolated from the rest of the park by being on the east side of the Bow River and south of Highway 22X. The park is highly visible from 22X and access is via the entry road to McKenzie Meadows golf course.

The 'Coke' gazebo will be the last structure built on the site. The Provincial Parks have installed an animal safe waste bin and washroom adjacent to the City paved pathway running along the west side of the park, north to south into the district of Cranston.

This is not the first park we have been involved with in Calgary. South Glenmore Park is an ongoing park improvement initiative, Inglewood Park was a joint Rotary Clubs project that we participated in as well. The



Nature Park was dedicated in 2001. Financial support from outside donors now exceeds \$ 50,000, and gifts of service and in-kind well beyond that. It is, we are told the largest urban park developed by a single Rotary Club – in the district and probably the entire zone. Ongoing commitment from this Club will see the continued maintenance of pathways and structures, and the continuation of native plant restoration annually. We will be submitting this project to RI for consideration as a 'Best Cooperative Projects Award' and plan to develop a brochure describing it with photos for distribution to local schools and groups interested in visiting it. The park is strictly a day use facility, no charge, and no pets off-leash area.

This is a unique RI permanent 'footprint' in SE Calgary, an environmental recovery program to be enjoyed by generations of Calgarians and visitors forever.

### Contributors, Donations or Services

#### Gazebos

- Coca-Cola Bottling Co
- Carma Developers Ltd
- Lafarge Canada Inc
- KCS Contracting Ltd
- Spruce Meadows

#### Donations / Services

- TD Bank Friends of the Environment Foundation
- Calgary Area Rotary Clubs
- MacKenzie Meadows Golf Club
- Thompson TMP Consulting Ltd
- Browning Design Inc
- Iron Horse Securities Inc
- Southwestern Traffic Systems Ltd
- Golden Acres Garden Sentres Ltd
- The City of Calgary
- The Province of Alberta



# THIS AND THAT



## DISTRICT 5360 PEACE PHOTO CONTEST How do YOU picture Peace? District 5360 wants to know!

Would it be a picture of mother earth, a child's hand in that of an adult, or perhaps a sacred marking? Use your creativity and your photographic talent and submit your best "Peace Photo".

Prizes are \$1,000; \$500; & \$250 respectively for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup> place finishers. Winning entries will be published and prizes awarded at the DG Bernie's District Conference in Lethbridge Alberta on the May 24<sup>th</sup> weekend.

The deadline is April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 and semi-finalists will be published at President Wilf's Rotary World Peace Summit to be held in Windsor, Ontario on April 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>.

<http://www.rotarypeacesummit.org>



All entries become property of District 5360.

Submit high-resolution digital photos easily online and see contest details: <http://rotarianpeacephoto.org>

The contest is open to all district 5360 Rotarians and immediate family members, including Interactors and Rotaractors. There is no cost to enter. More information can be obtained by contacting Calgary West Rotary Club Peace Photo Committee members:

Marg Henschel - [henschelm@shaw.ca](mailto:henschelm@shaw.ca) • Mike French - [mike.french@rbc.com](mailto:mike.french@rbc.com)

## Roster Books !

The Membership Roster Book update pages will be printed at the end of March.

### Current Members:

Please ensure that your information is current and correct. Submit any changes or corrections to [stephen@ontheridge.ca](mailto:stephen@ontheridge.ca)

### New Members:

Please arrange to get a head-and-shoulders photo taken and forwarded by email to [stephen@ontheridge.ca](mailto:stephen@ontheridge.ca)

## 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](mailto:montcor@shaw.ca)



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Rotary Club of Calgary Chinook

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