

# THE EYE PENER



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Official Bulletin of:  
**ROTARY CLUB OF SASKATOON MEEWASIN #22664**  
2502 Blain Ave., Saskatoon, Sask., S7J 2B6  
Founded: April 23, 1985  
Meetings: Monday, 0700hr. Hilton Garden Inn  
District Governor (5550): Nancy Morris

PRESIDENT: Murray McArthur • FIRST V.P.: John Luross • SECRETARY: Chetan Thakore • EDITOR: Jacques Toupin

**Chair:** President Murray  
**Desk:** Jack Braideck / Rob Jasper  
**Editor:** Jacques Toupin

## The future of Rotary is in your hands

**Guests:** César Janssens (exchange student from Belgium), Connie Tenasky and Gail Hendrick from St Michael school, Peter N and Doug M. (Regina Eastview Rotary Club), Don Stefrick, and Ingrid.

## Upcoming Events

### Meetings:

June 21<sup>th</sup>: Lona Finny: Caring for today's elderly.  
June 28<sup>th</sup>: Change over meeting (more info to come)  
July 5<sup>th</sup>: César Janssens: One year as an exchange student in Canada.  
July 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>: TBA

### Other Rotary-related events:

June 20-23, 2010: Rotary International Convention in Montreal.  
June 25<sup>th</sup>: Phil Mamchur's Edward Jones office's Charity BBQ.  
July 25-27: Taste of Saskatchewan.  
August 18<sup>th</sup>: Saskatoon Rotary Clubs' annual golf tourney at Greenbriar

**Ralph's raffle:** There were three "lucky" winners today, all gaining a sleeve of excellent golf balls inscribed with the name of high refinement, some liquid refreshment (bottled tap water) all contained in a new bag. Neither Ron, Ian nor JT could bring themselves to recycle such superlative prizes.

### Note from the editor, Jacques Toupin:

As Chryste is on holiday, rather- on conference in California, this scribe was asked to scribble some notes pending her return. Hari and the dog are on their own, but the Club is well looked after. Or so I claim.

This morning's meeting was brought to order by President Murray promptly at 7am. Rob and Jack manned the front desk. It seems that the good weather this weekend loosened a lot of previously frozen (or rusty) tongues. The noise, er, *conversations* could be heard all the way to the hotel's main entrance. This morning's music was ably led by David on the keyboard, with Art P singing lead, backed by John B and others. The National and Opening hymns were not as painful as they have been when these worthies are not around.

## Announcements

The banner exchange question was brought up by President Murray. Should we continue the banner-exchange program when members visit other clubs? It is very embarrassing to not have a Meewasin giveaway when our representatives receive once from another club. A brief discussion from the floor brought up the fact that said program was actually going to be explored at the District level. Another suggestion involved having the banners received pictorially digitized, then "attached" on our website. The question was then put to rest, pending the outcome of the District's discussion.

Colour Night: Pr. Murray, who was barely able to contain his anticipation when he announced the passing of the reins of power to the new executive, is to be held on Monday June 28. The meeting is in the evening, in order to encourage spouses and family attendance.

Thanks by and to the Club: Murray read out a sincere thank-you from MD Ambulance for our financial assistance at their recent Safety Awareness event. Bob McLeod and Robert Fisher were "encouraged" by Wayne Claypool to apply for a new *District Simplified Grant* to benefit St Michael's School's reading program. The faster and more efficient grant application process also succeeded in obtaining more funds in total to support a worthwhile program that has strong support of our entire membership. This success and our tireless workers were warmly applauded.

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, the strip mall which contains Phil Mamchur's Edward Jones office is hosting a Charity BBQ. Financials from the feast, as finagled by Phil, will be donated to Saskatoon Meewasin Rotary Club! Please call the boss at Phil's office so that they know how many [tube] steaks to order.

July 25 to 27 is the Taste of Saskatchewan. The Riverside Club (talk to Vic) is looking for volunteers from our Club to assist in slinging beer, not tasting food. Donna and Garth have already volunteered, for more than one shift each, but the Riverside Club would appreciate any additional assistance.

August 18<sup>th</sup> is the Saskatoon Rotary Clubs' annual golf tourney at Greenbriar. As the registrations remaining are limited to 40 players, so if you want to use the aforementioned sleeves of wonderful golf balls Ralph has been raffling off, see Cliff ASAP.

César, who came, saw and was conquered (given that he has decided to extend his stay) *will* be leaving in about a month. Prior to that, he would like to collect as many pictures of various Rotary activities as he can. You can email these to him at [cejanssens91@hotmail.com](mailto:cejanssens91@hotmail.com)

Meals on Wheels spots are filling up nicely, but there are still one or two vacancies. Please see Ian to get onto his list *at a time that is convenient for you*.

"The more clubs we have, the more friends we have, and the more friends, the greater our opportunity for service."

— Meet Your President, THE ROTARIAN, September 1953

### Program: Connie and Gail, St Michael School reading program

Bob McLeod introduced Connie and Gail, principal and community/ school coordinator of St. Michael's School, to speak about the reading program our Club has enjoyed supporting all these years. Connie *said* she was really fortunate to be starting her day at 7am with such an enthusiastic group. That's us... though someone did wonder what had been added to the OJ.

Gail filled in that St Michael's had a number of special programs. With Aboriginal students, low income families, single parent families, there is a large need for the reading program.

Although the program had originally started with older kids, Janet's research turned up that it would be more effective with the younger set. The extra funds we provide allow for further improvements to the program. Although improving, reading levels are still lower than desired. Planned improvements include:

Providing kids with motivational books to call their own, at their reading level.

Every Monday morning assembly, the school will celebrate and recognize the students class/ family who demonstrate a love of reading and give them books to take home.

They will hire busses and take the kids to local bookstores- stores that many of them have never entered.

They will also be looking for local authors to come into the school to speak to the classes.

Connie and Gail would love to come and report to us next year and will bring lots of pictures to illustrate their progress. They offer us a big thank-you for our generosity and especially our involvement!

Les offered our thanks for the ladies' presentation and reminded them and everyone else of the Club's new policy of providing a book to St Michael's with the speaker's name inscribed. He correctly observed that their program also offered *us* the gift of giving back to the community in our own small, but personal way.

Murray was able to close our meeting at 7:55, even though it was certainly a full session!

**Sergeant-at-Arms:** Wayne Walling / Cliff Hayes.

Ralph got nailed for his editorial comments (uh oh...) about the newspaper article with Mr Empey's name in it (the latter being absent and unable to give back what he was getting. Today.). Garth paid up for his good golf score, despite his protestations that it would be unlikely to be duplicated. Art P continued to smile every time he was asked about his recent Mediterranean tour, so he paid for that. Bob McLeod was severely fined and chastised to hogging nearly all the women at the table; Ian was then nicked for his "protectionist" comment on the matter. In a politically correct way, of course. Glen was fined for being late to the meeting, the *second* time he came through the doors. Wayne C was fined for a was well warranted reason. Murray, Ron and Wayne W were all fined (I'm sure there's a name for it in Murray's case, as it was self-inflicted) for not turning in their remaining Lobster Fest tickets and money.

#### Happy & Sad dollars

**Art P** paid again 'cause he & Janet had such a lovely 35 days in Europe and the Middle East. In addition, he was pleased to announce the birth of their first grandson on Sunday June 13: Joshua Alexander Williams @ 5lbs, 5oz.

Speaking of which, **Ian** was proud to announce that his [artful] shot of his grand dog now graces the pages of the SPCA's catalogue as Miss April. He was sad to announce that his lawnmower broke its crank when roused from its long rained-in sleep. Fortunately, he got a good deal at Sears, including free delivery. **Donna** was happy that she was able to make up a missed Rotary meeting in Niagara Falls, but was definitely upset (with a lot of sympathy from other members) about the number of roads and bridges the City is closing for construction. Our guest **Peter** was happy to be in Saskatoon as he is from Regina. He is here for a motorcycle rally and was particularly appreciative of the room & board he was offered by a prospective Rotary member (see above). **Al** was unsure about his emotional state, as next week they will be in Victoria for his niece's wedding. **Murray** was happy about his recent 21 man fishing stag, where he caught a really big fish. **John B** was pleased that his son Gabriel was in *La Traviata*, but wasn't so sure he was going to enjoy sitting through the performance. I noticed that he wasn't so quick to offer his tickets to anyone else though. John was also saddened to announce the recent passing of Kelly, Mark Richard's wife. **Hari and his dog** were very happy that Chrystel was returning this evening. With luck, he'll have cleared out the takeout boxes before she arrives....

25) This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about micro credit.

In Cuzco, Peru Rotarians contributed \$10,000 to a partnering association, Asociacion MIDE, which provided small loans to 288 low-income women. In six months these women improved their businesses and living standards, lifting them out of extreme poverty. While local Rotarians had the opportunity to work together to develop the project and approve the system of loans, the participants learned to use, administer and benefit from financial credit. In the process, the women improved their self-esteem as they acquired entirely new roles of financial responsibility for their families. How do I focus my giving?

*Every Rotarian, Every Year – Giving is hope in action.*