

# THE EYE OPENER



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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: Edward Hawes

Presiding: Murray McArthur  
Desk: Al Muir and Chetan Thakore  
Raffle: Ralph Morgan  
Sergeant: Hari Nair  
Program: Annual Meeting

**Guests:** Cesar Janssens (Exchange Student) and Pam Bennett (prospective member)

11: This week's **Rotary Foundation Thought** is about being a Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member.

What can you get for US\$100 dollars these days? A pair of shoes, a nice dinner for two or a stove for a needy family in rural Guatemala. A contribution of \$100 to the Annual Programs Fund will make you a Sustaining Member of The Rotary Foundation but it also provides life-changing opportunities for those in need.

When you choose to support our Rotary Foundation you are making a difference in two ways: you are changing lives and you are literally saving lives. What an amazing thing to be able to say!

**Ralph's Raffle:** The winners of Ralph's lucky bags were Hari Nair, Dave Bona, and Chrystel Olivier. Also, Murray McArthur and Ken Wilson continued to outbid each other over a festive candy house built by Harold Empey's grandchildren.

## January Roster

Desk: Donna Birkmaier / Del Rue  
Sargeant: Cliff Hayes  
EyeOpener: Jacques Toupin

January 11th: Patricia Rowe, Sherbrooke Community Centre  
January 18th: Susan Clarkson, Ronald McDonald House  
January 25th: new member induction  
February 1st: Brenda Banbury, trip to Africa  
April 16th: 25th Anniversary dinner  
May 13th - 15th: Rotary District Conference, Winnipeg  
June 20th - 23rd: Rotary International Convention, Montreal

## Announcements:

### New member application

Leanne Kessler announced that the club membership application of Pam Bennett had been approved, and that the inductions of Pam and Dave Bona will be held on January 25th.

### Next club meeting on January 4th

Murray McArthur reminded the membership that there was no club meeting on December 28th, and, therefore, the next meeting will be on January 4th.

## Program: Annual Meeting

Murray McArthur called the 2009-2010 Annual Meeting to order. The prepared agenda was adopted. In his brief report Murray thanked the Board for their hard work. The President emphasized the importance of the youth exchange program to the club, and thanked those members who are involved. The club is on track for the award of a Presidential Citation at the 2010 District Conference.

John Luross sought the approval of the membership for the Board for 2010 to 2011 recommended by the selection committee of Murray McArthur, John Luross, Chrystel Olivier, and Al Muir. Motions for Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and other Board members were passed unanimously. The Board for 2010 to 2011 is:

President - John Luross  
Vice President - Chrystel Olivier  
Second Vice President - Donna Birkmaier  
Secretary - Chetan Thakore  
Treasurer - Robert Fisher  
Service Projects - Bob MacLeod  
Administration - Chrystel Olivier  
Membership - Leanne Kessler  
Youth Services - Ron Loopkey  
Rotary Foundation - Wayne Claypool  
Member at Large - Harold Empey

John indicated that he looked forward to PETS in March and his goals for 2010-2011 included attracting new members, adding more social events, and expanding corporate sponsorship of fund raising events.

Rob Jaspar presented the Treasurer's report for 2008-2009 prepared by Robert Fisher. Rob pointed out that the Black and White and Lobster Fest events of that financial year accrued approximately \$18,000 and \$11,000, respectively. The Service fund for the current year was \$64,000, approximately. Separate motions (Jaspar/ Sutherland) were passed unanimously regarding the acceptance or adoption of the club financial and Rowasin financial reports. A further motion (Jaspar/ Sutherland) approved enabling of the review of the 2009-2010 financial statements of the club by Glen Bailey.

Bob MacLeod in his Service Committee report indicated that by the beginning of February the committee will be able to select appropriate local projects for recommendation to the membership for approval. Chrystel Olivier, Chair of the Administration Committee mentioned that computer problems were now resolved. Chrystel mentioned that a volunteer is needed to help with the five club roster.

Leanne Kessler in the Membership Committee report indicated that two new members are to be inducted on January 25th. A membership drive is being planned and new approaches to attracting new members are being discussed.

Murray McArthur in the absence of Ron Loopkey, Chair of the Youth Committee expressed concern that the long term exchange program was becoming less supported by rotary clubs.

Wayne Claypool in the report of the Foundation Committee indicated that club goals for both the Annual Program Fund and Polio Plus had been exceeded. A recommendation to the membership for the Service above Self Award will be made in January. There has been the addition of one new donor and one Bequest Society member to the Foundation.

The Annual General Meeting was adjourned.

The meeting closed with the singing of Christmas music with Les Ferguson at the piano.

## Top five reasons to support The Rotary Foundation

By Antoinette Tuscano, Rotary International News -- 29 December 2009

There are as many reasons to support The Rotary Foundation as there are ways to do good in the world. By contributing to the Foundation, you advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. Here are a few ways your contributions are making change possible.

### 5. Fighting hunger

In Romania, orphans and sick children have eggs, milk, and meat because of a Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) Grant that benefits local farmers. The farmers are able to buy everything from animal feed to packaging materials. There is one stipulation: They must donate a portion of their products to children's hospitals, schools, and orphanages. In Alaska, USA, the Rotary Club of Anchorage East is also fighting hunger by distributing food to low-income families through a mobile food pantry.

### 4. Reducing child mortality

The Rotary clubs of Jaela-Kandana, Western Province, Sri Lanka, and Madras Northwest, Tamil Nadu, India, are helping to reduce child mortality by providing improved sanitation facilities for 15 families in a small community in Sri Lanka. With a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant, the clubs have built 14 toilets, helping to prevent diarrhea and other diseases related to poor sanitation. According to the World Health Organization, 1.8 million children die of diarrhea every year, making it the second leading cause of death among children under five. Proper sanitation can reduce the rate of child mortality in many communities by up to a third.

### 3. Promoting peace and conflict resolution

Watching civil war tear apart his homeland of Côte d'Ivoire instilled in Rotary Peace Fellow Kouame Remi Ous-sou a passion to resolve conflict. He is now working for the United Nations Development Programme in the Central African Republic, a country that weathered periodic internal fighting before a comprehensive peace accord took effect in 2007. Rotary Peace Fellows are leaders in promoting national and international cooperation, peace, and conflict resolution. Help support the Rotary Peace Centers.

### 2. Giving the world hope for just US\$2 a week

Foundation Trustee Chair Glenn E. Estess Sr. paraphrases Mother Teresa in explaining what keeps the Foundation going in the face of overwhelming need. "We must do what we can, where we are, with what we have," says Estess. "Through our Foundation, we are able to pool our resources and achieve even more. And the stronger our Rotary Foundation becomes, the greater the scope of the tasks we will be able to undertake successfully. We will be able to do far more good, in far more lasting ways." By giving US\$100 a year through the Every Rotarian, Every Year (EREY) initiative, you become a Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member. Contributions to EREY are the primary source of funding for Foundation programs.

### 1. Eradicating polio

Around the world, Rotarians are taking millions of steps in walkathons, diving into icy ocean waters, and participating in other fundraisers to help Rotary fulfill its promise to rid the world of polio. Si Burgher, of the Rotary Club of Bloomfield, Indiana, USA, raised almost \$1,600 by having his shaggy eyebrows shaved. Rotary launched its PolioPlus program in 1985. Since then, eradicating polio has been the organization's top priority. End Polio Now and help fulfill its promise.

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### Sergeant's Report: Sergeant's Report

Unbelievably, Sergeant Hari Nair firstly fined himself for not enabling online the latest edition of the Eye Opener. Those also fined by Hari included the following: Murray McArthur for killing trees, Ralph Morgan for racist jokes, Al Muir regarding Federated Co-op news, John Benesh for being late, Dave Bona for his rotary pin, and Al Muir and Chetan Thakore for finesse in balancing the finances of the club meeting of last week.

### Happy and sad Dollars

Happy and sad dollars included the following. Bob MacLeod thanked all bell ringers. Ian Sutherland welcomed the return of Cliff Hayes, while Cliff was thankful for feeling better. Art Whetstone welcomed the winter solstice and longer days. Ian Sutherland, John Benesh, and John Luross enjoyed the Fireside Singers concert. Ralph Morgan, Don Robson, and Hari Nair mentioned their partner's birthday.