

Rotary Club of Camrose



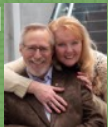
November Newsletter

club contact: rotarycamrose@gmail.com

November Guest Speakers

November 6

District Governor
Brent Callingwood
encourages us with
this year's theme
Create Hope in the
World

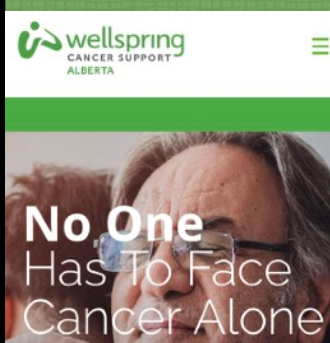


November 13

No meeting
Remembrance Day
service 10:45
November 11 at the
CRE



November 20



November 27

Club annual meeting
There are still
executive positions
open - contact Tina if
you are interested/
able to fill an
executive role

Reminders

2024 Rotary Cares Raffle

10 draws for \$1,000 Cash prize

\$100 per ticket • 300 tickets printed

Draws held at the:
Norsemen Inn
6505 - 48 Avenue, Camrose, AB

Rotary Club of Camrose
Box 1464, Camrose, AB T4V 1X4

Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase

License # 652525 Ticket # 003

2024 DRAW DATES

- January 29, 2024
- February 26, 2024
- March 26, 2024
- April 29, 2024
- May 27, 2024
- June 24, 2024
- September 30, 2024
- October 28, 2024
- November 26, 2024
- December 16, 2024

We have 300 tickets to sell to fund Rotary
Air Cadets. Contact Lou if you can help sell
tickets

CAMROSE CHASE THE ACE!

TWO CHANCES TO WIN!

- 1 Purchase a Ticket
- 2 One ticket is selected to win 20% of 14 days of ticket sales
- 3 The winner has the opportunity to draw the ACE OF SPADES to win the Jackpot

BUY YOUR TICKET



Let's create some buzz about the third Chase the Ace!

To date the draws have
contributed \$75,000 to mostly
local charities



**District
5370**

Fall Assembly 2023
Inspiration – Learning - Inclusion

FALL ASSEMBLY 2023-24 is coming up
on **Saturday, November 18th** - If you
have not yet registered, the deadline to
register is **November 13th**!

With the theme **Inspiration – Learning – Inclusion**, we will gather both in person and virtually at the **Château Louis Conference Centre and Hotel, 11727 Kingsway NW** in Edmonton. A light breakfast will be available at **8:30 AM**, with program from **9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**, including lunch, please see attached agenda for an outline of the day.

The club will pay for any member
to attend

November Volunteer Opportunities

Serving is one of the pillars of Rotary. Here is a list of upcoming opportunities to "Create Hope in the World"

Camrose Food Bank fall cleanup - Tuesday November 14 starting at 1 pm

Camrose Special Olympics - swimming program supervisors Mondays in November, December and January - 4 to 5 pm

Camrose Days for Girls - sewing/work bee November 4 and 18 - 9am to 1 pm

Contact Shirley Bergsma if you can help out bergsma.ts@gmail.com

October Speakers a Summary



National Day
for Truth and
Reconciliation

October 2 Truth and Reconciliation

Thanks Tina for presenting a thought provoking video and for all who took part in the discussion. I will try to send the video link with this newsletter. If that doesn't work email me for the link.



October 17 Camrose Primary Care Network spoke at our joint evening meeting. Sorry I missed the meeting and can't share the content.

Urban Vegetation

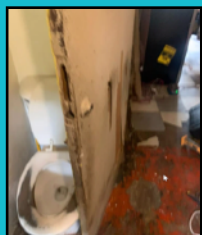
The simplest, least expensive, most effective thing we can do to improve our city's environment as our climate changes.

Economic value
Physical health
Mental health



October 23 Camrose Green Action Committee

Robin Hill spoke about the multitude of urban vegetation benefits and the planned projects to plant trees. Many trees!



October 30 Rotary Club of Kingston

Karsten Johnson spoke about the renovations the club made to the Cheshire Village - 21 homes for the disabled built in the 1970s. Its now suitable and welcoming for its residents.

Other Items of Interest



Many thanks to the club members who volunteered at the Wellness Fair



Various club members volunteered making lunch at Martha's Table Tuesdays in November

Need a coat? Take one!

CDFCSS is seeking donations of freshly laundered winter wear (coats/boots/mitts/scarves) for our annual **Need a Coat, Take One** campaign! Call 780-672-0141 or email info@camrosefcsc.ca



Lou and her daughter Jenn accepting Chamber of Commerce awards Jenn for Customer Service and Lou for Ambassador of the Year

Why am I a Rotarian?



About 10 years ago I joined Rotary because someone I knew and respected asked me to. I knew quite a number of the members of the Club and I had the impression that they did good things for our community, particularly around parks and gardens. At the time I knew nothing about Rotary International, the Rotary Foundation and the amazing work that is accomplished all over the world. I did not appreciate the power of people who work together to create positive change.

For me, the turning point from being a member of Rotary Club to being a Rotarian happened at the first District Assembly that I attended. I was blown away by the expertise of the other Rotarians, and inspired to hear about all the projects going on in other communities and the passion that I felt in that room. Rotarians share a philosophy of service and of integrity, and a belief that nothing is impossible when people work in unison to achieve a common goal. I am proud to be part of that fraternity of change-makers.

That is why I am a Rotarian.

Rotary Club of Camrose



Rotary Youth Exchange



A little taste of France

Elise continues to raise funds for a District Youth Exchange trip to Ottawa. She is making chocolate macaroons from an old family recipe. To place an order contact Elise or Dan Cole.

Simone's First Month in France

I am so happy to say I have now been in France for just over a month! I have done and seen so many amazing things here.

My first adventure was at Merlimont with the other exchange students at the beginning of September. This was our integration weekend, and it was the first time I got to meet with the other kids. We spent that weekend mostly at the beach on the coast of the North Sea.

The weekend after that my host family and I did some touring around the city, Calais. We explored the Mairie de Calais, which is the name for the city hall buildings in France, I saw the "Wedding Room" where my host parents got married and the office of the mayor of Calais. After that I was shown a few other churches including the Notre Dame of Calais. Then finally to wrap up the day we did a guided tour of Le Grand Theatre De Calais, the tour guide told us that the theater was built in 1903 and had withstood both world wars!

On my third week my host family showed Cap Blanc Nez also in Calais. This is a historic for the French and British soldiers who defended the waters during the first world war. the beach has gorgeous white sandstone cliffs similar to those across the channel at the famous white cliffs of Dover. This is the closest point between France and England, there are ferries that run between the two countries. We spent the rest of the day on the beach eating a picnic.

Then to celebrate my fourth week in France the whole family and I went to Boulogne. whilst there we visited Ville Fortifiee, which is a section of the town that is only accessible by walking as it is meant to preserve the history of Boulogne. In this area there were cathedrals and a crypte and a old jail now converted into a museum.

Finally last weekend my host mom took me to Lille. This was my first train ride, the trains here are extremely fast and effective, it took us 20 minutes to go 80km! In Lille there was a rugby game that evening so the streets were filled with Scottish and Romanian fans. We saw an outdoor farmers market, some Italian churches, and we also went to the shopping mall there.

On top of being a tourist here I have also been a student! High school here is long and very hard, days sometimes go for 10 hours. In school my days are full, I take gym, band, science and tech, math, English, French, Spanish, sociology, chemistry, history and a STEM. School although exhausting has been a great source of friends for me. I have sort of been adopted by a group of girls that have loved being able to show their Canadian pet all over town, we have been to several cafes, bowling, and all along walking paths beside the channel. I could not be more grateful for them; they make long school days manageable.

I am also so grateful for my host family. They have really welcomed me like their own daughter. I have gone to three family members birthday parties and weekly visits to see Mamie (the grandma) . They are really trying to show me the best of France! Last Monday my host mom took me to my first Rotary club meeting here as meetings are only once a month and I was in Merlimont during the last one. My host club was very welcoming and enjoyed listening to my Canada and Me project. During the meeting they discussed the trip to Mt St Michel for all inbound students that takes place this weekend! I am so excited to see my exchange friends again and to see the beautiful castle!

Overall, I have been loving this experience and soaking in every minute. Thank you all so much!

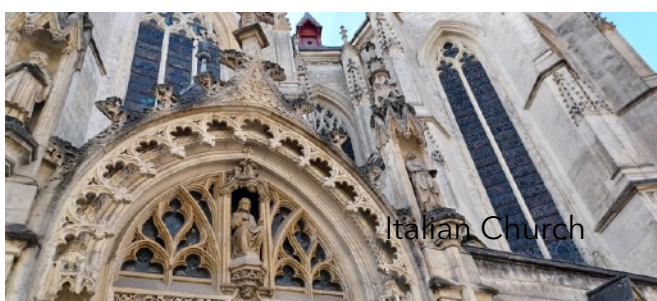
Sincerely,
Simone



Cathedral



Mairie



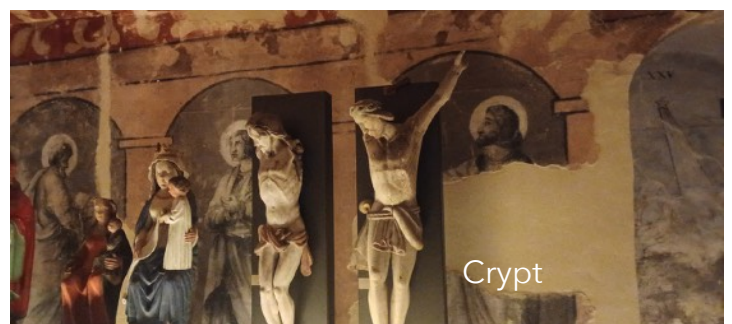
Italian Church



Old town
Boulogne



Lille with host sister



Crypt



The First 100 Years

The 1920s a Roaring Start

The 1920s were a time of renewed optimism after the devastation of the First World War and the Spanish flu. Rotary began in 1905 in Chicago, with the aims of developing friendship, serving society and enlarging international understanding. By 1924, Rotary had 100,000 members in 28 countries and 1,600 cities. In Canada's District 4, which included the prairie provinces and western Ontario, every town with a population over 2,500 (with 3 exceptions) had a Rotary Club.

The Rotary Club of Camrose was inaugurated on March 24, 1924 with eighteen charter members, making it the smallest community in the district to have a club. At the time, Camrose had a population of 2,000 and many other service, religious, ethnic, and profession-related clubs. In spite of its small population, the town was considered because it was such an important railway centre with considerable "jobbing". It also had a reputation for progressive, alert businessmen.

Camrose was first considered for a Rotary Club in 1920 by then district governor Crawford McCullough. The first club president, RJ (Jake) Sanders, discussed forming a club with several prospective members in 1923. There was enough interest for District Governor James W. Davidson to encourage the formation of a local club. Davidson was a great believer in Rotary and was the impetus behind the formation of many clubs during his lifetime. In 1924 there were five other clubs in Alberta: Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat and Red Deer.



Camrose Main Street 1925



Meetings were held at the Arlington Hotel

The Rotary Club of Edmonton members who sponsored our club (with the encouragement of their President James W. Mould) introduced their Camrose friends to the advantages of Rotary. Each of the charter members was invited to join by a member of another district Rotary Club. The eighteen charter members and their classifications were:

Jim Atkinson: Manager Royal Bank, Banking
J.K. (Jim) Burgess: Partner Burgess & McKay, General Law Practice
H.P. (Curt) Curtiss: Partner Hammil Curtiss Co. Ltd., Automobile Garage
John (Jack) Douglas: Agent Canadian Pacific Railway, Railways Operating
Tom Gray: Partner Camrose Canadian Publishing Co., Newspaper Editor
Father Harrington: Clergy, Catholic
Padre F.P.Howcroft: Clergyman, Protestant
Gordon Hunter: Manager Spicer Coal Co., Coal Mining
Jim Johnson: District Manager Dominion Life Insurance Co., Life Insurance
George Lowry: Proprietor Lowry's Store Ltd., Departmental Store
Dr. W. H. Murray: Dentist
O.B Olson: Loans
Bill Rushton: Post Master
Jake Sanders: Manager Alexander Wholesale Grocery Ltd., Wholesale Groceries
Dr. P.F. Smith: Physician, General Practitioner
Dave Sutherland: Partner Manning Sutherland Lumber Co., Retail Lumber
Dennis Twomey: Sheriff
Adair Younge: Proprietor J.A. Younge & Co., Dry Goods Retail

The Club's Charter night was a festive affair held at the Arlington Hotel. In addition to members, spouses and other local residents, it was attended by 19 members from Edmonton, 11 from Calgary and 6 from Red Deer, along with many of their spouses. The Edmonton contingent came by train on two special sleeper cars attached to the Hardisty Local. In addition to presentations by dignitaries, the entertainment included comedians and a baritone singer from Edmonton and community singing.

One hundred percent of the club's members and 10 spouses attended the District Convention at Edmonton's McDonald Hotel in April of 1924, where the Vice-President of Rotary International, Frank Lamb, presented the club's charter.

Frank Farley, one of the early club presidents, remarked that with such a small membership they were often disheartened during that first year. Fortunately, a number of real "livewires" joined the club during the second year and it was off and running. Membership was restricted to one from each distinct type of business or vocation. This gave each club a small, compact membership, without any one line of business or vocation having a dominant influence. At the same time, owing to the fact that there is one representative of every line, the club represents the community. For the individual member, the association with different trades and businesses lifts the member out of the "rut" of his own routine, giving him a broader and more sympathetic understanding of other businesses and vocations.

The Camrose club began meeting every Monday noon, initially at the Arlington Hotel in downtown Camrose. As Rotary Clubs had grown in size, the tradition of rotating meetings between member's offices (the reason for the name Rotary) was abandoned. The members enjoyed each other's company and an excellent series of speakers right from the beginning. A review of the speaker's list is a microcosm of what was happening in town and beyond and where the members' interests lay. In 1925, a geologist spoke about the potential of northern Alberta, in particular about a company engaged in developing the "Tar Sands" industry. He predicted a great future for the product.

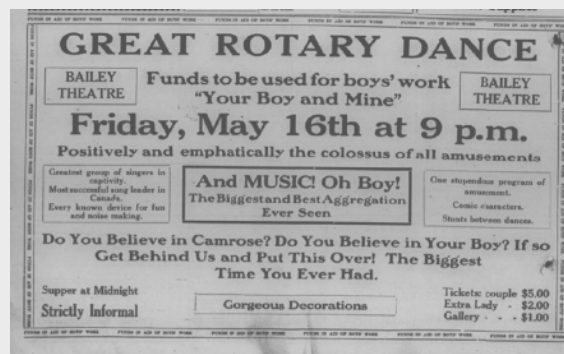
During the 1920s, there was concern expressed about the needs of "teen-agers", particularly teen-age boys. In the Spring of 1924, the club surveyed 160 boys in the 8 to 16 year-old age group. When it came to sports, the most popular summer sports were swimming and baseball. It became clear that our community needed a swimming pool. That was put on the agenda as urgent. It would take considerable planning and fund raising.

What was immediately planned was a camp for "Boys' Work" held that summer at Miquelon Lake. The object of the camp was to promote good health, good habits, good manners, develop good character and give the boys a jolly good time! Forty-one boys attended the camp led by club members Archdeacon Howcraft and Frank Farley. By all accounts of the day it was a spectacular success. They spent 4 days of fun swimming, playing baseball and football, participating in track and field events, and of course, enjoying nightly campfires. Each boy was requested to bring a gunny sack for a bed tick, which I presume was filled with straw, so conditions must have been primitive. The camp was held again in the summer of 1925.

To raise funds for the camp, the club held a dance at the Bailey Theatre. The program included a dance with Tipp's seven-piece orchestra, stunts by visiting Rotary comedians, community singing, decorations, favours and a midnight supper of sandwiches and cakes provided by the Rotary Anns. Every boy was expected to raise 50 cents for each day of the camp.



The 1924 Boys' Camp



Shortly after the camp, the club began the process of building a swimming pool. Trips were made to Stettler and Red Deer to look at community pools. They approached Town Council to ask for a triangular piece of land north of the power house and the unused house that stood on the property. An engineer from the Edmonton Power Plant came to look at the two proposed sites and to submit an estimate of the cost of excavation and concrete. The pool needed to be near the power plant to heat the water. Subsequently, the club went to Town Council with a proposal for a 70 by 30-yard pool with a depth of 2 to 7 feet. The 50,000 gallons of water were to be heated using exhaust steam from the power house.

In 1926 the pool building contract was awarded, with the expectation it would take 2 weeks to build. The pool was to be 80 by 50 yards with dressing rooms, sand and improvements to the grounds around the pool. There is mention of a splendid start to the pool and the hope to complete it the next year.

The information I have stops there, with the exception of a Glenbow Museum photo of the pool, discussion in a Rotary project's summary and a news article when the community was again looking at building a swimming pool. Hopefully, more information will be available at the Provincial Archives or the Glenbow Museum. What I can say at this point is that the club built a "swimming hole" within the Calgary Power dam in 1926-27, along with an adjacent park. That structure was lost in the Calgary Power 1929 reservoir project. The Club held a Minstrel show in 1925 and a dance in September 1926 to fund the swimming pool. It would not be until 1947 that a stand-alone swimming pool was built with the help of the whole community.

The club continued to advocate for Camrose youth and work to expand their recreation and learning opportunities. They built baseball diamonds and held bird house building competitions in the 1920s.

During those years, members were expected to attend Rotary meetings when out of town. This led to a great deal of visiting between clubs. There were an abundance of special meetings, ladies' nights, father and son nights and farmers' nights. Everyone new to town was invited to a meeting and introduced to club members and to Rotary.

What an auspicious beginning! This small club really knew how to get things done.



Glenbow Archives NA-2507-7

SWIMMING POOL FUND HAS START WITH \$550	
Following is the financial statement handed to the Canadian today for publication of the proceeds from the recent Rotary Minstrel Show. It will be noted that together with a contribution from the Sisters of Providence that the net amount of the fund to date is \$551.12.	
Receipts	
General admission, two evening performances and one matinee for children	\$956.76
Disbursements	
Rent of theatre for three performances	\$175.00
Orchestra, scores and pianist	75.00
Costumes, repairs, etc.	40.70
Advertising and printing	79.93
Supplies, general	4.55
Messages	3.16
Cartage	2.00
Sundries and miscellaneous ..	35.30
Total	\$415.64
Net proceeds	\$541.12
Sisters of Charity contribution towards Swimming Pool..	10.00
Total for pool to date...	\$551.12
JAS. K. ATKINSON, Secretary-Treasurer, Camrose Rotary Club.	