



Giving Back

with the Battle River Community Foundation

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Community Builders' Dinner celebrates Lougheed couple

How do you recognize more than 50 years of community service in a single evening?

It's not easy, but people in the County of Flagstaff showed how at the Community Builders' Dinner held on Saturday, March 10 in celebration of Ralph and Anne Smith.

The Smiths have been involved in all aspects of life in Lougheed, from owning a farm equipment and fuel sales business to raising funds to help build many of the community's facilities; from serving on Town Council to serving as the Easter Bunny!

The special event, with more than 230 people in attendance, featured accolades and praise from a number of speakers, including local MLA Doug Griffiths, Gary and Delores Acres, and Donna Dolany, as well as an auction. An additional highlight was a cake for Ralph, who celebrated his 80th birthday just six days after the dinner, on March 16.

In addition to being an enjoyable evening honouring a most worthy couple, the event saw the Ralph and Anne Smith Fund grow to over \$12,000, to benefit projects in the Lougheed area.

Sincere thanks from the Battle River Community Foundation to all of those who attended or contributed to this event. The first Community Builders' Dinner in Flagstaff County held in Forestburg in 2006 honoured Harry and Fredella Anderson. Community Builders' Dinners recognize the contribution and service of community leaders and are an opportunity both to celebrate and to reflect on what makes and keeps our communities good places to live.



MLA Doug Griffiths praised the work of Ralph and Anne Smith.



The Smiths pose with Ralph's 80th birthday cake.

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Community Foundation receives the largest gift in its history

Elwyn Grattidge lived a life based on community service.



Elwyn Grattidge photographed at his desk at Alberta Agriculture, by his daughter Kim.

In addition to his work as a District Agriculturist, a feedlot operator and with provincial farm assistance programs, Elwyn believed in supporting the community in which he lived. He was a marriage commissioner and a federal returning officer. He served fourteen years on the Camrose School District Board of Trustees, was chair of the Camrose Police Commission, was a long-time member of the Rotary Club of Camrose, and traveled with the Outdoor Education program at Augustana. Throughout all his years, he happily donated both his time and his money to support causes in which he believed.

Before his death on July 29, 2006, Elwyn made arrangements that would ensure his support of community projects would continue for years to come.

He met with representatives of the Battle River Community Foundation and set the guidelines for the establishment of scholarships and bursaries that would benefit local students. Those guidelines are a reflection of his passion for education,

as well as for agriculture and the outdoors. One scholarship will support the first year of post-secondary education for the winner of the "carcass steer class" at the annual 4-H Interclub Show and Sale (the category that Elwyn and Helen Grattidge supported for years). A further bursary will assist a student in Augustana's Outdoor Education or Environmental Science programs.

Because he understood the tax advantages of donating securities and investments, Elwyn designated the securities in his InvestorLine account to the Battle River Community Foundation. Those proceeds, over \$275,000, are the largest single gift the Community Foundation has received in its twelve year history.

"Elwyn wasn't a person who wanted the limelight," says his widow Helen. "He really believed that giving back – doing your civic duty – was simply part of living in a community."

"We were drawn to the Battle River Community Foundation because of its support for the local area," she adds. "Giving back to the community he was so fond of was what Elwyn wanted to do with what he had acquired."

Born in Manchester, England, in 1926 and arriving in Canada at age 21, Elwyn had a life-long admiration for Sir Winston Churchill. It is this Churchill quote, printed on Elwyn's funeral program, which sums up the philosophy of two most worthy gentlemen:

"You make a living by what you get; You make a life by what you give."



Elwyn Grattidge on his first Outdoor Education trip.



Scott Grattidge, Helen Grattidge and Kim Rowe at a recent event commemorating Elwyn.

Next Camrose Community Builders' Dinner scheduled

Mark your calendar!

October 19, 2007 is the date of the next Community Builders' Dinner in Camrose.

This year's Community Builder honourees will be long-time Camrose residents Alver and Arlene Person.

Known for their work at Bugar Funeral Home, as well as for their church and a variety of community causes, Alver and Arlene are a great choice for this tribute.

Tickets and details of the event will be available shortly.



Alver and Arlene Person

Each spring the Battle River Community Foundation hosts an Open House to report on all the events and activities of the previous year.

Please join us on

**Wednesday, May 23, at 7:30 p.m.,
at the Norsemen Inn,**

as we review the highlights of 2006 – the

Join us at our Open House

most successful year in our Foundation's history.

Hear from some of those who have supported or been supported by the Foundation, meet the Board members; and get an overview of our plans for continued growth.

See you there!



Battle River Community Foundation

TELEPHONE:

(780) 679-8785

FAX: (780) 672-4296

Box 1122,
Camrose, AB
T4V 4E7

EMAIL: info@brcf.ca

WEBSITE: www.brcf.ca

BOARD CHAIR

Blain Fowler
(780) 672-3142

VICE-CHAIR

Corey Kudrowich
(780) 679-5085

SECRETARY

Joan Baumle
(780) 679-0028

TREASURER

James Mayer
(780) 672-4491

DIRECTORS

Dana Andreassen
(780) 672-2964

Dave Chamberlain
(780) 608-9939

Vivianne Grue
(780) 672-9624

Tony Hladun
(780) 672-5067

Tom Kuntz
(780) 672-7096

PAST CHAIRS

Gerry Davis
(780) 672-7761

Ken Drever
(780) 672-4651

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

David Stolee
(780) 679-8785

ENVIRONMENT PROJECT

David Samm
(780) 672-8754

Introducing our new Board members

The Battle River Community Foundation welcomed three new Board members in January, including the return of two familiar faces.

Vivianne Grue served on the Board in its very early days. She has always been drawn to the concept of “giving back” both at home and abroad and is proud to again be part of an organization that contributes to keeping communities strong.

Blain Fowler is also a familiar face, having served several years on the Foundation Board, including serving as Chair. Blain returns to that leadership role after a one-year absence. Tony Hladun is a relative newcomer to Camrose, having settled here, along with his wife Deanne Morrow, in 2003. Tony believes

strongly in contributing to the community in which you live and is honoured to join the Foundation Board.

Just as we welcome newcomers, the Battle River Community Foundation must bid a fond farewell to three departing Board members. We thank each of them for their dedication and many contributions. Retiring are Gerry Davis, Pat Downs, and Arnold Malone.

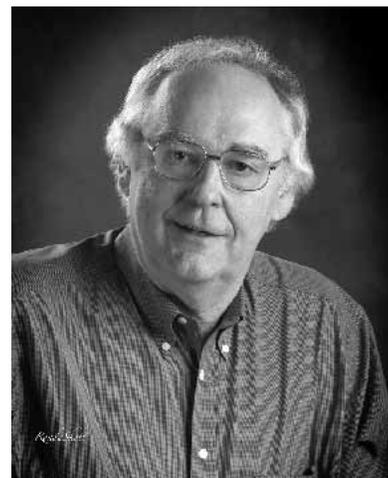
Although Gerry is no longer an official member of the Board, he plans to continue his community service with the Foundation.



Vivianne Grue



Blain Fowler



Tony Hladun



Gerry Davis



Pat Downs



Arnold Malone