



# Rotary Club of Regina Eastview

## The ROTOR



Service Above Self

Thursday, January 25, 2018

**Editor:** Peter Peters [mppeters@sasktel.net](mailto:mppeters@sasktel.net)  
If you have any comments or questions, email the editor.

Feb. 1 **“Ehrlo Sports Venture” with Sophie Grahame & Bree Fiissel at the 7 Oak**

**NOTE: THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE BEST WESTERN 7-OAKS HOTEL (N. Albert) DO NOT COME TO THE DELTA ON FEBRUARY 1.**

Feb. 8 **NO NOON MEETING**

Feb. 9 **THE ANNUAL VALENTINE GALA—DELTA HOTEL 6PM—11PM**

Feb. 15 **TBD**

**Next week**  
**Ehrlo Sports Venture**  
**With**  
**Sophie Grahame &**  
**Bree Fiissel**

**Next Week**  
**Feb. 1, 2018**

**DUTY ROSTER**  
**Registration: Doug Archer**  
**50/50: Tania Woroby**  
**Greeter: Gail Bradley**  
**Student: TBA**



**Registration:** in charge today was Shannon Windrim, with Doreen Pankewich looking after the credit card machine. Jeff Barber was in charge of the **50/50** while Peter Peters extended the hand of friendship to all who came to our meeting today.

**Lead table:** Joining President Richard at the lead table were: Scott Yule, Mike Batiak and Mohammod Dahhab, both guests of Scott, Doreen Pankewich, Gary Carlson, and John Van Koll.



**Welcome:** President Richard Schwan welcomed everyone to Eastview today and invited Nelson to lead in the national

anthem. Shreedhar offered Rotary **Grace**. Gwen Friedrich gave us the **philosophy**. Thank you for sharing these wise words: *Happiness is something we all seek. Often we blame our unhappiness on what we see as problems - our jobs, our health, relationship challenges, or even smaller things like too many dishes or the alarm ringing too early. But perhaps those things are not the real problem. Perhaps it's our perspective that's the real culprit. Even with the most legitimate of grievances, learning to reframe the situation and being able to admit that all is not lost can drastically turn a situation around. That is called perspective and its an oddly simple idea that can change the way you feel about most anything. Perhaps we should all toast Perspective rather than happiness.*



**Visiting Guests and Rotarians:** Scott Yule from the R.C. of Regina Oskaya was the one visiting Rotarian. Other guests in addition to those at the lead table were Shirley and Tobi Strohan, guests of Barry; Denise Hildebrand, guest of Charles Sadzamare, and of course now a part of the Rotary family, Runa Yamaguchi.



**50/50:** Ted Kent had the lucky number but unfortunately not the lucky color. Jeff advised the 50/50 pot is just under \$900 so anticipation is increasing. Maybe next week.....



**Birthdays:** January 30 Barry Strohan will celebrate his birthday. Happy birthday Barry.

**Sergeant at Arms:** filling the role of Sergeant today was President Elect John Van Koll. Those not attending the Gala were fined. President Richard having announced he had to leave early had his fine ready for the Sergeant. Happy bucks came from: Pat Richards who is leaving for Texas next week; Barry Strohan was happy to have Shirley and Tobi visiting today. Charles Sadzare introduced his guest, Denise Hildebrand whom he met in Zimbabwe when she was working as a volunteer for CUSO in a leadership program for women. That concluded John's report.



**Special presentation:** Leo Ell came to the podium to make a special presentation, a Paul Harris award to Tobi Strohan. Thanks to her parents Barry and Shirley for this gift to the Rotary Foundation and congratulations to Tobi who is now a Paul Harris Fellow.

*"Friendship was the foundation rock on which Rotary was built and tolerance is the element that holds it together." Paul Harris.*



**Program:** Today was a very special program. Scott and Janice Yule in the past two years have worked with the Open Door Society to assist a Syrian refugee family. Janice could not be here today but we are grateful to Scott for introducing Eastview Rotary to his Syrian friend, Mohammad Dahhab. It was a touching story to hear the journey of Mohammad, his wife and four children to Canada. One could only imagine the hardship they have endured. How fortunate for them to be paired with Scott and Janice. Scott assisted Mohammad as he told his story of their life in pre-war Syria to the day they met Scott and Janice. Prior to the war Mohammad owned a small company. He is a self taught mechanic. In Syria he drove a BMW car. He worked long hours and also did long haul trucking throughout the Middle East. He lived in Kobanie on the Turkish/Syrian border, an area in which there was considerable fighting. Mohammad is Kurdish and ISIS is the enemy.

Finally his family fled to Lebanon. They were in a refugee camp for one month. Mohammad was able to find work and they remained in Lebanon for four years. Then the call came from the United Nations for he and his



family to move to Canada. When they arrived here they knew no one and could not speak any English. Scott and Janice helped them move into an apartment and to shop for the necessities of life. Mohammad is now taking English class every evening at the University of Regina and has started a small business. He has received many tools from various people and is engaged in auto repair. The days are long but he is happy to have his children in school and in a safe place.

The family hope to return to Syria one day when it is safe to do so. He and his siblings have been separated by distance and most are in various countries in Europe. He says Canada is a beautiful country and the people are very generous. He has seen some of the best Canada has to offer with the Open Door Society and the Yules. A

wonderful, heart-warming program. Best wishes to this family in the days and months to come.

**Runa told us how she enjoyed her time with other exchange students in Melfort. She tried skateboarding and had fun watching a hockey game. She noted it is cold.**

#### **CHILI FOR CHILDREN SCHEDULE**

**Feb. 2: Shannon Windrim, Ann Grahame, Doug Mortin**

**Feb. 9: Lyle Gollnick, Greg, McNamara, Jack Wozniak**

**Feb. 16 & 23: NO SCHOOL**

**President Richard told us the Board has agreed for Eastview to support the Rotary Friendship Exchange next year.**

**Gala prizes to Allen Hillsden and donations to Doug Mortin by the end of January—much appreciated.**

#### **COMMENTARY**

*“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world!” Anne Frank. Today’s program exemplifies the Power of One-one family, one city, one country!*

*For Editor Peter Peters, I am Gail Bradley wishing everyone a good week. Remember-- Gala tickets!!*