

**Greeter:** Nelson Falkowsky

Today was the Annual President's Social and Changeover Meeting. A celebration of the year that was, and a glimpse at what we think will transpire over the next 12 months and beyond. An opportunity to recognize and

thank our Leadership Team and welcome the new group as they prepare to take the Club to new heights. It was party time which began with cocktails at 5:30 P.M. and dinner at 6:15 at the Delta.

Ann Grahame and Tania Woroby were at the registration desk, gathering up the cash and getting the folks into the room in a timely manner.

The Head Table consisted of President Ron & Mary Okumura, President Elect Greg and Anne McNamara, Vice President Richard Schwan and Sharon Christie and Past President and MC Joyce and Dennis Butler.







Joyce did a first class job of orchestrating the evening and keeping to the established time schedule. There was consultation going on in advance of the meeting, so one suspects that Joyce was tuned into

how the world would preferably unfold.

The evening's stage was set by Allen Hillsden getting us through our National Anthem (tradetional version), and Gail

Bradley led in a thoughtful and thankful invocation.

The *President's Social and Changeover* meeting is a special social event and Joyce did a fine job of recognizing the 20 guests in our midst – it was a wonderful ' bring your partner' celebration.



During a very fine buffet dinner we were treated to the piano stylings of Chris Hamilton – beautifully gifted gentleman – dinner highlight!

### **PROGRAM**

#### **Honouring President Ron Okumura**

The honouring of President Ron was undertaken by 3

Past Presidents: Gail Bradley, Doreen Pankewich and Ann Grahame. In moving away from the "traditional Presidential Roast" Gail, Doreen and Ann proceeded with a well thought out and deserved "toast" to our man Ron.

First Doreen taught the audience the appropriate response which was directed by a "CLAP" sign. The clapping/approval process went like this - Clap—clap, clap, clap – you get the picture.

Taking turns, the trio provided a peek and what we experienced throughout the year from our leader – and it flowed something like this:

They soon recognized that President Ron was special and there were virtually no identifiable irregularities. CLAP

Ron is a soft spoken, quiet mannered dedicated member of Rotary. He is meticulous in all he does – in keeping notes, preparing time lines, committee lists – and always tactful and kind **CLAP** 



Ron has been involved in many of our Rotary projects: chair of the Valentine Gala committee for years. Volunteering with Ron at Chili for Children is a pleasure as he was so efficient, probably because he loves cooking. As Director of International Service committee he was quietly efficient; as part of the interview team for potential Outbound long-term Youth Exchange Program students Ron was wonderfully tactful. **CLAP** 

Ron &Mary are gracious hosts serving great food, sparking involved conversation in a variety of instances – visiting District Governor, Board and Committee meetings, leading those discussions in a quiet effective efficient manner. **CLAP** 





Ron's involvement in *Adventures in Agriculture* is exemplary. Here he served as the Saturday evening banquet MC. Additionally, He and Mary open their home to the participating High School students. **CLAP** 

Ron is active, curls on a regular basis, and plays golf and is a regular in the annual Eastview Lyle Piett Memorial Golf Tournament. **CLAP** 



complicated initiatives and processes down and explain them to ordinary community citizens in an understandable and positive manner. **CLAP** 

Ron is also a courageous president who initiated the Club's first "Pub Night". CLAP

Ron attended the Rotary International Convention in Brazil where he saw the "Stop

Hunger Now" program in action. It impressed him to the extent that he is leading the charge for Eastview, in conjunction with partners, to bring the program to Regina next year. **CLAP** 

In Ron's Rotary year, 11 new members have been inducted into the Rotary Club of Regina Eastview, which must be some kind of record. **CLAP** 

While this may not have constituted a roast, Ron hasn't done anything "irregular" and the best thing we can do for Ron on this celebrative evening, is pay him tributes – for that is what he richly deserves. **CLAP** 

#### ....and that is how we feel about our President Ron Okumura!

**Presentation** - MC Joyce Butler said more nice things about and to President Ron and presented Mary with a beautiful bouquet, and Ron with something wrapped in fine blueish paper. NICE!

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Lyle Piett Memorial Golf Tournament** – The Rotary Club of Regina Eastview 9th Annual *Lyle Piett Memorial Golf Tournament* is scheduled for Friday July 8<sup>th</sup> 2016 at Tor Hill Golf Course. John Van Koll reminded us that event is a short month away. There are still holes to purchase, golfers to register, prizes to be collected. Members will receive registration information from John again this week. Seems an early sign up will benefit your score.

**Canadian Mental Health Association Regina Branch Fund Raiser** – Nelson Falkowsky told us about this event sponsored by CMHA Regina Branch a few weeks ago. **Peter Peters** is registered to ride and if you want to support CMHA through Peter's participation in this 95 km trek, please visit his donation site at: <u>https://secure.e2rm.com/registrant/FundraisingPage.aspx?registrationID=3481928#.V2RkOLEsck</u> Y.facebook&panel1-2









## **ROTARY TIDBIT**

#### 2017 is The Rotary Foundation's Centennial - Test your Rotary Foundation knowledge

Whose idea was it back in 1917 to create a Rotary endowment fund? What was the amount of the first contribution? Find the answers to these questions, and brush up on your Foundation history, by exploring our interactive timeline, where you will find photos, videos, and sound recordings from the past century. <u>View the timeline</u>





**CHANGEOVER MEETING** 

**Presentation of Honourary Membership** – Part of the Changeover process is the honouring of outstanding members. In setting the stage for such recognition, President Ron announced that the Club was pleased to present Honourary Membership to our veteran Eastviewian, Lloyd Rogers. Lloyd, a Paul Harris Fellow, joined Regina Eastview in 1971 and over the next 4 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> decades was a consistent worker for Rotary and Regina Eastview. Lloyd was the key in establishing the Rotary Clubs of Regina Industrial Parks and Regina South. Within these communities he is considered the "godfather", for not only was Lloyd the driving force behind their chartering, but he remained one of their most consistent supporters. CONGRATULATIONS Lloyd Rogers.

**2015-2016 Regina Eastview Board of Directors** – (l to r) Doreen Pankewich (Past President/Treasurer Assistant); Greg McNamara (President Elect); Richard Schwan (Vice President/Director International Services); John Van Koll (Public Relations); Pat Dell (Club Service Director); Jeanne Martinson (Vocational Services); Allen Hillsden (Secretary); and Ron Okumura (President) – missing from the picture is Lyle Gollnick (Community Services Director; and, Jizinge Mwela (Treasurer).

This effective Team did the Rotary Club of Regina Eastview proud and we were honoured to follow their lead





Attendance Certificates – President Ron recognized members who achieved 100% attendance during the year. Awardees "in attendance' were: (r to l) Ron Okumura (1 year), Peter Neufeldt (5 years), Allen Hillsden (18 years), Greg McNamara (1 year), Doug Mortin (18 years), Ann Grahame (18 years), Gary Carlson (33 years) and Peter Peters (27 years). Missing from the picture is Lyle Gollnick (1 year).

To a person, these Awardees demonstrate a committed dedication to consistent Service, and this recognition is merely a by-product of their life style.



President Ron recognized and presented a gift to each member of his Team and is seen here recognizing President Elect Greg. This was as close to presenting Greg with his President's pin as we got, that formal presentation will occur after the pin arrives.

In his closing remarks President Ron expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to lead, "the best Rotary Club in the world" (we liked that part). He referred to the year as a memorable experience from the visit to the International Convention in San Paulo, Brazil where his pride in being a member of Rotary was made real. Ron referred to the Rotary Theme for this year, **Be a Gift to the World**, was reflected in Regina Eastview's achievements this year – within the community, the District and Internationally. Inducting 11 new members was a significant highlight and a credit to Louis Browne and the Membership Committee. He noted that at the Million Dollar meal at the District

Conference, seven members of Eastview were recognized as Major Donors to TRF. Ron pointed to our work with youth – Adventures in Agriculture, RYLA and MUNA – were examples of this leadership. He concluded

by thanking the members for the opportunity to serve as President and for the tremendous support he received during the year.

At this point President Elect Greg introduced the Regina Eastview 2016-2017 Leadership Team – and they are a delightful inspired a delightful group consisting of (L to R):

Jeff Barber (Vocational Services, Pat Dell (Club Service), John Van Koll (Vice President/ Public Relations), Richard Schwan (President Elect), Greg McNamara (President), Allen Hillsden (Secretary) and Ron Okumura (Past President).





President Elect Greg expressed his appreciation for being given the opportunity to serve as Regina Eastview's President. He thanked members for the experience he and Anne had in attending the International Convention in Seoul, South Korea – a life changing adventure. We will hear more in the weeks and months to come.

As a final act of stepping down President Ron presented Greg with a "Survival Shopping Bag' of goodies. It too will be displayed at future meetings for all to see (will it, Greg)

And so concluded the finest of celebrations.

# <u>CHILI FOR CHILDREN</u>

June 24--Lyle Gollnick, Greg McNamara, Doug Mortin

For the Regina Eastview ROTOR, I am Peter Peters