**Registration Desk:** This was at times manned by many people but it was clear that PDG Peter Peters was in charge. Doreen Pankewich was multitasking as usual and making sure the debit machine was in working order. Al Yaehne, true to form, was the stand in for Registration while Peter conducted a Gala subcommittee meeting. Sherry McKinnon was in charge of the 50/50 draw and you just felt sure she was selling you the winning ticket.

**Greeter:** We greeted each other in typical Eastview fashion, glad to see each other once again. It was good to see all who ventured out on a cold blustery day.
President John called the meeting to order with O’Canada followed by Rotary Grace. Then it was time for Club philosopher, Leif Riesach, to offer the following wisdom from Bob Thaves - “My mind wanders a lot, but unfortunately it is too weak to go very far.” Thank you Leif. Gathered with President John at the Lead Table were: Jeanne Martinson, Wally Dressler, Maite Lhoir, Jeff Barber, Ted Tejada.

**Guests and visiting Rotarians:** there were no visiting Rotarians today. The guests of Rotarians were Gail Silver, Jessie Carlson and Edward Szadzamare. We subjected them to a special treat with our Eastview Welcome song. Surely they were impressed!

**50/50 Draw:** Sherry McKinnon invited President John to draw the winning ticket. A total of $66.00 was collected. Gord Wicijowski was once again the lucky winner and received $33.00, which he once again donated to the Rotary Foundation. Thank you Gord.

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**

Filling the Sergeant’s role today was Jeff Barber assisted by Deputy Jeanne Martinson. Via hand held device, Jeff did a superb job in admonishing and rewarding as he saw fit. First he fined President John for incorrectly pronouncing Maite’s name. Then he was on the hunt for Gary Carlson—for not registering Jessie as a guest. Gary was again part of a group including Tania, Hans, Nelson, Ken and Gord who were fined simply because they had not been fined for a long time. The Sergeant referred to this as their lucky day. Everyone who has not “liked” the Gala on their Facebook page was a target of the Sergeant. Then the Sergeant turned to Quiz time and of course it had a literacy theme. In turn, members at each table were asked questions relevant to literacy. A correct answer yielded a Rotobuck and yes, a wrong answer resulted in fines for everyone at the table. The Sergeant put a great deal of thought into his role today and asked the following questions:

- What national day is January 27? Answer Literacy Day. (Australia Day was incorrect said the Sergeant)
- How many people in Canada attend an NHL game within a year—Answer was under 5 million. Past President Wally was fined for calling out the correct answer as he was at the wrong table.
- How many people in Canada visit a public library in a year—Answer was 100.2 million.
• Who founded the Imagination Library? Answer was Dolly Parton.
• What painter is famous for the water lily scene? Answer was Claude Monet.
• What exceptional year in history was the birth of today’s Sergeant and Deputy. Answer was wrong and Rotobucks were distributed because the answer was exceptional in that it made the two younger. Happy Bucks were donated by Pat Richards as she attended her daughter’s wedding in Texas and went ziplining. Jeanne was happy to be going to Mexico for a vacation.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: President John invited Past President Wally Dressler to the podium to present the report of the Nominating Committee which includes in addition to Wally, PE Ann Grahame, and PP Gail Bradley. Wally reported the following nominations to fill vacancies in the new Rotary year:

Treasurer—Cindy Tycholis, Vice President—Ron Okumura, Secretary—Allen Hillsden, Director of Community Services—Sherry McKinnon, Director of Vocational Services—Jim Powell, Director of Club Services—remains vacant. President John asked for nominations from the floor for all vacancies. Hearing none, all nominees were declared elected by acclamation. The Committee will continue to search for a Director of Club Services. Anyone wishing to volunteer for this position should contact a member of the Nominating Committee.

PROGRAM: Today our guest speaker was to be Maite Lhoir, our exchange student from Belgium. However due to technical difficulties, Maite’s presentation was postponed. We look forward to it in the near future Maite. In the meantime here are some interesting facts about Maite’s homeland.

Belgians tend to be liberal thinkers. They legalised euthanasia in 2002, and gay marriage in 2003. A 2007 European Report stated Belgium has the lowest salary gap between men and women in the EU after Malta. Belgium has the highest proportion of female ministers in the world (55% in 2000) and was one of the first to have a female parliamentarian, in 1921.

Belgium has compulsory education up to 18 years old. This is one of the highest in the world. Belgium also has enforced compulsory voting.

Belgians pay some of the highest tax rates in the world, around 40% of their gross earnings. Taxation represents 45.6 % of the country’s GDP.

Belgium has the highest density of roads and railroads in the world. It is the country with the 3rd most vehicles per square kilometre after the Netherlands and Japan. Because of the quantity of lights, the Belgian highway system is the only man-made structure visible from the moon at night.

Spa, Belgium is home to Europe’s first modern health resort, opened in the 18th century and Europe’s first casino, “la Redoute”, opened in 1763.

Belgium is also home to Europe’s oldest shopping arcades, the Galeries St Hubert in Brussels, opened in 1847.
Belgium was the scene of Napoleon’s final defeat, at Waterloo, south of Brussels.
The Law Courts of Brussels is the largest court of justice in the world (26,000 m² at ground level). It is bigger than Saint Peter’s Basilica in Rome.
Nemo33, in Brussels, is the world’s deepest swimming pool, reaching 35 metres in depth. It is a practice ground for scuba divers.
The saxophone was invented in Belgium, in the early 1840's by Adolphe Sax (1814-1894), in the city of Dinant.
The Body Mass Index (BMI) was developed by the Belgian Adolphe Quetelet, and is still used today to determine a person’s ideal weight.
In the 15th century, Belgians were credited with inventing oil painting.
Brussels was a famous hideout for Europeans in Exile. Karl Marx wrote the Communist Manifesto with Friedrich Engles between 1845 and 1848. Victor Hugo was also exiled here and completed Les Misérables while visiting Waterloo in 1861.
And that is just a sample of fascinating facts about Belgium. It is good to have you here, Maite. We look forward to your presentation in the coming weeks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
- Allen Hillsden urged Rotarians to contribute money or goods for prizes for the Gala and Sherry McKinnon made a request for auction items.
- Wally reported that Allen Hillsden’s team “Bombers” is in the lead having sold Gala 83 tickets; the “Roughriders” have sold 60; the “Stampers” have sold 42 and the “Lions” have parted with 30. More need to be sold to reach the Club goal of 300.
- The Vocational Services Committee handed out copies of members’ profiles to be updated as soon as possible. They also invite suggestions on a location for a one-time Club meeting outside the Hotel.
- Ann Grahame reported that outbound student, Kaylee Giesbrecht, is doing well. Her report is below.
- Ted Tejada, Club Services Director, requested suggestions for speakers Club meetings.

COMMENTARY

JAY’S MOVING MENDING HEARTS VALENTINE GALA

For the next few weeks members at Eastview are living and breathing Valentine Gala. Some individuals are working very hard on the Gala. We salute them and will help them. Here is some important information from the various committees about the Gala.

What do you get by attending the event? Here is the scoop –
- **Dance to Carnival, a class Regina band;**
- **Laugh and sing along with the CMHA Reel Anti-Suppressants music and theatre group;**
- **Chances at a host of Silent Auction items;**
- **Bid on a live auction painting by Maite Lhoir;**
- **Opportunity to “dive for diamonds”; and, a host of other activities. And all this in the space of one evening.**
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE GALA

REGARDING INCOME TAX RECEIPTS
- There is a $25 Income Tax Receipt available for each individual ticket purchased. Please put the completed stub into the box when you arrive at the Valentine Gala.
- If you have made a donation over $20 to the event, the income tax receipt will be for the entire amount.
- If you make a donation of $100 to $250 before January 31, 2013, your name will be mentioned in the program.

REGARDING SILENT AUCTION ITEMS
- Silent Auction Items: Allen Hillsden reminds us all to contact potential donors and sponsors for merchandise for the GALA’s Silent Auction. Please keep Allen posted on the items you are able to generate.

VALENTINE GALA TICKET SELLING CHALLENGE
- The club has been divided into four teams that are encouraged to muster their members to out sell all the competing teams. Have at it folks this should be fun.

ROTARY NEWS FROM BELGIUM
Following is a report from Kaylee Giesbrecht, Eastview’s outbound exchange student to Belgium this year.

My days at school have gotten a bit shorter because of changes of classes and the “seniors” are doing work experience and I’m not allowed to participate in that. I have joined 7 English classes and I really enjoy them. I get to talk about Canada and help the teacher out with English words. And it also helps me out since my English is slowly fading away. My school friends are more than awesome with me and invite me out on weekends and stuff now. They like helping me out with French and I like helping them with their English. My school took me to Treves, Germany before Christmas for the
Marche de Noel. This was so beautiful I wish I exchanged to Germany for the beauty of it. I am taking Math, French, Geo, History, Morale, Art, and English now. I didn’t have to take any exams because of the lack of classes I am in for French and math etc.

I do not switch host families now. There was a problem with the Russian Exchange student that is staying at my second host family and she didn’t want to switch houses. But my host family is great and I’m glad I get to spend my whole exchange with them. My host mom and I are super close and very open with each other which makes the exchange easier on me. We’re there for each other through the tears and problems that life blessed us with. My host family took me to Paris Disney for Christmas holidays; which was the best experience in my life. I LOVE DISNEY!

I go to meetings once a month and haven’t had to make any presentations yet. I don’t do my presentation till I leave. I am going to Amsterdam over Feb. break with Rotary for 4 days. I also went to Paris and London with Rotary at the end of Oct beginning of Nov. My family can understand what I’m trying to say and my friends are getting there. They always say “Your accent’s so strong”.

I am still teaching dance but only on Tuesdays now. It goes to the end of March. I’ve gotten in contact with Ysaline, Adelise, Ina and Ida and trying to make plans to see them all. Had a little bit of homesickness over Christmas but that is normal. I have only cried once here so I’ve been doing pretty well considering I was expecting to cry more. Spent New Year’s in Brussels with Exchange students. I just got accepted into University in Regina for the Fall !!!!!

Great to hear from you Kaylee. Keep in touch. Your Eastview Rotary friends think of you and hope you are having the time of your life.

Filling in for ROTOR Editor, Peter Peters
I am Gail Bradley
Have a great week.