



*Rotary Club of Carleton Place  
and Mississippi Mills*  
Meeting of December 21, 2009

With Christmas in the air, and our festive hats on our heads, eleven members and two familiar guests (Lorna McNabb and Glenda Jones) enjoyed a pleasant evening of swapping tall tales, reminiscing about life in 1974, and enjoying the fine food at our now familiar meeting place.

The bits of business attended to included Secretary George highlighting a request for ongoing funding support from the Take Young People Seriously (TYPS) group in Almonte, President Mike reported on a Rotary publicity item that will appear in the Humm in the New Year, and President-elect Alan reported on attending the opening of the new Youth Alcohol and Drug treatment facility in near Carp. A half dozen Rotary Clubs in Eastern Ontario have pledged a million dollars over ten years to support the new facility. Alan is encouraging our Club to become involved in this initiative, along with our ongoing support of the Alwood Treatment Centre.

When it came to the telling of reminiscences of Christmas' past,

Gordon led the way with recounting a touching moment back in the dirty-thirties, when his Dad turned a metal munitions casing into a doll's cradle for sister Alison. This was in the days when the McNabb house was a regular stopping spot for hungry men in need of a handout. Our present Christmases are a far cry from those troubled years that Gordon reminded us of.

Glenda touchingly recounted a magic Christmas moment when a childhood visit to a favourite aunt in Spokane Washington provided her first glimpse of a T.V. set...in a department store window. Oh what a change in the past few years.

Rotarian Brian then entertained us with a parody on the likely demise of such a treasured holiday tale as the 12 Days of Christmas...if modern management systems people ever got a hold of it. Efficiency would trump romance, and the Grinch would have stolen another sliver of Santa's joy.

We're off now until Monday January 4<sup>th</sup>. Have a **VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR** celebration, between now and then.

