



Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills

Meeting of August 16, 2010

Eleven members were on hand to greet former Rotarian and stalwart Friend of Rotary, Brian Turner, as this evening program. Brian's presentation pretty well followed right along with Bill Robinson's talk last week about the new Adolescent Drug & Alcohol Treatment facility that Eastern Ontario Rotary is sponsoring. Brian has been very active as a long-time Director of the Alwood Treatment facility, just outside Carleton Place. Since Alwood has been incorporated in the Dave Smith Centre, which is the name of the new facility, and is now a "campus" of the broader institution, there is no longer a Board for the Alwood facility. This had freed Brian, with his larger-than-life enthusiasm, and many organizational talents, to become the Chair of a newly formed local initiative to address the growing social problem of youth and addictions.

The Carleton Place Municipal Drug Strategy Committee (CPMDSC for "short" – with my apologies to President Al, whom I know has an acute distaste for acronyms), is a volunteer network that will be focusing on four areas of activity: the prevention, reduction, education, and treatment in the area of substance abuse among our young people. The laudable goal is for our community to be as free as possible from the scourge of abuse of substances of all sorts (including prescription medications), with alcohol, cannabis, and cocaine being the three biggies

locally. Three doable initiatives have been targeted for the first year of the Committee's activities. These are to combine access to the various available services into one phone number, to develop a resource centre of speakers for public school presentations, and to provide alternates for the "end of school year" parties that often wreak havoc in the lives of teen-agers. We can expect to hear more from Brian and his Committee in the coming months.

Congratulations were also forthcoming from the Club, as Brian announced that he had filed his nomination papers to run for Town Council.

Club News:

Our business meeting was brief this time around. President Al presented a detailed Financial Report for the year, along with a table of comparisons of our income and expenses since the Club's inception in 2002. The records dramatically demonstrated just how flush with cash we were during the four years when the Bingo was running – which highlights the challenge we have now. A motion by Rotarian Marion, seconded by Rotarian David Mc. to accept the Financial Report was approved unanimously.

Next Week our program will be newly minted Rotarian Jim giving us a glimpse into his background – which will likely include a mention of the drama of fighting forest fires, and the perils of writing a book about it.

Also, Day Care's Jacquie Leach, and some of her 50/50 ticket sellers, will be on hand to receive their share of the take from the Riverside Jam activities.

