



## ***Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills***

### **Meeting of January 13, 2014.**

This evening had eight members in attendance with President Robert, Treasurer Mike and Rotarians Faye and Gordon absent. Rotarian Judith was present, saying that she is moving back to the Region, but has not found a full-time address as yet. Also in attendance was Secretary Doug's partner, Ina. With President Robert not in attendance, Secretary Doug assumed the role of Chairing the meeting.

Doug opened the meeting as usual with reading to the Club any correspondence received via regular Post and e-mail. First was an invitation by the local MP to attend his New Year's pancake brunch to be held on January 19<sup>th</sup> between 12:00 and 2:00 P.M. at the Perth Civitan Hall at 6787 County Road 43 in Perth. The President of ShelterBox Canada sent a letter again thanking our Club for its commitment to the disaster relief initiative in the Philippines. To date, over \$1 Million dollars have been submitted towards support of this initiative by Canadian Rotary Clubs.

A promotional flyer submitted to the Club by a firm based in B.C. garnered some attention by the members in attendance. This company provides Rotary paraphernalia, specializing in embroidered shirts. Those in attendance thought the purchase of such shirts would be good for the promotion of the Club for public functions, etc. The prices of the shirts was

quite reasonable and Doug was asked to make a further enquiry of the company for specifics of the promotional item.

A copy of the most recent District newsletter was also distributed among the members present. The primary concern of the letter was a number of District positions that need filling for the 2014 fiscal year. There also was mention of the large Rotary support of the ShelterBox initiative in the Philippines.

Rotarian Judith asked to speak on a matter regarding our Club working in conjunction with the Renfrew Club for a one year exchange student support program starting in the very near future. Judith was able to outline some of the basic details based upon her personal experience working with exchange students when she was a member of the Renfrew Club. She also asked that she would be a liaison between the two Clubs initially and potentially introduce our Club to her contact in Renfrew provided that there was some interest by our Club in working with Renfrew. Doug asked Judith to provide him with contact details to be forwarded to Mike for future meeting confirmation.

The major course of discussion for the evening was the 5 Year Plan for the Club. The first aspect of this discussion was the potential of finding a new venue for our meetings. While the food was not a concern, the meeting space was the major issue. Some suggestions were to relocate the meeting to other restaurants in the area or to a hall provided by a third party. Potentially, the meeting hall would have to be catered for the evening. Hall suggestions included Waterside Retirement Home, a new hall built by St. Andrews Church in C. P. and the Dance Studio in the old LCBO location. Catering suggestions were Dennis Burns or Waterfall Catering. Judith suggested that a

committee be formed to study this change and Rotarians Brian, Brenda and Ernie all said they would work on such a project.

The next concern among the members present was how to promote awareness of the Club and thereby garner new members. There were several suggestions; a recruitment campaign aimed at our Corporate supporters of the Rose Sale, garnering free publicity through the media and / or by sponsorship from Staples / Ferguson Graphics for their services in printing the promotional material. The current promotional flyers were passed around the table and deemed to be filled with good content, but needed an update.

Rotarian Bernie brought up a question which is pertinent to the upcoming change in the Executive for fiscal 2014 and RI's requirements for PETS Training for the incumbents prior to their assuming their new duties. A number of people present all said that they had taken this course due to previous Rotary Presidential commitments and thought they could qualify because they had taken the course in other years. Doug was asked to contact the DG for clarification of this concern.

Lastly, Doug announced that he would not be seeking to be re-installed as Secretary for fiscal 2014 due to personal commitments and that he would be able to work in that role until the end of his term but with a limited capacity.