***Rotary Club of Carleton Place & Mississippi Mills***

 

 **Bulletin** **August 12, 2006.**

 **This week’s Meeting:** President Brenda presided over a meeting of 11 Rotarians, including our guest speaker, ***Ron Roe, Curator of the Hall of Valour****,* whoprovided us with an engrossing introduction to just what is happening with this recent addition to Carleton Place’s historical richness. Carleton Place was specifically chosen to house this Canadian treasure on the basis of it being a rural setting that possesses an enviable record of involvement in both of the major wars of the past century. Specifically, the Hall is intended to provide memorabilia that honour not only our recognized war heroes – such as those who have received the honour of the Victoria Cross – but *all* the men and women who gave their lives in defence of their Country.

To illustrate the progress made in the past year, since the inauguration of the Hall, ***Ron*** entertained us with stories of several of the eighty-six Victoria Cross recipients, including that of the very first – a fellow named Alexander Dunn, one of the few survivors of the Charge of the Light Brigade in the Crimean War of 1855. Another colourful tale was of a Harry Prince, who decoyed the German soldiers who found him behind enemy lines in Italy during the Special Service Force’s invasion of Anzio Beach. Prince’s arm-waving, gibberish-spewing, imitation of an excited Italian fooled a group of the enemy into ignoring him while he repaired a broken telephone connection to allied artillery that was shelling German gunnery positions.

In addition to searching out, collating, and displaying historical information on our military, Ron’s museum is providing Remembrance Day supplies for local schools, and promises to be a unique resource for our entire country, as well as the people of Lanark County.

**Club Matters:**

***George*** reported on the **50/50 Draw** held at the **Riverside Jam** concert on the long week-end. Not only did the Community enjoy a week-end of very popular country and western music, three of its major community groups benefited well beyond their expectations, thanks to our Club’s organizing the 50/50 draw again. This year’s winners were two people from Carleton Place and one from Pembroke. The benefiting community groups were the Victorian Order of Nurses ($681.00), the Carleton Place Day Care Society ($2,703.00), and the Carleton Place Canoe Club ($3,053.00).

The Club also manned the Guest Services tent at the **Jam** on the Friday evening. ***Rotarian Brian A.*** did the honours of organizing our sweat equity contribution to that aspect of the weekend’s activities.

***President Brenda*** announced the **Club membership** of our three new Rotarians: Allan Maxwell, Michael Jeays, and Louise Jeays – a hearty welcome is extended to them all.

***Brenda*** also presented **Rotarian David McLade** with the certificate portion of his *Paul Harris Award.* In his brief words of thanks, ***David*** reminded us of some of the Community Projects the Club has provided, starting with the building of a deck on the Community Living building four years ago. Since the brand-new Club didn’t have any money raised yet, the members rallied to enjoy a dirty-hands project and provide a well-deserving Community Facility with a welcome addition.

***Brenda*** reminded us of this year’s upcoming **District 7040 Conference,** which will be held in Mont-Tremblant, Quebec, from October 13th to 15th. Conferences such as these are a very popular and enjoyable way to get to know Rotary. Meeting and mixing with Rotarians from other clubs, hearing presentations on projects happening at the District level, and being exposed to the inspirational and educational messages of special plenary speakers – all cast in a spectacular holiday setting, and seasoned with top quality entertainment – makes for a very worth-while experience.

**Next Week:** Regular meeting at the Carleton Heritage Inn.