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



**Bulletin: June 8, 2007**

**MEETING OF JUNE 5, 2007**

The 15 members attending were joined by five guests: RYLA attendee Katie Levesque and her parents, Pauline Sawyer the Executive Director of the Alwood Treatment Centre and one of her clients, Brianne. Katie gave a brief report on her RYLA stay indicating that both the outdoor activities and the courses were most enjoyable and worthwhile. She noted the excellent experience of identifying and working with people with different leadership styles.

**President** Brenda reminded members of the need for volunteers to install a trail bench on Saturday, June 9. It appears that a crew of four will take on this task but other volunteers are most welcomed. Call **Bob** for more details if interested. A building permit for the deck at Community Living has been issued and work should start as soon as possible (hopefully with a crew different from the bench installers). **Gordon** noted that a progress report re our District Simplified Grant is due June 30 and 50% of the expenditure is expected to have been paid out by that time. **Allan** is in charge of coordinating this project.  **Gordon** also noted his tabling of the final compost report and **Mike, assisted by Bob**, will take on the compost duties next spring. **Brian** agreed to coordinated the rose sale this Fall and noted that we need to find a better location for storing the roses and preparing orders and also need to deliver the roses the day after they arrive. More discussion is to follow.

**George** then introduced Pauline Sawyer who has been the E.D. of Alwood for the last 15 years and has worked at the centre for 23 years, almost from its start in 1981. Pauline stated that there are only two such centres in Ontario and Alwood is the only one offering a four-month program and the only one offering the program to 16 to 22 year-olds. The program is quite structured and is voluntary (clients can opt out if they so wish). Last year 60% of the clients completed the program. **Brianne,** one of Pauline’s clients, then gave an extremely moving talk regarding her descent into a life of alcohol and every conceivable form of drug, starting in grade 9 with heavy drinking and ending up in a shelter and addicted to crack cocaine. She is now in her second effort with the Alwood program and has rebuilt some family relationships. She was high in her praise for the “amazing people” at Alwood. Numerous Club members congratulated Brianne on her talk and wished her success with her recovery.

**CLUB ACTIVITIES:**

* June 9 – Free 9:30 pm film at the MacDonald/Rowe Cinema.
* June 9 @ 10:00 am – Trail bench installation.
* June 12 speaker is Greg Montenay, the student rep on the local School Board.
* June 19 meeting at the North Lanark Museum.
* Change-over meeting on June 26 at the Gordon’s home.