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

 **Meeting of February 24th, 2009**

Marion chaired the meeting, and welcomed as guests Bud MacMillan of the Diamond Foundation, and Carolyn Lawrence, Fraser's partner.

David Brash is making arrangements for our annual bowling night on March 28th, at the Bowling Alley on Bridge Street. (This was preferred to the alternative of March 21st). Members are asked to 'sign up'; spouses and friends are welcome.

Marion will circulate an email about Senators tickets, part of a program by the Ottawa Sunrise club to support Shelterbox.

We received a 'thank-you' card from the Almonte Community Coordinator for the donation of $250.

All dues have been paid.

Chris Hale is looking for participants in the Guatemala Eye-glass clinic. There is a meeting tomorrow evening in Perth.

The donations committee approved a donation of $200 to Notre Dame High School, to support Mary-Lynn Greene's work. Mike will send the cheque and a letter to NDHS.

Mike was asked to add information about RYLA and a list of donations to his 2008 activity report.

Bud MacMillan spoke about the Diamond Foundation, which is a non-profit foundation that organizes the Riverside Jam each year. He is chairman of the Jam organizing committee. The Jam has been running since 2004, and is the largest event in the town. People arrive as early as the previous Sunday, and most will shop in the town, and eat at the restaurants, providing a significant business boost. The Jam has a budget of $200,000, and has made a loss last year, caused by poor weather. They buy about $80,000 of goods and services in the town, and get donations from businesses of about $75,000, without which they could not operate.

The Jam is facing increased costs for better security, especially where alcohol is served. They have to turn away some people to avoid excessive partying and rowdyism.

The Foundation partners with other service clubs, and would like to do so with Rotary. Bud proposed that they could either take a percentage of the 50/50 draw takings, or that Rotary could run the pancake breakfast as its contribution. The possibility of joint donations by Rotary and the Diamond Foundation was discussed, so that both organizations would get credit. No decisions were made at this meeting.

**Agenda for next meeting**

* Club Assembly – please forward topics for discussion to Marion or Mike

**Club Activities**

* Bowling Night – March 28th.