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*Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills*

 Meeting of September 29th, 2009

Back at the familiar confines of the Waterside, we had a baker’s dozen filling up the table space…12 Club member’s plus Rotarian Harold McKay, visiting us from the Kanata Sunrise Club.

 Secretary George read a letter from the promotional committee of the annual Rose Bowel Parade Rotary Float – with a pitch for $3.00 per. Rotarian, to fund this annual gift of glamour to the streets of Pasadena, California, and the T.V. screens of millions of people across North America every New Year’s Day.

 Rotarian Bernie reminded us that he is attending the Membership Seminar in Kemptville this Saturday, and invited anyone interested in going along to give him a call. He then informed the Club that he will soon be interviewing Tom Bonhomme, a resident of Almonte, regarding sponsorship for the upcoming Group Study Exchange (GSE) team that is being put together for a trip early next year. If things fall into place, we will be sponsoring Tom, which will be a first for us.

 Marion reported that the MaskerAid Ball arrangements are steaming ahead. The latest great news is that the eats for the event will be catered by Ballygiblins – which pretty well guarantees a very tasty treat. She passed out tickets with a powerful appeal to everyone to get them sold…to friends, neighbours, colleagues…and guarantee a big success for our second annual scary-time social. Last year’s dance was enjoyed by all – under the costumed blessings of Father Mike, who had George’s devil cowering in no time. This year’s dancing and listening delights will be to the big-band era sounds of the Capital Swing Band a well-known and well-regarded local cast of musical talents.

 Rotarians Brian and John have volunteered to co-ordinate the Annual Rose Sale again this year…which sets the stage for the Annual Xmas dinner – to be held again at the Heritage Inn, under Marion’s superbly efficient leadership again this year.

A very informative presentation on the ins and outs, ups and downs, perils and pleasures of a Rotary Club searching out and settling on a comfortable, reliable, congenial, and affordable meeting venue was provided by our evening’s guest, Rotarian Harold. He had been deeply involved in his Club search around Kanata in the past couple of years, until they finally found a place they can comfortably call home. His input was very timely, and greatly appreciated as our Club finds itself in the midst of a similar search. Our venue search committee was formally established, following Harold’s contribution. It consists of David, Bernie and George and is tasked with identifying a list of alternative venues and return a recommendation for the Club to consider.

**Next week:** At the Waterside, with Roger LeBlanc, the news editor of the Canadian Gazette as the program.

**Reminder:** Our Rotary Trail still needs some weed-whacking. Give Gordon a call for details is you can spare a couple of hours for a bit of outdoor exercise.

**Highway Clean up:** Saturday the 10th is the date for the clean up brigade.