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Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills

**June 28, 2010**

Rotarian Robert’s big back yard set the stage for our Club’s change-over celebrations – until mother nature sent us scurrying indoors to round out our eating, socializing, and witnessing the passing of the Presidential mantle from now Past President Mike to incoming President Alan. With the scrumptious food, the sumptuous surroundings, and scintillating socializing the evening was enjoyed by the eleven Rotarians and three partners that managed to get to the event.

A highlight of the evening was the awarding of the Russ Hicks Award as our Rotarian of the Year to none other than that indefatigable champion of the motto “Let’s do it!” – Arthur Waas. Rotarian Arthur, along with that spicy red-head Rivka, are both to be congratulated for the enthusiasm they exude in everything they undertake. They are great assets to our Club as we step into the re-building phase of the coming year.

President Mike gave a succinct rundown of his year-at-the-helm, with the drama around the venue adding a bit of colour to a very busy and successful year of Rotary activities. With $15,000.00 in the bank account, he hands the reins over to Al with a healthy kitty to plan our next year’s service activities, both in the community and on the international stage. We did very well with fund raising in the past year – thanks in no small part to President Mike’s devoted leadership and inspiring example – Well Done Michael – and well done Louise for being there at every step along the way.

President Al, in his acceptance address, pointed us towards 2010-11 with a goal of increasing our membership from 13 to 20. That’s a big challenge, but with three new members just about to join, it is certainly attainable. Lots of fun and fellowship is another of Al’s major goals – and he, along with his indefatigable (where have we heard that word before?)

partner, Glenda, is just the fellow to make it happen. The evening at Robert’s certainly started us off on the right foot.

President Al will be joined by now Past President Mike, Secretary and President-elect, George, and Treasurer Robert, as the new-year’s executive.

As a minor side-bar to the evenings formalities, perfect attendance pins were presented to Rotarians George, for 19 years, Marion, for 9, and Mike for 3.

**Next Week:**

Marion and George will present a summary of their very enjoyable and inspiring week in Montreal where they volunteered at, and attended the 2010 Rotary International Convention. With highlight speakers such as Greg Mortenson, (of “Three Cups of Tea” fame), Queen Noor of Jordan, (of international diplomacy renown), and Dolly Parton (of – well everybody knows Dolly, or do they? fame), the Convention was a winner.