

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

 **Meeting of October 29, 2012**

We met on a blustery night as Hurricane Sandy was bringing some blowing winds. Absent from the meeting were Al and Brian. On this night we had a guest speaker from the Carleton Place Chamber of Commerce present. Her name is Donna O’Donohue. As usual, President Robert opened the evening’s proceedings by asking Secretary Doug if he had received any correspondence.

Doug had two items. Firstly was a notice from the Petawawa Club for a Foundation / Paul Harris Recognition Dinner on Tuesday, November the 6th at 5:45 P.M. Secondly, there was a notice from the Textile Museum announcing an upcoming presentation they were holding in conjunction with a local spa and clothing store. The event was to run Thursday, November 1st between 7 and 9 P.M..

The next item on the agenda was the upcoming Rose Sale. Robert then asked Rotarian Marion for an update on the sale. She said that she had some receipts printed up for those people who need them. Others had questions about getting copies of the poster into their hands as they had problems printing them. Robert then suggested that his store could be used for a repository for both the posters and receipts. Marion then said that she had received an order from ex-Rotarian Gerry for 20 dozen. She also asked all members to have their orders in to her by the 9th of November.

Rotarian Bernie then spoke about his plans to sell roses at the Hospital on the morning of Saturday, November 3rd between 9 and noon as it is the Hospital’s 10th Anniversary. He then put forward a question to the Club at large, to consider a location and date for the presentation of the cheque to the Hospital Foundation.

Robert then asked Doug to speak about the sale of calendars and forthcoming plans for the sale at the LCBO. Doug said that he had submitted a press release to the EMC for publication but had not heard back from them in that regard. Doug then asked the members present if they could provide him with an update on the sales to date. Treasurer Mike responded by saying that to date he has deposited $1080 from the sales to date and then handed the associated sales tags to Doug. The matter of handing over the calendars / table / etc. on Saturday and Sunday was also discussed, with Robert again offering his store as a base of operations between the two days. Sergeant-At-Arms Arthur then offered a table and two chairs for use on the two days. The sales schedule was also cleared up with coverage on Saturday by Doug and Mike and on Sunday by Robert and Arthur.

The floor was again turned over to Marion for an update on the Seniors Dinner. Marion said that she had delivered 56 tickets for the event to the Mills in Almonte. Rotarian Gordon then asked Marion if she had lined up any entertainment for the evening and also a P / A system. They then decided that they would contact each other in the near future to discuss the matter further.

Robert then asked Arthur to speak about the road cleanup initiative on County Road 29 last Friday. Arthur said that the job only took about an hour and a half to have all of the debris and garbage picked up and on its way to the County yard.

Robert then asked Bernie for an update on the Masker-Aid Parade and the upcoming Christmas Parade. The Masker-Aid Parade was last Saturday evening, with Rotarians Arthur, Mike, Bernie and Gordon present to assist the BIA with crowd control on the east side of Bridge Street. It was estimated that there were about 2000 spectators on the evening and the crowd respected the barriers erected by our members. Bernie then mentioned that there was Parade Committee meeting at Town Hall, Thursday at 7 P.M..

Lastly, Robert read out a note he had received from Rotarian George, in which George asked that he be given a leave of absence so that he fully dedicate his time to his medical condition.

The floor was then handed over to our guest speaker, Donna O’Donohue, who gave a very upbeat presentation which highlighted the differences between her organization and the BIA, the Chamber’s history in Carleton Place and some its’ current projects. Many of the current projects are being done in conjunction with the Town Council and the BIA. The Chamber meets once a month and currently has 220 members, all of whom have paid a membership fee. Donna also said that members have available to them group insurance benefits including medical and dental coverage.