

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

**Meeting of February 10, 2014.**

In attendance at this special meeting were District Governor Bonnie Black, her husband Roger and Assistant District Governor Cora Beking. Prior to the main meeting, Bonnie and Cora met with members of the Club Executive to discuss what RI and the District have planned for the upcoming year. Also in attendance was President-Elect Brian’s wife Jennifer. Absent from the meeting were Rotarians Alan and Gordon.

Following a special rendition of the American Anthem, in honour of Bonnie’s heritage, the meeting was opened by President Robert as usual. Secretary Doug was asked to present any correspondence received over the previous week. The Alzheimer’s Society of Lanark County sent a newsletter which detailed a series a series of fundraisers and special initiatives that they are planning over the next six months.

Secondly, our Club received a letter from the Rotary Club of Iqaluit in the Nunavut. They sent this letter to announce that their Club has been in operation for 35 years, as well some of their achievements during that time. Of special note was a special commemorative pin from the Club was sent as part of the package. This pin was later given away as a secondary prize in the 50 / 50 draw, with Robert being the winner. He graciously gave the pin to Rotarian Faye.

Robert asked Jennifer to speak to the Club. She announced that she was selling tickets for the Appleton Museum’s upcoming roast beef dinner at $25 each. This event will be taking place on Friday, the 21st of February.

Robert then asked the Club if we felt that we should not meet next Monday, the 17th, as it was the Provincial holiday, Family Day. After a brief discussion among those in attendance, Rotarian Brenda moved that the meeting be postponed, which was seconded by Rotarian Ernie. A vote was held; with 10 in favour and one against. The motion was then passed. Treasurer Mike then said that he would notify the speaker planned for that evening to re-schedule their appearance.

Robert then brought up the transition to Slackoni’s as our Club’s new meeting venue. He said that he had not given notice to the Thirsty Moose as yet, nor moved our Club’s equipment cabinet to the new location. Ernie said that the cabinet move should be postponed due to Slackoni’s planned reparation of our meeting room on the 17th. Robert agreed and said that he make arrangements to move the cabinet and give notice to the Thirsty Moose in the week following the 17th.

ADG Cora then announced that she has planned a regional meeting to be held in Smith’s Falls on Thursday, March 20. Tickets for the evening are $25 per person and Brian was given tickets to sell for the night. The evening’s activities will commence at 5:00 P.M.. The location of the event is at the Rotary Collegiate Hall, 3 Gould Street, Smith’s Falls. Cora said that she will be asking all Club’s in attendance to make a special five minute presentation of a community event they have had success with to the other the other Club’s participating. She also said that there be members from RI at the meeting to also do a special presentation.

She also said that the Perth Club had voted to move their weekly meeting to the night of the 20th. Robert then asked the Club, whether we should also change our weekly meeting to the night of the 20th. Rotarians Judith and Marion put forward such a motion and it was carried unanimously. Mike then suggested that our Club’s presentation should be on our annual mushroom compost fundraiser.

At 7:00 P.M., Robyn Arsenault from the Carleton Place Hospital Building Foundation came to the meeting. Robyn brought along the Chair of the Foundation, Edith Addyman as well as a student volunteer, Nick Rabbetts. Nick had worked closely with Robyn in promoting the Rose Sale at the Hospital. The purpose for their coming to the meeting was the presentation of a cheque for $3000 from the Club to the Hospital Foundation.

The floor was then turned over to DG Bonnie. She had passed out small cards to all in attendance earlier. She then asked each member four questions related to their personal reasons for being a Rotarian and to write the answers to the questions down on the cards, for collection at the end of the evening.

Bonnie spoke about some initiatives being made by RI and the District to promote Rotary and dispelling some commonly held preconceptions about Rotary. During the prior Executive meeting, Bonnie had asked three of those members to read out some prepared sheets which key to her presentation.

The first sheet keyed on the Rotary Foundation’s #1 world-wide goal – the global eradication of Polio. Today there are three countries which still have people getting infected with Polio. However, of the 4 “wild” strains, 4 have been eliminated. This makes the vaccination formulation that much easier.

The second sheet read off, dealt with the Rotary Endowment Fund. Bonnie then spoke about the various levels of Endowments available and how to give to this Fund.

Thirdly, was the Annual Fund. This Fund provides support to local and international initiatives which support the 6 Areas of Focus. One of the primary facilities that is available is the District Designated Fund (DDF). One half of what is given this year, returns in three years to fund local and international projects. The other major portion of the Fund is the World Fund. As with the DDF, ½ given this year, returns in three years to provide resources to support Global Grants and Global Scholarships.