

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

**Meeting of 18 January, 2016**

There were 13 members present for the meeting as well as guest Rotarian Warren Creighton from the West Ottawa club and our guest speaker Terrilee Kelford. President Brenda opened the meeting by reminding members that the Arnprior Club was hosting a speaker on March 4 talking about “The Franklin Expedition”. After discussion it was agreed that our Club should attend that event in place of our scheduled meeting of February 29. (Yes, we have a February 29 this year.) We believe that the meeting will be at 7pm at 295 Albert Street, Arnprior, but Brenda will confirm by e-mail.

During the “Happy $” discussion Mike advised us that we had finally received our cheque for the calenders sold in late 2014 and were told by the mother of our first nominee to the “Adventures in High Technology Program” that her son had graduated and was working in Toronto. Efforts will be made to see if he can speak to our Club during one of his visits home. Robert updated us on the planning for the Casino Fun Night and indicated that volunteers were still needed for some critical aspects of planning. **Please step up and call Robert to volunteer!** Brenda is exploring with Home Depot whether the event can be supported through that company’s grant program assisting youth in the community. It was agreed that the Club should participate at the Carleton Place Home Show on April 8 through 10 at the Community Centre and we should determine whether a 50/50 draw could be held on that occasion as well as promoting Rotary membership and our compost drive.

Al read a letter from the Hub Hospice seeking our club’s sponsorship of its fourth annual fund-raising “Hike for Hospice” to be held on May 1. The cost of sponsorship would be $250 and our involvement would be recognized at the site and on printed material. We were also invited to enter a team into the event. The Board will discuss this request at its January 22 meeting. Bernie then advised the meeting that Carleton Place council is beginning to plan for the celebration of Canada’s 150th year of confederation (2017) and we should start to consider our involvement in that as well as the Town’s 200th birthday party in 2019. The board will discuss this as well.

Our speaker, Terrilee, then briefed us on Cornerstone Landing Youth Services and its efforts to prevent youth homelessness in Lanark County where, as her statistics showed, it is a very serious problem. With only one full time staff member hired through a grant they assist 30 homeless youth over an average year and with a high “success rate”. They are developing a rural-specific response to this need rather than copying the ones of large urban centres. No financial support is needed at this time.