

Rotary Club of Carleton Place & Mississippi Mills



Bulletin: March 31, 2006

MEETING OF 28/03/06

Unfortunately only eight members were present to hear a very interesting and heart-warming presentation by Debbie Turner, Alex Vorobej and Agnes Turner on the Lanark Branch of the Navy League of Canada. This organization was established in Canada in 1895 and currently has a membership of some 15,000 young people in the 12 to 18 age bracket. The Lanark Branch has an 11-member board plus two naval officers as advisers and has the full responsibility for the training, uniforms etc. of the 52 Sea Cadets currently registered. It operates without fees and survives on fund-raisers, donations and some support by DND. The Sea Cadets get involved in community service (which counts against the 40-hour requirement for high school graduation), basic training, summer camps (free), inter-provincial and some international exchanges. The organization also has a Navy League Cadet program (ages 9-12) with 21 children currently registered, a number of them coming from situations where this form of safe and organized companionship is desperately needed. It is easy to conclude that the Navy League would constitute an excellent partner for some of our activities, this year's compost sale being the first.

The business portion of the meeting included a report by **President Brenda** on the awarding of our first Paul Harris award to a surprised Janice Bowie of Lux Photographic Services (well covered by The Canadian); a letter from the Hall of Valour thanking the Club for its registration in their golf tournament; and a letter from the BIA of Carleton Place asking us to participate in the April 25th "Clean-Up Carleton Place" campaign. The Secretary has responded to the BIA to the effect that our participation will be a clean-up of the trail and the end of William Street on or about April 25.

Gordon reported the good news that the District Simplified Grant application submitted in February 2005 for the trail construction had been approved by the Rotary Foundation at a level of \$1,679. He also reported a \$500 grant from the Town of Mississippi Mills. He had applied for that grant several months ago as a contribution to match the Club's annual \$500 commitment towards trail maintenance. Gordon submitted a financial statement for the trail showing that we have a total of \$6,593.69 available for benches, signs and additional gravel. **Bernie** reported that the three applicants for RYLA had been interviewed and that he had submitted a strong nomination letter for all three. And in the Happy News category, **Brenda** announced her appointment as Manager of the GMAC office in Perth. Fortunately she will continue to reside in Carleton Place. Finally, at the April 11 meeting we will be making a decision re "adopting" a highway and registering for a charity number.

Remember! There will be no meeting next Tuesday, April 4.