

Rotary Club of Carleton Place & Mississippi Mills



Meeting of March 18th, 2008

With **President Fraser** sending regrets from his sick bed, and **Past-President Brenda** unable to attend and present a program on proposed Club Projects, **President-Elect Marion** conducted a busy-but-brief meeting.

Thanks to **Treasurer Debbie** catching **Pseudo-Secretary George** snoozing, and reminding him that a secretary takes minutes, some notes did manage to get penned in **Real-Secretary Mike's** absence.

Chief among these was that the dozen members present (along with three proxy-votes carried by **President-Elect Marion** – thus providing a quorum) accepted a motion by **Donations Committee Chair Gordon**, and seconded by **Rotarian Brian A.**, that the revised by-law regarding the allocation of Community Service Donations be accepted as proposed.

Gordon also reported that the Donations Committee had recently turned down seven applications, and recommended the acceptance of nine, pending sufficient funds in our somewhat depleted treasury – now that Bingo is no longer filling our coffers.

Other items included **International Service Chair Bernie** reporting that the potential summer exchange student had decided not to pursue the opportunity for a three month exchange program placement in Chile. Bernie encouraged Club Members to keep an eye open for other potential students to take advantage of this shorter exchange program – the two-month version is much easier to arrange, and to carry out than is the usual year-long format. With it, the family hosting the in-bound student also provides a reciprocal out-bound student. This is much neater and simpler than the usual

requirement of the Club to find three or four host-families to cover an entire school year.

As **Membership Chair, Rotarian Alan** informed us that a c.d. promoting Rotary is available from Rotary International (R.I.), which could be aired on local T.V. and radio stations. He will look into such promotional possibilities. Alan also reminded us of the need to recruit several new Rotarians to maintain our recent good recruitment record – which garnered our Club recognition at the District Level, with our winning an Award at this year's Annual Conference held in Gatineau last October.

Rotarian Brian A. reported on the potential availability of pony-rides to augment kid-friendly activities at the Family-Fun Day planned for October. He is in dialogue with ex-Rotarian **Ray Elliston** on this endeavour.

Brian A. also gave an admirably detailed report on the question of the feasibility of our Club conducting its own bingos. The Smiths Falls Club is currently garnering around *\$1,100.00 a week* from going it alone on the Bingo road-to-riches. He also related, however, that glitches along this path include a costly (\$1,500.00) start-up fee, plus buying/renting the gaming equipment from some source, plus providing up to eight willing Rotarians to conduct each bingo event. The response of groans from the assembled members suggested that Brian's report was received with a note of this probably not something the Club is interested in getting involved with – at this point at least.

Club Condolences: Rotarian Bernie and his wife, Mary, wish to express their appreciation to the Club for the card of condolence they received on the passing of Mary's mother a few days ago. She was ninety-seven.

Next Week: **Past-President Brenda** will present a program on our Fall Family Fun Day.

