

Rotary Club of Carleton Place & Mississippi Mills



Meeting of August 12th, 2008

Marion chaired the meeting, and welcomed Dave Hallett from Kingston-Cataraqui, Bob French and Julian Bailey from North Renfrew, and Ernie Macdonald-Rowe. Bob and Julian presented us with a club banner, and we were able to reciprocate for the first time with one of our new ones.

We received a letter from the Rotary Home in Ottawa, stating that their new building is under construction, and that they have received 97% of their campaign target.

There is a proposal for a quarterly Canadian insert in "The Rotarian", which would increase the fee from \$12 per member to \$16. This will be voted on for a club response at the next meeting. Mike will circulate the proposal.

The motion on applying for status as a registered charity was postponed to next week, as only 9 members were present, and only one proxy vote has been received. Please attend the next meeting if you possibly can, and provide an email vote by proxy to the secretary if you can't. This is an important issue for the club's future.

A few members still have not paid their semi-annual dues. Please do so as soon as possible.

Dave Hallett then gave a presentation about the Shelterbox project. The project originated as the idea of Tom Henderson, of the Helston-Lizard club in the UK. (<http://www.ribi.org/clubs/homepage.asp?ClubID=1608>). From small beginnings, it has now grown to the point where nearly 38,000 boxes have been delivered, and over \$60 million received in donations. They

have a target of at least one box contributed by each club each year. (Boxes cost about \$1,200 each).

Dave is a volunteer who has been on several delivery missions, most recently to the earthquake-damaged area in China, in the mountains west of Chengdu. He described his travels and the problems of getting the boxes delivered, and how they were welcomed by many people rendered homeless. A key advantage is that they enable families to stay together, and help local businesses to get restarted quickly. He has also been to Somaliland and to Malaysia after the tsunami. The shelterbox program was one of the few international aid programs allowed into Myanmar.

Agenda for next meeting

- Vote on obtaining status as a registered charity

Club Activities

- Masker-Aid meeting Monday August 18th, 6:00 pm, Carleton Heritage Inn (dinner is not being served at this meeting)
- Playground meeting on August 26th, with Civitan members invited. Spouses of Rotary members are also invited.