



Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills

Meeting of September 16th 2008

Marion chaired the meeting, and welcomed Chris Hale, Melissa Ekdom-Delorme and David Batchelor from the Perth Club, and Carl Whitehouse from the St. Alban's, Vermont club.

Debbie reported on the October 25th dance. The liquor license has been arranged, and needs a signature from another club member. 120 tickets have been printed, and more are needed; we hope to sell about 200, at \$40 each. More decorators are also needed. Hall rental is \$325, the SRO band \$500, and the Leatherworks will make light food for about \$4 per person. Rotarians who attend, and spouses of those helping, are asked to pay if at all possible.

Fraser has agreed to join the Donations Committee. Cheques for the three high schools have been mailed. We have two new requests.

The Smiths Falls club has invited us to handle one Bingo each month, on a Friday evening. Six members would be required, and the income for the club could be expected to be \$600 to \$800 per month. Marion will check if the money must be spent in Smiths Falls.

The next highway cleanup is scheduled for October 4th. Fraser will pick up the jackets. Two trucks are needed to cart away the garbage.

Brian will not be able to organize the Rose Sale this year, and it is hoped that another member will be able to replace him. The date will be either November 15th or 22nd.

George introduced our guests. Chris gave a general introduction, and stated that the Perth club spent about \$18,000 on projects there last year.

Melissa then gave a presentation about the work being done in Guatemala. She stayed there for three months as part of her degree course, and did translations when necessary. For \$1,500, the women started a weaving workshop, and were producing clothes for themselves and for sale within two weeks. \$2,500 was spent on building a shed. Much of the work focuses on improving health and education. She visited the hen-house project, and was present for the slaughter when the chickens were fully grown. Two more chicken coops are being built, one of which will sell eggs.

Corrective surgery for problems such as cleft palates are being done.

Carl is an optometrist, and will visit Guatemala next July, to provide eye care to people who need it. Old prescription glasses are valuable, as they can be matched to individual needs and avoid the cost of making new ones. Ziploc bags are also needed in large numbers. He is looking for volunteers to go with him; the trip will be for 10 days, including travel time.

Chris's email address is Chris.Hale@sympatico.ca. She is interested in ideas for cooperation between the two clubs.

Agenda for next meeting

- Vote on charitable status. Voice vote for members present only (assuming a quorum of 7); no email votes accepted. Please attend if possible.

Club Activities

- Oct 4th – Highway cleanup
- Oct 25th - Maskeraid afternoon and evening dance
- November 15th or 22nd – Rose Sale, assuming a volunteer will step forward.