



Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills

Meeting of January 20th, 2009

Marion chaired the meeting, and we welcomed a number of guests:

- Mike Nickerson (guest speaker)
- Donna Dillman (wife of speaker)
- Roy van der Mull (Perth, charter member of our club)
- Barbara Dawson-Kozo (Perth)
- Mary Rosengerg (Nepean-Kanata)
- Gerhard Peters (Arnprior)
- Brian Patterson (Nepean-Kanata)

She presented a cheque for \$250 to the Mississippi Kings Bantam Hockey Team.

She also recommended the article on why the polio vaccine is only given to children, in this month's "The Rotarian".

Bernie reported that the incorporation papers will be signed on Thursday at 4:00pm, and that we will apply to become a registered charity as soon as we receive the Business Number.

The Stittsville club is organizing a "Trivia Night" on February 20th.

Kanata Sunrise will hold a ten-year anniversary dinner-dance in February; tickets \$50.

We exchanged banners with the Arnprior Club, thanks to Gerhard Peters.

George then introduced Mike Nickerson, the author of "Life, Money and Illusion". Mike and his wife live near Lanark, and he makes custom furniture as well as writing on

economics. He talked about sustainability – the problem of ensuring that the human population can survive indefinitely, without using up finite resources, damaging the ecology or suffering from pollution and waste. He gave as an example the impact on the cod fishery of an exponential growth in fishing. He remarked that we were now facing a wake-up call to the human family, and that we will be tried in the Court of Natural Selection. Some action has been taken over problems such as acid rain and carbon-dioxide emissions, but any reductions have been swamped by the growth in the total population. Some western societies have actually started to reduce in size, once people understand that they do not need to have many children to ensure they are cared for when they are old. He thought that the maximum sustainable population was about 2 billion; one third of our current numbers.

He suggested that sustainability might make a good topic for global Rotary initiative.

Mike offered copies of his book for sale after the meeting, and several members bought them.

Agenda for next meetings

- January 27th - Speaker to be announced
- February 3rd – the meeting will be held at the Waterside community on McNeely; dinner will be served