



## ***Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills***

### **Meeting of March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

With **President Marion** in the Chair, and eleven members present, the Club held its second last meeting in the Heritage Inn venue. Among the business items covered, the Club approved a motion by **Rotarian Gordon** (seconded by **Rotarian David Mc.**) to donate \$500.00 to the Puppets Up Festival, \$500.00 to the Alwood Addictions Treatment Centre, and \$250.00 to the Valley Player's Youth Troupe. \$250.00 was approved tentatively to go to the Naismith Statue project, given our financial position when this project is finalized by the Naismith Foundation.

In **Vice-President Mike's** absence (he and **Louise** are basking, we hope, in the spring sunshine of his native Britain), **Marion** reminded the Club that the dates for this year's compost sale are the weekends of May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> – so keep posted for details on just when we will be called into telephone action. We don't want to start doing our marketing until we are sure we have the teen-age muscle-power to man, and woman, the shovels, bags, and trucks to spread the manure around the valley once again in our annual major fund-raiser.

**Rotarian David B.** (alias "Wee Davie") reminded us of the **Bowling Party** this Saturday evening (tomorrow), March 28<sup>th</sup>, to be held at the Bowling Alley on Bridge St. in Carleton Place. The balls roll at 6:30, to be followed by a pizza snack around 8:00 to refresh our spent spirits. The cost is \$16.00 a head. This is a **partners' fun night** so do come along if you can and enjoy the flights of fancy (bowling balls that is) and fellowship.

**Rotarian Alan J.** (that fellow from Ottawa), passed around a glossy promotional magazine from his home town of **Kimberly B.C.** (nestled in the valley between the Rockies and the Purcell Mts.), with the suggestion that our area (straddling the banks of the meandering Mississippi) put out a similar publication. The seed of an idea?

### **Program:**

With an introduction by **Rotarian Bernie**, our program guests, **Kimberly Leach** – Fund Raising Manager for **Easter Seals Ontario**, and **Ian McLachlan** – Regional Chair of Easter Seals Volunteers, gave us a run-down of Easter Seals funded activities. Interestingly, this organization was started by Rotary, back in 1922, as the Ontario Society for Crippled Children – and later morphed into what is now called **Easter Seals Ontario**. With its primary purpose being to ease the often crushing financial burden on the families of children with a variety of debilitating physical handicaps, the Easter Seals organization also provides a range of recreational programs and services for handicapped people, a centerpiece being the annual summer camp at **Camp Merrywood**, on the Rideau Lakes between Perth and Smiths Falls.

The major fund raiser for the **Easter Seals** is an upcoming annual **telethon**, held this year on **Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup>**. Our club was invited to make a public donation at the telethon, and challenge other Rotary Clubs in the process.

**Rotarian David Mc.** (still sporting his Dominican Republic tan) thanked our speakers with an illustration of his own personal involvement in Camp Merrywood – not only was he present (as a very young fellow) at the inaugural camp, he has visited it regularly over the years.

### **Next Meeting:**

Presentation by Co-operative Nursery School of Almonte.

### **Club Activities:**

March 28<sup>th</sup> – Bowling Night.

