



Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills

Meeting of April 21st, 2009

Marion chaired this evening's meeting, and welcomed as guest Lawanda Brown, from Mississippi Mills Community Support.

The Highway Cleanup was completed by 6 members in two and a half hours – our thanks to those who were able to turn out. We received a letter from Lanark County, noting that we must apply in good time to get our choice of clean-up day in future. Waiver forms need to be signed.

Compost orders are coming in, but we may not meet our target of 2,000 bags. Two loads have been ordered for May 1st, and either one or two more loads will be delivered on May 8th, depending on demand. Please hunt down more customers!

The opening night for the Naismith Foundation is this Saturday, April 25th.

Mike reported that he had attended PETS – the President-Elect Training Session at Cornwall.

Alan has sold 10 tickets to members for the Arnprior Valley night, when Max Keeping will be the speaker.

Gordon then introduced Lawanda Brown, She gave an illustrated talk about the Home Support Service of the Mills Community Support Group, of which she is the manager. There are three paid staff, and over a hundred volunteers. They provide many services to elderly and disabled people in the Almonte area. The main objective is to keep people in

their homes as long as possible. They provide the following kinds of support:

- Transportation. "Gus the Bus" provides transport for medical and social appointments, and there are many volunteer drivers who use their own cars, receiving a mileage allowance but no other remuneration
- Intervention, for clients under stress.
- Meals, both delivered to homes as "meals on wheels", and communal events
- Foot care services
- Visitors and telephone contacts for shut-ins. Some volunteers call their clients every day
- Basic computer training (use of email and web searching)
- Shopping services
- Day trips, hiking programs, visits to the ever-popular Carlingwood
- Home and garden maintenance
- Help with home cleaning
- "Vial of Life" to indicate medications for people who have to be hospitalised in an emergency

Lawanda finished by saying that Lanark provided a similar set of services for Carleton Place and other parts of the County.

Alan thanked Lawanda for her very interesting and well-presented talk.

Agenda for next meeting

● Club Activities

- Compost – May 2nd/3rd and 9th/10th