



Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills

Meeting of October 18th, 2010

14 of our 16 Club Members were on hand to hear a very interesting overview of just how our Mississippi River watershed is being guarded and guided by a dedicated band of Conservation Authority civil servants. Suzanne McFarlane, the Community Relations person for the Authority, caught our attention (certainly mine) by a power-point slide of Hurricane Hazel – a destructive storm that swept through Ontario in 1954, flooding rivers like ours ‘til they washed away bridges and did untold damage to the surrounding areas. In response to such a wake-up call from Mother Nature, Ontario set up a number of Water Conservation Authorities with a primary objective to be an early warning system for any and all sudden shifts in water levels that could be anticipated. While avoiding loss of life and property may be its main function, the Authority has expanded itself over the years to include operation and monitoring of dams, fish-stock planning, conservation education in the schools, and area stewardship (e.g. tree planting), for the entire Mississippi watershed all the way from the headwaters at Mazinaw Lake to where it flows into the Ottawa near Arnprior after its 169 km. meander through Carleton Place, Almonte, and Packenham.

Club News:

Rotarian Robert reported that Ticket sales for the Masker-Aid Ball on October 30th have been slow so far. He

urged the members to give things a big push, with the expectation that last minute sales may be the order of the day – which does seem to be a trend in our local area.

Rotarian David K. reported that a facility has been found to house the roses for our upcoming “Just Because” Rose Sale fund raiser coming up towards the end of November (the 19th & 20th). Past-president Mike was delegated to make a tentative pre-order of 150 dozen, with the expectation that more will be needed when we actually get the orders sold.

Rotarian Marion has booked the upstairs room of the Carleton Place Arena for this year’s Annual Seniors’ Christmas Dinner and arranged a great deal with the Leatherworks Catering Service. Leatherworks has volunteered to provide a \$17.85 Christmas turkey dinner, with all the trimmings, for \$8.00 – as a community contribution.

Rotarian Bernie reported that a Rotary Youth Exchange Leadership Training event will be held in Cornwall on Sunday, October 31st. Anyone interested in attending is invited to get in touch with him for the details.

Mike reported that a children’s musical entertainer, Gary Mitchell of Kingston, has sent a marketing piece to the club. Marion volunteered to look into the Club sponsoring a performance as a fund-raiser for the play-ground project.

Next Week: Note Bene!! This coming week’s meeting will be held on **Tuesday** – due to the election.

