



Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills

Meeting of February 28th, 2011.

This evening's session was attended by nine of our cheerful members.

President Alan started off the evening by bringing to our attention some letters that he had received on behalf of the Club. He presented to us a card from the Puppets Up Festival in Almonte, thanking us for our ongoing support. Alan also said that the Textile Museum was promoting a reduced price membership for its volunteers. He also received a notice from The Loyalist College's Radio Broadcast Program, thanking us for supporting their students with an award. Alan also said that CPHS sent a message thanking the Club for supporting their students with an award. Lastly, was a card from the Carleton Place Hospital's Auxiliary, thanking us for supporting the Hospital's Foundation with a cheque in the name of David McGlade.

President Alan had made arrangements to have Kate, our regular waitress, come to our meeting so that the Club could give her a gift in support of her soon to arrive newborn. Kate said that the doctor has said

that their son (Logan James) was progressing, right on schedule and that he would weigh about 4 pounds at present. She said she had about nine more weeks to go before the big day.

Rotarian Doug was asked to bring the Club up to date on the recent Volunteer's Fair held in Almonte. The report from the Fair was mostly positive as the people that were attendance at this event were all seeking to volunteer in one capacity or another. The consensus from the three Rotarians that represented the Club (Robert, Bernie and Doug) was that there were roughly four or five people who were thought to be good prospects for Club membership. Further, that one of the most often heard comments from attendees was, that meetings held in Almonte would probably influence them to become members.

At the Volunteer Fair, Doug took it upon himself to circulate among the other groups that also had booths with an eye to garnering potential agreements to share in the spoils from a 50/50 draw held at their event. Two groups said that they would definitely be interested provided that the Club would look after the Lottery License. These two groups were the Almonte Country Fair (early July) and the Puppets-Up Festival (second week in August). Both groups said that they would present the request to their respective

boards and that they would be in contact.

The issue of hosting a 50/50 draw, the week before the Puppets-Up Festival at the BIA Street Bazaar was then brought up, without any concerns brought up by the other members.

The discussion about holding meetings in Almonte then was commented by those in attendance. The general comment was that there is not really a restaurant or other such facility in Almonte that would be suitable for our meetings where we would not be charged for the use of the facilities. However, President Alan suggested that the Barley Mow does have a basement area on their premises.

Alan then presented to the Club a promotional item from the Hub in Almonte. They are holding an auction on the 26th of March. Items up for bid include such items as Home-Cooked Dinners, Art, Photographs, Jewellery, a Gift Basket, Quilts and Wall Hangings. The largest item was a weekend for six at Mt Tremblant.

Alan then put to the floor, the question of the Bowling Night that had been discussed before. Alan then asked to have someone volunteer to take charge of arranging this event for the Club. Rotarian Arthur said that he would do so.

President Alan then put to the Club, the question of the programs run by RI announced by Bernie last week. Alan said that we should really make an effort to make the application(s) by April 1st. At this point, Rotarian Robert took the floor. He said that his perception of the Volunteer's Fair was much the same as was presented previously. He also said that he too felt that meetings held in Almonte would help to positively grow the Club. He then said that the new initiatives put forward by RI, in regard to opening membership requirements as per local needs and the re-location of the meetings, fit into the objectives of the PR report and thereby the growth of the Club. Rotarian Mike then spoke in agreement with the comments made by Robert. President Alan then said that this matter was of a great urgency and must be voted on. However, since the implementation of these initiatives would take place following George's taking the Presidential role and that because George was not in attendance, that the vote must take place next week when George returns and would be the first item on the agenda.

President Alan then asked Rotarian Gordon to report on any news from the Donation Committee. Gordon then read an e-mail that he had received from Brian Turner. Mr. Turner

said that while he would welcome support of his agency by the Club, that that support could wait until an event suggested by one of our members took place. This event would be a Parents Support event where emphasis would be put on parental recognition of their children's substance abuse issues. Mr. Turner then went on to suggest that our Club could also get involved with his group as an adjunct or sponsor to a multi-media program on substance abuse being started by local high schools.

Alan then reminded everyone that next week's meeting would be held on Tuesday night, March the 8th.

Gordon then mentioned that the Lanark Autism Society had sent a letter to him seeking some funding. After some discussion, it was decided that the Club could sponsor an Autism walkathon to take place in late-August.

The next item for Gordon was the on-going discussion with the Lanark Museum's requirements for renovating their facilities to support handicapped individuals' access to their site. Gordon again mentioned about an earlier commitment by members to help with the construction of a ramp.

A suggestion was put forward that the Club have a sponsor designated for the receipt of the funds generated by the 50/50 draw at the BIA Bazaar in order to bring additional focus to the Club's support of the local community.