



Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills

Meeting of March 14th, 2011.

A dozen Rotarians had a scary start to this evening's meeting...President Al showed up with **a full head of hair!** Carefully held in place by a garish bright red eye-shade cap that gave him the look of the accountant from Hades – and someone not to be trifled with. Trifle with him we did, of course, until he politely removed his elegant head piece to join in the National Anthem, revealing his usual, congenial, and hair-growth challenged self.

Rotarian Bernie led off the business portion of the evening announcing that there is a meeting in Cornwall this coming Saturday, March 19th on Rotary membership & recruitment. If anyone is interested in going to it, an email has just come out giving details – so get in touch with Secretary George and the info will be forwarded forthwith.

Rotarian Arthur then reported on the bowling night scheduled for this Saturday. There are 29 members and guests set to attend – which will make this annual event the largest yet.

With this month designated as Literacy Month in the Rotary World, President Al reported on an email from Bill Robinson, our District's Literacy Chair. Bill is setting up a database of literacy projects in the District, and is requesting information on what our Club might be doing. Rotarians Bernie and Mike

volunteered to touch base with our local Librarian to see what we might be able to do in this area – they will report back to us with their findings.

Rotarian Marion reported that the Club has now been registered with the Provincial Trillium Foundation – paving the way for us to make submissions for Trillium grants for future projects. The proposed all-abilities playground is one such project that is in line for such a submission.

Marion also informed us that she has lined up two high school male soccer teams (one for sure and one tentative) to supply the muscle for our up-coming compost distribution activities – on the April 30th/May 1st weekend.

President-Elect George reported on a variety of initiatives that were discussed at the recent Ottawa Area Presidents' meeting. A presidents membership committee, funding of the Dave Smith Treatment Centre Building Fund, a new Interact Club about to be initiated in Ottawa South, and the coming re-organization of Club alignments with the Assistant District Governor (with us included with Brockville, Prescott, Perth & Smith's Falls instead of West Ottawa & Stittsville) were among the variety of topics discussed.

And then last, but far from least, the meeting got around to a very informative (really) presentation on the surprisingly interesting topic of what goes on in the two towers of Tunney's Pasture that are home for Statistics Canada. Having spent 35 years of his professional life there, keeping the computers going (and making them smaller and smaller), Mike presented a wealth of insight into what

gets collected, why, and what's done with it all. In reply to a question about people playing pranks with their information returns, Mike shared the in-house joke to the effect that there are always a few forms filled out by "Hebrew speaking Inuit" but they are rare and inconsequential.

Next Week we're meeting at the Moose at the regular time. No program is arranged yet, other than feting the Saturday night bowling champs – whoever they might turn out to be.