



Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills

Meeting of March 26th, 2012

George chaired the meeting, with eleven members present. He welcomed two guests; Bill Mains from the Lethbridge club, and our speaker Dr Mervyn Letts, from the West Ottawa club.

David reported on the club's financial status. There is \$39 in the licensed lottery account, and \$7,634 in the general account.

Alan reported that Noreen Young of Puppets Up will address the club at the meeting of April 16th. She will present our suggestion about a 50/50 draw to her board. If approved, several members will be needed to sell tickets and do any other organization.

We scheduled the highway cleanup for Saturday April 14th. Gordon asked that we do some trail cleanup at the same time if possible, depending on the number of members who are available.

Marion has made arrangements with one soccer team from Notre Dame High School for the compost bagging, and will arrange for a second team as soon as possible.

Mike will ask Brian about police checks for members who will be supervising students and taking them on delivery runs.

We still plan to invite Brian Turner to discuss drug and alcohol abuse, and the club's participation. This may be in terms of activities rather than financial aid.

George introduced Mervyn Letts, who is a retired orthopedic surgeon who was in the Sinai peninsula during 1966 and 1967, as part of a very successful Canadian peace-keeping force. He was then working at a hospital in the United Arab Emirates for six years. The main problems they faced were dehydration and trachoma, both of which can be cured if caught in time. There are many genetic deformities caused by marriage to first cousins over a long period. They were able to establish successful working relationships with the Bedouin people, and he compared their society and customs with native North American people. He amused us with remarks about the treatment known as cupping, which causes so much discomfort it makes one forget the real problem, and with camel racing, where they have replaced the appalling use of children as jockeys by robots.

The Thirsty Moose is not open on Easter Monday April 9th. We will need to cancel the meeting, or find another venue.