



## ***Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills***

### **Meeting of January 20, 2014.**

President Robert was still away on vacation with Rotarian Faye. Treasurer Mike chaired the meeting. In attendance was returning Rotarian Louise Jeays and special guest Assistant District Governor Cora Beking.

As usual, Secretary Doug presented to the Club any correspondence that he had received through the week to the Club. The first item was a card from the Textile Museum announcing a vernisage on Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup> between 2 and 4 P.M.. The Museum will be featuring the works of two artists who specialize in working with felt.

Secondly was the District newsletter received via e-mail from Susan Deining. The e-mail provided some information in regard to some Club Bylaw and Constitutional changes that RI would like to have enacted by all Clubs, no later than June 30, 2014. If any Club in the District may have problems with performing these changes, DG Bonnie Black's office will assist those Clubs by enacting those changes into their respective Club documents. However, DG Black must receive the original Club documents by e-mail no later than April 30, 2014 in order for them to be processed by the RI deadline.

The first item on Mike's agenda was the announcement of two separate donations totaling \$75 that the Club had received

which both mentioned the passing of Rotarian George recently as the reason for the donations. The Club has since responded to these unsolicited donations with letters of gratitude.

Mike then announced that Rotarian Brian has asked to be considered as the next President-Elect for the Club. Mike then stated that he is willing to continue to act as either Club Secretary or Treasurer for fiscal 2015 if someone would like to come forward to act as Treasurer. Secretary Doug re-stated his stepping down from his current role as Secretary at the end of this fiscal year.

Mike then reported on the final receipts for the Rose Sale. The final amount due to the Hospital Foundation was \$2,833. Mike then suggested that the amount given over to Hospital be rounded up to \$3,000. A motion was put forward Rotarian Bernie to do so and the seconded by Rotarian Gord. The Club then voted on the motion, with all present voting for the motion. Mike then said that he would be in contact with Robyn Arsenault to arrange for a formal presentation of the donation cheque to the Hospital.

Next on the agenda was a discussion about the Student Exchange working in conjunction with the Renfrew Club. Rotarian's Judith and Bernie will meet with representatives of the local high schools to see if they would be willing work with the Club in taking in a foreign exchange student. Bernie was also concerned about the requirements for finding host families to billet the student, in particular their training and security clearance. Rotarian Marion said that she knew of a family that may be interested in hosting a student as part of the exchange. Judith then said that she will contact her associate at the Renfrew Club to arrange for his attendance at next week's

meeting, to which Mike concurred.

Mike then asked Rotarians Brenda, Ernie and Brian if they had met to discuss the matter of a changing our Club's meeting venue. Brenda and Ernie both mentioned some of the halls and restaurants locally they had contacted in this regard. The discussion then started around the table on some of the pros and cons of the sites mentioned. This also prompted DG Cora to bring up how her home Kemptville Club had recently gone through a similar exercise and how they came to their resolution.

The floor was then turned over to Cora whereby she presented some of the events and initiatives that are being done at the District level as well as by RI. One of her main points was the upcoming PETS seminar to be held in Cornwall. She said that the meeting would be conducted digitally through the use of laptops. Items to be discussed were; Planning for the upcoming year, Setting Club goals and Engaging new members.

She also mentioned a new portal for individual Clubs being made available by RI called Rotary Club Central. The Secretary for each Club has been asked to upload some information about their respective Clubs for all other Clubs to see. Once completed, RI will issue an award to each Club.

Cora said how she had planned a catered District meeting to be held in Smiths Falls, Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. There will be a guest speaker. All Club's in attendance are asked to bring to the meeting a special information board which deals with each Club's success stories and some challenges they have faced.

She also put forward two ideas relating to recognition of Friends of Rotary and new

members. She suggested that all Friends of Rotary be issued Friends of Rotary name tags, to be worn by them at events that they are participating in. Secondly, she suggested that all new members be mentored by an existing Club member so that they feel welcomed and have a purpose within the Club.