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

**Meeting of January 13th, 2009**

Marion chaired the meeting, and welcomed our guest speaker, Allen Roe.

George then formally introduced Allen, who spoke about his career, first as an RCMP officer, then with Sports Canada and later as the Executive Director of Basketball Canada. He was inducted into the International Hall of Fame for Basketball in Spain, as a referee who has given countless hours to the sport over many years.

He talked about James Naismith, who was born in Ramsey in 1861, and who is credited with the invention of the game of basketball. The first game was held in Springfield in 1891, and is now played world-wide.

He is looking for assistance for funding for a statue of Dr. Naismith, to be erected in Almonte. This is being organized by the Naismith Foundation, and the total cost will be about $30,000.

Gordon thanked Allen for his talk, and for coming out from Alta Vista despite very poor road conditions.

Mike reported on the meeting with Bud MacMillan of the Diamond Foundation, which he and Marion attended last Friday. They want either a contribution of person-hours at the Jam (other than ticket-selling), or a percentage of the profits from the 50/50 draw. There was no negotiation about what percentage might be required. He agreed to come to a meeting in February and explain more about the Diamond Foundation. Its sole purpose is to operate the Riverside Jam, and it is a non-profit foundation, which returns income to local organizations such as the hospital. Although they realize that Rotary returns the money to the community, it would like its name to be attached, perhaps jointly with Rotary, to the donations.

Bernie has contacted Alex Ferguson, and is hoping the papers required to apply for charitable status will be signed this week, by himself, David and John.

Mike will circulate an email about DDRAG – the Disaster Relief Rotary Action Group. They are looking for a membership fee of $25 US, and for each club to appoint a coordinator.

David will contact the Peterborough club to see how their bingo operation works.

We discussed fund-raising briefly; John wondered if we might go ahead with the Monopoly game.

**Agenda for next meeting**

* January 20th – Guest speaker will be Nick Nickerson, who has written a book on economics and the achievement of a sustainable economy. Two non-members have asked if they may attend.

**Club Activities**