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

 **Meeting of August 4th, 2009**

Mike chaired the meeting, and welcomed as guests Jack and Phyllis Donaghy (Marion's sister and brother-in-law), Anna Van Alrichem-Rochon (Group Study Exchange) and Tom Taylor, Assistant District Governor.

Robert reported on the very successful 50/50 draw at the Riverside Jam. Prizes were approximately $1,000, $1,700 and $2,200 for each of the three evenings, with a gross revenue of over $10,000. He will provide detailed numbers by next week, and write the required cheques to the Canoe Club, Daycare and Diamond Foundation. He thanked the club members who had turned out to sell tickets, especially those who had done two shifts.

Robert also reported on the work done by Arthur to investigate starting a new bingo. Arthur has spent a great deal of time with the Civitan club, who have been extremely helpful and encouraging. There will need to be a major commitment by several members to be present each and every week as organizers. At least two members stated very strongly that we should 'go for it', as it will make a huge difference to the club's ability to help the community. We raised the possibility of having regular meetings every two weeks to compensate for the time commitment, when this is approved by RI.

Bernie talked about World Service, and thought the club should make a greater contribution. He will provide George with a large amount of material for circulation.

Marion reported that she has engaged the SRO band for the Halloween Dance on October 24th. She will continue to make arrangements, such as the liquor license. All members will be strongly encouraged to buy tickets for themselves, and to sell them to friends.

Anna talked about the Group Study Exchange planned with District 3131 in India, near Mumbai. Applications from young professionals must be received by the end of September, from people in the age range of 25 to 40, and they cannot be Rotarians or close family members. This is a superb opportunity to learn about another country and culture. The visit lasts four weeks, and expenses for travel and accommodation are covered.

She also talked about participation in the 2010 RI Conference in Montreal. Many volunteers are needed, and it is hoped that at least two couple would attend from each club.

**Agenda for next meeting**

* Alan - “Bowling Alone” and membership issues

**Club Activities**