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*Rotary Club of Carleton Place and Mississippi Mills*

 Meeting of February 1st, 2010

 With 13 of our 14 member roster present and accounted for, President Mike started us off on another fine evening of fellowship with a rousing rendition of Happy Birthday to Past President Marion. We then engaged in a spirited discussion of a whole list of current Club items and activities.

First off, Mike reported that he is sending a letter to the Halifax, Nova Scotia area Rotary Clubs on behalf of our local Sage Age Theatre Group’s excursion to our maritime neighbours in June. Rotarian Alan, and Glenda, his partner-in-thespian-endeavours, (as well as other things), are key members of this entertaining band of witty commentators on life from the wisdom phase of growing up.

Mike then reported on a proposal emanating from last week’s meeting of the Club Board, to drop the $5.00 meeting fee – which went to tipping the meal servers, as well as covering meal costs for guests and program speakers. The new proposal called for tips to be added by each meal by the members, at their own discretion. Meal costs for invited guests and program presenters will be covered from the Club’s portion of the 50/50 draw. This proposal was adopted by the members and will come into effect as a new policy at next week’s meeting.

Mike confirmed that we can use the same location for the sale of compost again this year. The new owner’s of the property are on board for this year at least.

Rotarians Robert, Brian, and David B., volunteered to plan and coordinate a wine-and-cheese evening of Rotary Information for prospective members – and anyone interested in finding out more about Rotary. Robert & Faye’s art store and community gathering space will be the venue, with dates and format to be forthcoming.

Rotarian Allan reported on the Public Relations committee getting off the ground, with the confirmation that Rotarian Louise has offered to continue her writing of articles for the local newspapers.

On the fun-&-games side, David B. volunteered to organize our 3rd Annual Bowling Night Extravaganza (o.k. that might be a bit of an exaggeration – but it was fun last year for the few of us that braved the winter storm that night). The event will be in late March, probably the 27th.

Mike announced this Spring’s District Assembly will be held in Cornwall, at the NAVCAN Centre, on Saturday, April 17th. Interested Rotarians are encouraged to attend. More information will be forthcoming.

Treasurer Robert gave us a detailed Treasurer’s Report for the year-to-date. Looks like we are doing well in the bank-book, with thanks to Robert’s clear-minded control of our fiscal matters. To add to our healthy financial future, Rotarian Bernie reported that he is expecting information our application for a registered charity status is imminent – like maybe this week.

**Next Week:** local investment advisor, Brian Demsey, will be our program.

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