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

 **Meeting of May 10, 2010**

 Ten members were present to enjoy another evening of good acoustics at the Thirsty Moose, along with an entertaining program by Peter Kielland – the Screwzall Guy. President Mike started the evening by again congratulating the Club on another successful Compost Fund Raiser, and thanking everyone that pitched in to make it a resounding success. Suggestions for next year include making more of an effort to get the deliveries all done in the two days on the weekend the bagging is done, and arranging for the deliveries to be fully assisted by young backs – to avoid recurrences of Rotarian George’s overdone “pain in the back”. Seems the “39-and-holding” theme doesn’t necessarily work when it comes to delivering our bags of compost.

President-Elect Alan reported on the enjoyable evening spent by the Jones’, the Jeays, and the Reilly’s in Bristol, Quebec attending this year’s Rotary Valley Night. This is an annual gathering of Rotary Clubs in the Ottawa Valley, and our Club’s second year of taking part. This year’s guest speaker was 93 year-old Dr. George Fisher, a veterinarian and Past District Governor. Reminding us that “it can happen here” was Dr. Fisher’s theme, as he gave an overview of the issues facing mankind in this 21st Century, and a warning to avoid complacency – a lesson he learned the hard way from a three month visit to Nazi Germany just before the War, when the Western World had been lured into complacency through Chamberlain’s policy of appeasement. Next year’s Valley get together will be in Pembroke, and Alan is inviting us to consider hosting it here in our own Mississippi Valley come the year-after-next.

Peter Kielland, an inventor from Almonte with a long list of patents to his name, thoroughly entertained us with a program on his magnetized screwdriver bit container – and ingenious little device that can fit in one’s shirt pocket, be stuck on any handy metal surface, or be mounted on top of an electric drill handle – and have an array of changeable bits all ready to slip into place at a moment’s notice. He then previewed his next ingenious work-in-progress, a better “e-bike” than has been produced so far. With bicycling being widely promoted these days, the market for a first-class, locally manufactured, electrically-assisted bicycle might be just what the we’re ready for in a big way – and Peter is just the man to make it happen.

**Next Week:** A triple-play is on the program agenda for next week’s meeting. District Governor Arnold Lawrence will be making an official visit, Bill Hale from Perth will be bringing us up to date on Camp Merrywood, and Rotarian Bernie will be presenting our student representative to the annual Adventure in Citizenship program.

See you Monday at the Moose.