**

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

**Meeting of March 21st, 2011.**

13 of our 15 members were on hand to delve into a series of Club matters, and enjoy the conviviality of the post-bowling night reminiscences and tall tales.

For starters, appreciations were applauded for Rotarian Arthur’s organization of Saturday’s event, as well as for Rotarian Mike’s capturing of some of the evening’s key moments and memorable movements with his candid camera talents. Consensus called for a repeat next year, if not before, but maybe with a pot-luck to follow rather than the pizza.

Treasurer Robert reported that our coffers currently stand at $12,690.00.

Rotarian Gordon distributed a sheet requesting pledges to sponsor his participation in a fitness activity to be sponsored by a fitness club with they both belong to. This group of senior citizens who are community minded activists on the Hospital Foundation Board aptly call their fitness club, “Motion from the Floor”. Monies raised from the pledges will go to the Foundation.

A lively discussion of the proposed Rotary International Pilot Program tossed around the question of how the Club wants to make a proposal. It was decided that several of the suggestions in the recent PR committee report would be proposed, with a Club decision made on the selections at next week’s meeting.

President Al reported that he had been contacted by the organizers of the Almonte Puppets Up Festival, regarding a request for a donation. This topic was tabled for future considerations.

The topic of paying speakers for their program presentations was raised in the wake of two recent potential speakers inquiring about our Club’s policy on this. The member’s were unanimous in rejecting the idea.

President Al reported that a new club is being chartered in Aylmer, Quebec, on April 9th. He volunteered to contact the new club regarding what sort of charter gift – monitory or otherwise – would be appreciated. He also urged members to consider attending the charter night as a support for the new club and in appreciation for the ready support given our club when it was chartered eight years ago.

Rotarian Bernie gave a detailed report on his attending the District 7040 World Community Service (WCS) meeting this past weekend. Among the items was a request that all the district clubs consider hosting the Incoming Group Study Exchange team from Brazil who will be in District 7040 from September 29 to October 23. Another item was a request by the Kataraqui-Kingston club for items to be auctioned on their web-site, and/or on a T.V. Auction in December. Bernie also included a very detailed list of steps to be considered in a Club starting a WCS project, as well as a comprehensive listing of all of the District 7040 contacts who are available as supports for any and all Rotary activities.

**Next week:** John Levi, the recently elected Mayor of Mississippi Mills will be our program.