

**Ontario Canada Unit - WBCCI**  
**Fall Annual General Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**Richmond Fairgrounds, September 4, 2016**

**Roll call of Executive Board: Present:**

Gordon Desbarats, President; Neil McCallum, 1<sup>st</sup> VP; David Peirson, Treasurer;  
Kathy Blake, Secretary; John Gamble, Trustee; Peter Meyler, Trustee;  
Nancy McCallum, Trustee; Rick Aubrey, Trustee; Allen Letch, Trustee &  
Editor/Publisher; Lynn Douglas, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP; Tony Skells, Membership Chair;  
Kerry Mattila, Caravan Chairman; Graham Jefferies, Past President

**Special Guest:** Jim Cocke, 1<sup>st</sup> International VP

**Call to order:**

There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 7:13 pm by Gordon Desbarats

**Approval of Agenda:** On a motion by Don McKelvey, seconded by Ron Henry, the agenda was approved as presented.

**Approval of Previous Minutes:**

On a motion by Jim Forbes, seconded by John Smith, there being no changes, the minutes from the May 22, 2016, General Membership Meeting were approved as written.

**Financial Report:** Treasurer, David Peirson presented the audited year end report (copy attached) highlighting Quartermaster reporting and rally surplus. A major cost in 2015-2016 was \$3600 in foreign exchange. A comparison in membership numbers from 2015 was presented with emphasis on doing as much as we can to engage these new members. David expressed his appreciation for Kay Black's work as auditor.

The budget for 2015-2016 was reviewed with an explanation of the dues structure. A conservative income projection is being made with the expectation that the exchange rate for USD would be relatively stable. David Peirson moved that the budget be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Al Letch and was carried.

David reported that the membership renewal process for 2017 is underway.

**VIP & Committee Reports:**

**President:** Gordon Desbarats formally acknowledged and thanked outgoing VIPs for their commitment and support. Recognized were Kay Black, Auditor; Al Letch, Editor/Publisher; Phyllis Letch, Linus Project Co-ordinator; and Lynn Douglas, Registrar as well as Rob Douglas.

Gordon announced that the following members had volunteered to take on positions: Dan Hennaert as Auditor; John Gough as Registrar; and Kathy Blake as Trillium Editor/Publisher at this point and as of 2017 also as Directory Editor/Publisher. While the position of Linus

Project Co-ordinator remains vacant, Betty Mattila will provide interim coverage until someone comes forth.

Regarding results of the recent survey about the frequency of password changes, Gordon stated that the 66 responses did not provide any clear direction. The Executive concluded that the password will continue to change every 2 months with the webmaster having discretion as to what the simplified password will be.

**QM Report: Quartermaster** – Kerry Mattila reported that the small amount of inventory on hand would be available for sale during breakfast tomorrow. He is awaiting quotes on Unit crest and Unit lanyard options.

**Caravans** – Kerry Mattila reported that the NYC base camp happening again in June 2017 at Liberty Harbour Marina in New Jersey. This will potentially involve a short caravan from a meeting spot in New York to the rally site. Kerry will put information about it together for The Trillium. The Norris/Lambert team are planning a caravan for August 2017 to celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The details should be available in time for the next Trillium. The True North Caravan held this past summer resulted in many photos which will be posted on the website with opportunities for comments and questions.

**Community Service** – Rick Aubrey reported that the aluminum tabs we collected helped a child receive a wheelchair over the summer. He will let us know who the next child is and has asked that we keep bringing the tabs along.

Betty Mattila thanked the membership for their generosity to the Linus Project and the other charities that benefit from our donated home crafted items. The items included 10 adult hats, 21 youth hats, 10 baby hats, 40 infant hats, 4 pairs booties, 2 scarves, 3 sweaters, 8 pairs socks, 20 pairs mittens, and 21 blankets/quilts. There being no contact in Eastern Ontario for the Linus Project, the donations will be dispersed amongst the Queensway-Carleton Hospital, the Kemptville Hospital and the Lanark County Women's Shelter.

**Membership Chair:** Tony Skells recognized members with years ending in 06, and 11. He presented stars as follows to the members present at the rally (those not present will receive theirs by mail):

5 yr stars: Ken Leinen & Kate Dowsett, Barry & Debbie Hiltz, Peter and Gail Meyler, and Nick & Rose Reid

10 yr stars: Marlene & John Shade;

15 yr stars: Evie & John Flokstra; Rob Gillies & Claudette Traill; Al & Phyl Letch

20 yr: Wendy Taylor

**Rally Sites for 2017** – Neil McCallum announced the confirmed rally sites and dates for 2017, namely:

Spring: Orangeville, May 26 – 29

Summer rendezvous: Brigden – July 14 – 17

Fall rally: Norfolk County Fairground: Simcoe – August 25 – 28

Fall rendezvous site is yet to be determined.

**Ethics & Grievance Officer** – Brian English described the role and responsibilities of the office for the benefit of newer members.

He announced the results of the jelly bean contest. The 2<sup>nd</sup> best guess by Julie Flynn who was out by 1 jelly bean. The winner was Kate Dowsett who guessed the correct number of 598.

Brian also brought 45 tow ropes with 2500 lb strength for members to take away with them.

### **New Business:**

**Outgoing officers:** Gordon Desbarats asked that the outgoing officers be acknowledged and thanked. They were Kathy Blake, Secretary; John Gamble, Trustee (not present); Peter Meyler, Trustee; and Nancy McCallum, Trustee.

Past President Graham Jefferies and 1<sup>st</sup> Lady Mary were presented with a Past President flag and Past President and First Lady pins as well as the Superior Merit Award Certificate for Graham's term in office.

**Nominating Committee** – Neil McCallum, Chair of the Nominating Committee and 1<sup>st</sup> VP announced the slate of nominees as follows:

President: Neil McCallum

1<sup>st</sup> VP: Lynn Douglas

2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Peter Meyler

Secretary: Nancy McCallum

Trustees: Jim Forbes, Glen Fuller, Pat Leggatt

There was a call for nominations from the floor. There being none, the nominees were acclaimed into the respective offices as of November 15, 2016.

**Installation of Officers:** Jim Cocke, 1<sup>st</sup> International VP, performed the installation of these new officers.

**A formal thank you** was made by Gordon Desbarats to Host Team Leaders Rob & Lynn Douglas. Lynn then thanked Greeters Kay Black & Bob Chapman; Head parker: Doug Black, Rob Gillies, Lawrence, Carl Taylor, Rob Douglas; and the rest of the Host Team: Claire & Lawrence Northway, Wendy & Carl Taylor, John & Marlene Shade.

Following photo opportunities of having 10 Past Presidents present, and there being no further business, on a motion by John Flokstra, seconded by Margaret Skells, the meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m. The rally was declared over.