

**BCGREA BRANCH 900 METING FEBRUARY 15, 2023  
OUR REDEEMER LUTHERN CHURCH AUDITORIUM**

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 with Maurice Davidson in the chair and 26 present.

Frances introduced our speaker for the meeting—Imre Horvath. Imre spoke about the world that is available to us with a library card under the Library2Go Program (B.C. Libraries Cooperative)—not only physical books, but e-books, audio books, e-magazines, and music. The Apps Hoopla and Libby allow for free movies as well.

Items can be downloaded onto various devices—laptops, tablets and cell phones. Once you have downloaded the 'item', it can be listened to or watched without an internet connection. There may be a wait time for current, popular books—but once requested, you go into a que (the same as when you put a physical book on hold). The loan period varies, but is generally 2 or 3 weeks. (Then it just disappears from your device.)

Library cards are free in BC—you just need to attend at your local library with identification and proof of your residential address.

The staff at the library can assist patrons with any questions that they have with regard to these very beneficial library programs.

This service is available through the Okanagan Regional Libraries as well as the Penticton Public Library—check out the 'Home Page' of your local library for more information.

Paul Perkins reminded members that in some more remote areas one may have to find an internet "hot spot" to be able to access library books.

Following Imre's presentation the business meeting commenced.

**Membership Report:**

Frances reported that Branch 900 currently has 273 members. There are 75 Life members (those with 20+ years with the organization), which represents 27% of the membership. We also have 2 honorary members. Full report is attached.

One of our members, Doreen Abbott lost her life in a tragic accident at the end of January.

Moved by Paul Perkins and seconded by Elvy Karlstrom that the report be accepted. Carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Imre reported that the bank balance is currently \$1,846.58. Moved by Linda Roberge and seconded by Lou DiLorenzo that the report be accepted. Carried.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

**--Life Memberships:** Sallie Dodd was presented with her Life Membership; Angie Nash was also present and is eligible for Life Membership—Maurice will deliver a pin, etc. to her as it was unavailable for the meeting, the three other eligible members will be receiving their awards by mail.

**--Memorial Donations:** The Executive is looking for suggestions for the annual memorial donation. (Last year's a donation was made to the Flood Relief Program for Princeton.) Suggestions from the floor: Ukrainian families who are now settling in the Valley; Senior Drop-In Center; Soupateria; YMCA (if they are starting a new program for Seniors in the valley); United Way. Please e-mail Maurice if you have another suggestion. The executive will do some research and get back to the membership with a decision.

**--Golf Group:** Terri Chambers is looking to see if there is an interest in putting together a group of retirees who would meet and golf some of the smaller golf courses in the area. Please call her at # 778-476-4445 or 250-488-8022.

**--BCGREA Merchandise:** Larry Martin gave a report on merchandise that is available to members. If you would like more information, go to the BCGREA website, click on the Recruitment and Retention Committee and the merchandise will pop up.

#### **Health and Wellness:**

A sympathy card was sent to the family of Doreen Abbott, a 'recover soon' card to Imre and a bouquet of flowers to Sydney Boulton who is currently in hospital. Terri Chambers volunteered to send out cards etc., while Sydney is unavailable.

**60/40 Draw:** Angie Nash was the winner of \$24.00 and Lou DiLorenzo the winner of \$16.00.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. (Our Redeemer Lutheran Church) Speaker will be S. Monteith of the South Okanagan Volunteer Association.

(The topic for April's speaker will be: Nutrition for seniors on a Budget.)

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

## **B.C.G.R.E.A. Branch 900 Membership Chair Report**

### **Meeting February 15/2023**

#### **1. Current Membership**

Members – 273

Life Members (20+ years) – 75 (27%)

Honorary Members – 2

#### **2. New Members**

If there are new members attending today's meeting, we'd love to know who you are, which ministry you worked for and any other tidbits of information about you which you'd care to share.

#### **3. Members Leaving**

None.

#### **4. Deceased Members**

Many of you will have read of the tragic circumstances surrounding the death of our member, Doreen Abbott. She lived at Sun Village Retirement Residence on Main Street in Penticton and on Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> she drove to visit a friend in Naramata. Somehow she must have taken a wrong turn and her car was found without her in it in the Greyback Mountain Road area high in the hills east of Penticton. Searches were conducted and her body was found over a week later. The R.C.M.P. issued a statement saying that there is nothing to suggest that she was the victim of a crime.

#### **5. Other**

#### **6. Any Questions or Comments?**

#### **7. Motion to accept the membership report as read**