

**BCGREA BRANCH 900 MEETING MAY 17, 2023
OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH AUDITORIUM**

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 with Maurice Davidson in the chair and 21 members present.

Maurice introduced our speaker for the meeting—Paul Lockington, the coordinator of the Meadowlark Nature Festival which has been running since 1998. This summary is taken from their website: “The Meadowlark Festival is geared to appeal to a wide cross-section of people and interests, and so events include canoe trips, guided hikes, film screenings, Aboriginal culture, inspirational speakers, bird watching tours, back-country horseback riding, geological tours, astronomy events, art exhibitions, photography, writing and painting workshops, historic hikes and more. There is truly something for everyone! Each event is led by an expert in their field such as a biologist, botanist, historian, geologist, naturalist, aboriginal knowledge keeper, astronomer, herpetologist, artist, etc. and groups are kept small so participants get an informative and entertaining, up-close-and-personal, one-on-one experience.”

This Festival happens each May Long weekend, this year 48 Tours are listed in the Schedule of Events—which includes information on the cost, terrain of the event, number of participants, and suggested age for each tour. Events happen from Kelowna all the way through the valley to Osoyoos,

Each year The Schedule of Events is published and distributed widely throughout the Okanagan the 1st week of April. Many of the events are very popular and sell out quickly.

After a short coffee break, the meeting was reconvened.

Minutes of the April 2023 meeting: Jean advised that the minutes of the last meeting were distributed via e-mail. Moved by Judy Barillaro that the minutes be accepted as distributed. Seconded by Bill Burke. Carried.

Treasurer’s Report: Imre reported that the current bank balance is \$1,329.55. Moved by Linda Roberge and seconded by Lou DiLorenzo that the report be accepted. Carried.

(The memorial donation to Moog and Friends Hospice has been taken into account with the bank balance.)

Membership Report: Frances was not present, and no report available for the meeting. A ‘welcome back’ was extended to Laverne Cormier.

Old Business:

Maurice delivered the memorial donation to Moog and Friends Hospice. He was able to obtain contact information for 10 out of the 12 families of the members that we were honoring.

New Business: Maurice attended the recently held EGM and Provincial Director’s meeting. He gave a brief report on some of the issues that were discussed—changes to the Constitution and by-laws being much of the focus.

Health and Wellness:

Maurice visited Sydney Boulton at the Summerland Senior's Village, delivering a card and greetings from the membership.

As well, Maurice advised that he just had been informed of the passing of Carol Lake at the end of April.

Good of the Order:

Nothing to report.

60/40 Draw: Imre was the big winner of \$31.25, and Bill Toews the winner of \$20.75.

Miscellaneous Items:

Maurice advised that he will not run for Chairperson at the Branch 900 AGM in November.

Please consider assisting the Branch by putting your name forward for required positions within the executive.

Imre gave a quick FYI as to an unexpected savings in his tenant insurance policy when he contacted Johnson Inc (one of the BGCRA partners) for a price quote.

This is the last meeting before the summer break. An e-mail will be sent before the first fall meeting which will be in September.

Enjoy the summer and stay safe!!