**OGTC Annual General Meeting**
**Sunday June 7, 2009**
**Barrie, Ontario**

14 members were attendance.

President Steve Travers called the meeting to order.

President Travers expressed his thanks to those criers that participated this year. He also noted that as the new president, he has a lot of learning to do and would appreciate the criers to let him know if he misses anything.

Motion to adopt the agenda as circulated.
( D. Miller, M. Molnar) (carried)

Motion to accept the minutes of 2008 AGM as read by Secretary.
(K. Templeman, D. Miller) (carried)

Treasurers Report – Pres. Travers read the Treasurers Report and noted it as received as Treasurer B. Boszo is absent.

**Committee Reports**

*Ethics and Discipline* – S. Fraser is absent; nothing to report at this time.

*Website and Public Relations* – B. MacLaren – Articles, pictures, etc are needed to post on the website. Thank you to those that have, though some articles due to quality cannot be uploaded. We try to make changes as fast as we can. In regard to newspapers and copyright issues- most of the time we don't hear back from them for permission and therefore personal photos are better. Our web presence is only $12/year for our domain and $75 to host the site.
Pres. Travers noted that the guild recognizes B. MacLaren for his hard work and thanks him.

*Constitution and By-Laws* – B. McKee absent; nothing to report at this time.

**Old Business**
Special Committee in regards to Principal Town Crier has been deferred to a later date.

P. Pres. Templeman presented prototype of the bell covers for funeral services. Pres. Travers thanked Marianne Templeman for her work.

**New Business**

P. Pres. Templeman brought forward a proposal for a new pin for guild members as next year is the guilds official 25th Anniversary. The design would incorporate a white trillium with current small guild badge* in center with a ribbon neck. Estimate is $1400 for 60 bell medallions.
Discussion- B. Kruger asks whether a chain could work. P Pres. Templeman will investigate what can be sourced.
Motion to awarded up to $2000 for the Trillium pin project.
(B. Kruger, M. Molnar) (carried)

Pres. Travers brought forward his proposal that all criers must attend at least one function ( competition, parade, etc) per year to remain regular members.
Discussion – D. Turvey – this has been proposed before, but the guild can't regulate what their members care capable of doing.
- D. Miller – agrees with Pres. Travers; there is no reason why the effort can't be made to attend other criers functions.
- I. Burkholder – when we assumed the position of Town Criers, we took on a responsibility to attend meetings.
Pres. Travers withdrew his proposal and will write all criers urging them to support each other by attending functions whenever possible.

M. Molnar commented that the guild banner has been missing for 5 years; can the guild have one made.
Pres. Travers asks M. Molnar to source materials and costs for new banner.
Motion to have a new official guild banner made.
(M. Molnar, D. Turvey) (carried)

M. Molnar announced that during research for the underground railroad that 5 escaped slaves became Town Criers and asked if the guild would consider inducting them as members.
Pres. Travers directed M. Molnar to bring this to S. Fraser as he is the guild expert on such matters and that it is deferred until the next AGM.

B. Kading brought up the question whether Niagara on the Lake has a Town Crier. She noted that someone interested in the position has come forward. It was noted as well that Niagara on the Lake has been approached and they have said no to the position.

Pres. Travers would like to recognize Treasurer B. Boszo for all of her hard work that she has done on behalf for the guild and would like to award her an honouranium to say thank you.
Motion – that the Guild awards B. Boszo $100 in thanks.
Carried

Also, Pres. Travers would like to award Darren Marriot $200 for the rental of his equipment, though he offered to do it for free.
Motion to award Darren Marroit $200 for equipment rental.
(carried)

Pres. Travers welcomes new crier Rob Misener to the guild. R. Misener expressed his thanks to all the criers and commented that he has had lots of fun so far.

B. Bedell asks what does the Constitution state as a territory and how do we control our territory.
Discussion – Pres. Travers notes that it is common courtesy and respect and to see the Code of Ethics

**Voting of Directors for 2009**
M. Molnar nominates T. Vandermaas. Seconded by I. Burkholder
T. Vandermaas will stand

B. Kruger nominates S. Kruger to replace S. Fraser. Seconded by B. Bedell.
S. Kruger will stand.

M. Molnar nominates R. Misener. Seconded by D. Miller.
R. Misener will stand.

Motion to accept the nominated who will stand.
( S. Travers) ) carried

Officers for 2009 – 2010
Ken Templeman
Bruce Kruger
Shaun Kruger
Rob Misener

Motion to adjourn the meeting.
( D. Turvey, M. Molnar) (carried)

UP Coming Events ( as accurate as the guild website, so if yours is it mentioned, let Brent and myself know)

**The Gathering of the Bells - July 11, 2009**

Will take place on Saturday, July 11, 2009 in **Perth Ontario**. This friendly get-together allows Criers to be part of two major events: **The Art of Being Green Festival** (http://artofbeinggreen.ca) and the **175th Anniversary of the Tay Canal** (http://perthcanada.com). Criers should prepare two entertaining cries: one on any area of recycling (for the AOBG) and the other a cry related to any element of local history, the canal or water in general (for Tay 175). This is a non-judged gathering of Criers. For more information contact Brent McLaren at town.crier@perthtowncrier.com.

**Muskoka Escapades - July 12, 2009**

Hosted by the Kruger's this is a two cry competition at two venues: the **Muskoka Pioneer Power Show & Santa's Village**
Contact Bruce Kruger kruger@muskoka.com

**Ingersoll Harvest Fest - August 29, 2009**

The **longest running Town Crier Competition in North America** will be held August 29, 2009. For more information contact Doug Turvey zoringtowncrier@xplornet.com

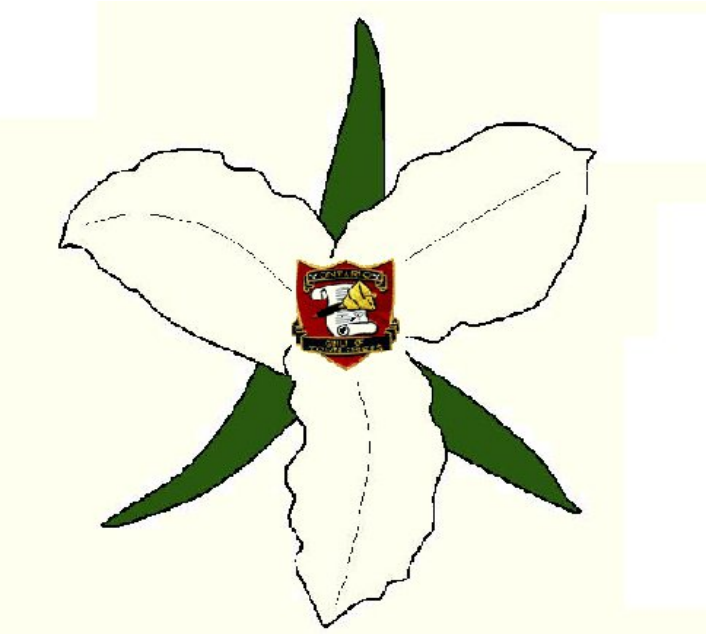
**Middleton's Town Crier Challenge - September 12, 2009**

Celebrating Middleton, Nova Scotia's 100th Anniversary, this competition is being planned, for September 12th, 2009. http://www.freewebs.com/towncriersoftheworld/index.htm or by contacting Gary Long at towncrier_ns@hotmail.com

**Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest Thanksgiving Day Parade**

Hosts: Scott & Anne Marie Fraser. The Annual Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest Thanksgiving Day Parade takes place on Thanksgiving Monday each October.

**Other Events:**

Philadelphia and Smithville, New Jersey
July 3/4/5, 2009
Rich LaLena richlalena@comcast.net

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