

## General Meeting and Luncheon September 14, 2016

Held at the Legion in Goderich

Board Members Present:

- President- Gloria Cayea
- Vice-president-Bob Jackson
- Membership Chairperson-Bill Mason
- Caller Chairperson- Pat Mason
- Treasurer-Diane Kerr
- IT Specialist---Doug Kerr
- Health and Benefits Officer-Earnie MacDougall
- Program Director- Mary Anne Burgess

Absent- Diana Wright, Georgina MacIsaac, Murray Lester

Gloria opened the meeting.

Mary Ann said grace after we held a moment of silence for departed members.

We then enjoyed the great meal prepared by the ladies of the Legion.

Earnie presented Larry Stevens a certificate of appreciation for the work that he and his wife Mary do by selling the tickets for the draws.

Mary Ann introduced the guest speaker, Blake Ferguson, from the Trillium Gift of Life Association. Mr Ferguson, who had received organs himself, spoke of the great need for organ donors .He said that older people can donate organs as well as young people and urged everyone to make sure that they were on the organ donor list and to talk to their family to make sure they understood what your wishes were regarding the donation. Mary Ann then thanked the speaker.

At the last AGM it was decided it was necessary to increase our dues. The association is now in the red and it is imperative that it has the funds to fight to protect our pensions and benefits. There is a case before the Supreme Court about the illegal increase in our health care premiums.

Diane said there is a new program for the treasurers. This simplifies the method of reporting. We are within our budget for 2016.

SAGE magazine has stickers to be placed on the membership cards which are valid for 3 years.

Gloria said that 6 branches have closed in the past 5 years due to lack of volunteers and she stressed the need to have volunteers to keep our branch viable.

Pat thanked the Callers for their efforts to keep members coming to the meetings.

Bill said that our membership is down by 20 members to just below 600. There are no longer associate members. He said that there were pamphlets available to hand out to any pensioners we know who are not members.

Mary Ann said the next general meeting is at Grand Bend and the tickets are \$25 per person.

Doug said the website is up and running and it is a quick way to find out the news and dates for meetings. [www.federalretirees.ca](http://www.federalretirees.ca)

Earnie said he was unable to give us any information about health care because he has to have a police check because we are a not-for-profit organization.

Gloria said the golf tournament was a success. There were 26 golfers and some of them do not attend meetings so it was a good way to meet them. There may be a bowling tournament in the winter.

The 50-50 draw was 32.00 and there were 2 door prizes.

Meeting adjourned.