

## **National AOTS Conference Call - April 30, 2006**

**On Line :** *Jim Upright, Bill Love, Ernie Orpin, Jim Lawrence, Don MacKenzie, Charlie Klein, Ken Lane, Garnet Thompson, Keith Elliott, Al Anthony, Craig Watson, Paul Cooper, Meryl Shepley and Garry Ross.*

All on line were welcomed by President Garnet at 7.04pm, followed by his meditation on the reading “Springtime of Life “ closing with prayer.

### **E06-02-01 Agenda**

MOTION: *Shepley/Watson* : that the proposed agenda as circulated and amended be the agenda for this meeting. Carried.

E 06-02-02 **Minutes of Meeting** *Love/Ross* : that the minutes of the conference call of January 2, 2006 be approved. Carried.

### **E06-02-03 Correspondence**

- 1 ) Jim Upright commented on information received that three clubs had discontinued their affiliation with National AOTS:
  - 1) Zion Club in La Scie NFD.- 20 members - older men struggling to pay dues
  - 2) Park St. Chatham On - .discontinued affiliation - 25 members - President died.
  - 3) Grey St. , Winnepeg- disbanded - 16 members - lack of leadership - individual Memberships.

Garry Ross commented on the La Scie Club and indicated that members of that club were to be at West Haven retreat in June and he & Ernie Paddock would talk to this group at the retreat. Also noted was the loss of the Minnedosa United Church in a fire.

### **E06-02-04 Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Ernie indicated that 29 clubs had forwarded their dues by March 31<sup>st</sup> and he felt that we were fairly well on budget as far as dues were concerned. He also noted that the Annual Meeting, being held in Harrow, ON should be also pretty well as budgeted and so he was able to give a positive summary of finances to date.

MOTION: *Orpin / Mackenzie* : that the treasurer’s report be received. Carried.

### **E06-02-05 Church & Community Service**

Jim Lawrence indicated that he had not received any applications for the current Colnett Scholarships. Correspondence from a person in Halifax seeking employment in AOTS was noted. A letter was sent to that person thanking him, but indicating that there were not any paid employment positions available in AOTS at this time.

Jim asked that pictures and info on past Hospital Projects be sent to him for his preparation of a new Hospital Project pamphlet. He hoped that pictures of past projects would stimulate interest and bring new pamphlet up to date. Ken Lane to forward some old “shots” to Jim as well. Jim also reminded the three vice presidents that their choice of 2006 project locations for their area was not known and that they should investigate and make that choice as soon as possible.

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**E06-02-06 Regeneration Committee**

A report from George Bishop indicated that this committee was now working on the establishment of an “ on line community “ for the Ministry of men. This “ community “ would make available written materials, information on up coming events for men as Sponsored by AOTS, the United Church, and other organizations. It is hoped that this will be a place for open discussion of specific faith and spirituality topics and will hopefully lead to a renewal of Christian service among men of UCC - especially for those regularly using the web. Testing will take place during the summer and the “ community “ should be on line and available in September 2006 - addressed through AOTS and United Church web sites.

It was also noted that Anne Martin was a workshop leader and dinner speaker at the Central Region Round Up last week.

**E06-02-07 Spiritual Life & Leadership**

The circulated Spiritual Life report indicated that new materials were being used in a workshop at the Central Region Round Up and that printed materials will be available following this event for AOTS Clubs and other men’s groups in UCC. This workshop material is entitled “ Journeying in Discipleship” and asks men to consider their journey in life as a person, as a family as a club, or as a congregation etc. The new men’s ministry pamphlet is available and will go out to all congregations in the mailings to all churches through UC mail outs.

**E06-02-08 Membership & Fellowship**

In the absence of Richard Deitriche, Ken Lane indicated that Richard was experiencing some medical discomfort and was asked to stay somewhat quiet and undergo tests that will determine his future treatment and medications.

Ken noted that of the two National life memberships already approved, the one for Harry Wolfram had been presented at the Central Region Round UP and the second would be presented at a later date.

MOTION: *Lane / Shepley* :that this verbal Membership report be accepted. Carried.

**E06-02-09 National Council Positions**

Ken Lane drew the attention to three National Council positions that had been recently filled and asked that they be approved.

Rodney Green - as HANDSHAKE Editor

Wally Macdonald as Hamilton Conference rep on National

Brian Bigelow as Manitou Conference rep approved.

**E06-02-10 2007 Biennial**

Craig Watson, chair for the 2007 Biennial announced that Bill Gilbert of George St club in Peterborough had agreed to be Vice Chair of the event and will have the close communication with Trent University in Peterborough where the Biennial will be held. This 2007 Biennial will be held at Trent University in Peterborough Ontario on August 17,18 &19<sup>th</sup>.

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**2007 Biennial ( cont'd)**

Craig noted that Al Anthony, Rodney Green, Bill Gilbert, Craig Watson and Garnet Thompson compose the Planning committee for this event. The next planning meeting will be held on June 4 at St Paul's UC in Stirling. His inquiry if advance money was available was assured by the treasurer, and that it was available whenever requested.

**E06-02-11 Co - Ed Club**

Bill Love indicated that the Gaetz Memorial Club had desired to be co-ed and had paid for male members with the ladies taking part in the Club activities but not being registered members of National and will continue to operate in this pattern.

**E06-02-12 2006 Annual Meeting**

Merly Shepley reported that the 2006 Annual Meeting will be held at Harrow United Church on September 29, 30 and Oct.1 /06 and hosted by the Harrow AOTS Club and held in conjunction with the 4 County AOTS Rally. He noted that members of National and wives will be billeted - with the cost for meals from Friday lunch till lunch on Sunday will be \$85.00 with wives to pay \$20.00. The meeting will commence after lunch on the Friday assembling at 1 pm- and communion service at 1.30 pm. The Rev Keith Hendry of Paris Ontario Anglican Church will be the theme speaker.

Meryl also noted that flight plans should be made to the London, ON airport and that shuttle buses will provide transportation from and to that airport.

**E06-02-12 2009 Biennial**

There will be a report very soon re the ground work planning for the 2009 Biennial Convention location etc.

**E06-02-13 Observer On Tape**

Garnet Thompson reported that the Observer on Tape was going well at Eastminster United in Belleville with 35 volunteers involved. He noted that with the present equipment capacity many new monthly customers can be accommodated. He asked that members pass this word to their churches and clubs in their areas.

**E06-02-14 National Secretary**

A letter has gone out from our National indicating a competition for the position of National Secretary for our organization. with a closing date of January 2007. This will be include in club mailings and next issue of THE HANDSHAKE>

**E06-02-15 Other Reports**

Garry Ross indicated that 2 district council meetings in Nfd. Had an average attendance of 3 per Club. He attended the Botwood Club and initiated the officers and 4 new members in the club. There is a good possibility of a new club in Cornerbrook. Raymond Gray of La Scie Club will be at retreat at Pasadena (West Humber ) and will be asked to reconsider the La Scie Club decision to leave National AOTS.

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**Other Reports ( Cont'd)**

Al Anthony reported on the spring clean up at Quin Mo Lac camp involving 72 persons - 13 being AOTS men.

Ken Lane reported on the presentations made at Central Region Round Up

- 1) Art Harding Award - to Walter Smith of Trinity AOTS in North Bay;
- 2) Attendance Award - to St Paul's AOTS in Tillsonburg
- 3) National Life Membership to Harry Wolfram of Bellefair AOTS in Toronto.

**Concerns were expressed re:**

**Second Mile Fund** - All clubs asked to donate \$100.00 to National as an Annual project and National to provide more information to clubs around the purpose and benefits of the Second Mile.

**Communication** The National AOTS should actively contact each and every AOTS Club on a regular basis. Conference reps should make special contacts and Vice Presidents should have regular contact with area conference reps and all Clubs in their area of responsibility.

**NEXT MEETING - Annual Meeting at Harrow on September 29, 30 and October 1, 2006.**

**Adjournment**

**Meeting closed with prayer bt President Garnet at 6.43 pm.**

As recorded by Kenneth Lane, Recording Secretary.