



EBENEZER, TORONTO GORE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

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Newsletter, September 2015

“Ebenezer, Toronto Gore Historical Foundation” in review;

The 2015 Annual Meeting was held on Saturday March 7th with nineteen people attending. Vice-President Fred Julian brought everyone up-to-date with the happenings at the Chapel and his comments follow:

Several projects had been completed through the year, the biggest expense was replacing the Alma Room carpet with luxury vinyl. Also, the Alma Room and kitchen were re-painted. The damaged pews in the main floor hall were repaired.

Our two regular tenants remain the same on Sunday morning and afternoon. The chapel was rented out during the school March break last spring, and for a variety of other occasions such as anniversaries, weddings, baby showers, family and school reunions and business meetings.

The Heritage Fence damage due to a multiple vehicle accident on The Gore Road, mentioned in the February newsletter, has been repaired and paid for by the damagers insurance. The City of Brampton sidewalk plough continues to abuse the fencing on Ebenezer Road which was repaired this spring by the city. Our grass cutting and snow removal contractor continues to do a good job of outside maintenance. A cleaner has been hired to keep the inside of the Chapel in ship shape. The beautiful gardens are being maintained by one of our enthusiastic Directors, Anna Sheardown.

The Executive is still working to have the Chapel zoned to reflect the appropriate purpose of the Chapel. Presently the lot is zoned as Industrial!

The E,TGHF Archives committee continues to receive old photograph albums and historic articles from families downsizing.

At the 2016 Annual Meeting a proposed addition to the Policies and Procedures will be sought to maintain the required quorum.

A director or committee member may participate in and act at any meeting of the Board of Directors or Committee through the use of a conference telephone, or other communication equipment which allows all persons participating in the meeting to communicate with each other. Participation in such meeting shall constitute attendance and presence in person at the meeting by the person or persons so participating.

Action without a meeting: Any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors or a committee thereof may be taken without a meeting if each director or committee member approves the action. Such approval shall be in writing, be signed by the director or committee members, and have the same effect as a unanimous vote of directors or committee members at a meeting.

The Foundation presented a display at “Highlights on Heritage” day at the Bramalea City Centre this past Spring. The results were satisfying, making more people aware of who, what and where the Ebenezer, Toronto Gore Historical Foundation is.

Norman Boasie

1925 - 2015



The *Ebenezer Toronto Gore Historical Foundation* executive regrets the announcement of the passing of Director Norm Boasie. Norm has been a member of the Executive since 2008, when the Foundation was incorporated.

Norm was born on May 30, 1926 to Egerton Boasie and Robina Boasie (nee Mains), and was the youngest of three boys. Norm grew up on Greenlaw Avenue near St. Clair Avenue West. He graduated from Western Tech High School in 1943 and immediately joined the army in WWII. He trained and travelled across Canada to prepare for deployment in the South Pacific. But the war abruptly ended in August of 1945 just before Norm was to go overseas.

On his return to civilian life, Norm began his career with the Northern Electric Company where he dealt primarily with the production and repair of telephone equipment. He worked his way up the ladder from a spray paint operator to a quality inspector. He was keen on technology and anything that ran on electricity such as radios, telephone, telegraphs, phonographs and later on televisions sets.

Norm met his wife, Evelyn Yates, in the 1940's at the West Dance Club at Sunnyside Beach and they were married in St. David's United Church. They had four children, Diane, Jim, Norm Jr, and Robyn. They lived on Taysham Crescent in Etobicoke. Norm coached his sons' hockey teams as well as enjoying hobbies of gardening, and painting water colour pictures which many of his family and friends have and admire. He was also a keen sports fan of the Toronto Argos, Leafs and Jays.

Norm and Evelyn were members of Thistletown United Church where Norm sang in the choir and was an Elder on the church board. In 2001 when the church closed, Norm attended Albion Gardens Presbyterian Church and became an Elder there.

Sadly in 1996, Norm's wife Evelyn died of cancer. He was comforted by his children, grandchildren and was happy to see his six great grandchildren arrive. Norm passed away peacefully on June 9, 2015 at the age of 89 with his family at his side. He will be missed by those who knew him as a loving and cherished husband, father and friend.

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Birthday Party Held in the Ebenezer Chapel Saturday June 13th 2015

The chapel was filled to capacity with friends and relatives of Cecil and Dianne Ray to help them celebrate their 80th birthdays. Cecil and Dianne are valued Directors of the *Ebenezer, Toronto Gore Historical Foundation* and we wish them many more birthday celebrations.

From the Archives

1949 Field Day - Ebenezer Junior Farmers Baseball Teams
(photos from Jean Risebrough Prasky's photograph book)



Men: (Back row)
Jim Maw, John Pringle, Bruce Wallace, Bruce Risebrough, Noble Lindsay, Bob McChesney. (Front row) Bill Prasky, Keith Barker, Bert Johnson, Roy Taylor, Bill Roe.



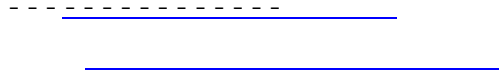
Ladies: (Back row)
Lois Patterson, Jean Barker, Betty Johnston, Marj. Roe. (Front row)
June Myers, Jean Risebrough, Audrey Patterson, Jean Simpson, Eleanor Risebrough.

Upcoming events:

The Book Committee, “Two-Hundred Years In The Gore”

is holding a meeting **on Saturday October 24th** beginning at 12 noon. Of special interest are stories of the men from the Toronto Gore who fought in the two Great Wars. If you have any photographs or stories for the book please contact,

E,TGHF 905-867-3101, old.ebenezer.chapel@gmail.com.



Historic buildings to be Commemorated

At the urging of the Ebenezer Foundation, the City of Brampton will be erecting some form of historic signage to mark two long gone, but not forgotten, Toronto Gore landmark buildings.

One is the former Toronto Gore Township Hall which was located at the southwest corner of Ebenezer Sideroad and the Gore Road. Known as the Grange Hall, the building was closed and moved site in 1962. Houses are now being built on the site.

The second structure is the former Castlemore Store which stood at the southwest corner of Castlemore Sideroad of the Gore Road until it was closed and demolished in the late 1970s.

City of Brampton officials were not able to provide a status update on when and what type of signage will be erected at the time of this newsletter’s deadline.

Proposed wording has been submitted to the city by foundation members Dan O’Reilly and Anna Sheardown. Their research and efforts, however, were hindered by a lack of good quality photographs, especially of the Ebenezer Town Hall.



The next time you visit the Ebenezer Chapel,

please have a look at the front doors.

**Cecil Ray has refurbished these replica wooden doors and they
now look fresh and attractive again.**

**Keeping the front doors in good shape is an ongoing
challenge as the sun beats down on them all day, drying out the wood.**

Thanks Cecil.

Notes from the past ...

- The first Ebenezer church was built in 1847 of mud bricks.
- The second and present Ebenezer church was built in 1858 of bricks made on the Sleightholm farm across the sideroad.
- In the early days of the church, the Sunday services were social as well as religious meetings. Any absence of a parishioner was a matter of concern to the others requiring immediate investigation for it could only mean sickness or trouble of some sort. On one occasion Mrs. Sarah Allison was called upon to learn of what disastrous circumstance had prevented her attendance at church that Sabbath morning. She was found very actively engaged in scrubbing her floor. Living alone, she had miscalculated the days and thought it was Saturday.
- On another occasion, the history of Ebenezer church recounts an incident occurring in the first church. One Saturday night there had been an extremely heavy snowfall and, during the Sunday morning service, a very bright sun began to melt the large accumulation of snow on the roof, gradually loosening it and causing it to slide off, cover the windows and darkening the church. The congregation apprehended that the end of the world was at hand.

Officers and Directors

Ebenezer, Toronto Gore Historical Foundation

President – Fred Julian

Vice-President- Lynn Codd

Alternate Past President – Cecil Ray

Secretary of the Foundation – Ann Price

Treasurer & Chapel Administrator – Frances Johnston

Director (cemetery) – David Fieldhouse

Director (Historical Librarian) – Anna Sheardown

Director (Membership Secretary) – Dianne Ray

Director (Book Administrator) – Dan O'Reilly

Director – Peter Hyde

Director – Dr. Richard Julian

Director – Isabel Risebrough

Membership in the Foundation ...

We are always happy to accept applications for new members to the Foundation. Family and single membership fee is \$20. A receipt will be given. Please send your name, address and cheque to:
Ebenezer, Toronto Gore Historical Foundation, 8999 The Gore Road, Brampton, Ontario L6P 2P7

**Note: If you do not wish to receive this newsletter please contact the
Ebenezer, Toronto Gore Historical Foundation at oldebenezerchapel@gmail.com**
