



EBENEZER, TORONTO GORE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

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Spring 2021

An Interesting Letter

Earlier this year, Ann Price received a letter from George Burbidge with a copy of the 100th Anniversary Programme enclosed. That was interesting enough but the note was a wonderful reminder of the past. As a teenager, George mowed the lawn at Ebenezer and his memories of this make for a good read.

The Burbidges lived on Highway 50 at the Gore Road Point for many years. The family attended Ebenezer Church, (Mrs) Edna Burbidge went to the UCW and George and his sister Shirley went to Ebenezer Young Peoples in the 1940s and 50s. Eventually, George moved to Ottawa where he worked for the National Research Council.

Hi Ann

When sorting through some old papers, I came across this Ebenezer 100th anniversary program that I thought you might be interested in for your newsletter. It brought back memories of when I cut the grass at the cemetery for a number of years. I believe that I first cut the grass when I was 14 in 1950. It was memorable as it was the first paying job I had. I think that I got \$30 for the summer from Jack Julian. On Saturday I would bike over and it would take me 3 hours with a push mower. Luckily my Dad worked at a golf course during the summer and he could set-up the mower for good cutting.

I literally wore this mower out! At times I would be tardy and skip a week so that the grass would get ahead of me. Harry Fieldhouse would bail me out and lend me his power mower.

After three summers I was working at Moffatts Stove Company but still cutting the grass. A co-worker had a second job servicing landscaping equipment so he fixed me up a power mower from spare parts he had. This made my Saturday job much easier.

Believe it or not, after almost 70 years, I still have this mower for show, but I don't use it.

*Cheers,
George B.*


As a bit of background, Ann added that George attended the Claireville Public School Reunion hosted by Gail and Don Dalziel near Gravenhurst in 2017. (See the Fall 2019 newsletter.) Pictured below is George with his “spare parts mower”.



Thanks to George Burbidge for preserving and submitting this copy of the Ebenezer United Church 100th Anniversary bulletin from June 1st, 1958.

1858

EBENEZER
UNITED CHURCH



100th Anniversary

JUNE 1st, 1958

SERVICES
11.00 a.m. — 7.30 p.m.

MORNING WORSHIP
11.00 a.m.

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Organ Prelude.
Call to Worship.
Hymn 1, verse 1—"Holy, Holy, Holy".
Invocation.
Hymn 46—"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name".
Responsive Reading—729.
 Gloria Patri.
 Anthem—"O For a Thousand Tongues"—C. Wesley—The Choir.
 Scripture Lesson—Isaiah 40:1-31.
 Prayer.
 Hymn 607—"Children of Jerusalem".
 Announcements—Greetings.
 Solo—"Bless This House"—Mrs. Harold Learmont.
 Offering.
 Doxology and Offertory Prayer.
 Hymn 449—"Over the Trackless Ocean".
 Sermon—The Reverend Charles A. Mustard, D.D.
 Hymn 415—"Let Christian Faith and Hope".
 Benediction.
 Mrs. Crozier Keyes at the Organ.

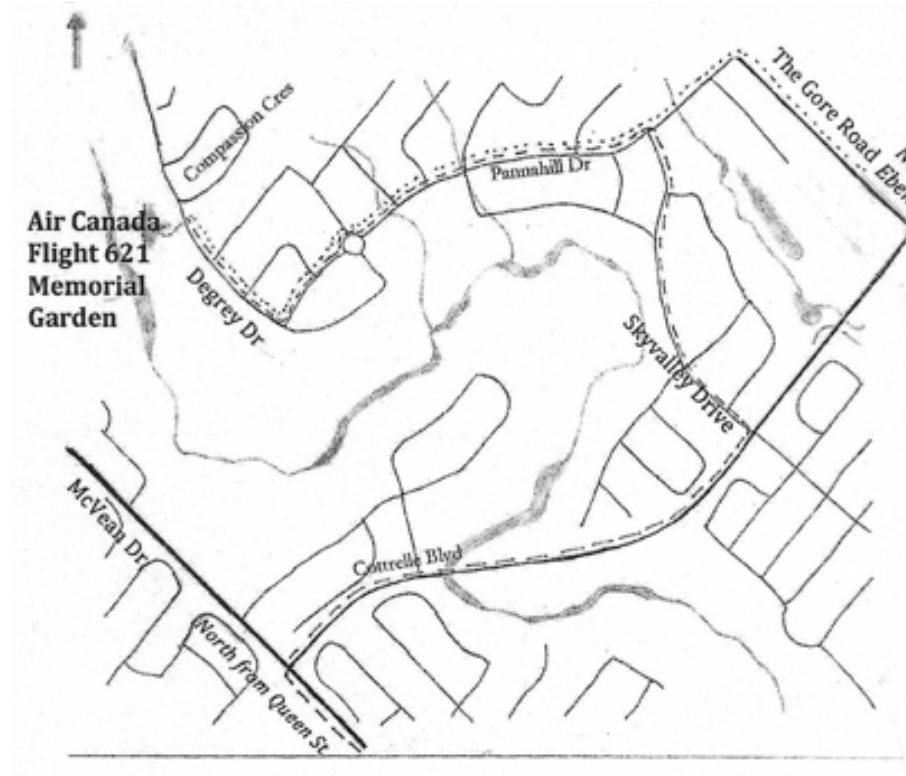
A warm welcome is extended to all who worship with us today, and especially to those who have formerly been associated with this church. Your presence means much to us. May this be a glad home-coming for you and a memorable day for all of us who celebrate today a century of praise and fellowship in this church.

Our services today celebrate 100 years of worship in this building. The history of our congregation goes back still further, at least to the year 1847 when a mud brick church was built on this site.

Commemoration of the 1970 Air Canada Flight 621 Tragedy

Lynne Genova's presentation on Air Canada, Flight 621; Castlemore, A Remembrance was scheduled to be the feature of E,TGHF's AGM in March of 2020 as a commemoration of the 50th anniversary of this tragedy. Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the in-person meeting was not held. Lynne, who lived close by at the time of the crash, has been actively involved in the establishment of the Air Canada Flight 621 Memorial. The Toronto Star picture of Lynne, shown to the right, was taken during the planning stages for the memorial prior to suburban development in the area. Lynne is shown pointing to the nearby crash site from the location of the Genova family farm. The City of Brampton has marked the 50th anniversary with the installation of a sign at the crash site. The sign is shown to the right. This site was designated as a cemetery by the City of Brampton in 2009 and a dedication ceremony was held in 2010 at the time of the 40th Anniversary. The Memorial Gardens officially opened in 2013. More signage explaining the roles of first responders and the community during the summer of 1970 and explaining the significance of the layout of the paving stones honouring the victims would be helpful. The benches are deteriorating, probably from salt damage, and the presence of weeds in the summer detract from the otherwise very effective esthetics. The memorial is most easily reached from DeGrey Drive just south of Compassion Crescent by walking through Purple Lilac Park. A map is shown on the following page.





Location of Air Canada Flight 621 Memorial

A stone monument to honour the crash victims was erected in 1971 in Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Toronto where fifty-two of the victims are buried. The Mount Pleasant monument is shown to the right.



In Memory of Jean Julian

E, TGHF members are shown to the right in a picture from the September 2019 Doors Open event. From left to right, Dianne Ray, Jean Julian and Fred Julian with Cecil Ray in the background to the right of Fred. Sadly, Jean passed away on December 1, 2020. She will be remembered fondly by the Ebenezer Toronto Gore community. Jean lived a very full life caring for others in her roles as teacher, mother, and very active community volunteer with various organizations centring on children, church and music. Our sympathy goes out to her husband, Dick, children Kathryn (Carl Fletcher), Kirby (Barb) and Stephen (Naida Graham), nine grandchildren and six great grandchildren.



Summary of 2019 and 2020 AGMs

2019:

The 2019 AGM was scheduled for March 7, 2020. Due to the increasing incidence of Covid-19, the meeting was regrettably postponed. With restrictions continuing, the directors decided to hold an on-line meeting. Twenty-five members participated in a series of emails in November and December of 2020 dealing with the necessary business of the AGM.

Claire Johnston and Ann Price were elected to the Board of Directors and Sandra Cation was made secretary. Thanks to Isabel Risebrough and Dick Julian who finished their terms as directors and to Ann Price for her great work as secretary. Finances were stable in 2019 with a balance of \$36 388.07 at the end of the year.

2020:

Because of continued restrictions on in person meetings, the AGM for 2020 has now also been conducted by a series of emails (held from March to May 2021) with twenty-six participants. The serving directors all have continued on for another year and Lynne Genova was elected to fill the slate of directors. Thank you, Lynne. Finances improved in 2020 with an end of year balance of \$42 202.78 which is an increase of \$7 278.43 from the previous year.

Thanks to all who participated in these two AGMs. The next AGM is scheduled for March 12, 2022. We all look forward to meeting in person.

Highlights on Heritage 2020



Several members of ETGHF were on hand for the 2020 Highlights on Heritage at Bramalea City Centre on February 8, 2020. The display included material related to the upcoming 50th year commemoration of the July 5th, 1970 Air Canada Flight 621 disaster. Many of the people who stopped at the display shared vivid memories of the crash and its aftermath.

ETGHF Membership Information

Membership Fee: \$20.00 per household for one calendar year. Donations beyond the \$20.00 membership fee to the Ebenezer, Toronto Gore Historical Foundation are eligible for a charitable tax receipt.

Ways to contribute:

Mail cheque to

Ebenezer, Toronto Gore Historical Foundation

8999 The Gore Rd.,

Brampton, ON

L6P 2P7

OR

e-transfer to oldebenezerchapel@gmail.com

Current memberships have been extended for another year. However, we always welcome memberships and donations to assist in the work of further preserving the

history of Toronto Gore Township and the Ebenezer Cemetery and Chapel.

Newsletter:

If you know of someone else who would be interested in receiving this newsletter or if you do not want to continue receiving it, please notify us by email

(oldebenezerchapel@gmail.com) or by leaving a telephone message at 905 867-3101.

Pandemic Activities:

We are interested in hearing about projects and activities you have been involved in during the pandemic. Send an email to oldebenezerchapel@gmail.com with any pandemic stories and pictures to share and we can add them to the next newsletter.