

Minutes of the Manitoba Chapter of International Bible Society Meeting

May 10, 1997 -- Chicken Chef Restaurant, Arborg, Manitoba -- 11:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Earl Settee, Box 1498, Gimli, MB. R0C 1B0 - #389-5149
Michael Kowalson, Box 696, Riverton, MB. R0C 2R0 - #378-5539
Delmer Plett, Morweena - #364-2268
Ernest Reimer, Box 403, Riverton - #378-5605
Pete Dueck, Box 373, Riverton - #378-2715
John Froese, Box 573, Riverton - #378-5196
Tom Gerbrandt, Box 676, Arborg, MB. R0C 0A0 - #376-5441
James Thiessen, Box 277, Hodgson, MB. R0C 1N0 - #372-6990
Milton Loewen, Box 663, Arborg, MB. - #364-2459
Raymond and Martha Dueck, Box 700, Riverton - #378-5686
days (at work) - 364-2442 or 1-800-210-0141
Neill and Edith von Gunten, Box 219, Riverton - 378-2930
Menno Kroeker, Box 541, Riverton - #378-5360
Willie and Elizabeth Dueck, Box 700, Arborg - #364-2335
Tom Plett, Box 467, Fisher Branch, MB. R0C 0Z0

Guest: Doug Perkins

1. Opening: Raymond Dueck opens the meeting and introduces our guest, Doug Perkins of the Burlington, Ontario office.
2. Devotions: Menno Kroeker shares a devotional from Matthew 7 and James 4 about asking and receiving from God with open hearts and leads in prayer.
3. IBS Information: Doug Perkins shares with us about IBS:
 - a) "Let There Be Light" promotions are being held in Canada and across the world.
 - b) A goal of IBS is to have 30 new language translations in the next five years, in conjunction with Wycliffe Bible Translators.
 - c) A donor has contributed enough funds to purchase the devotional booklets for people affected by the Flood of '97. *When your Whole World Changes* – a devotional for adults and *Where is God Now* a color booklet for children and teens that deals with change and upheaval in our lives. These will be distributed in Manitoba in conjunction with Mennonite Disaster Service and the Salvation Army and various churches
 - d) New booklets and Scriptures are continually becoming available through IBS, including topics such as "Positively Yes" for AIDS victims from tainted blood transfusions.
 - e) IBS holds the copyright for the New International Version (NIV) of the Bible so they can make these special versions available. Zondervan/Harper and Row have the commercial rights to the NIV.
 - f) IBS works cooperatively with other Bible societies around the world.
4. Local Report: Ray reports that we have received permission to distribute "Bright Beginnings" to the grade 4 and 5 students in the Evergreen School Division. That

means that 250 Scriptures will be distributed in the next week at Winnipeg Beach, Arborg, Riverton, and Gimli schools.

People present volunteer for the various school times and suggest other people who may be interested in this distribution project. A time of prayer is held for this specific project. Frank & Bernice will go to all schools. Additionally:

Winnipeg Beach Wednesday – Raymond & Martha, Earl Settee, Doug
Arborg - Thursday - Anita Friesen, John & Helen Froese, Kenton Barkman
Gimli - Friday - Ernest & Sherridan, John & Helen Froese
Riverton – Tuesday – Neill & Edith

There is time for sharing our other experiences handing out Scriptures recently.

5. The minutes of the April 19 meeting are distributed and reviewed.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes:

a) About \$1,000 is still needed for the school distribution project.

b) Pete will be gone for several months. His daughter Luella is willing to accept donations for IBS and to do the financial work. Michael Kowalson agrees to assume the responsibility of ordering Scriptures for us as needed while Pete is away.

c) re: fund-raising --

-- One idea mentioned is to ask youth groups to get involved, too, and sponsor some events for IBS.

-- A concern is expressed, however, that we need to first address the issue in our churches of there being a perceived competition with the Gideons (an older, more established group in our area) and IBS. The question of whether there is respectful dialogue going on between the two groups has been raised in Morweena, for example, and they would need an affirmative answer before they will support IBS. Ray assures the group that he has kept Gideon members informed of developments. The school principals were happy to get readable Scriptures for the students

-- Doug Perkins reminds us that we must find new, creative ways of fund-raising. He gives an example which we might want to consider: of joining with the new ACN telecommunications company which is just coming into Canada in June and pays groups such as ours to sign up customers for them.

7. Further Information: Doug Perkins tells us that Great Britain has made their NIV translations gender-inclusive, i.e. when the original Greek biblical text meant "persons" instead of "man", it is now translated "persons." There has been some misunderstanding of this in evangelical circles (especially in the United States) without there being a study of the actual text first.

8. James Thiessen leads in prayer for our noon meal.

Recorded by Edith von Gunten

Notes of the meeting at Chicken Chef in Arborg May 27, 97

Present: Helen Froese, Leonard & Linda Dueck, Frank & Bernice Gustaw, Raymond Dueck, Ernest & Sherridan Reimer

Guest: IBS Videographer Richard Heeron

Ernest shared with us from the Word of God.

Discussion topics included:

What motivates us?

The Importance of the Word

Why a Chapter? Would we recommend this to others?

What are our goals and opportunities?

- VBS distribution
- Youth Justice Committee – Ernest is involved there
- Sports New Testament
 - Gull Harbour reception desk
 - Doctor's Offices
- Disaster Booklets at Funeral Homes
- Booth at Riverton Days
- Present Scriptures to graduates

Make a photo album

Should we have a picnic at Gull Harbour?

Next meeting June 22 at Riverton Gospel Chapel 6PM. Helen and Bernice will plan desserts.

Date: Thu, 1 May 1997 19:53:42 -0400

From: Dr. Douglas A. Perkins <105162.606@compuserve.com>

To: Raymond Dueck <rdueck@freenet.mb.ca>

Subject: Distribution of booklets and container of food

Dear Raymond:

A donor has agreed to fund up to 10,000 of each of our two booklets, *When our Whole World Changes* & *Where is God Now?*

The donor would like some tie in with the Salvation Army if possible. Global ministries has a container of food etc. which could be shipped.

Would it be possible for your group to organize distribution of these booklets through the area? Churches could use the booklets which your group could provide them.

Contact me as soon as possible so we can decide what to do!

Thanks,

Doug

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Date: Sun, 8 Jun 1997 16:28:25 -0400
From: Douglas A. Perkins <105162.606@compuserve.com>
To: Raymond Dueck <rdueck@freenet.mb.ca>
Subject: Distribution of Booklets

Dear Raymond:

Thanks for the message. I will contact the office again about the video. I gave it to them for copying right after I came back. Who knows what happened this time. I am no longer on payroll with IBS. I may still do some work with them on projects related to fundraising with the ACN telecommunications, fundraising seminars, and setting up some missions projects.

I am not sure who is taking over the area related to Let there be Light. I guess the top dogs in CS did not like my ideas. I really enjoyed working with you and your group. You will need to check with Bob Roebuck to see who will look after your area.

Sincerely in Christ,

Doug

If there is interest in the fundraising I would be glad to follow up on that. The rates we have are very good compared to the big three.

Date: Thu, 15 May 1997 09:09:13 -0400
From: Davyd Hepburn <DavydH@compuserve.com>
To: Doug Perkins <105162.606@compuserve.com>
Cc: Raymond Dueck <rdueck@freenet.mb.ca>, Carol Haughton <103601.3454@compuserve.com>, Sues Hyde <shyde@ibs.org>, Bob Roebuck <102413.2155@compuserve.com>
Subject: WPG disaster relief

Doug

I was not able to get to your email and back to you before you left. Please never hesitate to call me, office or home in situations like this when you need urgent information.

The truck left yesterday. Unfortunately the company that could ship directly to Wpg has nothing going directly so its is going via Chicago. ETA Wpg Monday. Stock sent as per your instructions to FastPac.

Carol called asking about details. Suggest that ALL email be copied to ALL of us so that we are all in the loop. This will save phone calls.

She said that SA was upset when they heard they were only getting a few copies. I guess we were all talking to the wrong person in SA. Great news they can use the 10,000 copies!

WHAT DO WE DO WITH THE REST OF THE FUNDS WE HAVE AVAILABLE?

Sorry Raymond.....Funds are earmarked for disaster relief.....I'm sure you would find other uses for them <g>

Publishing has just confirmed that both booklets will be reprinted in the next two to three weeks.

I NEED TO KNOW for the next shipment (we may try to get them shipped directly from the printer)

A. Can the SA and others use as many copies as we can provide with the funds we have?

You mentioned that Grant Memorial could use up to 5000 copies. Where you able to contact EFC? (David Enns my relative?)

B. What % of each booklet do we send next time? The first 2 to 1 ration was guess work. Once the folks in Wpg get a sense of what is the most needed we can change ratios.

Despite all our frustrations, I do know that God's timing is always perfect.....

Take care

Davyd

Date: Thu, 15 May 1997 09:09:11 -0400
From: Davyd Hepburn <DavydH@compuserve.com>
To: Raymond Dueck <rdueck@freenet.mb.ca>
Cc: Doug Perkins <105162.606@compuserve.com>
Subject: Phone call

Raymond,

The AA of our development VP dropped in this morning saying she had a voice mail from you regarding the distribution of New Beginnings.

She was not sure why she got your message. Was it for general prayer? or another reason. Wondering if the switchboard got confused with extensions #

If you ever do need to touch base here, my extension is 3131 and Sues Hyde my AA is 3034

Its been so encouraging to see what God is doing in Manitoba thru your efforts and others in Wpg.

Blessings

Davyd

Date: Fri, 16 May 1997 16:43:02 -0400
From: Dr. Douglas A. Perkins <105162.606@compuserve.com>
To: Bob Roebuck <102413.2155@compuserve.com>,
Carol Houghton <103601.3454@compuserve.com>,
Davyd Hepburn <103335.3605@compuserve.com>,
Raymond Dueck <rdueck@freenet.mb.ca>
Subject: Winnipeg Lightbearers and Distribution of Booklets

Dear Bob:

We had an excellent meeting on Saturday May 10 in Arborg with Ray and about 20 Lightbearers. They shared some positive reports of distributing the scriptures. Could you imagine 500 similar groups meeting across Canada doing the same thing! A few things that we have worked on need to be provided for each local team of Lightbearers: 1. Resource packet of scriptures that we had suggested with registration. 2. Letterhead and envelopes that could be used for the chapter but recognizing the national scope of the group.

3. Bulletin insert resources which could be used to encourage giving by churches.

4. Ian suggested that we could use the Impact Canada cans to raise funds in local churches ie. Ray has a group that needs many Bright Beginnings for northern Manitoba.

5. Development of the registration information to be set up for each group where they would fill in the information requested.

6. Insert material to be added into scriptures locally for people to contact someone for further help. (Ray has ideas on this, we did an adapted version for this past week.)

BOOKLET DISTRIBUTION Arrangements have been made with the following groups to assist in the distribution of booklets: Salvation Army Booth Centre Lt.Col. Marilyn Luginbuhl; Paul Friesen Menn. Disaster Services, 134 Plaza Drive, Winnipeg 261-6381; and Trinity Television who are making churches and individuals aware that the booklets are available for people from IBS. Suzanne Ross, Concord College, 169 Riverton Ave. Winnipeg R2L 2E5 is seeking to have a team assist in distribution, as well as she is contacting her church, The Meeting Place, Paul Wartman 942-1203 is the Pastor. Ray is seeking to contact these groups when the booklets arrive, unfortunately they won't be coming until after the long weekend which will delay the process another week. Ray lives 1.5 hours from Winnipeg so it is difficult to facilitate distribution. Davyd has suggested that we mail a copy to churches with a letter encouraging them to pass on copies to people they could help. Carol is sending this off to Ray so that it would come from Lightbearers and help raise their profile in Manitoba.

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS DISTRIBUTION

We had 41 of 42 students take the BBB at Winnipeg Beach school. The teachers, staff, and principals were very supportive. In Arborg 55 of 65 took the bibles, I haven't heard the balance, plus some will go out next week. When I was there Wed. the kids were quite eager and some even wanted some for mothers and grandmothers.

POSITIVELY YES

I shared the new booklet with Tye Gamey, Ex.Dir of newdirection, a ministry that deals with people dealing with "gender" issues. Tye comes from a homosexual background and works with individuals and groups in this area. One of his staff deals with AIDS victims. He said the demand would not be great in the AIDS area, but if we had a book dealing with the gender issues there would be more demand.

CHRISTMAS GIFT BOOKLET

Grant Memorial Baptist showed keen interest in the idea and Mark Jonah, Director of Music Ministries felt they could use 5000+ because they have over 7000 come to their Christmas concerts. Calvary Temple has a new pastor, Bruce Martin coming from Kennedy Road Tabernacle in Brampton in June. They also do a large musical program with 4000-5000 people.

All for now, must look after some domestic concerns.

Doug

Date: Thu, 29 May 1997 12:25:37 -0500
From: Fisher Branch Location <bpenner@freenet.mb.ca>
To: 'Raymond Dueck' <rdueck@freenet.mb.ca>
Subject: RE: IBS meeting June 22

Raymond Dueck,

I'm sorry for not getting back to you regarding the meeting you had this week. I don't think that I can make the one on June 22 because I've got a golf tournament that day.

Thank you for your invitations to the IBS meetings. I am expecting that you would like me to eventually join your chapter. If this is the direction you are going then I can tell you now that I likely won't do it. Right now I'm chairman of our church and very involved in teaching adult Sunday school and music Sunday mornings. I feel that my job in the church, right now, is to build and keep a good solid base that other people can use to branch out and do their ministries. I support what IBS does (as much as I know about it) and wish you well in your ministries with it. It's just that I'm putting my efforts into ACF right now and I don't have extra energy/time to put into something new.