

President's Report

Lake Winnipeg Writers' Group

November 22, 2014

A.G.M.

This was a year full of challenges as many of our directors stepped down after many years of service. Debra Dusome resigned after serving as president of the LWWG for several years. I somewhat reluctantly stepped into her shoes. I thank Debra for the help and guidance she has given me this year. Other directors who stepped down were Bill Martin, Richard Koreen and Helma RoggeRehders. Even though they had resigned from the executive, they were always available to lend a helping hand. Their support was greatly appreciated.

Despite a reduced number of executive members, we gathered our courage and managed to carry on the duties of the LWWG. Some vacant positions were quickly filled. Susanne Pascal accepted the Vice-Presidency and chaired the Contest Committee. Her dedication brought the contest to a successful end. Berty Jones took on the position of treasurer. Pam Larner, Brian Kahler and Kathe Olafson also accepted to assist the executive. Later in the year, Marlene Ness filled the position of secretary. Pam assisted in many different ways during the year. Brian picked up the mail and recorded the funds coming by mail and kept track of the source of this money. Kathe was in charge of mailing the issues of *Voices* requested by our membership. Their services were vital to the functioning of the LWWG and were greatly appreciated.

We had two successful launches at McNally Robinson. Our editor, Maurice Guimond, and our Publishing Director, Tyra Masters-Heinrichs brought both issues of *Voices* to the final stage. The fall issue sold well. Around twenty people attended. Many thanks to our past president, Debra Dusome, for hosting that event. The spring edition was a huge success as we were once again a best seller at McNally Robinson. Our editor, Maurice Guimond, hosted the event.

The 2015 Write on the Lake contest is well on its way. Pamela Larner, Ruth Asher and myself have set it in motion and will carry it on to its completion. Together we revised the Contest Entry Form, the Contest Protocol, the Contest Administration Policies and the Guidelines for the Contest. Ruth took on the responsibility of finding judges.

It was a difficult year, but thanks to everyone who devoted some of their time and energy, we strived. Next year we need to focus on getting more people to serve regularly on the executive. It is paramount that more members become active on the executive if the LWWG is to survive.

Jeanne Gougeon, President