



*"The Creator's game has so much to offer!"*

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Spirit of the Stick held our first annual general meeting on Sunday October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Two dozen guests that included committee members and friends were welcomed to our celebration by co-chairs Jim Veltman and Christine Kurt. And it was truly a celebration of a year that included three clinics, displays at a number of lacrosse and community events and a balance sheet in the black.

Christine provided the meeting with a review of our first year and concluded with a huge thank you to everyone who contributed to our success.

Chet Koneczny, The Lax Life, made a presentation to the group regarding the company he & Brandon Sanderson started and who have been wonderful supporters of our work, especially with a promotional insert for Spirit of the Stick in their DVD.

Christine & Jim presented our annual awards, to be given each fall at our annual meeting, as a reminder of just how important our volunteers and supporters are.

*"Clarity of Vision" Award...in honour of our friend Casey Zaph; presented by Casey Zaph to:*

*John Jacobs...with thanks for our beautiful and expressive logo*

*Delby Powless Sr...for our traditional handmade stick*

*Kimberly Thomas...for her tireless work to help us begin*

*Connie Anderchek...for using her talent to help our stick tell the beginning of our story*

*"Strength of Spirit" Award....in memory of Courtney Henderson; presented by her father, Murray Henderson, and her grandfather, Gerry Henderson, to:*

*...because if they hadn't done all the things they did, many you will never know about, we would not have accomplished near as much in our very first year....*

*Jim Zacher...for websites, media, support, coffee and pastries*

*Tom Beckett...for "all other duties as assigned"*

*Sara Ward...our Miss "can you please do this"*

*Betty Healey...for being the best sounding board ever*

*"Courage of Heart" Award...in memory of Cyndi Toth; presented by Christine & Jim, with regrets from her proud brother, Kaleb, to:*

*Tom & Denise Moxam...for using the memory of their son, Jordan, to help other children play the game he loved so much.*

Other Thank Yous were presented to:

From our Board of Directors....

Larry Komer....for his sensible advice

Billy McLean & Lindsay Tucker....for their enthusiastic planning

Jarrett Harris...for his & the Roadies tireless fundraising, not just on our behalf

Special Volunteers & Supporters

Austin Owens, Aaron & Brendan Walker, the Gerrow boys...the guys whenever we needed "guys"

Jay Rabjohn, GAIT DeBeer...our stick guy

Chet Koneczny & Brandon Sanderson, The Lax Life...two of our biggest & best supporters

Steve McCarthy, Warrior...our ball guy

A list of proposed projects for 2010 that are at various stages of planning was presented and those in attendance were asked to volunteer for any/all of these and were reminded that Spirit of the Stick is open to suggestions for projects/partnerships that will help us fulfill our mandate.

Jim introduced those present to the inspiration for our name, his own spirit stick. He explained that we had decided that we needed our own...a stick that would tell our story. With thanks to those involved in its creation, the new stick was introduced. It was then passed around the room and those present were invited to share their own personal thoughts/feelings about it, about our initiative, about the gift of lacrosse in their own lives. The general consensus was we were all part of the beginning of something very special. Executive committee member Larry Komer put what had been accomplished in our first year into perspective when he observed that of the many groups such as this he had been involved in over the years, he had seen very few who had accomplished as much as we had in our first year in their many.

Jim concluded the sharing with thanks for all who had helped make our first year such a wonderful success and invited everyone to help us make our second year even more so.