



April 23, 2010

During the weekend of April 9- April 10,2010, DAMA (Diocesan Anglican Men's Association) from the Eastern Diocese of Newfoundland and Labrador held their annual general meeting at Lavrock. Fifty four men, representing 12 parishes registered for the event. Opening devotions were conducted by Rev. Garry Parsons, from the Parish of St. Lawrence, assisted by Rev. Garry Hussey, St. Peter's Parish. During dinner , Bishop Pittman on behalf of the Association, presented a plaque to Don Higgins(St. Thomas') highlighting his 50 years as a lay minister. In the evening there was a slide presentation from the CLB Mission Belise Team. Col. Keith Arns and Major Ron Coish provided commentary and entertained questions from the floor. The CLB is to be commended for their work in Belise. Holy Eucharist on Saturday morning was conducted by Rev. Garry Parsons, assisted by Rev. Garry Hussey and Don Higgins as server. In the open forum session, Reginald MacDonald (St. Thomas') and Rev. David Cook (Good Sheppard) did a critique of the book: "Why Men Hate Going To Church" by David Murrow. For information on the book, you are referred to: www.churchformen.com. This was followed by a presentation by our Bishop ,The Right Reverend Cyrus Pittman. Bishop Pittman challenged DAMA to move towards a mission outreach style ministry and that its future should focus on Christian formation of men from a diocesan perspective. Following the open forum, the annual general meeting took place. Under new business, vice president Russ Mitchell presented his report of his committee regarding the future role of DAMA. While some Men's Service Clubs are satisfied with the status quo, all appear to be acceptable to some changes. The future of DAMA rests with DAMA.

Elected into office for 2010-2011:

- Mr. George King – President – Parish of St. Philips
- Mr. Ed Miller– Vice President – Parish of the Ascension
- Mr. Aubrey Dawe – Secretary – Parish of Upper Gullies
- Mr. Clarence Barfoot – Treasurer – Parish of Good Sheppard
- Mr. Reginald MacDonald – Public Relations Officer – Parish of St. Thomas'

The position of Program Coordinator was left vacant at the request of the executive as they plan to revise the duties of that position.

Special appreciation is extended to the staff at Lavrock for catering our meals and the warm hospitality extended to all in attendance. It was a beautiful weekend of fellowship. For more information about DAMA, please visit our website: <http://www.anglican.nfol.ca/diocesan-anglican-mens-association.php>

Reginald MacDonald

Public Relations Officer



Bishop Pittman presenting Don Higgins on behalf of DAMA a plaque celebrating 50 Years as a lay minister