



# The Bluewater Bugle

Newsletter of the Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada Y Service Club

Motto: "To Acknowledge the Duty That Accompanies Every Right"

March 9, 2009

Editor: Ed Bull

## Sharon's Gathering in Brantford

It was full house although there were no people there from the Brantford Y. Several people called to say that they are interested but could not come. This included the President of the Moose Lodge, an influential club in the Brantford area.

We should have a good chance to capitalize on the newspaper article to encourage the Y to be more interested. We were encouraged by interest shown by two people from the Moose Lodge. They want to know about LUCR and to talk with us and help us request a donation.

Cambridge and Kitchener were well represented along with Brian Minielly and Ron Macdonald from our club. The stormy weather kept the remaining group from Owen Sound at home.



The above picture is of Miss Lillian Jull. She is an 89 yr. old neighbour of Sharon's who has donated to LUCR before. She is hanging on to her door prize (a Fair Trade soccer ball) provided by Martin Dand. Lillian was very interested to hear about Fair Trade balls and how they are made. She and her sister-in-law are all set to donate again to LUCR!.

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## Roll Back Malaria

There seems to be quite a competition between Lethbridge and Ottawa about who has the greatest contribution to Roll Back. In any event these two seem to have enough for about 500 kits to date. Ye Editor has pointed out that our contributions from the Young people will likely be the most from any such group.

In any event, the Canada/Caribbean will certainly show up very well with this project.

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## Coming Events

The Joint Canada/US Area Convention has been cancelled due to lack of support from both sides. There might possibly be one in the Minneapolis area in 2011.

Peace Action Conference—October 23 to 25 at Cedar Glen YMCA near Bolton, Ontario.



Ines' two daughters, Viva and Ali plus Nicole from Kitchener, in the picture above, are all prepared to attend the fall Peace Action and contribute to the planning process.

The article in the Brantford Expositor also resulted in several phone calls from people who said they could not come, but wanted to, and will follow up with Sharon later.

Another person who had previously provided LUCR donations expressed an interest in visiting Costa Rica in the future to help in some way with the project. In the meantime she is going to help Sharon approach a number of local businesses.

## Information

### Reminders

Fair Trade Sports—this is the time of the year for sales of soccer balls and beach volleyballs.

Joan will be connecting with the local Minor Soccer people to see what is needed for their leagues. We need to find out what we need to get from the Ottawa Club.

Zehr's grocery tapes—we get a cash donation for these. There is a series of box locations at the entrance to the store. You can leave your tapes there or give them to Ye Editor. We have to keep them together in groups of about \$1,000 each.

Brotherhood Fund Used Postage Stamps—the commemorative and high value Canadian stamps are sent to a member in the Maritimes and are sold to dealers. The proceeds are used to provide for travel for members' visits to clubs abroad and for members from other countries to visit us.

Fair Trade Coffee, Tea and Chocolate--we are investigating the possibility of marketing these items at Georgian College in the fall. Martin Dand has had some success in this with college and university students.

In addition to raising funds for service work this also helps producers to receive a fair wage for their work.

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The Downtown Bookstore – Monday March 30 @ 7pm

The Bookstore on 2nd Ave. will be the location for a conversation with people interested in LUCR and sustainable development. It will focus on economic issues. Please personally invite individuals you think will be especially interested in this topic. We want people with opinions about these issues so we can have a conversation together about them. See the reading list on the 'downloads' page on our Club web site.

We are asking questions. We don't have answers.

- Why is charity not the solution for poverty?
- Why are we having a global economic meltdown?
- Is there something missing from the economic theories our governments have been supporting?
- Is there a clue about some other options in the variety of experiments in microfinance throughout the world and in our Light Up The World project?
- What does Muhammad Yunus know that Bay & Wall St. do not?

Each year a young person aged between 22 and 27 is selected to serve as the Youth Intern at our International Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

This is a great experience and something that might interest our club's young members when they reach the required age.

For further information on this you may contact Ye Editor.

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The display case at the Family Y has been updated with some new pictures from the Light up Costa Rica project.

When you are at the Y, point out our display to your friends and to people who are perusing it.

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### **Breaking News!!!**

Brian has been invited to the Division Street United Church Breakfast Club on March 29 to talk about our Light up Costa Rica project.



### **Costa Rica Consultation**

The picture above shows Club Members Brian and Sharon meeting with ACEM participants in LUCR. The meeting took place after the technical workshop was completed in November in Shiroles at the Finca Educativa training centre. The draft materials were reviewed for the new financial tracking system with the participants and then their feedback was incorporated into the final product.

That system is now working successfully in the ACEM network. As this newsletter goes 'to press', David Wiwchar from Sudbury, and Christoph Schultz of 'Light Up The World' in Calgary, are both in Costa Rica setting up the system with the other networks in Buenos Aires, Chirripo, and in the Talamanca with APPTA. All four of our distribution networks will be on this system by the end of the month.