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London Area
Right to Life Association Inc.

Newsletter



A London Pro-Life Newsletter

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Volume 47 Number 4

CHANGING OF THE GUARD AT LARTLA

President's Message by Elaine Arnsby

After much prayer, discernment and spiritual direction, I have made the difficult decision to step down from the position of president of LARTLA as of June 2014 at which time I will become a Board member at large.

In April, I will have completed two years, but I will remain on the Board as President until June to allow time for a proper search for a new president and time for discernment for members. In January a letter will be sent out to our members with details and a description of the duties of President.

I am confident that the right pro-life person with the appropriate skills will answer the Lord's call to come forward to lead. If you are interested please advise the office of the same and we will respond.

Please PRAY FOR THIS INTENTION.



LARTLA WELCOMES THREE NEW BOARD MEMBERS:

- Our new Treasurer is **Bill Dika**. Bill is a semi-retired accountant with a pro-life heart, who didn't hesitate about taking on the position of Treasurer. Bill has learned the tasks very quickly, coached by Jim Asher and Josee Lemay, our former Treasurer and Bookkeeper respectively.



- **Steve Eckert** is from the Seaforth/Dublin area and is living in London while taking courses at King's College. Steve is eager to serve and has been very active on Life Chain and 40 Days for Life and will be teaching our Grade 5/6 pro-life program.



- **Mary Lynn Barr** homeschooled her children and has been a great help at our office and for Life Chain and our Kick-Off Rally and is always ready to pitch in. Although she is very busy, her heart goes out always to the little ones.



May God bless them and all our Board Members!

LARTLA BIDS À DIEU:

- Long-time Board Member **Theresa Fenik** is stepping down as of January 1 but will remain a participating LARTLA member. Theresa's pro-life heart and her organizational skills helped greatly in making LARTLA's events and outreach projects effective. Thank you, Theresa, for all your years of service!



TOGETHER we accomplished a great deal this Fall. The Lord gave us such beautiful weather – most of the time! Please see the reports on Western Fair, Life Chain and 40 Days for Life (pg. 2&4) Many thanks to all the strong pro-lifers who came out to stand up for the little ones.

A BABY SAVED and **A BUS SHELTER AD** (see Christmas Appeal pg. 3).

Mary Wagner, gentle pro-lifer jailed for over a year, needs your support. (pg. 7)

The culture of death is a formidable foe! However, "Where sin abounds, grace abounds all the more" (Romans 5:20) Please consider a special gift to LARTLA as we spread the Gospel of Life. Christmas Blessings to you and yours!

He's on
His way

Christmas Starts
with Christ

Upcoming EVENTS

Please mark your calendars

Sun. Dec. 8 at 9pm to 1am
NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER for LIFE

- Adoration Chapel at St Mary's Church
- Prayer for the unborn

Fri. Dec. 27 MASS for the UNBORN

- St. Peter's Basilica
- 7 p.m., Rosary at 6:30 p.m.
- Bishop Fabbro, celebrant

January to end of March

PRO-LIFE SCHOOL PROGRAM

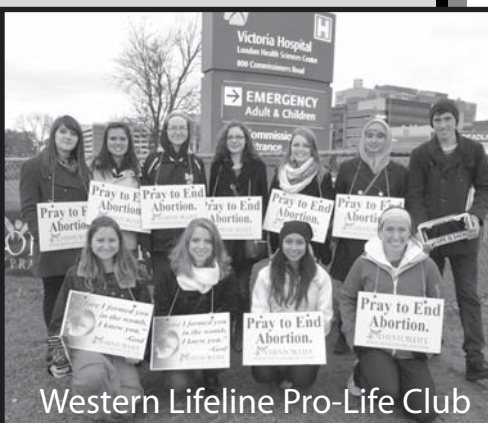
- 49 Gr. 5/6 Presentations
- 7/8 program under construction
- See page 5
- To volunteer call 472-2038

March 10 LARTLA ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING

- LARTLA Office at 7 p.m.
- See page 5

LAST THURSDAY of the MONTH
HOSPITAL WITNESS

- Victoria Hospital at the corner of Commissioners & Wellington
- 3:30 to 5 p.m.
- Call John 519-659-3334



Western Lifeline Pro-Life Club

40 DAYS for LIFE *by Elaine Arnsby*

We had overall fabulous weather for this year's 40 Days for Life! **Pastors, prayer groups, school groups, families, whole churches and of course many faithful individuals came out to pray at Victoria Hospital – 375 in all! PLUS - God has given us another sign!!** (see Christmas Appeal pg. 3)

'Guardian angels' – actually, 10 good men – faithfully took turns putting up and taking down the 40 Days for Life signs each day: David Thomson, Steve Eckert, Andy Spiewak, John Bulsza, Bill Onstein, Vito Norejko, Rick Haasen, Adrian Boucek, Mike Wilson, and Aaron Drahushchak. Thanks a million, guys! And thanks to Marianne Proulx who offered her garage for overnight sign storage.

Stan Duk, from Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish, took to the street **offering free pro-life licence plate frames to people in their cars while they waited for the light to change.** He was able to give out **60 frames!** Those signs will be visible for years to come to thousands of people! We know God can use them to save lives!! Excellent community outreach!



Christmas Appeal

Dear Pro-life Friends,

After 40 Days for Life this year, we learned of a baby saved last year! Our Good Lord has blessed us with a sign – Praise Him!! Here is the story related to us by John L. Mac Isaac, Nov. 5, 2013:

PRAYING at the FENCE

“Praying at the fence”, I oft times wondered if I would ever see or even meet one of those survivors or those “unwanted” as they are sometimes referred. As I persevered in prayer I further began to struggle with the ongoing terminated pregnancies. Then I would always conclude with the big question. “Are we really making an impact ... “praying at the fence?”

Suddenly one day, I heard a voice behind me saying, “I prayed with you last year.” When I turned around I found a young lady moving her stroller back and forth in the warm October sun. She said it was her last resort to come and pray with us “at the fence”, and asked God with all her heart that if her daughter would decide not to have an abortion she would care for the child herself. And now beaming with pride she exclaimed her dream came true. As she said this I gazed into the stroller and said “and this is your daughter’s baby?” “No, not really.” she quickly replied, “It’s mine now!” As she went on her way she turned to thank us for our “prayers at the fence”, thank God!

We all do our part and the Lord provides. “May the Lord watch over your coming and going both now and forever.” Ps. 121. Isn’t it amazing? There’s never a door shuts that another doesn’t open!

Sr. Bonnie, LARTLA’s Office Coordinator, has earned a raise! For the last year, Bonnie has been very busy from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with everyday office tasks and with all our outreach projects and events. She did a wonderful job inviting you, our members, to come pray at the vigil site! (Thank you for responding to her calls!) Bonnie is also doing the scheduling for the school program (See Pg. 5 for latest update). However, Bonnie can’t be a wonder worker and neither can a new president. We are considering hiring someone at least on a part-time basis to help with community outreach and media. The LARTLA Board will be having a meeting to that effect very soon and will send out a letter to our members.



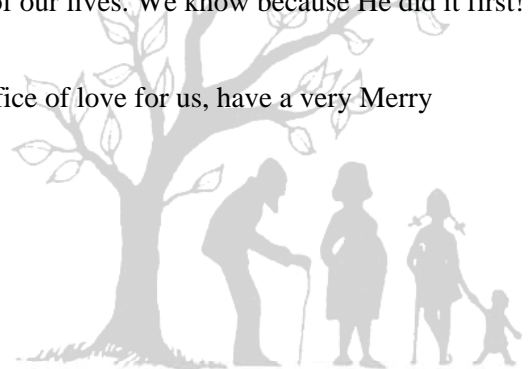
This fall, we presented three ads to CBS Outdoor. The first, an Alliance for Life Ont. ad on the worth of every human life, was not approved (too “controversial”!) The second, from the Down Syndrome Society, was ignored! The latest ad is, again, gentle but thought provoking. CBS Outdoor, itself, produced this ad in Halifax for a group called Signs4Life. We hope we finally have an acceptable ad! We plan to purchase space in one or two locations near Victoria Hospital, Western University, and/or Fanshawe College. LifeSite recently reported a bit of controversy in Halifax over the poster so ... to be continued!

We count on your generosity to help us take care of the tiniest among us – at every stage of life – through educating one heart at a time. The ‘Christmas’ ultra sound on the front of the newsletter – Jesus in his mother’s womb – says it all. We are all created with dignity at the moment of conception. We can choose to carry our identity and worth as human beings into heaven into the arms of our Maker at the end of our lives. We know because He did it first! Please give generously. We sincerely thank you!

As you gather with family and friends to worship in awe of His great sacrifice of love for us, have a very Merry Christmas!!

Elaine Arnsby

Elaine



From the Office *by Bonnie Pember*

“Love is patient; love is kind...”

Where do I begin? I have been the office coordinator at LARTLA for an entire year now and every day is an adventure. With the grace of God and the assistance of everyone involved in our organization, board members, volunteers and members, I helped with Western Fair, Life Chain and 40 Days for Life. Thank you to everyone for making me feel welcome!

It has been a privilege to be part of the 40 Days for Life campaign; God bless all the generous prayer warriors who made 40 Days a success this year by answering my phone and email appeals. Truly they will know we are Christians by our love for the babies, the moms, the dads and the whole families affected by abortion.

It's hard to believe that another year has passed since the 2012/2013 pro-life elementary school program was put together. Right now I am following in Phil's footsteps, working with Elaine and Sharon Weston, as we get ready for the 2014 program for grades 5 and 6. There will be 1,154 students involved, along with their teachers, as our volunteer presenters remind the students that each one of them is special and unique in God's eyes.

May you and your loved ones experience the peace and love of Jesus during this Christmas Season and throughout the New Year! Merry Christmas!



Western Fair 2013 - smooth sailing for our 41st year *By Elaine Arnsby*



This year our booth attracted thousands of passersby without a hitch. Our new fetal model set, “Touch of Life”, attracted people along with our other two sets of hard and soft models. **Unfortunately, someone snatched one of the ‘twins’ from the hard model set!** On looking at the half empty ‘womb’, I couldn't help but reflect on how doctors sometimes encourage moms to reduce their multiple births – so very sad! I hoped someone would return the twin, but, no.

In our ‘Comment Book’ for visitors – one lady said she was happy to see our “Celebrate Life” booth! Another woman wrote that she used to work in the pathology department of a hospital and described how the aborted fetus parts were put into jars of formaldehyde. **A few years ago, a woman visited our booth (possibly the same woman) and told me she used to work in the pathology department at Foothills Hospital in Calgary. She said that after making sure all the body parts were there, every aborted baby was labelled as 10 weeks old regardless of its real age, which she said “infuriated” her! ... as, of course, it should!**



Thank you to all of you who helped make an impact for Life at Western Fair 2013! God bless you all!!

Ilderton Fair 2013 *By Bonnie Van Lanen*

What a weekend! LARTLA has had a booth at the Ilderton Fair for around 10 years now and 2013 was the best yet for providing information, clarifying and educating. The comment I heard most often this year was...“at least they don't do abortions once the baby is that big (referring to the 16 week fetus model)”. All were shocked when I provided them with the reality and many left with a troubled look on their face. This is where I believe we have made a huge difference, in the misinformation out there for the average person. I found this year an increased openness to dialogue. I enjoy standing back and watching parents teach their children about the life of a child in the womb, and stepping in when necessary. I would suggest that those who live in rural areas where there are fairs, set up a booth and become educators in your own community. It really is quite interesting and you get to see friends/neighbours and acquaintances at least once a year.

Life Chain Sunday – A Good Day to Witness!

On Oct. 6th, approximately **500 people put aside comfort and plans to stand and proclaim the truth to the public.** Over a classroom of babies a week is aborted in London! **We are planning more “Adoption the Loving Option”, “Abortion Hurts Women” and “Pregnant? Need help?” signs for 2014.** Thanks to all of you who witnessed and prayed for LIFE!



NOTICE: LARTLA's 2014 Annual General Meeting

**MONDAY, MARCH 10th at 7 p.m. with refreshments to follow
At the LARTLA office, Unit 3 - 1193 Oxford St. E.**

(Oxford at Mornington, 1 block west of Highbury Ave.)

We will be sending out information about the president's duties, etc. in January. Please pray...

Nominations will be accepted in the new year. All members are welcome!



← **NEW RAMP**

Our Current Board:

Elaine Arnsby, President (until June 2014)

Ngan Devries, Vice President

Bill Dika, Treasurer

Janice Rutledge, Secretary

Jim Asher

Mary Lynn Barr (newest member as of Nov. 18th)

Anne Boeringa

Sherry Doiron

Steve Eckert

Theresa Fenik (stepping down January 1, 2014)

Mike Menear

The Latest on Pro-life Elementary School Programs

THE GRADE 5/6 PROGRAM:

At the meeting held on Nov. 12th at the London District Catholic School Board, religion head Mr. Joe Bezzina was pleased with the 5/6 program, "I'm Special", and made various practical suggestions. Sr. Bonnie will organize the scheduling. Bonnie and Steve Eckert will be teaching it along with others.

THE GRADE 7/8 PILOT PROGRAM:

Prolife medical professionals from The Gianna Molla Society are developing a pilot program for Grades 7/8. (St. Gianna Molla, who was herself a doctor, was in a life and death situation while she was pregnant. She chose life for her baby over her own life. She is a 20th century saint.)



Mr. Bezzina said the Gianna Molla Society's pilot program shows promise. If all goes well, it will be taught to a limited number of students by the Society on a trial basis in the new year. It will take time to implement the new program if it is approved. Mr. Bezzina is leaning toward the teachers in the system eventually teaching it. Meanwhile pray for the Gr. 8 students who will be entering high school without a 'special boost' on chastity.

Western Lifeline – Debating and Teaching!

By Elizabeth Tomaszewski, Western Lifeline Liaison with LARTLA

The **Debate between Maaiké Rosendal, CCB, and Dr. Fraser Fellows**, late-term abortionist, is definitely going ahead! It will be at 7 p.m. on March 6, 2014. The place is still to be determined, but it will be on Western's campus. All are welcome to attend!

Our bi-weekly Pro-Life Classrooms have been going great! Although we had planned them to be short half hour lessons, they have been running 45 minutes to an hour due to the lively discussions. We have had very positive feedback from the attendees, and a very high level of audience participation. Since the topics for each session are very focused, we have time to get into detail.

The topics we have covered so far are:

- "The Biology Behind Our Humanity"
- "A Philosophical Approach to our Humanity and Values"
- "The Hard Cases: Rape and Health of the Mother"
- "Abortion: Canadian Law and Stats"

For all of these lessons the goal has been to learn how to discuss these issues with abortion supporters and especially to reach out to the "mushy middle", who are pro-abortion by default. It has been very motivating to be able to discuss these issues with members of our club. The fear of engaging in discussion/debate with our pro-abortion peers seems to be very common among our club members, and the bi-weekly classrooms are a great tool for building confidence for both the leaders and the general members! The best weapon the pro-life cause has is the truth, so making sure we know how to wield it with both clarity and charity is very important.



The DEFUND ABORTION RALLY

...took place on Thursday October 3rd from 11-12 pm. in front of the office of MPP Deb Matthews, Health Minister, at 242 Piccadilly Street. Twenty five people participated while Sara Thompson, organizer, asked everyone walking passed to sign the petition to defund abortion.



The following is from the Defund Abortion pamphlet:

It's time for Ontario legislators to treat our money with respect.

- ❖ Ontario taxpayers currently shell out **\$50 million annually** for the elective abortion procedure alone, which excludes the cost of abortion complications such as perforations, uterine hemorrhage, post-traumatic stress disorder, suicide, infertility and breast cancer. All these indirect costs could easily escalate the total cost of abortion in our health care system to hundreds of millions of dollars annually!
- ❖ For \$50 million per year, Ontario can hire over 200 family doctors, or 400 nurses, or purchase 20 MRI machines or provide therapy to 500 additional autistic kids each year. All genuine health care... rather than killing babies.
- ❖ **The Canada Health Act is a federal law which requires provinces to fund "medically necessary" services, but it does not define abortion as being medically necessary. When Ontario legislators deem an elective procedure as "not medically necessary" it does not get insured by OHIP, and as a result, will not receive public funding.** For example, in 2004 Dalton McGuinty's Liberal government delisted chiropractic services. Optometry examinations and physiotherapy were also delisted from OHIP at that time. Today, Kathleen Wynne's Liberal government refuses to insure prostate cancer screening tests, once covered by OHIP.
- ❖ In almost all abortion cases, the life of the mother is not in danger. More than 96% of the time, abortions today are performed for convenience, as a back-up birth control method. That's clearly not a medical necessity and should not be funded as such.

PLEASE – JOIN THE NEXT DEFUND ABORTION RALLY!

Pro-life News and Views compiled by Elaine Arnsby

• Stephen Woodworth

Stephen Woodworth, Tory MP, is doing his best to keep the abortion issue before Parliament with another bill; "that every Canadian law must be interpreted in a manner which recognizes in law the equal worth and dignity of everyone who is in fact a human being."



• Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide



On October 10, the BC Court of Appeal upheld the current laws that equally protect all Canadians from euthanasia and assisted suicide, overturning the lower court decision that our assisted suicide law was unconstitutional. Now, on to the Supreme Court of Canada...

On October 18, the Supreme Court of Canada decided that doctors in Ontario must obtain consent before withdrawing Life-sustaining treatment that may result in death. Euthanasia Prevention Coalition has been busy informing Quebecers on the meaning of "medical aid in dying".

• 40 DAYS FOR LIFE. Fall 2013 Stats

There have been 673 babies spared this fall, 5 workers quit and 9 abortion facilities closed since the end of last spring's Campaign. Abortion providers have stated that "no-shows" went up 75% when people have been praying outside abortion clinics!

• Abortion by Any Other Name...



Abortions later than "the international guideline" of 23 weeks and 6 days are simply given a different name – "Early Induction" in order to 'allow' the child to die, and "genetic terminations" which is aborting "imperfect" babies (ex: over 90% of babies in the womb diagnosed with Down Syndrome are now aborted).

• DR. NADAL – Cataloging stories of women **PRESSURED** to abort in poor prenatal diagnoses

"Modern medicine is on a eugenic rampage and the stories of these mothers and fathers need to be told," says Dr. Gerard Nadal, who is beginning a **project to collect the stories of parents who have been victims of abusive physicians and genetic counselors, whether they aborted or carried the child to term.** All names will be kept strictly confidential and only those stories will be published where written authorization to do so has been obtained. **Contact Dr. Nadal at: gerardnadal60@gmail.com**



Mary Wagner, prisoner of conscience, needs help!

MARY WAGNER LEGAL DEFENCE FUND

By John Bulsza, reported by Bonnie Pember



Mary awaits trial on charges of “mischief: interference with lawful enjoyment/operation of a business” as a result of her peaceful outreach to pregnant mothers who, with their children were threatened by abortion at a Toronto abortion facility. As Canadians are aware, abortion was decriminalized in this country over forty years ago. Unless one is born, there is no legal protection from the abuse or killing, since in law, there is no personhood status recognized.

Mary Wagner came to Toronto from British Columbia in 2010 to be in solidarity with Canadian Pro-Life heroine Linda Gibbons. Mary has given 2.6 years of prison life since March 2010 for the defence of the unborn children. Linda and Mary are recipients of the **2012 Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medal**, nominated by M.P. Maurice Vellacott (in paraphrase) for their faithful and undying battle for justice for pre-born children.



It is vital that we realize that abortion is NOT a medical procedure, but the killing of helpless children. Mary believes “through prayer and discernment that God was leading her to go to these places where His little ones are killed...to be present and not to walk away, regardless of the outcome. Each person, no matter how small, is a unique, unrepeatable human being of infinite worth, made in God’s image and likeness, precious to Him and deserving of our love, as Jesus Himself tells us: ‘ whatsoever you do to the least of these, my brothers and sisters, you do to Me.’ (Mt. 25:40)”

Dr. Charles Lugosi, Mary’s lawyer, states: “Mary uses roses, conversation and literature in a peaceful, non-violent and respectful manner to encourage women to find an alternative to abortion. Mary’s goal is to persuade the trial judge that fetuses are human beings in an unborn state, and that the legal definition of human being in the Criminal Code of Canada is unconstitutional.”

It has been 24 years since the personhood and right to life of unborn children have been before the Supreme Court of Canada in the constitutional challenge of *Borowski v. Canada* (1989). Unborn children, who for over 44 years have not had protection in Canadian law, are once again to be the focus in a very important legal battle for their protection. Morris Shumiatcher, lawyer of Joe Borowski, stated, “The multifaceted elements that go to make up the drama of this case [*Editor*: and Mary’s case] are nothing more than tiny unborn children but at the same time they are nothing less than our families, our country, and our future”

John Bulsza, a member of London Area Right to Life Association is co-trustee of the Mary Wagner Legal Defence Fund. He wrote an article about Mary that was published by Life Site News on Tuesday, October 22, 2013. Mary has been in jail for 14 months so far. To get bail, she would have to sign a document stating she will stay away from abortion clinics in future. She refuses to go against her conscience.

COURT DATES FOR MARY WILL BE HELD:

- Dec. 6, 11 and 12 to determine the merits of the case
- March 18, 19, 20, 26 and 27 to hear medical and scientific experts testify on the humanity of the unborn child
- May 13-16, when the trial will conclude

If you wish to **CONTRIBUTE** to Mary’s legal defence fund:

- ❖ Make a donation Mary Wagner Legal Defence Fund, Account # 0319 8991-017, in any Bank of Montreal in Canada and request that the deposit be a “credit memo”, for book keeping purposes. OR
- ❖ Mail your cheque to Mary Wagner Legal Defence Fund c/o Bank of Montreal, 295 Boler Rd. London, ON N6K 2K1.

As you can see from all the court dates, any donation would be greatly appreciated.

Linda Gibbons affirms, “We will relentlessly knock on those Supreme Court doors until justice comes to answer the unborn silent scream...”

“Letter from an Unborn Child” - Anonymous

Falling raindrops are as the tears of God that He sheds for unborn children, whose blood covers the hands of the human race.

God must cry when rocking little babies in His loving arms. As a strong earthquake, His fingers must tremble when caressing the faces of the little ones – planted seeds destroyed before they had a chance to grow roots.

‘Right to choose’ it's called; what a strange symphony of empty words. Before Him the truth is always known. ‘Right to choose’ it's called, but before God's eyes, it's ‘right’ to commit murder. The drops of blood are still falling today, staining the cold steel of the doctors' tables.

The silent scream of the voiceless covers the entire earth, and the tiny hands of those without choice reach out to those who have closed eyes to their pleas.

Please give me a chance! Let me take a breath of fresh air, let me bring a smile to your face, let me give you a reason to live, allow me to be the hope of your aging years.

Please give me a chance! Let me draw a picture of you, let me play with your hair, let me cover your cheeks with my kisses; allow me to paint butterflies on the sky of your world.

Please give me a chance! Let me bring you my report card, let me introduce you to my bride, let me show you your grandchild; allow me to be God's gift to you.

Please give me a chance! Don't discard me as a mistake, don't throw me away as defective, don't put me to sleep before I am awake, don't toss me out as a dirty rag.

Please, Mom, give me a chance!



Your Unborn Child

*Love
Them Both!*

Pray to End
A b o r t i o n