



LONDON AREA RIGHT TO LIFE ASSOCIATION INC. NEWSLETTER

1193 Oxford Street E., Unit 3, London, Ontario N5Y 3M2 Tel: (519) 659-3334 Fax: (519) 659-3345
Website: www.larla.com E-mail: larla@execulink.com

A London Pro-Life Newsletter

July 2003 VOL. 37, NO. 3

Introducing Board of Directors 2003

- President - Phil Arnsby
- Vice-President - Pastor Stephen Alles
- Treasurer - Alan Schmitt
- Secretary - Elaine Arnsby
- Members - John VanGelderren
Sherry Doiron
- Past President - Marian Obeda



President's Message - Phil Arnsby

As an administrator at Fanshawe College for 27 years, and a *bit* of a workaholic, I dreamt about retirement. It would be a time to relax, pamper myself, and take life easy. Tournament tennis was pretty high on my 'to do' list. About 13 years ago though, the Lord entered into my life in a big way and things haven't been the same since. Gradually, over that time, pro-life activities have become a major part of my waking hours. My family consists of four children and two step children (ages 20 to 42 yrs.), two grandchildren, and another pro-life advocate, my dear wife, Elaine.

In this, my first message as president, I would like to sincerely thank all of you pro-life volunteers and supporters of life. For many of us, the burdens and responsibilities of everyday events tend to consume our time and resources. The struggle to protect all human life from conception to natural death seems like an uphill battle.

Courage! If God is for us who can be against us? Good news from south of the border. Now that the Republicans have a greater influence on the laws of the land, 13 states have introduced bills banning some procedures such as the so-called partial birth abortion. Many are redefining a "person" to include a foetus. Recently the Texas legislature approved a bill granting a foetus some legal rights. These changes will have a very positive impact in the defence of life in that country and ultimately in our own.

On the home front, we have just completed two very successful pro-life events...the Dinner/Silent Auction, and the Walkathon.

I would like to give special recognition to:

Elaine Arnsby who solicited and collected over 90 items for the Silent Auction - \$3,600 was realized!

London/Middlesex M.P. Mr. Pat O'Brien, a defender of life and member of the Pro-life Caucus made up of Parliamentarians from all parties. Pat cut the ribbon and was our master of ceremonies and participated in our Walkathon.

His Excellency, Ronald Peter Fabbro, Bishop of 444,727 Catholics and 169 parishes and missions in the Diocese of London. Bishop Fabbro walked with us for life as hundreds of parishioners pledged to support him. The effect of his witnessing for life in this way will reverberate across the diocese.

Father Joseph Devereaux of Mary Immaculate Parish. By his challenge to his parishioners to walk or to support him in his walk, spectacular 300 pledges were made and a number of walkers joined him. We applaud the people of Mary Immaculate and Fr. Graham Keep, Pastor, who together pledged \$4,000!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please mark on your calendar – participate and pray

JULY 7 - 11 (Pro-Life Witness)

- **Show the truth Tour in Quebec**
- Call Rosemary Connell at (705) 454-1109
- (youth) Amy Gordon at (705) 432-8814 or youthshowthetruth@hotmail.com

AUGUST 11 - 15 (Pro-life Witness)

- **Show the Truth Tour in Toronto area**
- Call Rosemary Connel at (705) 454-1109
- (youth) Amy Gordon at (705) 432-8814 or youthshowthetruth@hotmail.com

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

- **Life Chain 2003 – 2:30 to 3:30 PM**
- We need a Coordinator or Assistants. Please HELP!

LATE OCTOBER

- **Fall Gala Dinner For Media Campaign**
- More details in the next newsletter

NOVEMBER 6, 7 and 8

- **National Pro-Life Conference**
- Edmonton, AB
- Please call Campaign Life Coalition at 1-800-730-5358

THE LAST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH

- **Prayerful Pro-Life witness, 4:00 to 5:30 PM**
- LHSC Westminster Campus @ Wellington and Commissioners.
- Call John Bulsza @ 657-9009

Pastor Andrew Plumridge of Victory Heights Baptist Church. Pastor Plumridge spread good cheer to all of our walkers, rollerblading along with them, joking and offering an encouraging word. They tell me he is that exuberant most of the time!

Father Gary Goyeau of St. George's Parish asked others to walk for him and again the response was exceptional.

Pastor David Bodie of Faith Lutheran Church. Pastor Bodie supported the Walk with pledges and encouraged members of his congregation to participate.

Pastor Stephen Alles of St. Ansgar Lutheran Church and LARLA Board member. Pastor Alles also walked and obtained pledges.

In addition, we applaud those who obtained pledges for themselves and walked and also those who obtained pledges for our newsletter 'Walkathon form' and allowed us to walk for you. So far, \$22,000 has been raised in our Walk while good and faithful servants witnessed for life.

God is good to have sent these labourers into His vineyard!

There is a saying that more things are wrought by prayer than this world has even dreamed of. **I propose that we add a prayer arm to our organization.** We have included a prayer sheet and we ask that you pray for the protection of all human life daily. We also encourage you to spiritually adopt a minister or priest and pray that they be blessed and guided by the Holy Spirit in their ministries, particularly as it applies to the sanctity of human life. We will not be effective in this struggle without your prayers.

May you and your families have a holy, safe and restful summer.

Office Report

Margarida Andre, Office Coordinator

These last couple of months have been very active in the Office. From preparations to our Annual Dinner and Silent Auction event to the Walkathon and Mall displays, we have been busy making sure that nothing important is missed.

All the great events that LARLA is involved with, would not have been possible without the amazing help of willing Coordinators and volunteers who so selflessly give up their time and resources so that these things can indeed take place. There comes a time though when the most ardent of them may rest; but that will not be possible until others are willing to continue the task!

This field is ripe for the picking. The time has come to work even harder than we have been, but we need your help. We all have gifts to share with others, some may have the gift of prayer, others, the gift of organizational skills, others still, clerical skills, and the list goes on and on.

We are in need of Board Members, Office Volunteers and Coordinators for the Life Chain and other events. If you would like to use your God-given gifts please call the office and I will be glad to speak with you.

I pray that during the summer, you will have some time to consider using your talents helping in this most noble cause. **TO DEFEND AND BEFRIEND LIFE!**

The World Needs More Friends

*"To have a friend, be a friend" it has often been said,
Without a friend, life is a lonely path that fills us with dread;
In contrast, friendship is like a warm fire to a lost shivering soul
A friend's hand reaches for us whenever we slip into an unexpected hole
Lifting us up; pulling us back from the brink of disaster and despair;
Friend's aren't afraid of the effort it takes to show you they care
For a friend tries to understand everything you're going through,
A friend is willing to laugh with you or even shed a tear or two;
A friend is standing, clapping wildly even when the audience boos,
For a friend applauds your effort and consistently believes in you,
A friend doesn't see your size, colour, or whether you're white or blue collar;
A friend sees the best and perseveres even when you're not of the same mind.
True friends tell the truth with tact and are willing to go that extra mile
Like God, they know us and still love us and sometimes we make them smile*

Help us God, to be a Friend..

*To a people who through no fault of their own, live tyrannized by evil men;
To courageous politicians who stand for what is right, for they need a friend;
Help us to weep with the grieving child and her victimized mother;
To provide shelter for the homeless or the sad, unfortunate brother
In pain, alone, abused, imprisoned, alcohol or substance-addicted;
To those war-ravaged; to some who are hungry, sick, injured or afflicted;
To those elderly or in hospice care and for those all alone in their rooms
Wondering if something or someone is coming to send them to early tombs;
To the rebellious teen, pregnant with her bare midriff and attitude showing
To the tiny child she carries, without the child's father even knowing,
To the mom who each year grieves for the child she could have held to her breast,
To single moms running out of formula, patience, yet doing their best,
To the women treated no better than mere chattel,
the poor women who have no say,
They all need friends to be there for them; to care, to help, and pray
and make a way
For them to live on, healthy, fed, supported and free -
"Please help us, Oh God, to be a Friend indeed to those in need."*

LARLA Member

Trudy Lynn Chittick, April 2003



Over 3500 Pro-life Marchers were in Ottawa this year for the March for Life. Over half of the crowd were youth! Twenty two M.P.'s as well as clergy, addressed the thousands gathered on the Hill. Many Knights of Columbus in full regalia also marched for life.

Family Walk for Life 2003

This year's Walkathon on May 31, had a terrific turnout of walkers and volunteers even though the rain came down the entire morning. We had about 200 walkers which approximately doubled last year's attendance. I want to take this time to thank all you participants for coming out and being so supportive.

I would like to thank the following coordinators as well: Marian Obeda, who was our registration coordinator, Marius Vandenburg, who organized our barbecue following the Walk, John and Marianne Littleton, who organized our crossing guards and oversaw everyone's safety, and Debbie and Paul Normand, who organized our checkpoints. Thanks to all...you made my job so much easier. On behalf of myself and the London Area Right to Life Association, I would like to say thank you for supporting us again and for helping in the fight to protect the rights of the unborn and the elderly.

Thanks to all your hard work, we raised an amazing \$22,000 to date! Way to go!!

We thank those who donated items or services for our Walkathon. The water helped quench the thirst of our walkers, while the walkie-talkies made it easier for our Coordinator to keep in contact with the Crossing Guards and Check-Point Volunteers. The pastries, ice-cream and hot-dogs at the end of the walk, were enjoyed by all. Please support our sponsors for helping to make our Walkathon a success.

Spectrum Communications Purowave Water Products
79 Wellington Rd., London 43 Baseline Rd. W., London
(519) 663-0753 www.purowave.on.ca

Kellogg Canada Inc. Nestles of Canada
100 Kellogg Lane, London 980 Wilton Grove Rd., London
(519) 455-9660 (519) 686-0182



After the Walk charming Hot Dog Munchers



Bishop Peter Fabbro and 2 walkers Sarah Wills (obtained \$800 in pledges) and her friend Olga Mogor.



Fr. Joseph Devereaux and 2 young pro-lifers



MP Pat O'Brien and Bishop Peter Fabbro cut the rubbon to start the Walk.



Pastor Andrew Plumridge (centre) with Norm Bordage (r) and friend

Our Dinner/Silent Auction/AGM – Good food/Good fun

This year, at St. Justin's Parish Hall, two hundred pro-lifers gathered at the Right to Life Dinner/Silent Auction - a great success thanks to everyone's participation and enthusiasm. As Marian Obeda had made the decision to step down from the position of President, Phil Arnsby stepped up to the plate at our Annual General Meeting and is now our new President. Bravo and God's blessings, Phil. Meanwhile, John van Gelderen won the Jim Jepson Award for his willingness to give his time and talent for life. God bless you, John!

Congratulations go to Steve and Connie Sylvain for taking on the huge task of booking the hall and organizing the dinner and serving team. A special thanks to the Knights of Columbus for graciously cooking our dinner, especially to Augustino and Connie Vescio. And thanks to the many volunteers (CWL, youth and others from the parish) for serving.

Our dynamic guest speaker was Fr. Tom Lynch, Dean of Students and of Studies at St. Augustine Seminary, Toronto. He challenged us to go beyond, to become beggars for Christ. He encouraged us to invite professional people to join us and to aim for the day when we will have more paid staff to be able to be more effective and consistent in our work. He also encouraged us to reach out to those of other faiths who are pro-life and that we need to train and support young people to be activists. Fr. Lynch ended his encouraging talk with, "The work we do is truly essential work. It may not seem like it when we are organizing the annual Dinner,

Walkathons, March for Life buses, Life Chain, etc. but through Jesus, the ordinary is turned into the extraordinary. If your work has saved one life, then you have saved the world."



LARLA
Secretary
Elaine Arnsby
Co-ordinator
of
Dinner/Silent
Auction



Treasurer Alan Schmitt expresses our thanks to Marian Obeda for serving as president.



John Van Gelderen accepts the Jim Jepson Award



Our Office Co-ordinator
Margarida Andre
recognizes volunteers



Fr. Tom Lynch
Our Guest Speaker

MANY THANKS TO THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED ITEMS/SERVICES FOR OUR 'SILENT AUCTION'. PLEASE PATRONIZE THEM AND THANK THEM FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION

A&B Your Party Rental Centre
1930 Hyde Park Rd.
471-7492

Angelo's Bakery & Deli
755 Wonderland Rd. N.
473-7772

Animal Care Centre
(Gertie Dieleman)
5592 Egremont Dr.,
R.R. #1, Ilderton
666-1632

Argyle Flowers
1980 Dundas St. E.
455-7120

The Beer Store
(Craig Langley)
1600 Dundas St.
455-6410

The Beer Store
Richmond at Fanshawe
850-9800

Brunswick Huron Bowl
1062 Adelaide St.
433-0681

But Is It Art?
Masonville Mall
663-9956

Canadian Linen and
Uniform Service
155 Adelaide St. S.
686-5000

Canadian Tire Store
50 North Centre Rd.
(Fanshawe Park Rd)
660-6222

Creation Book Store
980 Oxford Street E.
659-2610

Delta Impressions
("Made in Canada" baby print)
1-800-263-3582

Domino's Pizza
473-0046

Double Decker Bus Tours
City of London

East Park Golf Gardens
1275 Hamilton Rd.
451-2950

4 th Birdz Birdhouses
and Birdfeeders
(Herman Van Dyke)
455-7562

Fleetway Bowl
720 Proudfoot Lane
472-9310

Great West Steak House
240 Waterloo St.
438-4149

Health Network
121 Oxford St. E. (at Talbot)
433-7400

Herbal Magic
Argyle Mall
451-4558

Heritage Country Gardens
6867 Wellington St. S.
(past Regina Mundi)

Huron County Playhouse
(Bill Creighton)
519-638-5511

Idlewyld Inn
36 Grand Ave.
433-2891

Japan Camera Centre
Masonville Mall
660-6270

Jeffrey Restaurant Group
Oscar Taylor's, T.J. Baxter's,
Rockwater's

Joe Kool
595 Richmond St.
663-5665

Jumbo Video
1080 Adelaide St. N.
439-8660

Kingsmill's
130 Dundas St.
432-7111

Labatt Brewing Co.
150 Simcoe St.
663-5050

Lover's at Work
Office Furniture
200 Adelaide St. S.
681-2254

Madlyn's Diner
(Madlyn McGorman)
377 Huron St., Stratford

Michael's on the Thames
1 York St.
672-0111

The Mustard Seed
(Pauline)
502 Springbank Dr.
439-4423

Nash Jewellers
(John Nash)
1690 Richmond St. N.
663-1110

Nothers
323 Horton St. E.
663-9440

Nova H.V.A.C. Systems
(Dan Drankowsky)
1805 Whitney St.
457-6787

Palasad & La Fiamma
775 Adelaide St. N.
(Oxford & Adelaide)

That Party Place
551 York St.
433-0128

Peaceful Dove (Natalia)
677 Hamilton Rd.
659-0592

Portuguese Gift Shop
366 Hamilton Rd.
433-0707

Premium Pork (Canada) Inc.
(Herman Lansink)
34694 Richmond St., Lucan
227-0262

Reflections Pictures
Plus Framing (Wilf)
99 Oakside St. (Oxford St.)
452-1341

Rogers Video
1030 Adelaide St.
645-2171

Sacred Heart Bookstore
(Brian & Nikki Cook)
23179 Richmond St., Birr
666-3600

Saturn, Saab, Isuzu of London
(Audrey Collins)
940 Wharnccliffe Rd. S.
686-3754

Sunoco Station
580 Fanshawe Park Rd.
660-6003

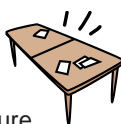
Swish Gordon
540 Admiral Dr.
659-2101

TSC Hardware
Wharnccliffe & Wonderland Rd.
Lambeth - 652-6492

Tuckey Home Hardware
136 Wortley Rd.
432-7683

Wharnccliffe Plymouth Chrysler
(Pat Kennedy)
590 Wharnccliffe Rd. S.
686-1988

The Wine Region of Colio Estate
(Laura Wieske)
Adelaide & Fanshawe (Sobey's)
645-6613



Thanks to the following individuals for their donations for the Auction

Angela Arnsby
Phil & Elaine Arnsby
Caroline Baker
Sharon Barrick
Willie De Shutter
Sherry DoironPatrick & Joan Duffy
Betsy Grimminck
Sheila Howard
Marie Mowat
Portuguese Baptist Church
Angie Ryan
Sister Mary Williams
St. Pius X Ladies
Chris Vander Vloet
John & Rita van Gelderen

We also thanks all those who so generously bid on the goods and service items in our auction. Together we raised \$3,600! What a blessing...Praise Him!

Elaine Arnsby

Amazing Life

God shows us his mercy and blessings everyday. This has been especially evident in the almost 14 year life of Sara Louise Ansell. She was conceived despite lab testing suggesting this was not possible, and born full term at 6 lbs. 6 oz. and went home the following day with the only concern being a slightly underdeveloped small finger. At one month, she developed a fever and was sent to Emergency, where many tests including a lumbar puncture were performed, and it was concluded she had a heart murmur. Subsequent ultrasounds showed two ventricular septal defects (holes in the heart) and a patent ductus arteriosus, which would require ligation. She was showing signs of congestive heart failure and was placed on Digoxin and a diuretic, but failed to thrive. Breastfeeding had to be discontinued so they could establish how many ounces she was consuming each day. By four months, she was readmitted to hospital for further investigations and they discovered she had Dandy-Walker Syndrome, the main component of which is hydrocephalus. Doctors predicted a 75% chance of physical and mental disability. Surgery had to be performed to place a shunt to relieve this condition despite her weak heart. She continued to take in insufficient nutrition and a nasogastric tube became necessary. Feedings had to be every 1 ½ hours, with each feeding taking about half an hour. This had to be kept up 24 hours a day, and was very exhaustive, especially since Sara had a 1 ½ year old brother and 3 ½ year old sister. Many problems with the shunt leaking required repeated visits at the Emergency Department, and eventual manual pumping around the clock with Sara being maintained in an inclined position at all times. By nine months the shunt failed completely and Sara stopped breathing. Staff managed to resuscitate her despite seizure difficulty and a new shunt was placed. At ten months she was finally big enough to have the heart surgery. She continued on the nasogastric tube until she was 16 months old.. A wonderful nurse in our congregation named Anna supported our family as we had no local relatives and a regular babysitter could not look after the specialized feedings. One hole healed up by God's grace and the other has remained small enough to require no medication. Her small size required investigation by an endocrinologist but we decided against growth hormone treatment.

On Sara's fifth birthday she was in hospital being treated for meningitis, and once again recovered. She has had an active life, being an avid soccer player and runner. She competes in Cross Country and Track and Field, and placed 6th in the most recent district finals in 1500 m., finishing in 5 min. 42 sec. She had been doing well academically. She has also been active at church,

attending Sunday School, singing in choir, participating in Youth, helping with VBS, and last November was confirmed a month after the rest of her class, as she had undergone three shunt replacements, one being on the day her class was confirmed. Her heart rate had plummeted into the 20's and medication was required to bring it up while we awaited surgery. Her brother sat by her side and continually roused her and insisted she keep breathing when the rate dipped very low.

Sara has participated in the Right to Life walkathon for many years, and when she was tired when she was little, Pastor Bode gave her a ride on his shoulders to give her a rest. I believe God gives us miracles to help strengthen our faith, and we can see them in the lives of those we love. Life is a precious gift, and praise be to Him that we have the hope of eternal life in heaven.

Iris Ansell



Good News on Stem Cells from Alliance for Life Conference in Guelph June 13 and 14, 2003

Guest Speaker was **Dr. Clem Persaud – Vancouver microbiologist, author of “My Baby Saved My Life” – the promise of umbilical cord stem cell therapy.**

Embryonic stem cell research can be compared to doctors in Nazi Germany who justified experimentation on human beings who were slated by the Nazis for eventual extermination - “Why not use them to help our brothers in the trenches?”

To date there has been no success stories with embryonic stem cell research. **Note the success and hope for success with adult and human umbilical cord blood stem cells:**

1998 – Sickle Cell Anemia was cured with cord blood stem cells (not the patient’s own)

Nov. 2001 – damaged brain cells in a patient were repaired with cord blood stem cells.

2001 – Pittsburgh – a boy, who suffered from a blood disorder and cancer of the eye, had already lost one eye. He was successfully treated with stem cell therapy to correct the blood disorder and the cancer was cured as well. His other eye was saved, as was his life. His own umbilical cord blood was used.

2002 – Montreal – a woman with leukemia was cured through stem cell therapy using her own baby’s cord blood that she had had banked.

ALS has been treated in B.C. with cord blood stem cells.

M.S. treated with stem cell therapy went into full remission. Researchers used a discovery of “younger” stem cells in cord blood that requires no matching with patients. It looks very promising.

From Lifesite Daily News, June 12, 2003 – also promising is a person’s own stem cells. A Pennsylvania man has been treated for damaged heart with stem cells isolated and grown from a biopsy of his skeletal thigh muscle. A person’s body is far less likely to reject his/her own stem cells.

Cord Blood Banks:

Mt. Sinai in Toronto - private Markham - private

Alberta - public B.C. - private

e-mail addresses - medlineplus.nlm

parentsguidecordblood.com

Biomark International is a pro-life research centre - “We are pro-life”

Dr. Chris Goddard of B.C. – (888-7836) counsels on stem cell therapy.

To use the public blood bank, ask for a “blood bag” to be sent to the hospital in your community. Give a one-month or more lead-time.

Phil & Elaine Arnsby

“Roe” of “Roe v. Wade” files motion to re-open landmark abortion case

Over 1000 women testify to devastating consequences of abortion (Lifesite News)

Dallas, June 17th, 2003 – Norma McCorvey, the former “Roe” of “Roe v. Wade”, the U. S. Supreme Court case that legalized abortion, is filing an historic motion to re-open her case and request that it be overturned. The filing is based on changes in law and factual conditions since the high court handed down its decision 30 years ago.

As a party to the original litigation, Norma McCorvey may petition the court to re-open the original case based on changes in factual conditions and /or changes in law that make the prior decision “no longer just” said Allan E. Parker Jr., lead attorney for the Texas-based Justice Foundation.

The motion attacks the judgment that was first entered exactly 33 years ago today by the Dallas Federal Court. McCorvey is asking that the judgment in the original Roe case be set aside.

“I long for the day that justice will be done and the burden from all of these deaths will be removed from my shoulders”, McCorvey said. “I want to do everything in my power to help women and their children. The issue is justice for women, justice for unborn, and justice for what is right”.

The U. S. Supreme Court has overturned its own precedents using Rule 60(b)(5) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure (Rule 60), most recently in the 1997 decision of *Agostini v. Felton*. In that case, the high court used a post-judgment motion by a party to overturn two of its own 12-year old precedents.

CONTRACEPTIVE LINK TO CERVICAL CANCER NOW IN THE LANCET

LONDON, April 30, 2003 (LifeSiteNews.com) As reported by LifeSite on April 4, a new study from Oxford University provides what it calls “irrefutable” proof that the likelihood of developing cervical cancer increases with the use of the contraceptive pill. The study is now published in *The Lancet* 2003 Vol 361 pp. 1159-67 and included in a joint literature review conducted by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (Lyon, France), the Cancer Research UK Epidemiology Unit (Oxford UK), the Institute of Cancer Research (Sutton, Surrey) and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (London).

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

BILLINGS METHOD - Call Sheila Howard (519) 455-6512

NAPRO TECHNOLOGY - Call Mary Ann Millar (519) 354-0265

CANADA MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS, ALZHEIMER SOCIETY AND HEART AND STROKE GROUPS FUND DESTRUCTIVE EMBRYO RESEARCH

Other groups which LifeSite has reported as supporting embryonic stem cell research include: The Canadian Cancer Society, Parkinson Society of Canada, Muscular Dystrophy Association, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, and The Arthritis Society.

See Multiple Sclerosis Society statement from their website: <http://www.mssociety.ca/en/involved/socialact/StemCellResearch.htm>

See the HSFC website admitting funding for embryo research and fetal tissue research: http://www.hsf.ca/research/guidelines/guide03_e.pdf

See former LifeSite coverage noting the support for embryo research by the other organizations listed: <http://www.lifesite.net/ldn/2002/mar/02030501.htm1>

See the ASC policy statement on Stem Cell research: <http://www.alzheimer.ca/english/society/policies-stemcell.htm>

