



LONDON AREA  
RIGHT TO LIFE ASSOCIATION INC.  
**NEWSLETTER**

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A London Pro-Life Newsletter

September 2003 VOL. 37, NO. 4

**NEW OR CONTINUED  
MEMBERSHIPS TO  
LARLA**

Have you paid your yearly membership yet? See the last page of this newsletter. Thank you.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Please mark on your calendar - participate and pray

**Sept. 26 – 27 Ilderton Fair**

- Pro-life table (Bonnie Van Lanen)
- On the Fair grounds in Ilderton

**Oct. 5 Life Chain, 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

- City wide silent prayerful witness
- Come at 2:15 p.m.
- Coordinator, Phil Arnsby, requires help. Call ASAP @ 660-4403

**Nov. 6 – 8 National Pro-Life Conference**

- Edmonton, Alberta
- WestJet Flight Discounts
- 1-877-880-5433
- Program at LARTL office

**Dec. 28 Mass for the Unborn**

- Saturday, 9 a.m.
- St. Peter's Basilica, London
- Celebrant - Bishop Ronald Peter Fabbro
- Organizer, Steve Sylvain @ 686-2535

**The last Thursday of Every Month**

- Prayerful Pro-life witness, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
- LHDC Westminster Campus at Wellington and Commissioners
- Organizer, John Bulsza @ 657-9009

**President's Message – Phil Arnsby**

Welcome Back! Hopefully most of you will have had an opportunity over the summer to participate in family events or to get away to that favourite place. Even the Lord took time away to pray and rest. My wife, Elaine, and I had a short travel break and two weeks of pro-life activism on the streets of Quebec and Toronto. We joined the ranks of about forty others witnessing and counselling while distributing over 15,000 pieces of information concerning abortion, its consequences, and where help is available.

Back on the home front, Marian Obeda has organized the LARLA Western Fair booth that a number of pro-life volunteers manned from Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for being witnesses for the sanctity of life to so many! Anne Clark, the elementary school pro-life co-ordinator, is appealing for volunteers to assist with the approximately 90 presentations to be made in that program. Orientation and "Come and See" gatherings are coming soon. See the enclosed details.

**Our yearly Life Chain is happening on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Please mark that date on your calendar today.** The Life Chain is a silent, prayerful chain of pro-lifers which stretches across 32 blocks, from the University of Western Ontario gates to Commissioners Rd. in London South. Sunday is the Lord's Day and also a family day, we know it may be your only day off, we understand it is often tough to make adjustments to your schedule, but please consider changing your plans and stand (or bring a chair and sit) for the innocent ones.

Why do we bother? Isn't the taking of pre-born babies' lives likely to continue in two of you London Hospitals? The answer is, simply, we can never stop opposing evil. If we don't object to these killings which continue daily, who will? Jesus asked Peter in the Garden of Gethsemane, "Could you not stay awake with me for even one hour?" I urge you to spend one hour with us along with the other 900 Life Chains across North America witnessing against the unspeakable carnage, and **praying for an end to legalized abortion. All things are possible with God!**

The struggle for life is in desperate need of your prayers. Please consider placing the enclosed prayer card on your fridge or night table and use it daily to appeal for the Lord's Divine Intervention. Your few minutes of heart-felt prayer can make a huge difference.

## Office Report

*By Margarida Andre, Office Coordinator*

At the time of this writing our Western Fair is coming to a close. **There will be no one at the office this afternoon because there are no volunteers available to keep it open, with all the activities at the Fair.** Let me first apologize to you, for not being clearer in my last office report about our serious need.

**We are looking for dedicated people, who may have 6 hours to offer per month, yes, that's right, it's no typo; 6 hours per month! You could help the pro-life cause with just 3 hours every 2 weeks!**

I realize we are all busy; this is not about who has an abundance of free time, I know most of us don't! This is about using our gifts, our talents as a sacrifice for the pro-life cause. How much better would we be if we all could sacrifice a little bit of our time for this sacred cause! Unfortunately, since I work part-time and am raising three children while my husband works shift work, it's not possible for me to stay the whole day, although I have done it at times.

**New volunteers will assist me with office tasks and after a familiarization period, would work independently – normally from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.**

There are many rewards in serving. The most important is that we can make a difference to someone, sometime. One kind act or a bit of knowledge for a visitor in our office may go a long way, and perhaps even save a life! This is what we could be missing if we close our office down for the afternoons. This must not happen; this task is too precious, too sacred, and too important to be ignored. It will take sacrifice, dedication and commitment, but we must go on faith, and use whatever we've been given for the benefit of our unborn, the most defenceless of all.

Most of our Board members are involved with LARLA's activities such as LIFE CHAIN, WALKATHON, WESTERN FAIR, NEWSLETTER PREPARATION, PRO-LIFE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHING, etc.

Without them, these events would not happen, and they need help as every year it seems like volunteers are becoming scarcer – while the pro-choice side is thriving! It seems like we have grown weary of this fight through the years! But we must press on toward the goal. We are beginning to see results of what action can do in U.S. People there have a more pro-life attitude now, than they've had in the last 30 years! That's a direct result of action and commitment by the pro-life groups and their volunteers. We all want the same for our own country, but we must sacrificially, unconditionally surrender ourselves to this cause, and then let's catch our breath and praise God for the results that our actions will bring. Thanks very much to those who have already come forward to volunteer in various areas. May God bless you for your stand!

Let's remind ourselves that ALL THAT IS REQUIRED FOR EVIL TO PROSPER IS FOR GOOD MEN TO DO NOTHING!

I pray that God touches your heart with a new-found conviction to action!

## Life Issues at the UN

*By Samantha Singson*

Even though I am pro-life and even though I majored in International Relations, I will always be the first to admit that I never imagined how these two things would intersect. Ever since I started working full-time for the pro-life movement in 2001, however, my experiences at the United Nations as a lobbyist have shown me that these two subjects are

very closely connected and have further reinforced my belief that without the basic understanding and respect for life – from the very moment of conception – there can be no real development, no true freedom and no human dignity.

One might not think it, but life issues are at the forefront of every major discussion at the UN. UN conferences are held on a variety of subjects including: the environment, food, population, women, children, education, health and development. While these subjects are diverse in scope, they all revolve around the needs of the human person.

At a typical UN conference, technical experts gather in a conference room and discuss the problems and are charged with the task of finding solutions that diplomats can carry back home. **It is my job, in conjunction and solidarity with other pro-lifers from around the world, to remind the experts and diplomats that the primary responsibility is to protect and promote fundamental human rights and freedoms – the most basic of which is the right to life. In an environment such as the UN, where groups that regard people and overpopulation as the root cause of all the world's ills, the need for pro-life advocates is great.**

You, too, can help. Here are some concrete ways that you can get involved and how you can make your pro-life voice heard:

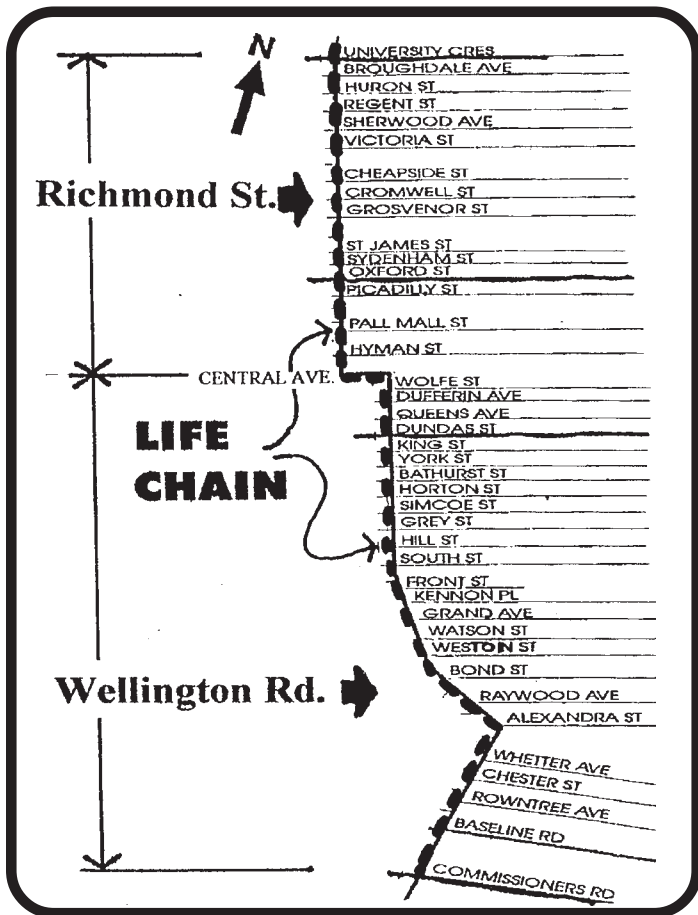
- 1) Write to the Minister of Foreign Affairs to express your concerns that your pro-life views are not being adequately represented by the representatives of Canada to the UN.
- 2) Join organizations that directly work at the UN. Representatives from groups such as the World Youth Alliance and Campaign Life Coalition are consistently present at all major UN meetings and speak personally to diplomats about respecting life.

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*Samantha Singson is the International Affairs Officer for Campaign Life Coalition. Just after sending this note to us she left to go to the UN for the next month. We will ask her for a report when she returns. Please pray for her in her very challenging work.*



# HELP SAVE MOMS AND BABIES FROM THE HORRORS OF ABORTION



## Life chain

**Sunday  
October 5, 2003  
2:30 - 3:30 p.m.**

Your Location:

on Stand with your church (see church bulletin board)  
*(or bring a chair and sit)*

at Or participate in the location of your choice

**\*Please arrive by 2:15 p.m.**

London Area Right to Life Association  
**(519) 659-3334**



**If not YOU  
than who?  
If not NOW,  
than when?**

**JOIN US FOR THIS HOUR  
OF PRAYER**

## Western Fair 2003

Have you been to the Western Fair this year? Have you visited the Right to Life booth? Perhaps you have even sat at the booth and talked with those who have stopped to watch our video, look at our display of fetal models or see what pamphlets we had on display... It is always an interesting experience, as one can see by reading the notes that the volunteers sometimes write. We have had people who will make a point of bringing their children over to see the fetal models, pointing out to them what they looked like before they were born, or how big the baby in Mommy's "tummy" is, etc.

Unfortunately, there are also those parents whose little ones want to come to see the display or want a balloon but are not allowed. One parent was heard to say as she pulled her children away and not allowing them to have a balloon, "You don't want anything from them – they don't believe in abortion". How sad!! However, for the most part, we get very few negative comments, and people stop to tell us that they are happy to see us there and to encourage us to keep up the good work.

We offer a 'feet' pin to each expectant mother. Others may have them for a donation of \$2.00. We have pamphlets on prenatal development, abortion and it's aftermath, chastity, and euthanasia, and we also offer bookmarks. People can buy a membership or make a donation if they wish.

This is our 31<sup>st</sup> year at the Fair. We are fortunate to have people who volunteer to coordinate a day – to find volunteers to sit at the booth. This year, we had about 80 people who spent time talking to visitors to the booth. With no age limit for our helpers, we have senior citizens, young and middle aged adults, teenagers, and sometimes even preteens with their moms or dads. The length of time varies from 2, 3, to 4 hours, or some prefer a whole day! We thank them

all for their time and dedication to promoting the sanctity of life and wish all who came by our booth God's blessings.

*Marian Obeda and Grace Van Galen displaying the London Western Fair plaque for 30 years of LARLA participation at the Fair.*



## Volunteers needed -Elementary School Pro-Life Program

The Elementary School Pro-Life Program is looking for new volunteers. This programme is a joint effort of the London District Catholic School Board and the London Area Right to Life Association. Volunteers visit classrooms to deliver a pro-life Pro-program to grade 5/6 or 7/8 students at Catholic Schools in the London area. The 5/6 program explores the wonder of life in the womb as well as the uniqueness and value of all human beings. The 7/8 program discusses pro-life issues, chastity, and the Sacraments. All teaching materials and training are provided. Please consider sharing this very important and positive pro-life message with young people by contacting Sandra Roche at 652-9951 or Sharon Weston at 472-2038.



### *What students have to say:*

- I learned a lot and I hope every school in London has the opportunity to hear your presentation because it is a very important topic. *Grade 7 student*
- I took it as a compliment that you thought us mature enough to participate in such a serious presentation. *Grade 8 student*
- You opened my eyes! *Grade 8 student*

### *What Teachers / Parents Have to Say:*

- The presenter was extremely knowledgeable and presented answers in a very sensitive manner. The topics covered were most appropriate and integrated very well with our Family Life program. Thank you! *Grade 5 teacher*
- One of the most worthwhile presentations my students have been a part of. It was an excellent presentation of sensitive issues. *Grade 7 teacher*
- The presentation was well organized and effectively presented. The video and the handouts were very appropriate. The students were well engaged for the whole presentation. *Grade 7/8 teacher*
- A student's mother phoned a principal to say what a positive experience it was for their family. The said it stimulated all kinds of discussion and helped to make decisions for life. *Grade 8 student's mother*

*Neal and Grace VanGalen at the Western Fair booth along with some young pro-lifers.*

*Doing what is right can be difficult at times.  
When it means going without a job for three years, it can severely test anyone's faith,  
as a young pharmacist discovered.*

## 'I was not a man with clean hands'

Receiving his degree in pharmacy from Queen's University, Belfast, Ireland in 1987, Patrick McCrystal worked at his profession for about 7 years.

Up to 1993, he had always explained to his employers that he would not dispense the 'morning after' pill, and they had respected his decision. Now he was required to sell it. At the same time, he knew from his training that all the contraceptive pills and devices had an in-built abortive mechanism – they were designed to cause an early, chemical abortion if they failed to prevent conception.

It took him three months of intense discussion and reflection to reach a decision. The verse from Psalms, "He who has clean hands and a pure heart, and desires not worthless things, ascends the mountain of the Lord", had a big influence on him. "I knew as I sold those pills I was not a man with clean hands."

At age 29, Patrick decided he would hand in his notice rather than dispense these drugs again. Then began three years in which his strong Christian faith was severely tested. During these years he heard every possible reason to justify the dispensing of the drugs. Being honest with his employers on his stance, he received no job offers.

Between interviews, he read everything that was written about contraception in the scientific journals. **"I found what I had always suspected, that all the pills and injections and drugs and IUDs can cause an early abortion. In a certain percentage of cases ovulation does occur and a woman may become pregnant. She doesn't realise this has happened because the backup mechanism in the pill causes an early chemical abortion. It prevents the new human being from implanting in her womb."**

### Ethical problems

During this time, Patrick's paper on the ethical problem of dispensing abortive drugs was published in one of the main pharmacy journals in Britain, *Chemist & Druggist*. It caused a stir in the profession. Most of the letters and phone calls he received were in support, and a number of pharmacists gave up dispensing the abortive pills.

In 1995, he was invited to the Scottish pharmacists annual conference to debate whether pharmacists

should be selling abortive drugs or not. "Opposed by a family planning doctor and another pharmacist, both women, the debate raged for an hour and a half, in the presence of about 100 pharmacists. "Thanks to prayer and a lot of hard work, I managed to win the motion that we shouldn't dispense them."

### Women's anger

By speaking to women's groups, school groups, and so on, his experience is that women are most often angry that nobody has told them about the abortive nature of 'the pill'.

Unfortunately, very few doctors refuse to prescribe the pill for ethical reasons, "but I suspect that most of them know deep down that it's abortive," he says. "Pharmacists and doctors have a duty to inform women of all the side-effects of their drugs. The way natural family planning is ridiculed by the media and others is a great disservice to young women."

In March 1997, Patrick was asked by Human Life International to be director of their Irish operation. HLI "defends the sanctity of human life from fertilisation to natural death, and works to uphold the dignity of marriage and family".



*Today, Patrick McCrystal is the Executive Director of Human Life International, Dublin, Ireland.*

In Canada, Director Mike Izzotti of Pharmacists for Life International is an excellent source for information regarding pharmaceuticals and their side effects. Please call (905)528-4828.

## How Can These People Show These Disgusting Images?

Fr. Frank Pavone,  
Director, Priests for Life, USA  
[www.priestsforlife.org/images](http://www.priestsforlife.org/images)

*"We have had a national debate on abortion for over 30 years. While abortion is the most common surgery in America, most Americans have never seen what it looks like. Once people do see it they can never forget."*



*Show the Truth - Toronto 2003*

### "But children shouldn't see these images"

Please note that our target audience is not children, but adults who do not realize how horrifying abortion is. Yet it is not possible to completely avoid having children see the images.

The problem of children being upset is a concern of ours, too. But the problem of children being dismembered is an even greater concern. We are faced with a situation in which stopping the killing involves upsetting the living. Which do you care more about?

Our activity here saves children's lives. Children may get upset, for example, when the sirens of fire engines, ambulances, or police cars come into their neighborhood. But we comfort them by explaining that people are being helped and lives are being saved. We have all had to explain hard things to our children, such as the events of September 11. The images themselves don't harm children, particularly when they have parents who take the time to answer their questions. In fact, we have had parents bring their children to participate in showing the images to the public! And the children do so with pride.

We believe in handling first things first. Let's stop the killing of our children by abortion. Then we can comfort the survivors.

### It's real

Some people question whether these images are real. These are actual photos of aborted babies who were either found in dumpsters at abortion clinics, or were aborted in facilities that allowed us to come in and photograph the remains. Medical doctors have authenticated the veracity of these images. See [www.priestsforlife.org/images](http://www.priestsforlife.org/images) to read their signed statements.

### It's historical

Social reform movements throughout history have used images to show people the injustice they were fighting. Those who stopped the slave trade showed pictures of the slave ships; those who reformed child labor laws showed pictures of the children in the factories and mines; civil rights leaders insisted that the public witness the brutality committed against Blacks. Disturbing pictures are likewise

used to dissuade children from crime, drunk driving, and smoking, or to educate them about the Holocaust. Other movements that use pictures include the animal rights, anti-war, anti-hunger, and environmentalist movements.

### It's legal

This activity is fully protected by the First Amendment.

### It's necessary

Why, you might ask, don't we use other methods to educate people? In fact, we do. We write, lecture, and have TV and radio programs. We go into schools, teach abstinence, and provide alternatives to abortion. But words alone cannot convey the horror of abortion. "Seeing is believing," and the ancient Chinese proverb states, "A picture paints ten thousand words." Right now, the public streets are about the only place where we can show people what an abortion is. Normally, schools, TV stations, newspapers, magazines, and churches will not allow these images to be shown.

### It works

People who see these images never feel the same about abortion again. These pictures save lives, convert minds and hearts, and break through the denial that allows abortion to continue in this country.

Here are some quotes:

"Thank you for making those graphics available. I used to think that I supported abortions, but after seeing those pics, I recognize what a fool I have been."

"Today, I saw your website with the photos of the aborted babies and wept. I have always been anti-abortion ... However, like many of the uninformed masses, abortion was something abstract, impersonal yet immoral. Your website has changed my view of abortion forever."

"I really, really, really want to thank you for showing the pictures on abortions. I'm 34 years old and I've never seen pictures of babies that have been aborted. It's a possible chance that I may be pregnant, but at first I said I already have three children and I don't need another one! Abortion was on my fiancé's and on my mind. ...If I am still pregnant, this baby I will have. Now I can show him the pictures!"

## Good News Corner

# Miracle on a Hot Humid Day

By Grace Petrasek  
THE INTERIM

One hot, humid day last summer, Rosemary Connell, who drove two hours from her home north of Toronto to picket at a downtown Toronto abortuary, wondered why she was doing this. So often her efforts seemed futile and today was so hot. At the abortuary, while standing on the warm sidewalk, she noticed a man nearby, pacing nervously and smoking. Quietly, she approached him and asked, "Did you know that they kill babies in there but that they won't let you smoke?" Struck by the contradiction, he blurted out, "I brought my stepdaughter in there because her stepmother isn't a good mother." Seizing the moment, Rosemary, an experienced counselor and founder of the Canadian "Show the Truth" pro-life tours replied, "Look, none of us is a perfect mother but you're a grandfather now and you're the only one in this

situation who can protect and save this baby." Startled by her remark, he looked at her in surprise, stepped aside and puffed on his cigarette. Then he butted it, accepted her pro-life pamphlets and strode back in to the abortuary. Five minutes later, he strode out, alone, and anxious to talk.

Obviously troubled, he told Rosemary that he had borrowed money to drive the three day trip to Toronto for his stepdaughter's abortion; otherwise, she would have defiantly taken a bus alone to do so. "She's not an easy girl," he remarked. Responding to Rosemary's gentle approach, he told her that he was the chief of an Indian band in a northern reserve "and abortion goes against everything we believe in our culture." He confided that the night before in his hotel room, troubled by the idea of abortion; he prayed to God for a sign

whether or not to proceed. Then his face brightened and he turned to Rosemary exclaiming, "You are that sign." Rosemary was not sure. Then she turned around to see the stepmother and stepdaughter leaving the abortuary. They had changed their minds about the abortion, heeding the chief's advice when he entered the abortuary urging them to cancel it.

With her prayer answered, Rosemary assumed responsibility for the services in their northern area. In due time, Samara Marie Faith was born. Her grateful stepmother, now a grandmother, told Rosemary, "We couldn't imagine life without this baby."

For her faithful picketing on that hot humid day last summer, Rosemary reaped an unexpected reward - the miracle a baby's life saved from death by abortion.



### OTTAWA FAMILY RALLY

On August 22, 2003, 6,000 participants gathered for a pro-family rally in Ottawa. There was a peaceful walk through the streets of Ottawa which finished at Parliament Hill. The speakers there spoke emotionally in support of the traditional family and encouraged those present to let their government know that changing the definition of marriage was unacceptable.



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St. Michael Council #12820  
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# LONDON AREA RIGHT TO LIFE ASSOCIATION

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OFFICE HOURS: 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. July/August 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**MEMBERSHIP**

\$10/Person per year \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque Enclosed

\$25/Family/Group per year \_\_\_\_\_

Number of People \_\_\_\_\_

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

- YOUR TALENTS  Office  Computer  General  Other
- I WILL HELP  LARLA Office (mail-outs, reception, phone) ongoing
- As required (Circle) - Dinner/Silent Auction, Western Fair
- Prayer  Life Chain, Mall Displays, Schools

**DONATION** \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque Enclosed

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