

# Between FRIENDS

Winter 2018 NEWSLETTER

NUESTROS PEQUEÑOS HERMANOS



Friends of the Orphans  
CANADA

## Joy's Jots

Another Christmas letter on its way!

However, we are hoping that we can catch up with technology and cut postage costs by sending the future letters via email for those who have email addresses. And so, before the end of the year, we are hoping to make contact with all of our wonderful supporters to update our data base with some new information. Since we have our dear Margaret as our only employee most days, this will help her in her other duties.

Another move we are making is issuing a challenge as explained in our newly-elected president Andy Ross' address below. I, for one, will take his challenge and add on the extra money to each of my university-sponsored children!

And finally, we continue our projects in several countries coming up this winter of 2019. Please check out our projects in Mexico, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Bolivia and Peru. Because of some political unrest in Nicaragua, we have had to suspend our projects there until we have been cleared to go. If you know of a relative or friend who might enjoy these projects, have them contact any of our Country Coordinators or our office. What a great Christmas present, especially for the many children of our homes who will be excited to meet you!

All the best for the Christmas season and may 2019 be a landmark year for each of you!

*Joy King*

Photos from Pilot Project in South Africa (see article inside)



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well,...it's really more like President's Challenge, actually. For years, Friends has offered sponsorships for \$35 per month. This was the standard in order to make the same statement that most charities promote, "...for the cost of a cup of coffee a day...". When did you last buy a cup of coffee for \$1? I mean, one that didn't make you gag.

My first sponsorship started 11 years ago. If we assume an average inflation of 2.5% each of those years, I should raise my sponsorship to \$45.92 per month in order that we can provide the same level of support. Inflation is slowly eating away at the budgets that feed, shelter and educate the children. We should try to catch up.

I have volunteered to raise the sponsorship of each of my sponsored children to \$55 per month and I challenge each of you to follow me if you are able to, and to the level that you are able to. Our sponsor application form will still show the same \$35 because we are told that is the special number required to start new sponsors. Now that we have you started as a sponsor, I am applying this not-so-subtle pressure to raise your donation. I sure hope some of you are blessed enough to afford a better cup of coffee for yourself and have enough left to boost your sponsorship too.

Boosting your sponsorship is easy. Operators are standing by!...well,...actually, it's Margaret, Margaret is standing by! Just give her a call at 519-763-9560 or email her at [mblair@fotocan.org](mailto:mblair@fotocan.org).

Many thanks for your support: past, present and future, *Andy Ross*



392 Silvercreek Parkway N, Unit 3  
Guelph, ON N1H 1E7



t. (519)763-9560 or 1-844-393-3686  
[info@fotocan.org](mailto:info@fotocan.org) | [www.fotocan.org](http://www.fotocan.org)

# Between FRIENDS

## Special Story

### South Africa PILOT PROJECT BY JACKIE ZISTER

*This* past September, 15 volunteers travelled to South Africa to help out at Peggy's House, a small orphanage in the village of Paterson on the Eastern Cape. Peggy has been taking abandoned children into her home for the past couple of years and currently has eight children living with her. She has applied to be recognized as an official daycare/orphanage but she was required to have updates and changes within her home to comply with regulations for her endeavour. And that, is where our team came in.

We spent the first ten days cleaning and painting both the inside and outside of the house, purchasing and installing new kitchen cupboards, adding a hot water heater, repairing the fence around the property as well as purchasing and installing flooring, bunkbeds and wardrobes. We erected a wall to section off a space for an office and turned one room into a classroom. The older children attend a nearby school so we had limited time with them but enjoyed time spent with the younger children. Our team also hosted a soup kitchen at the home of one of the town elders for the seniors in the community many of whom tend to be overlooked. A few team members purchased supplies, made the soup and served it to the seniors as well as the children from Peggy's House and those from another daycare close by.

Our efforts were very much appreciated by Peggy and the children in the home and the team had a great time helping out! This was a "trial" project supported in part by FOTOCAN.



### Merry Christmas from the Office

This year has been an exciting year of ups and downs in our office and thankfully many more ups than downs. We are blessed to have many volunteers who come into our office and donate much of their time to stuffing envelopes for mailing, sorting through donated goods that have come in, or even just helping keep the office clean. If we started to name each one we would be sure to forget someone. We are grateful for every single person who helps and want each of you to know that you are appreciated more than we can say.

We saw our sponsorship coordinator Joanna Walker move on to the exciting position of preparing to become a first-time mom early this year and rejoice with her as she and husband James begin this new stage of their lives. We appreciate all of the hard work Joanna did as our Sponsorship Coordinator and wish her and her family much happiness in the future.

We now have two part-time people working in our office; Susan La Querre and Barbara Petty. Both of these ladies are tremendous assets and are helping us move towards refining some of the processes in our office so that we can better serve each of our donors.

We are looking forward to the New Year and know that as we continue to help make a difference in the lives of the children in our NPH homes, we are confident that you will continue to join with us in that work.

Thank you to each of our donors. We wish you a very blessed Christmas and pray that the year 2019 will be filled with further abundant blessings.

Margaret L. Blair

## IN MEMORIUM

This year we experienced the loss of some of our very wonderful donors. We would like to take this opportunity to recognize each one and show our appreciation for their part in the work of FOTOCAN over many years.

### *In Memory of JoAnna McLabe*

A very special young lady who was very involved in FOTOCAN as a high school student. She was involved in many fundraising events at St. James High School in Guelph. She participated in student projects as well as sponsored a child in Peru. Jo-Anna was a consistent fixture in our office helping out wherever and whenever needed. We miss her. A tree will be planted in Nicaragua during the next project session in memory of Jo-Anna.



### *In Memory of Betty Weiler*

Betty was a wonderful lady who was part of FOTOCAN from the very beginning in 1977. She was the Executive Director, Secretary, office staff and wore many other hats for FOTOCAN for many years. In 1998, Betty was honoured by N.P.H. upon the completion of twenty years of service.

Although Betty had long since given up all of the administrative tasks she had been doing, she still was very much involved in the organization. We could always see her smiling face at almost every annual general meeting. She showed her love and loyalty to FOTOCAN right up until this past year when at the age of 96 she would still drive herself to the office sometimes to just visit, drop off cards for her godchildren, or spend hours helping with a mailing. She was an amazing lady and she will be missed.



### *In Memory of Marion Hardy*

Marion was an incredible person who had a heart for FOTOCAN for many years. She was a sponsor/donor for a very long time. Marion would have her niece Patricia drive her to the office just so she could see how FOTOCAN had grown. She expressed her joy over the wonderful facility we now have and spent time reminiscing with the staff about the old days of FOTOCAN. She was a wonderful person. We will miss those visits. We are very grateful for the legacy Marion left us.



### *In Memory of Emma Lammerding*

We were saddened this year to lose a very special part of the beginning work of FOTOCAN in Emma Lammerding. Emma and her husband, Ewald, and their family spent many years working at NPH in Mexico in the 1970s. Farming was a very big part of what they were able to do for the home there and that farming has continued at NPH Mexico. We are thankful that Ewald continues to be a part of the work of FOTOCAN along with Anna his daughter. We pray that they will be strengthened in the coming year as the family adjusts to the loss of Emma.



## Our 40th Anniversary Celebration MEXICAN "CINCO DE MAYO" MEETING in May 2018



May 5 took on a fresh meaning this year with our annual general meeting to kick off our 40th anniversary celebration. The meal, the turn out and the company was fantastic. We were so privileged to have Father Rick Frechette to speak with us

about the latest in Haiti. Also on hand were some of our high school participants, a potpourri of silent auction items from countries visited this year and we welcomed two new board members, Steve Travale and Ginger Brunsdon.

Here is just a glimpse of the activity of the day!




✓ GET INVOLVED

[ABOUT](#) [DONATE](#) [PROJECTS](#) [LTV](#) [SPONSORS/ UNIVERSITY FUND](#) [NEWS](#) [EVENTS](#) [FAQ](#) [CONTACT](#)

## Check out our new website

We are still at [www.fotocan.org](http://www.fotocan.org) but we have a new look! We've also made some big improvements to make your search easier on our site. We have added easier methods of making donations to specific areas, an event calendar, an interactive blog, and online forms for easier submission.

Enjoy taking a look and we welcome any feedback. Remember we are also on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and hope to eventually add You Tube to our many media!

## Moving On

We want to say farewell, but not goodbye, to Terry Donaghy who was a significant part of FOTOCAN for many years and recently served as our president. Terry was an educator and principal in the Wellington Catholic School Board most of his career and retired a year ago. He led many student and adult groups to Guatemala. Terry is seeking new adventures but remains a coordinator for Guatemalan projects. All the best in your endeavours, Terry!

