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Meet Your FOTOCAN Board Member: Ken Speers

One of the longest-serving board members currently with us, Ken served as our president from 2007 to 2014. He has touched foot in every NPH home over the years, as leader, participant, and country coordinator, on countless projects. His great passion for charity work and his skills as a retired building manager for Watson's Home Hardware help him realize the complex details of any project. He has sponsored several children in the past and is well-known by the staff and children of the homes, especially in Bolivia, Nicaragua, and the Dominican Republic.

Ken's current focus is the farm team projects: one completed in Nicaragua and another starting up in the DR. These projects last between three to five years and serve to enhance the practices and funding of each home's current farm. He was instrumental in initiating the Ewald Lammerding Legacy Fund to honour Ewald Lammerding, a FOTOCAN past president, and valued contributor to NPH farming in Mexico, Honduras and Guatemala. Donations to this fund go directly toward the farm projects.



Please Update Your Newsletter Preferences

At FOTOCAN, we strive to be good stewards of our environment and your monetary donations to support the NPH homes and thousands of children in nine countries. We want to hear from you about your newsletter preferences. Let us know if you would like to continue receiving copies of our newsletter by mail, or if you would be happier to receive only the emailed version of Between Friends. Please call us at 519-763-9560, or email us at www.fotocan.org, to update your newsletter preferences.

A Fundraiser Thank You



We've tallied up the money raised from the plant sale and concert. We want to give special thanks to: Margot and Andy Uyl, who devoted countless hours growing and nurturing seeds to make the plant sale an actuality, the E-Z Streetband for their wonderful music, the organizers of the concert and silent auction, the Crooked Cue for hosting an amazing time, and everyone who came by either event to give their support!

Plant Sale:	\$8,979.30
E.Z. Street Band Concert	\$7,834.69

Combined we were able to raise \$16,813.99 for otherwise disadvantaged children, so thank you to everyone who offered their support to make these events a success!

Between FRIENDS

Fall 2022 NEWSLETTER

A Message from Our President



At Christmas we celebrate when God came to us as a child: pure innocence. Our gift-giving tradition re-enacts the gifts of the Magi to the child. Can you make room for one more gift? An extra gift to the children of our NPH homes? If you are able, please visit www.fotocan.org/Christmas-Campaign.htm, or contact our office to make an extra gift for sponsorship or other projects. It's one thing that you can do to make this troubled world a little bit better.

Experience the strength and the peace that comes from giving. Merry Christmas,
Andy Ross



From Our Office

2022 has been a year of moving forward from the pandemic, which has greatly impacted all of our lives these past years. While this has been a very difficult time for many people, it's been extremely challenging for our NPH homes. The staff at each home has met the challenges with the utmost dedication.

During a time when everything seemed to be standing still, we were encouraged to move forward. The work involved has been significant: including new computer implementations, mapping new drives, and more. It has been very productive! At this time of year, anticipating the Christmas season, we contemplate the love of God, in the gift of the Holy Child, a sign of promise for all Christians. Through each and every faith, we can look forward to 2023 with

hope and excitement, as we all experience what we trust will be a more "normal" environment.

We want to thank each and every donor who has consistently supported the work of Friends of the Orphans Canada. Your sacrificial giving to meet the needs of each child in the care of NPH is appreciated more than words can express.

We would like to wish each of our donors a very blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year,

Barbara Petty & Margaret Blair



Return of In-Country Projects

Getting Ready for Peru



Winter 2023 is bringing a lot of hope, promise of great things, and of course: group projects! There's time and a few spots left to jump on board the Peru Crew 2023! Our focus, as always, is to deepen our connection with the kids, but we'll sweat a bit and check off items on their wish list too!

NPH Peru made the best of being 'quarantined' during 2020 and 2021; they added an acreage of crops, pigs, chickens, guinea pigs, and goats. They plan to add a fenced area to keep beef

and milking cows, which will be one of our main projects while we are there. With your help, they will be well on their way toward being a truly self-sustained home.

If you are able to join us January 27th to February 10th in 2023, please reach out to Traci (traciblair16@gmail.com), Andy Ross (aross@bmross.com), or Margaret Blair (info@fotocan.org), as soon as possible to book your spot! If you are unable to join us, we are happy to chat about other ways you can support this project.



Journeying to the Dominican Republic

In anticipation of returning to our in-country projects in February, five souls braved the Pearson airport to fly down to San Pedro de Macoris to jump start our farm team. Success in Nicaragua before COVID caused us to embark on another three-to-five-year commitment to assist the DR home to beef up their farm. There's a lot to do in two separate locations: including building animal shelters, planting seeds, providing irrigation, revamping the pottery workshop, and buying a new tractor.

The Canadians who visited this past September are in constant contact with the farm managers at the home to update the coming projects they want us to tackle. We're looking for anyone interested in helping us to help



them. Contact Joy King (jking@fotocan.org), Ken Speers (kspeers@fotocan.org), or Margaret Blair (info@fotocan.org) to join our team or to receive more information about this project. Please donate to the Ewald Lammerding Legacy Fund, found at www.fotocan.org, if you wish to support us financially.

A Merry Christmas in all of Our NPH Homes

Some of us have witnessed first-hand the reappearance of stockings and Christmas cards in January and March and June and October. They're pulled, by little hands, out of cubbies and shoeboxes. We've listened to our pequeños speak excitedly about their sponsors, past holidays, big dinners, and programs. Christmas is a special time marked by gifts, celebrations of mass, and joy around our community table.

Please join us in sponsoring a merry Christmas for all of our children in all of our NPH homes. We invite you to contribute in any way that you can, with a donation that will go directly towards scrumptious meals, filled stockings, and presents for our pequeños. This year, we are suggesting that \$2.50 will provide a Christmas meal for one



pequeño, and that \$12.50 will fill a stocking. We are also encouraging donations towards gifts of board games, art supplies, and sports gear, that can be enjoyed by whole houses of young people.

Any gift, in any amount, is appreciated, and will go a long way. Visit www.fotocan.org/Christmas-Campaign.htm to make this Christmas more wonderful. It is donors like you that make this season merry, and all seasons bright, for otherwise disadvantaged children in nine countries. They thank and wish you a very merry Christmas.

Together on Christmas



Through NPH's OneFamily program, families such as Glenda's can stay together on Christmas. Glenda is a single mother working in El Salvador. She has three children: Gisela, Mike, and Murial. Balancing work and family is a struggle on one's own, but NPH's OneFamily program is here to support her! Her children are able to go to school through NPH scholarship programs. The youngest siblings, Mike and Murial, go to NPH's own

school, while Gisela, the oldest, goes to a public high school on an NPH scholarship.

Christmas traditions in El Salvador include gift exchanges and special dinners with friends and family. A popular dish is "panes con gallina" which is bread and chicken. Glenda and her family don't share their country's typical Christmas dinner; they prefer delicious food that they don't normally get like tacos and barbecue. One year, Gisela learned how to prepare pizza at an NPH bakery workshop, so the family enjoyed homemade pizza together for Christmas. On Christmas Eve they wake up and clean the house, while Glenda goes to buy little gifts. They eat together and end the festivities with a special prayer accompanied by hugs.

You can keep families together for the holidays by donating to the OneFamily program through www.fotocan.org

