

Journey with a Life Member-----Donna Bates

Donna Bates received her Life Membership in National Council in 2004.

Donna joined the League in the 1970’s following payment of her \$2.00 membership fee with no thought of a further commitment. In 1980, a neighbor asked if she would approach St. Anthony Daniel C.W.L. in Sydney to request funding for a Girl Guide group. She attended the meeting, made a successful request to the membership and went home. Within a few weeks, her pastor, Rev. Doug Murphy, approached her to attend the next meeting where elections were held. She attended and came away from that meeting having been elected President. That same year, again encouraged by her pastor, she attended her first Diocesan Convention, which gave her a new awareness and appreciation of the League.

A long and wonderful journey in the League ensued where she eventually served at the Diocesan level as Resolutions and Organization Standing Committee Chairperson and Diocesan President. In 1995, she joined the Provincial Executive as Legislation Chairperson for three years and became Education and Health Chairperson in 2002. She has also been a member of the Resource Teams visiting each council within the Diocese. At the National level, she has been a facilitator with the Leadership Development Program, served as a “Gertrude” with the Fieldworkers Program and also participated in “Spirituality – A Day of Discovery”. Donna has served as the Provincial Life Member Liaison which involves communication with life members, prayer requests for those who are ill (and their family members) and sends sympathy cards when necessary.

The League helped to develop Donna’s self-confidence and leadership qualities. She credits her CWL mentors, Doreen MacDonnell and Joan Chiasson for their continued support, encouragement and guidance over the years. She feels privileged to belong to a team of wonderful, dedicated women.

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Recent studies have shown that the practice of aborting female babies in favour of male babies is happening in Canada. Member of Parliament, Mark Warawa, has introduced a motion to the house condemning discrimination against females occurring through sex-selective abortions. This motion will be introduced to the house for 1st reading in early March. Please take the time to convey to your Member of Parliament that we condemn this discrimination against females through sex-selective abortions.

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Joke:

Q: How many life members (or CWL members) does it take to change a light bulb?

A: None, we have seen the Lord; the Lord is [our] light and [our] salvation.

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Catch the Fire workshop schedule is attached. I have been hearing great things about these workshops. Try to attend one in your area.

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From National LML, Glenda Klein:

Velma Harasen - *Now, when one part of the "body" is honoured, the whole "body" is honoured.* Velma's CWL council nominated her for the Diamond Jubilee Award which will be presented to her on February 9th. We send out congratulations to Velma for her many accomplishments being recognized in this way. A card of congratulations has been sent to Velma at 86 Marquis Cres., Regina SK S4S 6J9.

Prayer in Time of Suffering

Behold me, my beloved Jesus,
weighed down under the burden of my trials and sufferings, I cast myself
at your feet,
that you may renew my strength and my courage,
while I rest here in your presence.
Permit me to lay down my cross in your Sacred Heart,
for only your infinite goodness can sustain me;
only your love can help me bear my cross;
only your powerful hand can lighten its weight.
O Divine King, Jesus,
whose heart is so compassionate to the afflicted,
I wish to live in you; suffer and die in you.
During my life be to me my model and my support;
At the hour of my death, be my hope and my refuge. Amen.



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JOYCE PEÇAK - "On October 23, 2012, Joyce Peçak's husband had a tooth extracted – the dentist had trouble getting it out, but finally did. Tadek came home feeling fine, not in much pain and spent a very comfortable night. On Oct. 24 at 10 am he started to complain of feeling very weak and he had to lie down on the bed and he has not walked since! The dentist should have given him antibiotics before the extraction because of his age of 89 years. Anyway he was rushed to hospital and he has been there ever since. He could not walk, had severe blood infection in his knees, kidney failure and pneumonia! At present he is slowly improving, but is on dialysis three times a week, had surgery on both knees to get rid of the infection, and the pneumonia has gone. He is undergoing physiotherapy twice a day, but he still cannot stand or walk alone. Joyce has great difficulty in walking and Tad was her caregiver so for the first ten weeks he was in hospital her daughters took care of her. Joyce is now in a Retirement Residence and is able to see her husband once a week. Tadek may join her at this residence when he is able to walk. Even in her distress, Joyce wanted the warning to go to other League members to prevent them from experiencing something similar. Please pray that Tadek is able to join Joyce soon and that their health and quality of life improves. A get-well card and prayers have been sent to Joyce (and Tadek) at Highland Place, 20 Fieldgate St., Kitchener, ON N2M 5K3.

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Pray for Shirley George of Delhi Ont., who recently lost her grandson, Tyler Harvie and whose son, Fr. Matt George, is receiving cancer treatments. Cards may be sent to: 66 Hillside Ave., Delhi, On., N4B 1Y3.

Remember in your thoughts and prayers, Sharon Harland, Marguerite Peters & Florence MacGiilivary.

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Peace. Ann Bradbury, LM L