















# CLEAN WATER Newsletter

Vol. 1 No. 1, Fall 2009

#### Our "New Look"

The OK Clean Water Project has had a light make over...take a look at our new logo and soon-to-be launched website...full of interesting and current information about our progress.

We are at the same address www.okcleanwaterproject.org
But we have an exciting new look!

#### **The Cabaret**

On May 6th we held our third cabaret at the 4th Stage of the National Art Center. Our Host Bob Carty, once again entertained with his original music and wove the evening together seamlessly. Michael Carty, a tenor with the Opera Lyra performed as well as "Cafric" African dancers. And the electrifying talent of the "Otis Lives" a student band from Canterbury High School. Our cabaret, like fine wine, seems to improve every year.

# **School Fundraising**

When the OKCWP began six years ago, our major source of funding was contributions from students who understood the desperate need for potable water in Cameroon and they were determined to make a difference. We began with appeals to six schools .This year we reached out to 28 schools and raised a phenomenal \$36,306. This was largely due to the networking and tenacity of our Secretary Carmel Horan.

The students came up with many ingenious ways to raise money. They had crazy hair days, pancake breakfasts, pajama events, hunger lunches, read-a-thons, walk-a-thons and built coin lines around their schools. They also enforced pay-per-glass of water events and water waste penalties, stressing the importance of this most precious resource.

Students from Ste. Marguerite d'Youville secondary School in St. Albert, AB, and from Sakura no Seibo High School in Fukishima, Japan, also contributed to the project.

Many thanks to all of the students who dug deep into their pockets to support us and to their teachers who encouraged them to do so.

### **Spreading the News**

We have been exhibiting at local events such as the Eco-Fair on April 18, and the Government Environment Exhibit on June 2. The Project was also featured in a full page ad in the Ottawa Citizen on World Water Day, March 22. These venues always give us extra exposure and put us into contact with potential new member. On October 5, we will have a display at the Christian Community Day for the OCCSSB school staffs.

# News from our friends in Cameroon

The Sharon Farmers Group, a rural development project, has kindly donated 100 tree seedlings for each village water project. Under the auspices of the Project Coordinator, Litika Boniface, tree planting is critical around the catchments to prevent soil erosion. Many thanks for your generosity, Boniface.

Our Honorary President and Project Manager, Sister Cathy Molloy, has indicated that we are currently working in several new villages, Fonkava, Ndzeti, and Tanyar. As the villagers hear about the advent of clean water they are submitting requests. We hope to initiate future projects in the villages of Mbabu, Mbokam and Wainamah. This means that we have partnered with some 30 villages to bring clean water to them. Right now, Cathy reports that the rainy season is in full swing with lots of mud!!

















# **CK** CLEAN WATER Newsletter

## **Upcoming Events...Stay tuned**

#### **Brunch with the Bunch 2009**

Our Annual OK Clean Water Project Brunch will be held at St –Elias Banquet Center, 750 Ridgewood at 12:30 pm on November 22nd. Save the date! If you have any previously appreciated but no longer needed useful treasurers to donate to our Vintage sale, please call Kathy at 613-422-7674.

#### Summer Barbeques and Raffle

Our Fund-Raising Committee Chairman extraordinaire, George Garby, hosted Barbeque lunches at 174 Colonnade Rd on July 10th and 17<sup>th</sup>. As well as yummy burgers and hotdogs we sold raffle tickets for the low low price of \$.99. for a chance to win one of three fabulous prizes:

- 1st prize...A diamond pendant valued at \$1,000.
- 2nd prize...An Ultimate Escape from Image Essentials Spa valued at \$250.00 for an epicure facial, manicure and pedicure.
- 3rd prize...A Lexmark Photo Printer We will draw the names of the winners at the brunch on November 22nd. Anyone interested in selling or buying booklets (we have 500) please leave a message at the OK Clean Water Office, 613-236-8855.

### The gift that keeps on giving

Wondering what to give that special someone who has everything (and is probably desperately trying to downsize)? Are you thinking flowers, wine, a box of chocolate? Think outside the box. How about a gift certificate for construction material to deliver clean water.

#### Gifts:

Bag of Sand.	\$5
10 foot length of pipe	\$10
Bag of cement	\$15
Truckload of sand	\$20
One completed tap	\$30

#### Thanks

A talented group of four classical pianists, Yuan Chung, Robin Weng, Hayes Lao and Willy Weng, performed a benefit concert for the OK Clean Water Project at the Stillwater Creek Retirement Residence on Sunday, August 23. The programme included works by Chopin, Lizst, Bach, Stravinsky, Beethoven and Ravel. The audience not only enjoyed the wonderful music but they were impressed by the talent and generosity of the young performers. Thank you, Yuan, Robin, Hayes and Willy.

#### **Bake Sale**

A group of Ottawa University students is planning a bake sale on campus at Ottawa University on October 29, from 11:30 to 5:00, as a fundraising activity for OK. Drop by to taste the goodies and to support these energetic students.

# A few words from the High Commissioner

We were honored to have the Cameroonian High Commissioner attend our Spring Cabaret. He is deeply appreciative of the work that the project has accomplished in his country. The following is an excerpt from his testimonial: "The Project in Ottawa, organized a memorable fund-raising Cabaret function under the theme Making Waves. The High Commission of Cameroon in Ottawa was delighted to be part of this inspiring event. We commend and congratulate all those who dedicated their time, talent and treasure to make the event a resounding success. That night I left with ripples in my own heart and would want to think that the OK Clean Water Project is indeed making waves – waves of love that water life. May that life in turn burst forth to send forth new waves of love to water the aridity of human souls everywhere.

Solomon AZOH-MBI Cameroonian High Commissioner