



New Fairy Godmothers
2007 Fall Conference

Cindy Fisher
Uvalux Tanning & Support

Lyn Hill, Retired from UWO

Lisa Hitchen
3M Canada Company

Carolyn Martyn
Sutton Group Preferred Realty

Judi Rose, Retired Teacher

Kathy Smith, Rhythm Sisters



3M
Women at
Work

Table
Runners

Goats for
The Sudan



A Tent School
For Girls & Orphans
in Kabul



Said Abdul Aadeer Bedal Primary School
Kabul, Afghanistan

Presented at
The Women's
Conference
November 2, 2007



First grade with donated school supplies. Note tent condition.



"6 Class" boys with school supplies

Lisa Hitchen
Women at Work,
3M Canada Company



After several months of hard work we are pleased and excited to announce that our Fairy Godmother project has been a huge success. This project involved several members of the 3M Women @ Work committee and the organization that we helped was ClothingWorks.

ClothingWorks contributes to the employment success of job seekers in financial need by providing them with job appropriate attire at no cost. Their service is made possible with donations of new and gently used business clothing and accessories that comes from individuals and businesses in the community. We were inspired by this organization and by the fact that ClothingWorks is designed with the understanding that some individuals face enormous economic challenges.

First, we held a 5 week clothing drive to collect clothing, shoes, coats, purses, etc. 3M employees were eager to help us and the attachment below includes the outstanding results of our clothing drive. Volunteers helped hang up posters, collect clothing, organize clothing and move clothing between our two offices in London.

We also wanted to raise money for ClothingWorks. They were in need of work boots, undergarments and dress socks. In addition, we wanted to provide them with some extras - umbrellas, men's and ladies' scarves, and gift certificates for hair cuts.

We held two raffles - the first for two baskets filled with summer fun goodies, for which members of the Women @ Work committee personally contributed all items. The second raffle was for "an extra vacation day" donated by 3M Canada Com-

pany. Combined, both raffles raised a total of \$1312.00. This along with our initial seed money of \$100.00 meant we had a lot of money to purchase the items on their wish list.

With some experienced shoppers on the committee, we purchased the following items:
14 pairs of safety certified work boots and work socks
12 bras - 26 undershirts - 12 - \$10 gift certificates for Marvel Beauty school
25 pairs of pantyhose - 12 umbrellas - 12 women's scarves - 5 men's winter scarves
40 pairs of men's dress socks

It was a wonderful and gratifying feeling the day we presented these items to Barbara Jones from ClothingWorks. To see how happy she was and to know that we had contributed in a way that would impact many people was a truly satisfying and rewarding experience. Our seed money of \$100 was translated into \$1412, which was used to purchase the above items.



Lyn Hill, Retired
Afghan blankets for babies

Lyn Hill's favourite pastime is crocheting and she decided to make baby afghans for **Bethesda Centre**, a Salvation Army-run home for young women and their babies. Prior to receiving the \$100, Lyn purchased some yarn from *Michael's Craft Store* so that she could get an early start on her project. At the yarn's regular price, each afghan would cost just over \$20. The \$100 would provide yarn for five afghans.

However, Lyn approached Mr. Phil Campbell, Store Manager at *Michael's* in north London. She had a letter prepared for him, information on **Bethesda Centre**, the "Fairy Godmother" article from SHE magazine, a copy of last year's report to show how *Michael's* would benefit from this partnership, and one completed afghan.

As soon as she showed him the letter with the Fairy Godmother logo and told him she was a Fairy Godmother, his reaction was, "Cool! Where are your wings?" She briefly explained her project and, without reading any of the information, he said, "How does half price sound?" This was a better deal than she had anticipated. When told that *Michael's* would get credit as a partner, his response was, "Hey, maybe I could be a Fairy Godfather!"

With the remaining funds, Lyn contacted Roma McDonald, Store Manager at the *Tender Tootsies Factory Outlet*. Ms. McDonald allowed Lyn to purchase nine pairs of slippers to donate along with the eight afghans which were much appreciated at **Bethesda Centre**. Lyn also canvassed the ladies at her church (New St. James Presbyterian) with the result that she has enough yarn to continue making the afghans for many more months! Lyn has made an afghan and donated it for the silent auction at the Fall Conference.



Judi Rose, Retired school teacher
Supplies for Tent School in Kabul

When Judi's son, Sunny Rose, was sent to war he ended up bringing blessings and goodwill from the West. Emailing back and forth to keep in contact with her son she soon discovered a need on the other side of the world. A former school teacher, children are dear to her heart and Judi wanted to do something to help the children of the war.

Judi decided to set up a cultural exchange between the students in her community and the students of the tent schools in Afghanistan through a pen pal program. She also wanted to contribute to the material needs of the tent schools. She started with a fundraiser in her home, collecting money and school supplies and has since shipped out several boxes. Her son's Afghani interpreter, Samad, has two sisters who teach in the tent schools, and they have provided her with photos showing the children receiving the much needed supplies. The funds from the Fairy Godmother Projects have bought many supplies for the children.

"This project is a success because of the friendship Samad extended to my son and the grassroots opportunity that friendship has presented to promote peace and understanding across cultures."

Judi is Diann's cousin from the USA, and when she visited during the summer they talked about the school. Two Fairy Godmother projects had been put on hold, so those funds were donated to help provide supplies for this Tent school in Kabul, for girls and orphans. You can see the children holding up their new treasured supplies at school.



First grade with donated school supplies. Note tent condition.



Cindy Fisher, Uvalux Tanning & Support
Quilted Table Runners funds for Friends of the Orphans Canada

I chose to make quilted table runners to sell because I enjoy making them so much. Each table runner is a unique creation and is a decorating accessory that everyone can use and afford. The seed money was used to purchase fabric and batting from Fabricland, but while there I asked Fabricland for scrap donations and a discount. They agreed to a generous discount and submitted my request for donations to their head office.

Combining my purchases with my own personal fabric inventory, I sewed the first 2 table runners which were auctioned for \$100 each at the Friends of the Orphans golf fundraising tournament in September.

Joyce's Sewing Shop donated a bag of fabric, and I returned to Fabricland to purchase more fabric to make more table runners for the conference. My request for donations had been approved, and last week I got a call to pick up fabric. Things were finally starting to happen, and this week Joyce's notified me there was more fabric waiting for me there. I now have a good accumulation and assortment of fabric to make more runners. A friend will join me on Saturday to help with the project, and I intend to have six table runners for sale at the conference.

Kathy Smith,

The Rhythm Sisters
2007 Fall Conference Presenter

The Rhythm Sisters participated in the Fairy Godmother Project by renting a hall for a beautiful Sunday afternoon and performing a concert.

Approximately 120 people attended the show, which included a wide variety of percussion instruments and styles of music, and was enthusiastically received. A 'join in' drum circle concluded the afternoon, giving many people the opportunity to try their hand at several available drums.

The concert was free of charge, but we asked for and graciously received donations for My

Now that donations are starting to come in I will continue to make table runners for sale at future events.

I chose to donate funds to *Friends of the Orphans* Canada (www.fotocan.org) for the new orphanage they are building in Peru. I previously volunteered to work with a construction crew in Guatemala where I helped build a new orphanage that after 4 years, has just recently been completed.

The *Friends of the Orphan's* office is located in my office building, and my employers are on the board for this charity, donating workspace and personnel. All funds go directly to their orphanage projects, named *Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos*, which means 'Our Little Brothers and Sisters'. My sponsorship of a little boy at the Guatemala orphanage through their Godparent Program, is inspiring and I actually spent time with him while I was volunteering at the orphanage.

I am grateful for the assistance of Joyce's Sewing Shop www.joycessewingshop.com and Fabricland Distributors www.fabricland.ca, who are my community partners.



Sister's Place. We were thrilled to be able to donate \$ 1100 to help with their mission.

My Sister's Place is a transitional support centre for women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. It is a drop in centre providing a place for women to go during the day. Services include information, a hot meal, shower, laundry, counseling, computer access and day beds. A hospitality meal is served from 12—1, on weekdays, for women only. They are in need of volunteers and supporters for their worthwhile cause. They are overcrowded, serving quadruple the number of women originally anticipated.

Carolyn Martin
Sutton Group Preferred Realty Inc.
Goats for the Sudan



About six years ago I was watching a television program about the Lost Boys of the Sudan. The show followed three boys who had moved to the USA, and found it very hard to succeed. I was moved by their story. When I volunteered to be a Fairy Godmother, Louise Karch suggested I speak with Jane Roy from *Canadian Aid for Southern Sudan*, and I knew this project was for me. I also wanted to involve my son and his school in my project.

What did we do? The whole school schedule was altered on October 30, 2007, and we raised between \$900 and \$1000 by selling the kapow-pop lollipops! There was a pumpkin drawing contest, and a fantastic HAUNTED HOUSE set up by the wonderful Students' Council - grade 8 students.



The money raised will buy goats for the children and displaced families in the Sudan. Each goat costs \$30 and helps a family start over. They have milk from the goat and as the goats multiply, they can sell goats, and buy chickens, seed, etc. They can then send

their children to school. It is a great idea to help families survive, prosper, and with their children's education, hopefully build a stronger new generation!!

The Students' Council were at school yesterday at @ 8:00 a.m. setting up and transforming the locker room into a place of horror!!! They appointed runners who notified classes at 15 minute intervals. The classes lined up outside THE door where Council Members explained the rules. Buddies were appointed for those afraid to go through the house and the rest were zombies, bodies and a whole lot more!

Children went in groups of 4. Waiting on the other side was something equally great...the children in an older grade were waiting in the gym with games/sports and chocolates. They occupied the

children until the whole class had completed the experience! This was repeated throughout the day until every child from Grade 1 - 6 (approx. 600) went through the house. It was fantastic, just watching the anticipation on the children's faces.

We commend the community of WEST-MOUNT PUBLIC SCHOOL and the STUDENTS' COUNCIL of 2007 for the superb, tireless, energetic, amazing work to achieve success. MRS. LESLEY HOPPER, is a teacher-extraordinaire who has a big heart and gets these things done. The PRINCIPAL, VICE-PRINCIPAL and TEACHERS of Westmount Public School made this happen, with the day disrupted in the name of fun and fundraising! Mr. Hart allowed us to make a mess of the locker room for a while - and not a complaint. Not to forget...to the children at the school who opened up their pockets to help with their money!

Westmount School hosts multiple fundraisers throughout the year. As a member of the PTA I often see this and marvel at such a hard working and giving group. One girl recently donated all her birthday money towards this cause, asking people to place their money in a lovely decorated jar. A parent wrote a cheque for \$30 to buy a goat.

I am not sure of the number of goats...but I do know we have raised money for so many more than I had ever dreamed. I am so glad I was able to be a part of the Fairy Godmother project this year. It really is a wonderful feeling to connect with many wonderful people, and create magic for families in the Sudan.

