

Seedlings

Helping People Grow Toward Peace & Wholeness

Volume 3, Issue 2

Fall 2013

Board & Staff Changes

Current Board member Fred Loganbill has been appointed as Treasurer to replace the late Larry Martin (see article this page).

Marianne Wiens resigned her position as part-time Counsellor to pursue new opportunities.

Ellery Penner and Amy Davison have completed their work as evening Receptionists.

Bethany Roorda has been hired as an evening Receptionist.

Shalom thanks Marianne, Ellery and Amy for their service and wishes them all the best for the future.

The Board is very pleased that Fred Loganbill has agreed to assume the Treasurer responsibilities.

Inside this Issue:

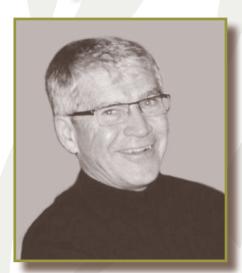
| Building Project 2 |
|----------------------------|
| What's in a Name 2 |
| Anniversary Event 3 |
| Pastors Groups4 |
| Vision Mission 4 Values |
| Contact Info4 |

The Legacy of Larry Martin

Larry Martin served less than a year as Treasurer of the Board of Shalom but in that short time he made a lasting impact. Larry died suddenly of a heart attack on Victoria Day, May 20, 2013 at age 63.

Larry had energy and "joie de vivre" that was contagious. His solid business acumen and experience allowed him to quickly analyze financial spread sheets for fellow board members and staff.

Larry had a special gift for fundraising that he shared with many organizations. At Shalom, he was a key member of our



Development Advisory Committee that assists the board with fundraising and marketing. He played an important role on the Planning Committee for our 30th Anniversary Dinner held on April 20, 2013 (see page 3). Through his contacts and enthusiasm, he solicited the support of several corporate sponsors that guaranteed the financial success of the sold-out event. Many people commented on how they were warmly welcomed and directed to their tables by Larry as they entered the banquet hall.

Board Chair Gladys Bender reflected: "I appreciated how Larry jumped right in to do the work of the Treasurer. He certainly did not hold back on his contribution for his one short year with us."

Executive Director Wanda Wagler-Martin added: "Larry was one of a kind and we benefitted immensely from his unique gifts on the Shalom board this past year. Larry brought a sense of passion, attention to detail and visionary thinking that greatly enriched the work of the board. We will miss his incredible energy and his deep commitment to Shalom's mission and vision."

Larry was on the cross-country running team at Elmira District Secondary School in the 1960's. He's been running ever since. He crossed the finish line on Victoria Day in record time. He was a gold medalist in life, in the best sense of the term. While no longer with us in body, his joyful and enthusiastic "can do" spirit lives on and continues to energize us. We at Shalom, along with many others, miss him greatly.

A Growing Home for Shalom

Shalom's Visioning and Strategic Planning exercise undertaken in the fall of 2012 indicated that physical space was a significant constraint to meeting and enhancing service to our clients. The need for an enlarged waiting room, a wheelchair accessible washroom, a larger group meeting room and additional office space were all identified as pressing needs.

Shalom's office is located in a house at 9 Avondale Ave, S., Waterloo that is owned by Erb St. Mennonite Church. Shalom has been a tenant of the church since it was founded in 1983. This has been a very positive and mutually beneficial relationship. The Church Council indicated an openness to the idea of constructing an addition onto the rear of the house provided that Shalom raise the funds and undertake the construction as a leasehold improvement. In exchange, the Church would commit to a long-term lease.

In light of this, the Board retained the services of building consultant Brian L. Shantz Ltd. to prepare concept plans, including preliminary cost estimates and to check with the City of Waterloo to ensure such an addition would comply with the City's planning and building regulations.

Shantz's review was completed in July, 2013 and indicated that such an addition would be feasible from a construction standpoint. We are awaiting preliminary approval of the concept plans from the City of Waterloo. At the same time the Board is exploring the financial feasibility of the project. Please consider how you may be able to support the project in the coming year. More information will be available shortly on our website at **www.shalomcounselling.org.**

Shalom: What's In A Name?

Because "shalom" is a Hebrew word meaning peace and wholeness as experienced in all dimensions of life, people have sometimes assumed that Shalom Counselling Services is a Jewish agency.

Since Christians and Jews share the Hebrew scriptures, Shalom's founders thought it a fitting name for an agency with the mission of "Helping people grow toward peace and wholeness."

Over the past number of years, Shalom has developed a supportive relationship with representatives of another of the Abrahamic faiths through Muslim Social Services Kitchener-Waterloo.

Earlier this year, this agency presented Shalom with a Certificate of Appreciation "In recognition of your longstanding partnership and support."

Shalom was greatly honoured by this recognition. As a Christian agency with a Hebrew name serving Muslims as well as clients of all faith groups and those with no religious identity, we strive to build peace and wholeness not only for individuals but for our whole community.



Idrisa Pandit (L) Founder/Coordinator of Muslim Social Services K-W presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Wanda Wagler-Martin of Shalom Counselling Services "In recognition of your longstanding partnership and support."

30th Anniversary Celebration a Huge Success



Crowd gathering prior to the event.

A special dinner was held on April 20, 2013 at the **St. George Banquet Hall** in Waterloo to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the founding of Shalom Counselling. The event was sold out with 425 people attending.

The guest speaker was **Roger Martin**, former Dean of the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto. Martin's late mother Delphine was the founding Executive Director of Shalom. Roger's talk was titled, "**Lessons My Mother Taught Me.**" He gave nine examples of life lessons he learned from Delphine.

In addition to the anniversary celebration, the program also honoured Delphine Martin's significant contribution to furthering the mission of Shalom.



Lloyd Martin (3rd from right) with children (L-R) Terry, Roger, Rick, Jacquie and Brad

A new Shalom video called "Growing Toward Peace & Wholeness" was debuted at the dinner. It was produced by Rosco Films with funding provided by Mennonite Savings & Credit Union and Roth Nowak Insurance Brokers.

Both the video and Roger Martin's talk can be seen on Shalom's YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/ShalomCounselling. They can also be accessed via our website at www.shalomcounselling.org.

Wallenstein Feed & Supply, the company founded by Delphine Martin's husband Lloyd and now managed by their oldest son, Rick, was the lead sponsor of the event.

Other corporate sponsors were: BLT Farms Inc., Dueck Sauer Jutzi & Noll LLP, Green Horizons Group of Farms Ltd, Mennonite Foundation of Canada, Mennonite Savings & Credit Union, Mersynergy Foundation, Miller Thomson, Roth Nowak Insurance Brokers, Systematix, TriShan Inc, and Van-Del Contracting Ltd.

The **Michael Wood Trio**, a jazz trio, provided musical entertainment at the dinner.



Michael Wood Trio

The event raised **\$50,000**, helping to make counselling affordable for 85% of our clients who require fee subsidy. Shalom thanks all who contributed to make this event such a great success.

Seedlings

The Bi-Annual Newsletter of Shalom Counselling Services Inc. Volume 3 Issue 2

Seedlings is published twice annually. The editorial team is Brian Hunsberger, Susan Schwartzentruber and Wanda Wagler-Martin. It is printed by St. Jacobs Printery.



Helping People Grow Toward

Peace and Wholeness

9 Avondale Avenue South Waterloo, ON N2L 2B5 Phone: 519-886-9690

Email: admin@shalomcounselling.org

www.shalomcounselling.org



Pastors Groups Fill Niche

Pastors and Counsellors in Consultation groups were created in 2011 to provide an opportunity for pastors to meet with colleagues and a counselling professional in a safe, confidential setting to discuss issues of mutual concern. The groups (maximum of six pastors each) were created because pastors told us such groups would be helpful.

The two initial groups have now grown to three and there is a waiting list for a possible fourth group this fall. **To participate**, **call the Shalom office at 519-886-9690**. Through a regular evaluation process, participants are invited to share their experiences. When asked what they valued most about the groups, responses included the following:

"...the sense of safety; the time to talk about significant ministry issues and hear other's perspectives;"

"I appreciated the growing sense of trust and deepened relationships within our group. With time, we were able to be more and more vulnerable with each other, sharing some of the challenges of pastoral ministry."

"Leadership provided by Shalom—finally a time and place where I am not responsible for group process, where I can just 'be' and be led."

Shalom's Vision, Mission & Values

Part of Shalom's Visioning and Strategic Planning exercise undertaken in October and November, 2012 was to revise our vision, mission and values. They now read as follows:

Vision: A community of peace & wholeness for all.

Mission: Helping people grow toward peace & wholeness.

Values: Grounded in Christian faith, we value the following:

- **Peace**—Peace as described by the word Shalom—peace with self, others and with God.
- Wholeness—Counselling is a safe place for addressing any dimension of a person's experience—mental, emotional, physical, sexual, social or spiritual.

- **Compassion**—Empathy and care for all persons.
- **Respect**—Diversity of backgrounds and beliefs within our community is respected. We endeavor to be ethical, welcoming and respectful in all aspects of our work.
- Accessibility & Affordability—All persons should have access to professional counselling services when needed. Cost should not be a deterrent to obtaining professional counselling.
- Accountability & Excellence—Ongoing monitoring and implementation of best practices in all aspects of our work.