



Beaverbrae passengers reunite in Kitchener

Harry Drung was only nine months old when his parents, Leonhard and Frieda carried him aboard the Beaverbrae at a northern German port city for the nine-day voyage to Canada and a new life. That was in 1950.

The Drungs were but three of 33,000 passengers transported to Canada on the Beaverbrae between 1948 and 1954 as part of a program to resettle Europeans displaced by the Second World War. Many of these passengers, along with the Drungs, were assisted by Canadian Lutheran World Relief. A strong German presence in the Kitchener-Waterloo area drew many to that region of the country.

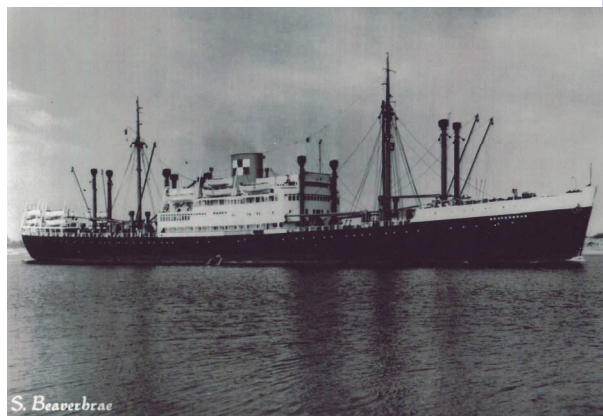
On the weekend of October 2-3, a reunion of Beaverbrae passengers was hosted by Harry's church, Bethel Lutheran in Kitchener. An estimated 800 people attended to share stories of their journeys to Canada and the lives they have built here. Rev. Albert Lorch, a former CLWR Board member, brought greetings to the gathering on behalf of CLWR. An offering taken during the weekend event raised almost \$2,500 for CLWR.

During the war, the Beaverbrae was a floating maintenance facility for German submarines. It was ceded to the allies as part of post-war reparations and came to be owned by Canadian Pacific. CP, along with the Canadian government, refitted the ship for both passengers and cargo. Cargo moved east from Canada to Europe. Passengers made the return trip to Canada. It made 52 of these trans-Atlantic voyages as part of the resettlement program.

-- with files from the Kitchener-Waterloo Record; photos courtesy of Harry Drung.



Leonhard and Frieda Drung with infant son Harry in the carriage between them were among 33,000 people who came to Canada on the Beaverbrae following WWII.



The Beaverbrae, which had a passenger capacity of 753, made 52 trans-Atlantic voyages between 1948 and 1954.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- Latin American partners visit Canada
- Staff Changes at CLWR
- Gifts from the Heart Catalogues coming soon to LCC congregations

Follow CLWR on



Latin American partners visit Canada

Two representatives from Urpichallay, Canadian Lutheran World Relief's (CLWR) community development partner in Peru, have been in Canada this week attending a forum at the University of Saskatchewan. Eduardo Suarez, director of Urpichallay, Edwin Cadenas, a biologist and dean at Universidad Nacional Santiago Antunez de Mayolo, along with CLWR's Latin American program manager, Wendy Kroeker, are in Saskatoon to discuss and exchange ideas with Canadian researchers and indigenous groups about integrated resource management in indigenous communities.

In 2000, Urpichallay introduced its Water Forever program in Vicos, a community located about 420 km northeast of Lima in Huascarán National Park. Vicos and the surrounding area are home to the Quechua (pronounced Ketchwa), an indigenous population that has lived for centuries in the high altitude Ancash province of Peru. Agriculture is the prime means of support for the local economy. There are also mining operations in the region that provide employment opportunities but they also raise concerns about the environmental impact of mining on local communities.

Water Forever provides training to the Quechua people in water quality analysis and monitoring. It is also assisting them with the recuperation and application of traditional knowledge. The programming is respectful of the Andean cosmos vision which attaches sacredness to nature. Elements such as the mountains and the water are seen as persons whose lives are to be cared for just as one would care for a neighbour.

In 2003, CLWR began providing financial support to Urpichallay, allowing it to expand its programming to other communities.

The training reaches both adults and children. Urpichallay operates a small recording studio where students hone their skills at creating short, five-minute radio spots as well as longer programs about environmental issues. Time is then bought on a local radio station to broadcast the recordings into the region.

Urpichallay also collaborates with the university to offer an environmental module to engineering students. As well, it contributes to an inter-cultural diploma program in the Education faculty, designed to familiarize future teachers with the traditional practices and beliefs of

the Quechua.

On their way from Peru to Saskatoon, Eduardo and Edwin made a stopover in Winnipeg to visit CLWR's office and meet with some of the staff.



Latin American program coordinator Wendy Kroeker flanked by Eduardo Suarez (left) and Edwin Cadenas (right) during a recent visit to the CLWR office in Winnipeg

Staff changes at CLWR

The Community Relations Department of CLWR will have some new faces starting next week. Jennifer Clarke has accepted a one-year term appointment as our Community Relations Program Assistant. Jennifer has a solid background in resource generation and communications work from her previous position as Development Assistant with the University of Winnipeg Foundation.

Gerlinde Berglund will join us as Community Relations Program Assistant on a three-month term. Many will know Gerlinde from her many years with the Evangelical Lutheran Women. She brings a wealth of experience within our constituency.

These appointments will fill gaps left by the departure of Sarah Blackwell and Brian Lorch. Sarah, who spent three years at CLWR as a Community Relations program assistant, left in July to pursue mission work opportunities with the Mennonite Church in South Korea. Brian came to CLWR as Interim Manager of Communications in May 2009, following a teaching career at Lakehead University. As of October 29, he will be making another attempt at retirement.

Gifts from the Heart. Order on-line at www.clwr.org

Gifts from the Heart catalogues coming soon to Lutheran Church–Canada congregations

The new 2010-11 Gifts from the Heart catalogue will be coming soon to Lutheran Church–Canada members. The catalogues are being inserted into the October issue of *The Canadian Lutheran*. Unfortunately, technical difficulties have caused a delay in the publication of the magazine. Delivery is now expected to occur early in November. Please watch for the magazine and the catalogue at your local congregation.



CLWR News Briefs are produced by Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR). CLWR reports stories for the benefit and interest of its readers. News stories do not necessarily reflect CLWR policy or positions.

Donations can be made in the following ways:

- Through your local LCC or ELCIC congregation
- At www.clwr.org
- Toll free at 1.800.661.2597 (CLWR) or in the Winnipeg area: 204.694.5602
- By cheque or money order to:

Canadian Lutheran World Relief
302-393 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg MB R3B 3H6

Do you have a story to share? Send it to us at CLWRWeeklyBriefs@clwr.mb.ca, including your name and phone number.

To unsubscribe, reply to this email with “Unsubscribe Weekly Briefs” in the subject heading. Department of Communications and Development Education

Canadian Lutheran World Relief
302-393 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg MB R3B 3H6