



CONNECTIONS

A Newsletter for Volunteers Issue #3-2017

REMINDERS

Our new online Calendar is now active! You can visit the [web calendar](#) to see SCAW's public events. When you are logged into your own profile you will also see additional events, such as our bedkit distributions, and meetings applicable to your volunteer role. If you have a donor event you would like to publicize, you can always contact Brian Barr at bebarr@gmail.com.

HOLD THIS DATE: Sat. October 21, 2017, 10:00 am Lunch and Learn #2 with Debbie Dryden. Thanks to Grant Clark, the first Lunch and Learn was a huge success!

[SLEEP DAY – 2017](#)
[FRIDAY, NOV. 3](#)

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Maurice Kowanetz – Current Chair

I am humbled by the opportunity to partner with all volunteers and fellow board members as Chair of the Board. I have very big shoes to fill (figuratively and literally!). Each of you inspires me daily, as we continue our important work of helping more children get a better night's sleep.

I encourage you to share your ideas, hopes and feedback by contacting me at mkowanetz@sympatico.ca, and I look forward to SCAW's amazing future accomplishments!

Dave Dryden – Past Chair

I am very excited to pass the Chair of the Board role to Maurice Kowanetz, a long-time SCAW volunteer and Board member. SCAW now has an expanded Board of Directors and Board structure, to share the load and encourage working people to assume leadership positions. We have two year terms for Board leadership positions, which includes Chair Maurice Kowanetz, Vice-Chair Debbie Will-Dryden, and myself

as Past Chair, along with Executive Director Linda Webb.

You, our caring volunteers, are the heart of Sleeping Children. I thank you all for your encouragement, support, friendships and efforts during my time as Chair of the Board.

TRAVELLING VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS

Beth Poad and Lois Wey

We are pleased to announce that the 2017 teams have been filled. Over 75 travelling volunteers will be participating in bedkit distributions in 2017! As we indicated in our last newsletter, the wait can be 3 years for experienced travelling volunteers and 2 years for new travelling volunteers. If you haven't heard from us in a while, please don't think that we have forgotten you. Your turn will come! It is important to update regularly your availability and travel preferences (years, months and countries) to keep our waitlist current. Please update your SCAW profile online at:

<https://scaw.thankyou4caring.org/login>

Log in and click on, "Update Volunteer Personal Information". After you have been assigned to a team, here are some things you can do while you are waiting to travel:

- Follow the blogs written by the team who is travelling 1 year ahead of you to get a sense of the country and distribution:

<https://scawlivereports.blogspot.ca/>

- Suggest that friends and relatives donate bedkits to the country you will visit so that you can personally deliver their gifts. Remind them to state your name and the country you will be travelling to when they are ordering. While on the distribution, you may have the opportunity to have your photo taken with the recipient child.

Don't hesitate to email us if you have any questions: travel@scaw.org



IN THE SPOTLIGHT – Sally Jo Martin

Travelling volunteers play a vital role within the SCAW organization. Sally Jo has taken part in 8 distributions to date, the first being a life-changing trip to India in 2003. "To have a young child grasp my finger to walk down a path, to hear the music of the community welcoming our team to a site, to lead a group of 500 children in song; all of these have been my honour to

experience." Each trip provided many special memories but there are two that stand out. In the Philippines, a young man who had received his bedkit 8 or 10 years earlier returned to offer his help and to give thanks. In Belgaum, India, a boy being checked by a Rotarian doctor before receiving his bedkit was found to have a heart defect. This resulted in successful heart surgery. Sally knows how happy this would have made Murray. Since 2001, Sally Jo has worn many hats at the SCAW office. She is fully aware of the volunteer hours required to ensure that Murray's dream is realized, one child at a time. As well as her work at SCAW, she co-chairs the Outreach Committee at her church and serves on the Board of Lake Scugog Camp which provides a camping experience to needy youth, mothers and children; many of them to follow in her very big footsteps.

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