



**FALL NEWSLETTER**

**October 2018**

***INTRODUCTION and MORE ....***

It can be a daunting task to sit down and write an initial Newsletter, where do I start, what do I share, how do I convey my heart to a family most of whom I have never met, a group that has stood by a ministry I am fairly new to? Well let's start at the foot of the cross, let's all kneel there in humility and look up at our precious Lord Jesus and admit our great personal and collective need of Him, for as the great hymn declares, "I need thee oh I need thee, every hour I need thee." We can declare this for we do depend on and serve a risen Saviour that has promised to guide our steps as we live in dependence upon Him and walk this beautiful life of faith.

Currently in front of me is a copy of The Shantyman dated August 15<sup>th</sup> 1923 containing an editorial based on the value of knowing the whole of Scripture both old and new Testaments. Jesus very words in Luke 16:31 state that if people did not hear the words of Moses and the Prophets, neither would people be convinced if someone should rise from the dead. Also Psalm 119:105 has these great words encouraging us to know the whole counsel of God, David tells us that Scripture is "a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path." Finally, in 2 Timothy 3:16 "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

At this juncture in our history I want to assure you that based primarily on Scripture but also our rich legacy we will continue taking the whole Gospel of Jesus Christ to difficult places across our Land. The methodology changes but our message remains the same.

New chapters can be intimidating but they are also exciting and full of promise. I am committed to honouring our past while pressing forward in dependence in our great God to what He has for us. His word tells us that He orders our steps, He knows our path, He goes before us therefore we go forward in confidence.

You might have noticed that I have referred to the mission as Shantyman and not SCA and that is deliberate. As I worked through many interviews these past months it was the Shantyman name that resonated with people, older people remembered the name fondly and younger folk would always ask for the back story thereby providing the opportunity to tell of our legacy.

I have left my introduction to the end of this newsletter because this is God's work not mine. My name is Ron Aitken and I have been privileged to have known of the work of Shantyman most of my life. As a boy I remember representatives coming and telling the Mission's story at Calvary Baptist, Oshawa where my dad was the pastor. As a young man I continued to hear of the work as I was moved around Canada and in more later years while my wife and I were directly involved with SIM and Finishers, I had the privilege to work alongside Shantyman. In the early part of this summer conversations were had with the Board which resulted in my engagement as a consultant to look at the past and present ministry and make recommendations as to future direction of the mission. Those recommendations have been made and we now start the process of moving forward. At the end of a Special Meeting of the Board held on September 15<sup>th</sup> they asked me to continue serving them for at least one year and I have agreed to do so.

I want you to know that I encourage and welcome your involvement, therefore please feel free to email [info@scainternational.org](mailto:info@scainternational.org) or call me at the office: 905-868-8004 or Toll Free: 1-877-474-2689.

Lastly, I want to thank you all for your faithful service to our Lord through Shantyman in the past and I look forward to walking with you as we co-labour in this part of the Lord's vineyard.

Sincerely,

Ron Aitken, Consultant

SCA International

**Please see below and be encouraged. Your support has made a difference.  
THANK YOU SO MUCH!**

## SEND-A-CHILD TO CAMP 2018:

We consider it a privilege to again be a part of sponsoring children to attend one week of summer camp for the third consecutive year. Five different Christian Camps: Camp Medeba ON, Camp Widjiitiwin ON, Toronto Alliance Church /Salvation Army Jackson Point ON, Turtle Mountain MB and Silver Bay Bible Camp MB, participated in this program this year and we were able to sponsor forty children to attend camp this summer.

I can assure you that these children are very grateful for the opportunity to attend camp. We praise God for this opportunity to partner with these Christian Camps to make Jesus known in this manner. We could not have done it without your help. Thank you for your support!

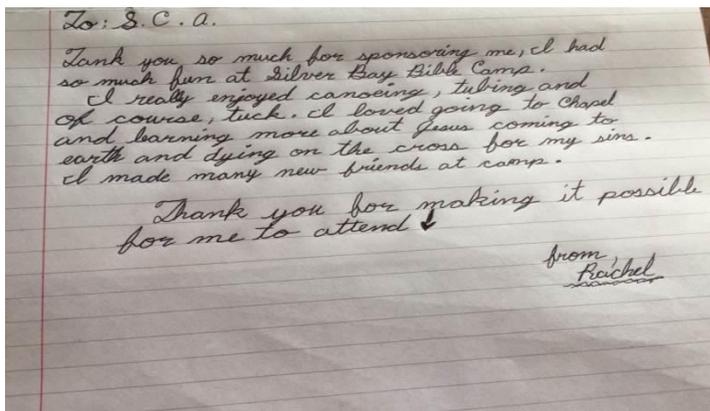
Read below some of the many stories we have received:



"Camp Widjiitiwin was one of the best experiences of my life. I met so many kind people and the staff are just awesome. I feel everyone there make you feel included and welcome. My two cabin leaders from 2018 will forever impact my life.

Now don't get me started on the activities, but they were ..... AMAZING. My personal favourite activities were tubing and rockwall but I also love every other activities, and that week God really showed His love for me. This was unfortunately my last year going and that makes me feel really sad but I pray that many other kids get the opportunity to experience all these fun activities but most of all experience the love God has for us.

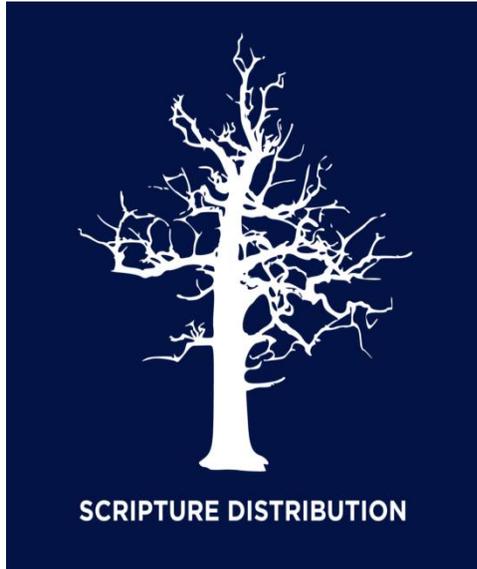
Alexis, Age 14. Thank you for sending me to camp."



We would like to thank SCA for helping our family out so we could attend camp for the first time. If it wasn't for the kind help from others we would not have been able to have our camp vacation.

Thank you, thank you, thank you. The Christie boys.

## BIBLE DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM :



Since our last letter, two other churches have partnered with us in the Summer and start of Fall. Together approximately 16,210 Gospel of John booklets were distributed. To date we are happy to report that so far this year three Churches namely; The Gathering Place of Aurora ON, First Baptist Church, Orillia ON and Lighthouse Community Church, Hixon BC, have partnered with us and distributed a total of 35,300 Gospel of John booklets to every home in their community through Canada Post. A woman who received the booklet called our office and related her story. She said, “Something told me to pick it up and read it and I did after this strong prompting. I then called the church but no one answered, then I called your office to see what SCA means.” We prayed with her after she related her story and she attended the church afterwards. PTL!

We should never underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit and Jesus unconditional love for us enough to pursue us individually. Our goal is to deliver a booklet to every home in Canada and we are awaiting the next church that would come on board with us in this vision. Is your church ready to distribute? Let’s do our part so that more of God’s Power and love can be made known to those who don’t yet know Him. Call us at: 1-877-474-2689 or email [devika@scainternational.org](mailto:devika@scainternational.org) for more information.

## PRAYER MINISTRY and INVITATION!



We continue to pray every Tuesday at 1:00 P.M. EST by Telephone. This allows for anyone from across Canada to join us if they so desire. This is of no cost to you, just call our office and request the Toll Free Tele-conference number and Access Code to connect and you can be right there in a prayer meeting with others. Don’t hesitate, call and join us for our next meeting.

- We can pray *for* you.
- We can pray *with* you.

You may email your prayer request to [devika@scainternational.org](mailto:devika@scainternational.org) or call 905-868-8004 or the toll free number above and send your request ahead of time. We can also arrange a time for a member of our team to pray with you, maybe even on the spot. SCA International exists today because people have been praying for its ministry since 1906. We believe in prayer.

James 5:16 says, “The Effective fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.”

*“Talking to men for God is a great thing, but talking to God for men is greater still.”*

— E.M. Bounds