



LAC MEGANTIC SERVICE PROJECT UPDATE

Plans to support families of Lac Megantic are back on track. Individual Rotarians and Clubs have pledged nearly \$25,000! We will provide gifts for at least 97 children, purchase 700 teddy bears, and donate \$8000 to the local food pantry.

Now it's time to get to work!

We made a great connection with the Salvation Army who is helping identify families who could use assistance with gifts for their children. The plan is to organize a "Santa's Workshop" for Saturday afternoon, Dec 14, where parents will be invited to come select the gifts for their children, wrap them, and bring them to bring home.

We will not be able to shop for specific children. Rotarians who pledged to "adopt" a child can do one of the following:

- purchase gifts (shopping suggestions attached) and bring *unwrapped* items to:

McAllister Machine, Inc.
95 Industrial Park Road Saco, ME 04072
(207) 282-8655

- send your check (\$100 per child) and we will do the shopping for you. Some gifts will be purchased on line and shipped (avoids border crossing concerns) and others will be purchased locally in Lac Megantic (also avoids problems at the border and supports the local economy - we anticipate support on prices from the local WalMart and a Mattel distribution site)

Send checks to:

SPCE Rotary Charitable Fund
c/o John LoBosco, Assistant Governor
21 Fessenden Road
Cape Elizabeth, Maine 04107

**All checks and gifts must be received by
Saturday, December 7**

There will be a road trip of Rotarians to Lac Megantic the weekend of Dec 13-15. The general plan is:

Friday

afternoon

- meet at noon (anticipated)
- deliver teddy bears to elementary school children assisted by local first responders
- finish shopping for gifts

evening - dinner, possibly with area Rotarians

Saturday

morning - set up for "Santa's Workshop"

afternoon

- welcome parents to "Santa's Workshop," help with wrapping, serve cocoa and cookies
- help prepare community dinner

evening - community dinner (tentative) set-up, serve, socialize, clean up

Sunday - return home at your leisure

It will be a busy weekend, but rewarding, fun, and very much appreciated! The more Rotarians who can participate, the merrier the weekend will be!

If you plan to participate in the road trip,

RSVP to Paul Deschambault

PHD@maine.rr.com

We are compiling a list of B&Bs in the area to share with anyone going to Lac Megantic!

And remember, you'll need a passport to cross the border back to the US!

For more information, contact Paul Deschambault,
Lac Megantic Service Project Coordinator
(207) 281-4384 email PHD@maine.rr.com



SHOPPING GUIDELINES

1. These are primarily French speaking families. Avoid books and materials in English.
2. Canadian Team logos for sports items.
3. Hats, mittens, gloves, scarves work well.
4. School supplies, crayons, markers, colored pencils, stickers, or drawing pads are great.
5. High value games, electronics, cameras, phones are NOT a good idea.
6. Family activity puzzles & games should be French language friendly.
7. Fleece blankets with animals or cartoon characters are always good, especially for younger children.
8. Keep toys to basic items: dolls, trucks or cars, balls and sports equipment, playing cards, backpacks are all good choices.
9. Children's ages range from toddlers to early teens, includes both boys and girls.
10. Consider a variety of items, small and large ("primary" gift, smaller items, and stocking stuffers)
11. Please do not include any food or candy.