

# ANNUAL BRIDGE EVENT & WATER FILTERS FOR LAOS

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 21st @ 9.30 am (Registration 8:45am)

2737 Bayview Ave.

Trinity Presbyterian

Church (S of 401)

Note: NEW Venue

This is our annual Laos fundraiser.

- Hands-on workshop by Barbara Seagram @ 9.30am  
"Demon Doubling"
- Laos Presentation by Patti Lee
- Lunch
- ACBL Sanctioned game follows till 3.30 pm



Patti and Barbara run a fundraiser every year to raise money to buy water filters for Laos. Cost for the day will be \$12.00 to cover the cost of lunch, rent and ACBL fees, plus a minimum donation of \$40.00 per person (NO MAXIMUM). A tax receipt will be issued for the donation portion.

Each water filter costs \$125.00 Can or \$100.00 USD. If you wish to donate one (or more) water filter(s), your name will be on the label, and you will be sent a picture of the family receiving your water filter(s).

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:** Cheques should be made out to BARBARA SEAGRAM and sent to Barbara Seagram, 220 Lawrence Ave East, Toronto, ON M4N 1T2.

Minimum donation: \$40.00 (no maximum) PLUS \$12.00 costs.

*All donations will be given to the charity and receive tax receipts. Every dime goes to the cause. Steve Rutledge, the volunteer who founded Adopt A Village in Laos, pays his own airfare, meals and accommodation. All volunteers going to Laos do the same.*

Please mail in the form below with your donation/registration to:  
Barbara Seagram, 220 Lawrence Ave East, Toronto, ON M4N 1T2.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

TEL NO: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

I AM PLAYING WITH \_\_\_\_\_ THAT DAY.

**Best if each person sends in their own donation so we can issue individual tax receipts.**

**OR  I AM UNABLE TO ATTEND BUT WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH A DONATION.**

**PLEASE JOIN BARBARA & PATTI FOR A FUN DAY on Friday, September 21, 2018. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of rural people in Laos.**

This faraway land captured Patti's and Barbara's hearts in 2012. Before receiving water filters, villagers have to boil their water. (Did you know that even if you boil the water, it then has to be re-boiled later on in the day, as it becomes contaminated again). A water filter is provided for every family in the village and a lesson on sanitation/hygiene. The filters last for over 20 years.

All are gathered to celebrate water being brought to their village for the very first time. Running water. That is something to really celebrate. We all partied for about 5 hrs in this very rural, remote village in Northern Laos. Adopt A Village in Laos built a dam and ran pipes for miles to bring in the water. All overseen and arranged by Steve Rutledge. This is the same charity who does the water filters. Steve is the C.E.O. and founder. ALL monies raised go to the cause.

### **MORE ABOUT LAOS**

Laos is the most heavily bombed country in the world, per capita. From 1964 - 1973, during the Vietnam War, there were more than 580,000 bombing missions in an attempt to destroy enemy supply lines during the Vietnam War. There was a bombing mission every 8 minutes 24/7 for 9 years.



This is MORE bombs than fell on all of Europe during the second World War. Two million tons of ordnance was dropped on Laos. It was called the secret war as Laos was not at war. Over 270 million cluster munitions were used. 80 million malfunctioned (did not detonate) and remain live and buried in Laos landscape. Today, the countryside of Laos is still heavily contaminated and dangerous with UXO (unexploded ordnance) lying in rice fields, villages, school grounds and other populated areas. There are many accidents and the presence of the UXO's curtails socio-economic development in Laos. It impacts agricultural productivity, infrastructure building and economic investment. This contributes to a cycle of poverty in so many communities.

Within the cluster bombs are tennis ball sized bombies. There are up to 670 bombies within each cluster bomb. Each one needs to be defused. To date, over 40 years later, millions remain. It will take decades upon decades to clear these. The children often mistake the bombies for toys and pick them up and throw them around. This causes an explosion. Farmers are also among the worst affected, as the poorest are forced to toil the mineladen fields to feed their families.

Scrap metal sells for \$1-3.00 / kg so some collect this to sell and provide income. Sometimes these items turn out to be UXO's.

Eighty percent of people rely on their land to grow food in Laos, so they still use their land even at the risk of their own lives. 25% of all rural villages are still contaminated. Civilian casualties continue. This country is far behind most of Southeast Asia. They need our help. Adopt A Village in Laos is helping.



**This is a cluster bomb, housing the small tennis-ball sized bombies: 670 of these in each cluster bomb. Many failed to detonate and to this day, ruin the villagers' ability to till the land.**

And if you cannot attend, please consider sending in a donation to help these wonderful people. They are a wonderful peace-loving, gentle people. Thank you from Barbara Seagram & Patti Lee for your caring.