

NEWSLETTER Amistad



Canadians' Campaign for the "Cuba Medical Brigade for Haiti"

By November 29th, the number of people affected by cholera in Haiti had risen to 75,888. Of these, the **Cuban Henry Reeve Medical Brigade** had attended 27,015 with 254 deaths (0.94%). Haitian state hospitals, NGOs and other private organizations, treated 48,875 with a fatality rate of 3.03%. The number of cholera victims has risen since then to over 114,000. Now the Cubans have treated over 45,000 with an even lower fatality rate. Donations of \$149,449.55 have already been sent to Haiti via the Cuban Medical Brigade and we are certainly getting good value for the money donated to date.

Canadians for "Cuba for Haiti" (CFH) campaign was started by the CCFA Toronto in January 2010 in response to the terrible earthquake on January 12th in Haiti. Fundraising has spread across Canada with the help of the Canadian Network on Cuba and other groups, along with the "Mackenzie-Papineau Memorial Fund" charitable organization. We believe that this kind of unprecedented and invaluable help, which Cuba has been giving Haiti for eleven years, deserves support.

The CFH is a special account, ensuring that 100% of the donations are sent promptly for medical support and aid to Haiti. [A lot of the money pledged by governments, including Canada, is still NOT in Haiti.] All those working for this campaign are volunteers.

You may donate and receive a charitable tax receipt
by mailing a cheque payable to:

Mackenzie-Papineau Memorial Fund

Att: Sharon Skup 56 Riverwood Terrace Bolton ON L7E 1S4
Tel: 905.951.8499

email: sharon@ccfatoronto.ca or macpabbattalion@sympatico.ca

Please write "Cuba for Haiti" on the memo line of the cheque.

If you wish to pay by credit card on-line, go to www.CanadaHelps.org
Then go to the Mackenzie-Papineau Memorial Fund page and follow instructions. Also write 'Cuba for Haiti' in the message instructions box.
But please be aware that Canada Helps will deduct almost 4% for administrative fees (although the charitable receipt to you from Canada Helps will be the full amount.)



José Martí Cuban Dinner, Cultural Program, and Dance



7:00pm - Saturday, 29 January, 2011

Listen or Dance to **Los Clave Kings**

\$30 per person Paid in Advance
or \$40 at door

For Dance only: \$10 from 9pm

Door Prize Raffle Cash Bar

Vegetarian meal must be requested in advance

Bloor St United Church
300 Bloor St West/corner of Huron St
use side entrance off parking lot on Huron St
wheelchair access
(just west of St George Subway
or east of Spadina Subway)

For more information/For tickets from the
CCFA Toronto -

Liz 416-654-7105 or

Sharon 905-951-8499

Mail cheque to: CCFA Toronto
c/o 499 Melita Crescent
Toronto ON M6G 3X9

Cuban Film Festival coming!

Feb. 4 & 5, 2011

2 on Friday evening & 3 on Saturday
at the Royal Theatre on College St.

Details coming!

Check our website: www.ccfatoronto.ca

CCFA Toronto has a New 'snail' mail address!
See bottom of page 8.

Dr. Lee Lorch, Honourary Chair, CCFA Toronto and The Fight to Integrate Stuyvesant Town

Dr. Lorch was filmed recently by members of the Stuyvesant Town-Peter Cooper Village Oral History Project (New York City), which is documenting the lives of residents of the complex, where a newfangled public-private partnership was forged in the 1940s to build housing that would anchor the middle class to the city's interior.

Lee Lorch did not attend a recent meeting of Stuyvesant Town's tenants, but he was instrumental in a tenant-led effort, 60 years ago, to desegregate Stuyvesant Town, a vast apartment complex on the East Side of Manhattan.



Then: Lee and his wife Grace

He was a leader among the tenants who petitioned and picketed, but ultimately lost a legal battle, in which the court ruled that a private landlord could reject tenants based on race. Dr. Lorch, a mathematician who, at 95, is still writing for scholarly journals, lost a succession of teaching positions for his trouble and ultimately left New York and the US to find work.

Eventually the project owner, Metropolitan Life scrapped their No Negroes Allowed policy. This inspired the open-housing movement that eventually made housing discrimination illegal nationwide. "It was a landmark in the struggle against segregation in the US," Dr. Lorch said. "It was an important struggle worth any sacrifice in pursuing it. I have no regret over what we did, or what it cost us, although I much preferred living in my hometown."

Facing a housing crisis in 1943, Mayor La Guardia announced that Metropolitan Life would demolish the gashouse district to erect 12- and 13-story buildings with 8,759 apartments surrounded by playgrounds and lawns, despite opposition from businesses and residents who would be relocated.

An uproar ensued when MetLife decided to enforce a No Negroes Allowed policy. Despite this the project was approved. When it opened in 1947, 200,000 people, including Dr. Lorch, a math instructor at City College, applied for an apartment.

Dr. Lorch said it was well known that it "was going to be an all-white project." But, the demand for housing was so

acute that "there was no way of boycotting Metropolitan. But many felt that going there carried an obligation to fight discrimination," he added.

In 1948, a dozen tenants, including Dr. Lorch, formed a tenants committee to end segregation. "Their survey of the complex's 25,000 residents showed that two-thirds were against the exclusionary policy," Dr. Lorch said.

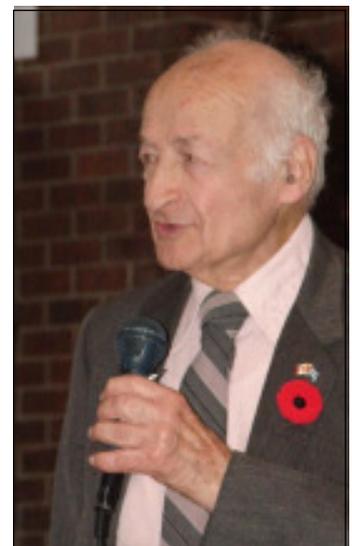
Having lost his job at City College, because of his activism, Dr. Lorch seized on a loophole in his lease and offered his apartment "temporarily" to Hardine Hendrix, a black fellow union member, and his family. They had been living in sub-standard accommodation in Harlem. This caused a sensation, but the insurer was loath to risk a confrontation with committee members and union activists.

Leaving the Hendrixes in his apartment, Dr. Lorch moved to Penn State, which also did not reappoint him, despite the department chairman's recommendation. He was told that allowing a black family to live in his New York apartment was "extreme, illegal and immoral and damaging to the public relations of the college." One thousand students signed a petition saying that his dismissal was "unacceptable." A fellow mathematician, Albert Einstein, also weighed in on his behalf.

The Lorches returned to New York, where MetLife agreed to admit three black families in 1950, but moved to evict Dr. Lorch and 34 other tenant leaders and their families. The evictions led to hundreds of tenants picketing City Hall and MetLife's headquarters. Fearing negative publicity, MetLife dropped the eviction proceedings and accepted the Hendrixes, while Dr. Lorch and several others voluntarily agreed to move out.

By then, Dr. Lorch was teaching at Fisk University, a black institution in Nashville. But his civil rights activity and his refusal to answer questions before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, lost him that position and, later, one at Philander Smith College in Little Rock. Dr. Lorch moved to Canada, first to the University of Alberta and later to York University in Toronto.

Lee does not regret the decision he made at Stuyvesant Town six decades ago. "I would have paid a higher price living with my conscience if I hadn't done it," he said.



And Now: Prof. Lee Lorch

Café Cuba: A Night to Remember with Manuel Yepe

Cuba's Revolution Today: Cuban journalist, professor and former diplomat Manuel Yepe's presentation at our Café Cuba on 15 November exceeded our expectations.

CCFA Toronto President Elizabeth Hill began the evening by introducing Manuel and his life long efforts for a world free from imperialism.

Manuel described the Cuban peoples' long struggle for independence, social justice and freedom from imperialism. The triumph of the Revolution in 1959 was merely the final chapter in this long struggle and an opportunity to put into practise the ideals of those before them like José Martí.

What made his presentation so remarkable was that this was given by a person intimately connected to these events. From his start with the 26th of July Movement in Matanzas Province to his many roles in the Cuban government working alongside Fidel Castro, Che Guevara and others, he was able to give many personal insights into the priorities and importance of the Cuban Revolution. As with all living histories, it is a story filled with a humanity and humour that no text book can match.

During the question and answer period the conversation shifted to the present and future of the Revolution. Both Manuel and Cuba's Consul General for Toronto, Jorge Soberón, discussed the recent process to re-calibrate Cuba's economy whilst ensuring the priorities of independence and social justice are maintained.

As Manuel said "Revolution is the mother of changes. No one wrote the book on how socialism has to be. It has to be constructed by the people and every model has to be different to match the peoples' needs."

Jorge Soberón described the three biggest challenges facing Cuba as the ongoing blockade, the world wide financial crisis and climate change.

Already plans are under way to move towards an economic union with the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (the Venezuelan Consul General for Toronto, Marta Prodo, was at the event).

As Jorge said "Maintaining a socialist model 90 miles from the United States is an extraordinary challenge and triumph. This is something we excel at by ensuring its the people themselves who lead these changes. We ask for your continued support and confidence in our abilities to ensure we get this right."



L-R: Cuban Consul General Jorge Soberón, Manuel Yepe, CCFA Toronto's Sean Smith

To that end the night ended with an update on our Cuba for Haiti Fund and how the CCFA has raised over \$140,000 towards assisting Cuba's ongoing solidarity efforts in Haiti. With the recent outbreak of cholera it is once again the hundreds of Cuban doctors, nurses and technicians who are on the front lines and the first to respond.

As Manuel concluded: "The existence of the Revolution itself guarantees a force unlike any other for peace and change."

It's a testament to our remarkable membership that many made additional donations to the Cuba for Haiti Fund to show the tremendous solidarity the members of the CCFA play in ensuring this force continues to grow stronger in the years to come.



L-R: Cuban Consul General Jorge Soberón, Manuel Yepe, CCFA Toronto's Elizabeth Hill

Cuban Medics a Big Force on Haiti Cholera Frontline

By Pascal Fletcher, Reuters (Editing by Bill Trott), 4 Dec/10

PORT-AU-PRINCE (Reuters) - They don't send out press releases, don't have public information officers and their contacts are not widely publicized by the huge international humanitarian operation helping cholera-hit Haiti.

But when the United Nations appeals for more doctors and nurses to combat the deadly disease that is killing dozens by the day, it is Cuba's medical brigade that U.N. officials are likely to turn to first.

With a tradition of service in the world's poorest and most forgotten states, the Cubans are a major frontline force in the multinational response to the raging epidemic, which has killed at least 2,000 people and probably more, since mid-October in the impoverished country. While many Western aid workers crowd Haiti's capital, where more than 1.3 million vulnerable homeless survivors of the January 12 earthquake are crammed into tent camps, Cuba's medics are also seeking out cholera victims in hard-to-reach rural hamlets.

A Cuban-led team trekked this week to one such settlement — the dirt-poor mountain village of Plateau in Haiti's cholera-ravaged Artibonite department, where they set up an emergency makeshift cholera treatment centre on the benches of a Protestant church. "We don't look for publicity but we do look for the people," Dr. Lorenzo Somarriba, coordinator of the Cuban Medical Brigade in Haiti, told Reuters at the brigade's headquarters in a Port-au-Prince suburb.

"The Cuban doctors are working in the most difficult places. It's our policy to concentrate on areas outside the national capital," he said, a fact acknowledged by both Haitian and foreign health authorities.

STRENGTH ON THE GROUND

A small Cuban flag sits on the table in front of Somarriba, while pictures of former President Fidel Castro and guerrilla icon Ernesto "Che" Guevara, himself a doctor, adorn the walls.

Plateau represents the 39th cholera treatment location set up and run by the Cubans across much of Haiti's daunting geography, from the coast to the denuded mountains of the interior where poor, illiterate peasants are helpless victims of a deadly diarrheal disease they have never known before.

These locations are carefully marked on a map of Haiti in the Cuban brigade's headquarters and Somarriba, a Cuban vice minister of health, reels off figures and statistics like a general marshalling his forces in a military campaign. The Cuban-led medical brigade in Haiti is 908 people strong,

Somarriba said. It includes Cuban-trained professionals from 19 other countries — mostly Latin American, Caribbean and African nationals who serve under the Cuban flag.

It is the largest medical contingent in Haiti from any one nation, treating 30 percent to 40 percent of the cholera patients. The Cuban contingent consists mostly of doctors and nurses but also includes technicians and logistics experts. They have warehouses, a fleet of trucks, and planes that fly in supplies and personnel from the [...Cuban] island to the west.

The scale, organisation and experience of this presence make Cuba the country that Haiti's government and its relief partners seek out when they need to ramp up the struggling response to the unchecked epidemic.

"They (the Cubans) are available, they are trained up, they have resources in place," said Nyka Alexander, spokeswoman in Haiti for the World Health Organisation.

"We know the terrain. We have people who speak Creole and the people know us," says Somarriba, citing the 12-year presence of a Cuban medical brigade in Haiti. Cuban medics first came to help after Hurricane George in 1998.

The United Nations' top humanitarian official, Briton Valerie Amos, said during a visit to Haiti last month that the country needed an urgent surge of foreign medics — at least 1,000 nurses and 100 more doctors — if it was to have any hope of curbing the death rate of the raging epidemic.

FIRST TO RESPOND

U.N. officials said Cuba was the first to offer more personnel. "There is a call for everybody but the response came first from the Cubans. They are going to send 300 additional doctors," said Edmond Mulet, head of U.N. peacekeeping mission in Haiti.



A young patient is seen by a Haitian member of the Henry Reeve Emergency Medical Contingent in Port-au-Prince. Photo: internet website of www.medicc.org

Somarriba said the Cuban medical reinforcements were ready in Havana and would be flown in. He said that besides its own resources, the Cuban brigade was receiving significant contributions for its work from the Panamerican Health Organisation/World Health Organisation, the U.N. children's agency UNICEF and the World Food Programme.

Cuba Working since 2007 to Create and Build a Health Service Network for Haiti.

Cuba also had been working since 2007 with socialist ally and oil producer Venezuela to create a health service network across Haiti. Havana already had helped Haiti after the devastating January earthquake, with a medical response reaching a peak of more than 1,700 personnel in March.

Somarriba said Cuban doctors and nurses already in Haiti had treated the first cases of the cholera outbreak on October 15 in Mirebalais in the Centre Department, raising the alarm about severe diarrhoea later confirmed to be cholera.

In centres run by the Cuban brigade, less people were dying from cholera, Somarriba said. The mortality rate there was under 1 percent, below the national average of 3.5 percent. He quickly added: “We should avoid competition, comparison. We should all just be helping ... we’ll be helping Haiti and all of the Americas because of the risk of this spreading.”

They may not have the public relations punch of many international charities but the Cubans have a powerful cheerleader in former President Fidel Castro, who has recounted their exploits in statements on Cuban government websites. “Haiti needs to be rebuilt from its foundations, with the help and cooperation of everyone,” Castro said. [The Haitian President, Rene Preval thanked Fidel and the Cuban People for the help given to Haiti.]

Chileans Thank Cuba’s Medical Assistance after Last February’s Earthquake

HAVANA, Cuba, Nov 19 (acn) Cuban News Agency

The work of the members of the Henry Reeve Cuban Emergency Medical Brigade who attended to victims of last February’s earthquake in the Chilean province of Ñuble was praised on Thursday during a ceremony to bid farewell to the health professionals.

“We all know the great contribution of these health professionals in Ñuble in the last months. We are witnesses to their dedication and efforts during this period,” said Jaime Guzman, head of Health Services in the province.

“Your solidarity and warmth has made this time more bearable in spite of constant problems and challenges. It’s not easy to stand up after you fall. That’s why we appreciate so much the assistance of friends who help us in difficult times,” he added.

“Let the example of our Cuban friends inspire us for the tasks that lie ahead,” Guzman continued.

Rodrigo Avendaño, director of the Herminda Martin hospital of Chillan, the capital of Ñuble, also thanked the Cuban specialists.

The Cuban medical brigade, which included doctors, nurses, technicians, psychologists and administrative personnel, arrived in Chillan only a few days after an earthquake hit this Chilean region on February 27, 2010. In this period, first in the community of Rancagua, they performed more than 3,000 surgeries and attended to 79,000 patients. Later, in Herminda Martin, they performed 1,285 surgeries and attended to 29,000 patients.



L-R: Raul Castro, Hugo Chavez

Cuba to help build pharmaceutical cluster in Venezuela

Cuba will help Venezuela build a pharmaceutical cluster, President Hugo Chávez announced.

This plan is one of 20 new projects — ranging from textile manufacturing, to producing medical equipment, plastic bags and construction material — the two countries recently launched as part of a 10-year extension of their decade-old Integral Cooperation Agreement.

The complex will be built “with endless Cuban support, due to its great experience and capacity in the topic,” Chávez said.

The two countries also agreed to create joint venture companies for assembly and repair for high-voltage transformers; maintenance and repair of oil drilling equipment; production of alcohol and other derivatives; repairs and maintenance of fuel tanks; maintenance of shipyards; training Venezuelan personnel in shipbuilding and ship repairs; and to build a floating platform to pump fuel on tankers.

The partners also agreed to create an undisclosed number of sugarcane-cultivating and processing complexes, both in their countries along with joint production of bio-fertilizers, bio-stimulants, and bio-pesticides.

Panama offering to pay Cuba for medical students

Panama is offering to be the first country to pay for the hands-on training of its medical students in Cuban hospitals.

During his visit, Panama’s Foreign Minister Juan Carlos Varela said Panama wants to “explore a new state of cooperation,” and wants Panamanians to be trained in medical specialties in Cuba.

Currently 432 Panamanian students are enrolled at the Latin American School of Medicine (ELAM) in Havana, which has graduated 323 general practitioners from that country. Now, Panama wants to pay Cuba to allow these doctors to be trained in specialties at Cuban hospitals.

Panama is building five hospitals and 22 clinics that will need physicians “with a social medical focus, as they learn in Cuba,” he said.

THE 6th INTERNATIONAL CUBAN Five & TERRORISM COLLOQUIUM in HOLGUIN, CUBA

Some personal moments by Brian Gordon Sinclair

Political prisoners and terrorism make for a pretty serious subject and it was dealt with seriously in Holguin between Nov. 17 and 21. Many now have read the list of outcomes agreed upon and will continue to be involved in the fight for the freedom of the 5 heroes. (see website: ccfatoronto.ca)

What I want to do here is to mention a few of the tender, personal moments that were connected to the colloquium.



A Children's Welcoming Group in Baguanos

On Nov. 16, I had the pleasure of presenting Hemingway's HOT Havana at UNEAC, the headquarters for the Union of Artists and Writers. In attendance were Kenia Serrano and Basilio Gutierrez, President and Vice-President of ICAP, many delegates to the convention and a wonderful group of Cuban students who were studying English. Oh yes, a very large cockroach scuttled across the floor in the middle of one speech. Since admission was free, I couldn't very well throw him out. At the point in the show where I speak of the Cuban flag and the love of Cuba, the students rose to their feet in applause. This old actor's heart was very proud at that moment. Later a large British delegation who attended the performance invited me to bring the show to England and make a tour of the labour halls. Sounds like a fine way to bring even more attention to the plight of the Cuban 5.

Later, Elizabeth Hill, president of the Canadian-Cuba Friendship Association Toronto and Co-chair of the Canadian Network on Cuba, interrupted her family vacation in Santiago to join the colloquium. Elizabeth spoke in front of the international gathering, specifically at the gathering of artists, writers and intellectuals and strongly conveyed the support of her fellow Canadians.

Although Elizabeth's speech was very well received, I also remember with great fondness the night we attempted to do a play celebrating the Cuban revolution and written by

Portuguese playwright Leandro Vale. Because of a technical problem, the performance was cancelled. Elizabeth, Leandro and I along with a Columbian born Bostonian, headed for the cafes of Holguin's entertainment district. The conversation flowed and so did time as we all entered into a lifetime of friendship but the hour was late and no traditional taxis were available, only bicycle taxis. With great revolutionary fervour, we leaped into three different bicycles and each instant general gave the command, "This is a race! Beat those other two bicycles to the Hotel Pernik!" The drivers huffed and puffed and strained their muscles and finally one pulled ahead by a few lengths and stopped in front of the hotel. Out stepped the winner. It was... I won't tell you who won but I will tell you that with the amount of laughter exuding from all the worthy combatants, no one was disappointed.

On my last full day in Cuba, I was taken with a group to the attractive town of Baguanos. It was here that the lovely children in the photo came to greet the colloquium delegates. In fact, the whole town came to greet us. Cheering people with flags and signs were at the intersections approaching the town and when we finally stepped off the bus, the town square was full. The band was there, military cadets were there and then the little drum majorettes marched forth and did their tiny-perfect, precision routine. When they finished, the anthem played and they all stood very still at attention, radiant in their youth. At that point, I know it must have rained for surely that could not be a tear that rolled down my cheek.

Later, after a delicious snack that was a lot bigger than a snack, we visited a street market, an art display and a cooking school with lots of samples. We then returned to the town hall where we were entertained with music, song and poetry. At the conclusion, the delegates were asked to speak. When my turn came, I spoke as Ernest Hemingway. I told them that I had been out of Cuba at the moment of the revolution but that when I returned, I kissed the Cuban flag and stated that I believed in the absolute necessity of the Cuban revolution. I said that the photographers, at the time, did not manage to get a photo but today, because of the milagro of theatre, I would be able to pose, kissing the flag, for photos. I then said, "But today is different. Today, I kiss the Cuban flag because I believe in the absolute necessity of the freedom of the Cuban 5." I kissed the flag, held the pose briefly for photos and concluded by saluting and exclaiming, "¡Viva los cinco heroes!" Would it be a surprise to say the reaction was very, very positive?

How proud one feels when doing deeds of goodness and substance! Please join me in a future of performance, of solidarity and of good deeds.

Viva Hemingway, Viva Cuba

Brian Gordon Sinclair

"Hemingway On Stage" www.briangordonsinclair.com
member of CCFA Toronto and Canadian Network on Cuba

Did Prosecutors Stumble on Purpose by Making Belated Requests in the Posada Case?

Background: Two Cuban-Americans (associated with the CIA) that memos in the US Justice Department call dangerous terrorists(acting against Cuba) are still walking free in the US. Bosch was pardoned by ex-President Bush Sr. and Posada had the protection of ex-President Bush - the one who said that any country sheltering a terrorist is a terrorist!

From Jane Franklin: The U.S. "Justice" Department aims to hold on to Luis Posada one way or another until he dies with his secrets or can't remember what he knows. Jane Franklin janefranklin.info

Excerpts from the Miami Herald

Did prosecutors stumble on purpose by making belated requests in Posada case?

"The longer the El Paso case remains open, the longer it will take to extradite him to Venezuela. There is also the probability that Posada, who'll be 83 in February, becomes seriously ill or dies without being tried for the most serious crimes he has committed. Especially the murder of 73 defenseless people aboard a [Cuban] passenger plane that Posada blew up in flight [in October 1976]." states Washington-based lawyer Jose Pertierra.

[The prosecutors'] late bid for the inclusion of Cuban documents ensured their rejection, the interested lawyer claims

The delivery by federal prosecutors to Judge Kathleen Cardone of thousands of pages of Cuban evidence a few weeks before the start of Luis Posada Carriles' trial on Jan. 10, puzzles Washington-based attorney Jose Pertierra.

In a long article in the Cuban official website Cubadebate, Pertierra, who represents the Venezuelan government in its [legal] request for Posada's extradition to that country [for the bombing of the Cuban airliner], wonders if the federal prosecutors didn't intentionally shoot themselves in the foot, anticipating that the late delivery of evidence would delay - and might even derail - the trial.

A late request by the prosecution to travel to Havana to interview witnesses also seems dilatory to Pertierra.

"Although the prosecution opposed the defense's request to postpone the start of the trial, its behavior [...] reveals the exact opposite," Pertierra alleges. "[The prosecutors] have inexplicably delayed submitting the documents to the

defense and have waited until barely three weeks before the start of the hearing to tell the judge that they would need to travel to Havana to interview two important witnesses and take down their depositions.

"Their puzzling delay in delivering to the defense more than 6,000 pages of documents has jeopardized the possibility of using them as evidence against Posada. Could that be on purpose?"

It is not in the prosecutors' best interests to proceed with the case, Pertierra says. A five-year-old extradition request by Venezuela contains 73 charges of homicide against Posada.

"The real purpose of the pending process in El Paso is to hamper the extradition request to Caracas, keep Posada on the street, and save the U.S. government a full trial that would place [Washington] next to the terrorist, on the defendant's bench. That is why the strategy is to delay the process," Pertierra writes.

José Maria Heredia and "Niagara Falls"

"It is a pleasure to honour José María Heredia... as we remember the remarkable poem "Niagara," which he composed in 1824, at the astonishing age of 20 while in exile from Cuba.

Niagara Falls is both a national landmark for Canadians and a literary landmark for our writers. It touches us that a poet so distant from us both in space and time would have come here and seen a symbol for so many of the emotions he was expressing at that time. We share with the Cuban people their admiration for the fine poet and hope that, through the dedication of this plaque to his memory, his work will become better known among us."

Margaret Atwood

"Cuban poetry was born facing a Canadian waterfall."

Cintio Vitier

Bilingual Edition (Spanish/English), Compiled, Edited, Translated with commentary and notes by Keith Ellis.

With thanks to Sherritt International Corp., the Canadian Embassy in Havana, the Mackenzie-Papineau Memorial Fund, the Canadian-Cuban Friendship Association Toronto and others...

Prof. Ellis has created an excellent read and a translation of the Spanish poetry that captures its essence. A book to enjoy! 200 copies of the book were donated to the CCFA Toronto to sell (\$15). All proceeds to be donated to 'Cuba for Haiti' campaign.



The plaque at Niagara Falls which all Cuban visitors to Niagara Falls go to see.

Continued on page 8

How the CCFA Toronto Works for You

As every issue of Amistad and CCFA events show, we are an active association that provides many different events and initiatives. Behind the scenes a lot of work and effort goes into making this happen. This is a summary of our latest Executive Board Meeting to show some of this work and upcoming initiatives. If you see any initiatives that you would like to assist us on or think of ones we should be doing, we ask that you let us know.

Let's keep working together to continue building the CCFA into a great force for solidarity between the Canadian and Cuban peoples.

CCFA Toronto: Executive Meeting 11 Nov, 2010

COMMITTEE/DELEGATE REPORTS

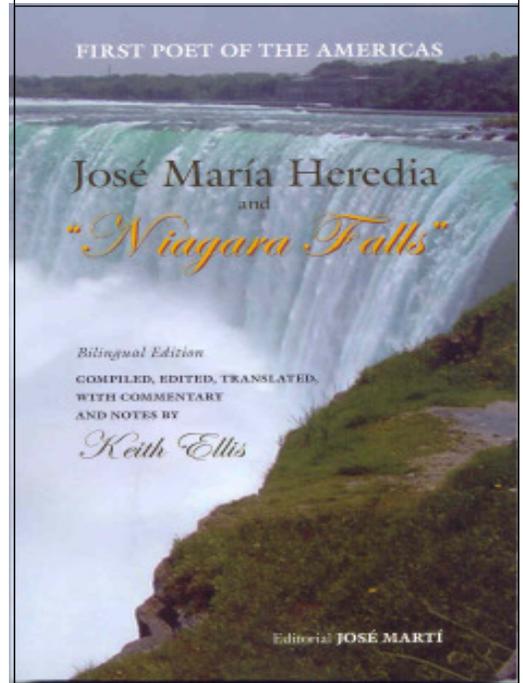
- Communications: ● Amistad, Website, FaceBook being updated
- Café Cuba Nov 15, and José Martí event Jan 29th, Cuban Film Festival for Feb., Toronto-Cuba Friendship Day August 2011 all being worked on
 - ICAP and Cuban Five connections continued
 - Trade Unions and Mayworks connections – and will work on a Playa Girón event tie-in (below).
 - CNC/Free the Five sub-committee being continued; CNC Advisory Committee being formed.
 - Fox Family Cienfuegos tour/Terry Fox Havana 3-D Frieze being investigated
 - Archives of CCFA files being investigated
 - Membership Committee Report to determine cost of providing a membership as expenses are going up.
 - Medical Supplies to Cuba – organizing a new system with other groups/consulate
 - SmartServe – option to save money on bartenders
 - Washington Post ad publicizing The Cuban Five's unjust imprisonment in US
 - Che Guevara Brigade for April



NEW BUSINESS

- Letter of support to Fertecon UK re fighting US pressure on banks to prevent companies doing business with Cuba (illegally forcing the Cuban blockade into other countries, including Canada)
- Playa Girón Anniversary event to plan with Latin American Solidarity Network. (LASN) & other groups

Niagara Falls & Cuban Poet cont. from page 7



CCFA TORONTO STATEMENT

The Canadian-Cuban Friendship Association Toronto is active in promoting friendship, respect and co-operation between Canadian and Cuban peoples. Our activities are directed to providing info/events about Cuba to the public in areas such as culture, health, education, sports, etc., to defend both Cuban and Canadian sovereignty from U.S. interference and to end the illegal U.S. blockade of Cuba.

Amistad

is the newsletter of the CCFA Toronto produced six times a year with volunteer labour. The Editorial Cmte reserves the right to edit submitted material. The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editorial staff. We encourage everyone interested to submit media articles, editorial ideas or letters.

Deadlines the 10th of every even month.

Produced with volunteer labour: Ardis Harriman, Brien Young, Diane Bell, Doug Oyler, Sean Smith, Sharon Skup. Printed by union employees.



Time to Renew? If you think it's time to renew your membership but you aren't sure if it has expired, check your mailing label. The month and year when your membership expires will be indicated. Help us keep the CCFA going by keeping your membership dues up to date.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership includes subscription to the bi-monthly Amistad Newsletter (4 issues/annum)

- I wish to join the CCFA.
- I wish to renew my membership
- I only want the Amistad Newsletter

ANNUAL FEES

- \$15 INDIVIDUAL
- \$25 COUPLE
- \$5 UNEMPLOYED/MELOD/STUDENT
- \$25 Lifetime dues.

**CCFA has a New
"Snail" Mail Address!
See below!**

- I wish to donate \$_____ to help the CCFA Toronto projects.
- I wish to donate \$_____ for medical/educational projects or supplies. Data will receive a tax receipt for joint projects with the "Blackstone" business plan/charity fund.

Name _____
(Provide complete name for tax receipt in donations)

Address _____

City _____

Province _____ Postal code _____

Telephone _____
(area code)

Fax _____

E-mail _____