

# Zones 33/34 Caribbean Partnership

2010-2011

Newsletter Volume 1 Issue 2



# December, 2010

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Building Communities, Bridging Continents  
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CARIBBEAN PARTNERSHIP Newsletter- December 1 2010

## Table of Contents...

## Page No.

Caribbean Partnership? <i>A brief history reviewed</i>	2
Reminder – Next CP Meeting	2
Message from the CP Chair, jv Vlass	3
Reminder – REDI 5	4
Update – Response to Haiti Earthquake disaster	4
Cholera in Haiti – how can you help?	5
Humanitarian Aid from D-7000 plus photos	7
<b>Successful Projects (a few...)</b>	
Updates on DAF Project in Haiti - #1	11
Update on DAF Project in Haiti - #17	15
Rotary Club of Les Cayes, Haiti	16
District 6840 visits Les Cayes, Haiti	19
District 7610 partners with District 7020 in Autism project	22
PDG Bill Pollard, District 6900, shares photos	23
District 6900 contributes to Haiti Midwives' project	24
District 6110 partners with District 7020 for literacy in the Bahamas	25
Coming Events	27
Getting to know the DGs in the Zones 33/34	28
Understanding the Rotary districts	37
References	38

*Please send Club News and photos (with appropriate IDs) to  
Kitty at [ladykitt@sympatico.ca](mailto:ladykitt@sympatico.ca)  
For inclusion in the CPNewsletter*

# Caribbean Partnership

## A brief history revisited

During the Rotary Centennial year (2005), a *Twin Club Program* was established. The idea was the basis for a special emphasis on the Rotary Clubs of the US mainland and the Clubs of Districts 7000, 7020, & 7030.

These three districts are in Zones 33-34 and represent 25 countries!

Here is the Caribbean Partnership website - <http://www.caribbeanpartnership.org>

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***(1) Mark this event on your calendars...***



***OUR NEXT CP MEETING***

***PLAN TO ATTEND***

***OUR CARIBBEAN PARTNERSHIP CELEBRATION***

***July 21-23, 2011***

***RESTON, VIRGINIA***

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## How can *OUR* club find a partner through Caribbean Partnership?

If you wish to establish a Partner Club relationship with another club, you should complete an agreement form. There are two different forms – one for the Caribbean and one for Mainland USA.

Here are two links -

- <http://www.directory-online.com/Websites/ThinkCaribbean/Data/Caribbeanform.htm>
- <http://www.directory-online.com/Websites/ThinkCaribbean/Data/Mainlandform.htm>

**Message from the Chair  
of the Caribbean Partnership  
jv Vlass**

*Since our Caribbean Partnership Program began in 2004, our goal has been to promote fellowship and friendship. As a result, many life-saving projects have developed. There is nothing that Rotarians working together can't achieve....it's Rotary at our finest!*

*Director John has asked that all 29 Districts of our Zones 33 & 34 help Haiti. Since the January 12th earthquake, hurricanes, rain, and cholera have assaulted Haiti. It has been a non-stop effort with our Caribbean Partnership Program to help in every way.*

*Our Caribbean Partnership Program's Team continually evaluates what is the most effective way to help Haiti help themselves.*

*PRID and Immediate Past Caribbean Partnership Chairman, Barry Rassin, is overseeing the (DAF) Donor Advised Fund of our Rotary Foundation, with \$476,749.74 going through our Caribbean Partnership Inc. since July 26, 2010, sent directly to Haiti for projects. Over \$1 million US dollars will go to Haiti through our Treasury of our Caribbean Partnership Inc. this year.*

*We strive for total transparency. To view every project with monies spent, please refer to the Caribbean Partnership Inc. Treasurer's report, posted on our Caribbean Partnership website that will be up dated as more donations accumulate.*

*Our Caribbean Partnership held an Ancillary meeting at the 2010 Rotary Zone Institute Zones 33 and 34 in Naples, Florida. We were honored to have our RI President Elect Kalyan Banerjee, RI Foundation Trustee David Morgan, our current International Director, John Smarge, and other Past Directors, PDGs, DGs DGEs, DGNs in the room.*

*Our first CP Newsletter is available online at our website <http://www.caribbeanpartnership.org/>*

*You can also view the Haiti DVD we showed at the meeting which was produced by Past RI Director/Immediate Past Caribbean Partnership Chairman, Barry Rassin.*

**Our next Caribbean Partnership Celebration will be held July 21-23, 2011 in Reston, Virginia.**

*Join us for Fellowship with your partnered club, and learn what we're all about. Learn how clubs within our Zones are working together through our Caribbean Partnership on projects.*

*Mark your calendars and plan to attend! More details on the Agenda and Registration to follow soon!*

*Thanks for your support of our Caribbean Partnership!*

*jv Vlass PDG 2006-07 Rotary District 6910  
Zones 33-34 Caribbean Partnership, Inc. Chairman*



(2) *Mark this next event on your calendars...*



## Rotarian Emergency Disaster Initiative (REDI)

5<sup>th</sup> REDI Conference  
Marriott Hotel, Grand Cayman  
Cayman Islands

11th and 12th February 2011

Hosted by District 7020  
REDI for PEACE

Preparation, Evaluation, Association, Communication, Execution

## Update – The Response of Rotarians to the Haiti Earthquake Disaster

...from PRID Barry Rassin, PRID Robert Stuart, PRID Eric Adamson, RID John Smarge

The exact impact financially and emotionally of the response by Rotarians on the people of Haiti post January 12, 2010 earthquake can never be fully quantified. However, many parts of the response immediately and long term should be documented in order to provide a clear understanding of the dedication, hard work and empathy of Rotarians from around the world.

### Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund Account Holders

Eric E. Adamson, Vice President, RI  
(from Zones 33-34)

\*\*\*\*\*

Barry Rassin, Past Rotary  
International Director (Zones 33-34)

\*\*\*\*\*

John Smarge, Rotary International  
Director (from Zones 33-34)

\*\*\*\*\*

Robert Stuart, Jr, Past Rotary  
International Director

\*\*\*\*\*

**Let's start with Rotarians in Haiti.** The Rotarians from the 19 Rotary Clubs in Haiti jumped right into the mode of helping their neighbor by first making sure their families were safe and then helping those who needed them. From turning their own home into a hospital for hundreds, and leaving their family living in a car while they went to help others, the stories are too many to document here. Suffice it to say, the first people out in the streets of Port au Prince were Rotarians using their hearts and skills to save lives.

**Caribbean neighbours.** Next we have to look at the Caribbean neighbors of Haiti to see how they responded. From The Bahamas, all the way down to South America, Rotarians helped with every means available to them. Haiti's own District 7020 led the response with their 10 countries with plane loads of medical supplies and other essential items being sent in day after day. They raised about \$1.5 Million dollars in funds and about \$11.5 million in goods-and-services-in-kind to provide immediate help. District 7030 was not far behind with their 14 Caribbean countries providing an estimated \$500,000 in funds and goods-in-kind. District 7000, Puerto Rico, was also working hard to provide planes and boats of supplies with estimated value of \$300,000. The Rotarians in the Dominican Republic, being on the same island with Haiti, served not only as a staging ground for many of the flights with supplies, but also provided much relief of their own for an estimated effort of \$600,000 to the people of Haiti. The Rotarians in all of these Caribbean countries were proud to be a

part of the immediate response efforts for our friends in Haiti. (These estimates are based on available knowledge, so please accept apologies for any that may be too low.)

**The world.** We must then recognize the fact that the Rotarians in the rest of the world also jumped in to assist Haiti with significant funds. Although Rotarians in most countries are using the *Donor Advised Fund* for Haiti Earthquake Relief (DAF), at The Rotary

Foundation, Canada has their own DAF for Haiti Earthquake Relief. They raised some \$115,000 which will be matched - but they appear to have provided in funds and goods-in-kind some \$600,000 as well as the DAF funds. About 20 other countries have donated significant funds to the DAF at The Rotary Foundation. However, Rotarians in Sweden, France and Germany have raised funds estimated at about \$500,000 and plan to use those funds directly for projects in Haiti.

**DAF.** Of course, the DAF is the major ongoing effort to help the people in Haiti with schools and children, prosthetics and sustainable housing. The funds continue to come into the fund, with the Rotarians in the United States leading the countries that have made donations by providing almost half (\$1.2 million) of the funds to the DAF. Rotarians in Japan follow with over \$600,000 and are then followed by Thailand, Sweden, Lebanon, Malaysia, Hungary, Puerto Rico, Czech Republic, Australia, Greece, Singapore, Norway, Mexico, Bolivia, Canada, Virgin Islands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Guam and Honduras. With all these donations to the DAF, along with earnings, the DAF now has brought in a little over \$2 million.

**Project evaluation.** The DAF committee has been evaluating projects within their priorities, and has reviewed a total of 96 requests with a total value of \$7.8 million and expected to touch the lives of 1.2 million people. They have approved, and agreed to fund, approximately \$1 million into 36 projects with total project cost of \$1.7 million. They have also endorsed another 10 projects which are outside of the priorities, but recognize their value, and would ask Rotary Clubs to take them up and provide funds for them. The DAF are still evaluating 44 projects with the expectation that many of them will be approved over the next two months.

**Has Rotary been a major influence in Haiti?** Yes! If you have followed the above numbers, you can see that Rotarians from around the world (Rotarians in at least 50 countries have been a part of the relief efforts) have participated in various programs to help those in Haiti who have been seriously affected by the tragedy of the earthquake of January 12, 2010.

**Cholera.** Recently an outbreak of cholera in the Artibonite Valley, caused by heavy rains and the Artibonite River overflowing, combined with the excess of residents who had emigrated from Port au Prince after the earthquake, and poor sanitation, resulted in approximately 440 deaths, and 6,000 who are currently ill – all in the past 30 days. The DAF has agreed to provide \$10,000 matching funding to District 7020's Governor Diana White, in their project to help with cholera prevention in Haiti.

**Total monetary impact.** Total monetary impact is estimated to be in excess of \$18 million with need for about \$5.5 million to complete the remaining projects.

\*\*\*\*\*

## CHOLERA IN HAITI

*The official position of District 7020 as it affects Haiti, from the following:*

- District 7020 DG Diana White ([dianawhite.7020@gmail.com](mailto:dianawhite.7020@gmail.com))
- Haiti Task Force Liaison PDG Dick McCombe ([rmccombe@gussiema.org](mailto:rmccombe@gussiema.org))
- District 7020 Disaster Chair – Felix Stubbs ([fstubbs@bs.ibm.com](mailto:fstubbs@bs.ibm.com))

Our primary focus is education.

- Haiti clubs are conducting local media campaigns with the use of educational pamphlets and roving vehicles with megaphones.
- They are advising how to take sanitary preventive precautions
- They are advising where to go in the event that persons are sick.

Education is a critical service and is one that can be managed by any and all clubs who are willing to do so.

**Clubs within Haiti.** All clubs who engage in this campaign may require financial assistance and the District is poised to provide the assistance when costs are submitted in accordance with our routine requests.

**Clubs outside of Haiti.** Clubs outside of Haiti who wish to assist with this campaign can remit funds to District 7020 (for the Haiti Relief Account) – details are on the next page.

-- We believe the Government of Haiti and the World Health Organisation are the primary agencies who are responsible for the provision of medical supplies and medications for afflicted areas.

-- We have been advised by Dr. Claude Surena, our Disaster Chair in Haiti, that if Rotary wishes to provide supplies, the most practical assistance is to ship disinfectant and/or hand sanitiser. This should be consigned to Dr. Claude Surena, Ministry of Public Health, ROTAH.

We thank you for the concern of clubs in the District – as always the family of District 7020 works together.

## Further appeal –

...from PRID Barry Rassin

*I am sure you are all aware of the most recent tragedy for our Rotarian friends in Haiti with the advent of the Cholera outbreak. We continue to work with them to see how we can help.*

*During that effort we have had a most generous donation of \$100,000 from the Order of Mata specifically to assist our Rotarians in Haiti with the Cholera epidemic. However, they have also requested us to match that donation with another \$100,000. I know how much you have already done for Haiti this year and I thank you for it and understand that you may not be able to. However, I would ask every Club to consider if and how you could help us to match these funds.*

*If you are able to, then please submit your donation to the Rotary District 7020 Haiti Earthquake Fund. You can send a check or a wire transfer as shown below.*

*Thank you for whatever consideration that you can give. All the best.*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **US\$ payments by wire transfer - Send to:**

Wachovia Bank, New York  
SWIFT Code: PNBUS3NNYC  
ABA Code: 026005092  
For credit to:  
First Caribbean International Bank (Cayman) Limited  
SWIFT Code: FCIBKYKY  
Account Number: 2000192002655  
For further credit to:  
Rotary International District 7020  
Account Number 3481106  
Reference: "Haiti Earthquake Relief"

Donors should be asked to kindly send e-mail advice of transfer to PDG Richard W. Harris (rwh@candw.ky) and state name and email address of any other intended recipient.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **US\$ payment by bank draft or Cheque (check):**

-- Mailed payment must be an official Bank Draft on a US clearing bank or a cheque drawn on a US domestic bank.  
-- (US\$ denominated cheques drawn on a bank outside of the continental USA are discouraged as they may be difficult to negotiate.)

Mail to:

Richard W. Harris  
Rotary International District 7020  
P. O. Box 557  
Grand Cayman KY1-1502  
CAYMAN ISLANDS

## What is cholera?

...from <http://www.medicinenet.com/cholera/article.htm#1whatis>

*Cholera is an acute, diarrheal illness caused by infection of the intestine with the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae*. An estimated 3-5 million cases and over 100,000 deaths occur each year around the world. The infection is often mild or without symptoms, but can sometimes be severe. Approximately one in 20 (5%) infected persons will have severe disease characterized by profuse watery diarrhea, vomiting, and leg cramps. In these people, rapid loss of body fluids leads to dehydration and shock. Without treatment, death can occur within hours.*

## Breaking News...

### **Rotary provides Humanitarian Aid - November, 2010** **Rotary provides Humanitarian Aid**

*Notice sent by DG John Richardson, District 7000  
Passed along by DGE Guy Theodore of District 7020*

...from DGE Guy Theodore, District 7020

Present our gratitude to all contributors, including Pilots and Airplane owner

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...from DG John Richardson, District 7000

Today, San Juan Rotarian Carlos Matos and fellow pilots Danny Epps and Ramon Torres delivered approximately 1,400 pounds of antibacterial hand sanitizer to Dr. Claude Surena in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, following an appeal from 7020 District Governor Diana White in response to the Cholera outbreak.

The pilots departed just after sunrise, and the last of the three private planes safely touched down at Isla Grande airport at just before 6:00 p.m.

My thanks go to the following:

- Carlos, Danny, and Ramon
- District 7000 Rotarians in the 23 clubs who responded to this call
- District 7020
- District 6920
- Rotary Club of Skidaway Island
- All those who have offered financial assistance
- Those persons both civilian and military who provided their aid in Haiti's time of need.

Thank You!

*John Richardson*  
*Governor 2010-2011*  
*District 7000*  
[jrichardson@i-h-e.com](mailto:jrichardson@i-h-e.com)

*Photos follow – Mission Accomplished!*

*Claudio Reck, Rotarian, at left, and pilot Carlos Matos  
Photos of our airlift of hand sanitizers to Port Au Prince.*









## Have a safe and blessed Holiday Season!

*A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories.*

*After about an hour, the manager came out of the office and asked them to disperse.*

*“But why?” they asked, as they moved off.*

*“Because,” said the manager, “I can’t stand chess nuts boasting in an open foyer.”*

### **EDIBLE SNOWFLAKES**

Flour tortillas  
Vegetable Oil  
Cinnamon and Sugar Mixture

1. Fold tortilla in half and half again. Then, cut out the shape of a snowflake with clean scissors.
2. Heat a small amount of oil in a saucepan.
3. Fry tortilla on each side until crisp.
4. Place on paper towels.
5. Sprinkle with the cinnamon and sugar mixture while still warm.

*In the battle between the “can’ts” and the “cans” in Rotary, the “can’ts” have never won a single permanent victory to my knowledge. The broad visions, the nobler purposes have always won.*

*-- Paul Harris (Message to 1930 RI Convention, Chicago, IL, USA)*

*The only way anyone can prove his love of his fellowman is through service to his fellowman.*

*-- The Rotarian, February 1921*

# Successful CP Projects

Stories of interest at December, 2010

## Update on a few Haiti projects

*For information about how you can help Haiti  
Please refer to the following:*

(1) <http://www.7020.org>

*(where you will see a clear link to the Haiti Earthquake Relief website)*

OR

(2) <http://haiti-task-force.blogspot.com/>

*(the official Haiti Earthquake Relief website)*

## Update on Haiti - DAF Project #1

*...submitted by Rosa Leger, Haiti*

Attached are the pictures recently taken of DAF #1 Ecole Ste Famille. As you can see the project advances and soon the second floor will be completed. Today several members of our Club went to visit DAF 1 and we were all impressed to see the EPCOS engineers working today Sunday.

The original intent of this project was the following:

\*\*\*\*\*

### **DAF #1 – Ecole St. Famille - LES CAYES**

\*\*\*\*\*

- Rebuilding Six Classrooms has commenced.
- 300 students to benefit
- Total Cost is \$122,391.92

- The DAF has committed \$50,000
- District 7020 has committed \$20,000
- SOS has committed \$20,000
- Rotary Club of Montego Bay, Jamaica, has committed \$10,000
- Local Rotarians have committed \$2,000

At September, \$20,391.91 was still needed. School will open in one week and they hope to have at least the bottom floor ready to be used.



*Above left – Rotarian Rosa comes to see the progress.  
Above right – First roof finished*



*Above left and right – Rotarian Rosa and PP Jean Yves Banatte inspecting the work progress*



*Above left – Rotarians and engineers visit the site on October 3, 2010  
Above right – DAF #1 workers adding cement/concrete to the first roof*



*Above left – DAF #1 workers for the first roof. Above right – DAF #1 working on the second floor.*



*Above left – President Aldy talking with Rotarian Gerard and 3 engineers at the DAF #1 site. Above right – the 3 engineers with a woman journalist.*



*Rotarians from the Cayes club visit the DAF #1 site.*

*And now the completion of the project:*



*Above left – Close view of sign to commemorate the project.  
 Above right – Downstairs working on Phase III. Upstairs, preparing the second roof.*



*Above - Human chain for preparing the second roof.*



*Above left – Preparing concrete for second roof. Above right – Rotary sign on the site.*



*At left - Workers adding concrete to the second roof.*

## Update on Haiti - DAF Project #17

*...submitted by Robert Leger, Haiti*

The original intent for Project #17 was the following:

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### **DAF #17 - Ecole Normale des Cayes - CAYES**

\*\*\*\*\*

- Rebuilding the school
- 400 Students who are also used to tutor elementary school students
- Also used for community activities as auditorium, conferences, etc.

The school will provide 16 scholarships for two years to current students, as well as six scholarships to new students who were victims of the earthquake in appreciation for Rotary help. Total Cost is \$120,079.67

- DAF is committed to \$60,000
- District 7020 is committed to \$20,000
- At September, \$40,079.67 was still needed.

In the photos below, you can see that the engineers have begun the work in spite of the rain.



*Above – Digging for the foundation of the school.*



*Above left – Full of water after rain. Above right – President Aldy Alphonse with other members visiting site on October 3.*

## Rotary Club of Les Cayes, Haiti

*...submitted by Robert Leger*

Rotary Club of Les Cayes is one of the most active – despite their locale and the difficulties they face. Take heart with their story and photos below:

School started near the first of October in Haiti. This was one month later than normal because of the earthquake. The Rotary Club Des Cayes sends 26 students to school paying their uniforms, books, bags, tuition and also does medical check-ups for them. The number of students decreased this year from 30 to 26 since 4 of them could not pass due to their too low academic level.

So the project will continue but with 26 students.

The objective is for the Rotary Club of Cayes to accompany them up to a Professional school or the University. This project started two years ago and the same students now are beginning the first year of elementary school.

Below are photos of the members of the Rotary Club Des Cayes a few days before school starts, meeting with parents and students to give school bags, books and advice.



*At left – Robert and Rosa Leger and Rotarian Gontran at entrance to the Sainte. Famille School.  
At right - the school bags with the Rotary emblem.*





*Above left – Dr. Robert Leger giving students medical checkups.  
At right - The eager students.*



*Above left – Parents and some students.  
Above right – PP Jean Yves Banatte and Sister Carole giving out school bags.*



*Above left – PP Lenick Desert giving advice to students.  
Above right – President Aldy talks to parents and students.*



*Above left – President Aldy giving a school bag.  
At right – Principal, Sister Carole, with Rotarians.*



*Above left – Rotarian Berson and his daughter, Nikita, giving medications.  
At right - Rotarian Brunel and volunteer, Evens (with cap) measuring height.*



*At left – Rotarian Gontran talking to parents.  
At right – Rotarian Rosa giving a school bag.*



*At left – Rotarian Rosemond giving a school bag. At right – Rotarian Rosemond helps with medical charts.*



*Above left – Rotarians Gontran, Robert and Rosa Leger bringing schoolbags to students.*

*At right – Rotarians with teacher in the yellow shirt. Back row – Rotarian Gerard, in black Rotarian Nivroseon right of Aldy, President Aldy, PP Lenick, Sister Carole, behind Sister Carole and Rosa is Rotarian Rosemond, then Rosa, Robert, Gontran.*

*Front row –Renand our President Elect, PP Jean Yves Banatte, Teacher in yellow shirt*

## *Visit of John Desrosiers from District 6840 to Lycee Phillippe Guerrier, Haiti – District Project*

The Rotary Club of Les Cayes has received the visit of John Desrosiers from the Rotary Club of Algier Louisiana D-6840. His District and members of his club contributed for the Science Lab MG # 73733 for the District 7020 Lycee Phillippe Guerrier project in Cayes. It was a reunion of sorts, since Mr. Desrosiers originally attended elementary school in Haiti.

*DG Diana of District 7020 notes the following – that the provision of science laboratory equipment, kindly supported by Mr. Desrosiers' District (6840, has not yet begun. It has been a joint effort of our two districts over the past nine months to enable the grant for this piece of the project to be finally approved.*

*It is a delight to see the results of the work carried out on the Lycee which the District Project committee and Les Cayes club members have brought to fruition. We will look forward to the installation of the science laboratory equipment which we were able to add the project as a result of District 6840 generosity.*

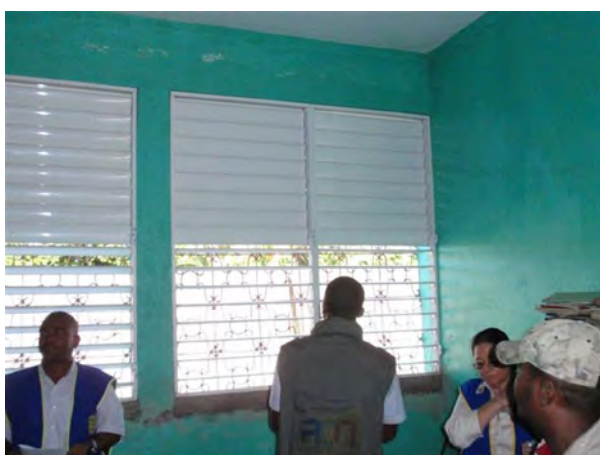
The photos show the visit.



*Above left – Principal Mr. Louis, Rotarian Rosa, John and wife, President Aldy, Rotarian Brunel, and Rotarian Robert  
 Above right – Rotarian Brunel Letang, President Aldy, Rotarians John and Robert during press conference*



*Above left – John visiting classroom, talking to students about Rotary  
 Above right – John’s wife, Dr. Arlette Desrosiers, explaining the importance of the D-7020 project*



*Above left – Looking at one of the windows offered by District 7020  
 Above right – On right and back of John, journalists covering his visit to the project*



*Above left – Pathway for rainy season offered by District 7020  
Above right – Press Conference*



*Above left – Rotarian John Desrosiers with Principal Harry Louis. On left, Mrs. Arlette Desrosier  
Above right – Rotarian John with Robert Leger, Principal Mr. Louis, and President Aldy*



*Above left – Rotarian John visiting the project in Les Cayes, Haiti  
Above right – Rotarian John looking at furniture for the library*

## *District 7610 working in District 7020 ...a project underway*

*...submitted by PDG Horace McCormack (D-6910) and Karen Pinder (D-7020)*

Districts 6910 and 7020 are working together to make good things happen for a special-needs group of children in the Bahamas.

Special needs children are very much challenged in the Bahamian community by a lack of resources. If the special needs child is lucky enough to make it to the top of the waiting list and be offered support, there is no assurance that the support provided will be dedicated to the child's specific developmental or educational challenge.

And this is one of the reasons for pursuing the attached educational special project for a dedicated classroom for Autism-affected children.

Autism is a developmental disorder that appears in the first three years of life, and affects the child's normal development of social and communication skills.

### **What is Autism**

Autism is a complex developmental disability that is present from birth or very early in development

### **What are the effects of Autism?**

Autism is a complex neurobiological disorder that typically lasts throughout a person's lifetime and affects essential human behaviors such as social interaction, the ability to communicate ideas and feelings, imagination, self-regulation, and the ability to establish relationships with others.

### **Who does Autism affect?**

Autism has no racial, ethnic, or social boundaries, and can affect any family despite their income, life-style, and educational levels. Autism is also four times more prevalent in boys than in girls according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

### **Is there a cure for Autism?**

Autism is characterized by varying degrees of impairment in communication skills and social abilities, and also by repetitive behaviours. Symptoms range from very mild to severe.

There is no cure yet for autism, but early diagnosis and intervention improves outcomes. With appropriate specialized education, behavioural and biomedical interventions coupled with an understanding community and adequate support services most persons with autism can become productive, happy citizens.

The project site is the Ministry of Education Classroom for Special Needs (Autism) students in the Eastern Division, Nassau, New Providence Island, The Bahamas.

Autism, is a disorder that affects 1 in 110 children and has become the world's fastest growing developmental disease.

This project seeks to provide special training supplies and equipment for a new public school classroom dedicated to the underserved special needs children affected with this disorder in Nassau. Although there are existing facilities, they are overcrowded with a student-to-teacher ratio that is higher than desired, and there is also a waiting list of students whose parents are seeking special needs education. It is estimated that the project will take less than six months.

The Ministry of Education will be responsible for maintaining the equipment and materials for the classroom.

Host and international partners will share information via email correspondence. Host country will purchase ship and arrange for installation of materials. International partner clubs will visit the project as needed.

Total project funding will be roughly \$14,000 USD.

## *PDG Bill Pollard of District 6900 sends these memories*

Were you at the District 7020 in 2009 in St. Croix?

Now PDG Bill Pollard attended the 2008 District 7020 Conference in St. Croix and had a great time! DG-at-the-time Rupert returned the friendship, and attended and spoke at the District 6900 Conference (Bill and Rupert served as DG the same year).

Says Bill, "We had a fun Caribbean night at our 2008 conference since our GSE partner was D7020."

Below are Bill's photos:

- (1) Rupert and Cheryl at the St. Croix Conference
- (2) with the GSE team from the BVI

This is Caribbean Partnership!



- (3) with the District 7600 GSE team, and
- (4) Rupert and Bill at the St. Croix conference



## District 6900 contributes to Haiti's Midwives' Project

...submitted by Christina McClung, President,  
Western Henrico Rotary

The information below marks the completion of the donation given to Midwives for Haiti.

The Rotary Club of Henrico was able to help raise the money for this vehicle, and presented the check this past in the fall.

Photos credits: Rotarian, Raleigh Hobson.

RICHMOND -- When a bright pink Jeep modified to travel extremely rough terrain is delivered to Midwives for Haiti next month, more pregnant women in the quake-ravaged country will have access to prenatal care and a greater chance of surviving childbirth, thanks in part to a gift of \$10,000 from the Western Henrico Rotary Club.



According to Christina McClung, club president, the funds were raised at the annual Bowl-a-thon held in February. Comprised of business and professional men and women throughout the Richmond Metropolitan Area, the Western Henrico Rotary also partnered with the Henrico North and Bon Air Rotary Clubs, as well as the Hermitage High School Interact Club to help purchase the Jeep and generate additional funds for the charity.

McClung said, "We are pleased to be able to join with others to support this humanitarian effort, which will help save lives and build goodwill and peace in the world."

Midwives for Haiti board member and volunteer Stephen Eads, M.D., who is employed by the Virginia Women's Center, explained that Haiti has the highest childbirth mortality rate in the Western Hemisphere. For every 100,000 births, 670 women die. "Everyone I've talked to in Haiti has a friend or a family member who has died giving birth," he said. In comparison, in the U.S., there are 14 deaths per 100,000 births.

According to Eads, the major problems are hemorrhage, eclampsia (from very high blood pressure), infections and obstructed births. He said the lack of skilled attendants and limited access to quality care is at the root of the problems. About 75 percent of Haitian women do not receive qualified birthing assistance and most deliver at home.

To improve maternal health, Midwives for Haiti, a Virginia-based charity, has trained about a dozen Haitian women at a clinic and hospital in Hinche (about 60 miles north of Port au Prince) each year for the past three years. Students learn how to provide prenatal care and deliver babies. They also teach mothers how to provide better nutrition for infants and children, who are also at risk. After students graduate, they're employed by Midwives for Haiti or other healthcare organizations; some help train new students.

When Western Henrico Rotarian Scott Strickler learned that Midwives for Haiti needed a vehicle to reach more women through mobile clinics, he immediately brought it to the attention of the Rotary. "The Rotary was the first to say, 'We want to help,'" Eads said. "They really got the Jeep rolling."

Until now, Midwives for Haiti has had to rely on another volunteer organization for transportation. Having their own vehicle will enable midwives and students to offer mobile prenatal clinics at 12 remote villages on a regular basis and transport patients and supplies. "We'll be able to identify problems before they become a threat, provide medicine or get patients to a hospital, if needed," Eads said.

For a total cost of about \$62,000, the 1988 Jeep Wrangler, purchased from Jeff Daniel's Jeep Customizing in Pennsylvania, was modified with a suspension system and heavy-duty axles specifically designed for Haiti, so that it can traverse rough unpaved roads between villages and ford streams and rivers.

Painted pink to match the students' scrubs, the Jeep will be equipped with special lights and auxiliary power so that medical attendants will be able to conduct ultrasounds in the field. It will also have an awning to shade clinic sites.



In addition to providing funds to help pay for the Jeep, the Western Henrico Rotary sent club member Van Williams, M.D., a medical consultant with the International Mission Board, to work as a volunteer with Midwives for Haiti last fall. Williams was impressed that the organization was teaching Haitians and then using them to teach others. "It's like the old Chinese proverb: Give a man a fish and feed him for a day. Teach him to fish and feed him for a lifetime."

The potential to improve maternity care in Haiti is promising. Eads said there are about 200,000 births in Haiti each year, which means they need 1,200 skilled attendants. If there were 10 organizations similar to Midwives for Haiti, and they each trained 25 students a year, in five years they will succeed in making it far less dangerous to have a baby in Haiti -- and ensure the survival of more women, infants and children.

For more information, visit [westernhenricorotary.org](http://westernhenricorotary.org), and [www.midwivesforhaiti.org](http://www.midwivesforhaiti.org).



**At left** - Brenda Burgess, Midwives for Haiti Treasurer; Van Williams, M.D., Western Henrico Rotary Club member; Christina McClung, Western Henrico Rotary Club president; and Stephen Eads, M.D., Midwives for Haiti board member.

**At right** - (bottom row) Van Williams, M.D., WHRC member; Stephen Eads, M.D., Midwives for Haiti board member; Brenda Burgess, Midwives for Haiti treasurer; Christina McClung, WHRC president; Zahra Taki, HHS Interact; Sarah Johns, HHS Interact: (second row) Cora Huitt, Bon Air Rotary President; Scott Strickler, WHRC member; David Popek, Henrico North Rotary member, Courtney Egan, HHS Interact; and Erin Johns, HHS Interact.

## ***DISTRICTS 7020 AND 6110 PARTNER***

### ***International Service Project to improve/renovate an adult literacy center in the Bahamas***

*...submitted by Michele Rassin*

After nearly two months of planning and preparation, friends and members of the Rotary Clubs of East Nassau, Bahamas, District 7020 and the Rotary Club of Joplin, Missouri, USA, District 6110 partnered in a Rotary International Community Service Project.

The Rotarians spent a weekend at **Project Read** where they successfully renovated a staircase, and built a new entrance to the building, ultimately making it a safer place. According to Brian Moodie, Rotarian and Chairman of Project Read, "The difficulty some of our tutors and students had climbing the existing spiral staircase was preventing them from access the facilities at **Project Read.**"

When Project Read Administrator Arthurlue Rahming appealed to local Rotarians for help, they didn't let her down. They couldn't. The Rotarians see their work at Project Read far from over, though. They still want to improve plumbing and renovate the restroom facilities, install a computer server system, replace window shades, repair and re-supply the reading labs, and refurbish other areas of the facility.

The long-range effects of their work will be evident to students for years to come, but more importantly, the example set by Rotary will live in our hearts forever." says Moodie.

Rotarians donated much more than money to the project. They also gave hours of "sweat equity," as Moodie puts it.



*At left – East Nassau Rotarians at work. At right – Missouri Rotarian, Sid Davis, visiting Rotarian from the Rotary Club of Joplin Missouri, USA, demonstrating to future Rotarian Nathaniel Pulley how to measure and cut wood for the new staircase*  
**Below – East Nassau Rotarians and Missouri Rotarians lending a helping hand.**



“Construction-savvy club members and Rotarians from Missouri, USA, traveled to the Bahamas to help with the renovations at Project Read. The visiting and local Rotarians worked in the sweltering heat. They came armed with hammers, drills, electrical saws, cement, wood, as well as the Rotary Clubs of the Bahamas Tool Van. Beyond the service of these Rotarians, and the dedicated effort by these Rotarians, several local companies generously donated materials and equipment for the project. A special thank you is given to Pinder Enterprises for their support and generosity.

Reflecting on the outstanding success of this project, and long term commitment by the Rotary Club of East Nassau, Brian Moodie, issued this comment: “We are proud to have been involved with this most worthwhile of projects to help build a new entrance and safer staircase for the students, tutors, and employees. We hope that our modest project will help encourage more people to utilize the free services of **Project Read**”.

*Project Read, established in 1991, by the Rotary Club of East Nassau has been in existence for most of the present decade and has assisted thousands of Bahamians.*

*Project Read brings together persons wishing to improve their reading skills with voluntary literacy tutors whose work is to help improve the lives of many who struggle with inadequate literacy skills so that they may progress in their jobs, read to their children, follow a newspaper article or simply enjoy a novel.*

*Students learn practical lessons that give them the confidence and skills, helping them to excel. Once paired with a tutor, lessons are held privately, one-on-one, in a place of the tutor's and clients' mutual agreement.*

# Coming Events



## **REDI Conference 2011**

February 11-12, 2011

Marriott Hotel, Grand Cayman  
Cayman Islands

More information - <http://www.redi.ky>



## **Rotary International Convention, 2011**

New Orleans, Louisiana, U.S.A.

May 21-25, 2011

More information forthcoming – click link below

<http://www.rotary.org/en/members/events/convention/pages/ridefault.aspx>

## **KATS International Youth Regatta, BVI**

July 8-10, 2011

## **Caribbean Partnership Celebration**

Reston, Virginia (close to Washington, DC)

July 21 - 23, 2011

*The great river is the sum total of contributions of hundreds, perhaps thousands of little brooks and rivulets which come tumbling down the hillsides and mountains, singing as they go, eager to cast themselves into the channel of the great river.*

*That is like the growth of Rotary. It has become great because of the self-sacrificing contributions of thousands of Rotarians of many lands*

*-- Paul Harris (My Road to Rotary)*

## *Getting to know the DGs from Zones 33/34*

Last newsletter, districts that had representation on the Governing Body of the CP were noted:

<i>District</i>	<i>District Governor, 2010-11</i>
7020	Diana White
6910	Gene Windham
6930	Louis Venuti
6960	Don Thomas
7030	Tony Watkins

**Rotary Districts in Zones 33 and 34 include the following:**

<i>District</i>	<i>Region</i>	<i>Governor 2010-2011</i>			
<b>Zone 34</b>			<b>Zone 33</b>		
6890	FL	Ed Odom	7530	WV	Ranjit Majumder
6900	GA	Casey Farmer	7550	WV	Mary Keely
6910	GA	Gene Windham	7570	VA	Pat Combs
6920	GA	Lloyd Horadan	7600	VA	Jayne Sullivan
6930	FL	Louis Venuti	7610	VA	Ron Marion
6940	FL	Sylvia White	7620	DC & MD	Jay Kumar
6950	FL	Lynda Vinson	7630	DE & MD	Don Hackett
6960	FL	Don Thomas	7670	NC	Ed Walcoff
6970	FL	Cynde Covington	7680	NC	Firoz Peera
6980	FL	Charlie Rand	7690	NC	Wes Patterson
6990	FL	Doug Maymon	7710	NC	Kaye Brown
7000	PR	Johnny Richardson	7720	NC	Don Johnson
7020	Northern Caribbean	Diana White	7730	NC	Magda Baggett
7030	Southern Caribbean	Tony Watkins	7750	SC	Becky Faulkner
			7770	SC	Rick Moore

*It might be nice to know the DGs in the Zones 33/34...*

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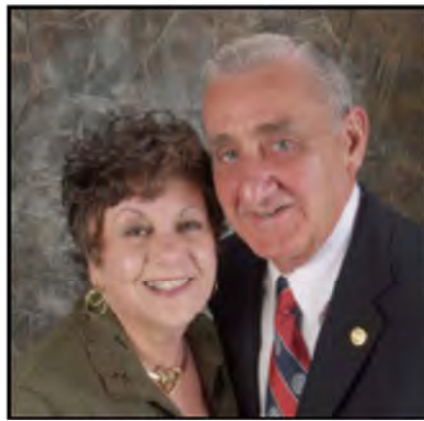
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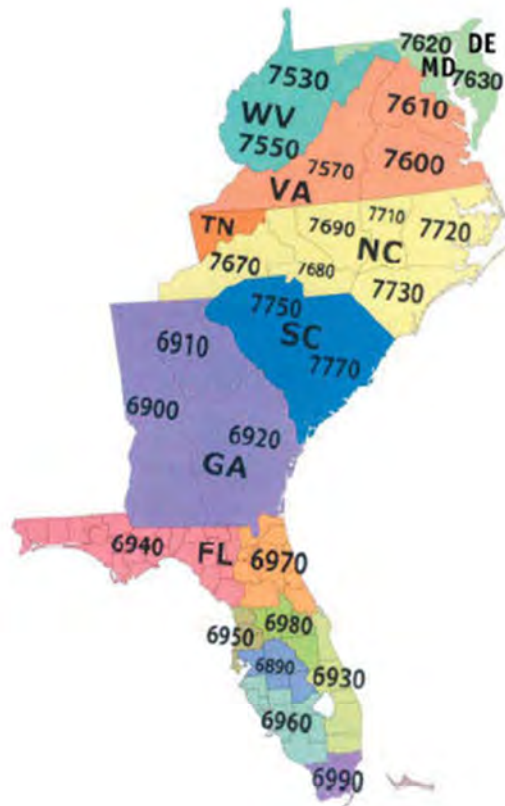


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## *Rotary Districts in Florida and along the East coast -*



*There was once a young man who, in his youth, professed his desire to become a great writer. When asked to define "great" he said, "I want to write stuff that the whole world will read, stuff that people will react to on a truly emotional level, stuff that will make them scream, cry, howl in pain and anger!"*

*He now works for Microsoft, writing error messages.*

### **Caribbean – Zone 34**

- 7000** Puerto Rico
- 7020** Anguilla, Bahamas, British VI, Cayman Islands, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Barths, St. Martin/St. Maarten, Turks & Caicos Islands, St. Thomas, St. John, St. Croix
- 7030** Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, French Guyana, French West Indies, Grenada, Guiana, Montserrat, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago

\*\*\*\*\*

## REFERENCES

**Coleridge, Samuel Taylor Coleridge** (21 October 1772 – 25 July 1834) was an English poet, Romantic, literary critic and philosopher who, with his friend William Wordsworth, was a founder of the Romantic Movement in England and a member of the Lake Poets.

**Evans, Mary Anne** (Mary Ann, Marian) (22 November 1819 – 22 December 1880), better known by her pen name, George Eliot

**Harris, Paul.** <http://www.whatpaulharrissaid.org>