

Zones 33/34 Caribbean Partnership

2011-2012

Newsletter Volume 2 Issue 2



December, 2011

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Reach Within to Embrace Humanity
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CARIBBEAN PARTNERSHIP Newsletter- September, 2011

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Caribbean Partnership

A follow-up on the Caribbean Partnership Celebration Thanks to all who attended and made this possible!

Reston, Virginia, July 21-23, 2011

...a note from the CP Chair, jv

I'd like to take this opportunity to say **Thank You** to all that have contributed to the success of our Caribbean Partnership. Thanks to PRID Milt Jones for enacting the idea of **Think Caribbean** for the Rotarians of Zones 33 and 34, in 2004/2005. Though **Think Caribbean** was not a new idea, PRID Milt put it into action. We have continued to grow with the support of like-minded Rotarians.



Our Caribbean Partnership has grown significantly in and outside of the 29 Districts of Zones 33 and 34. Currently have over 400 Clubs that are partnered and doing Rotary's work together.

D-7020's PDG Diana White shared the following feedback:

jv Vlass

"I believe the Caribbean Partnership has been pivotal in the development and maturing of our district over the past few years. Just as travel broadens the mind, the Partnership has broadened the horizons of many clubs and Rotarians in District 7020 and provided them with a vehicle for taking service to our communities to a higher level."

So thank you for your constant support.

Our Caribbean Partnership continues to fulfill the specific purpose for which our Corporation was organized - to provide opportunities for Rotarians of the United States and throughout the countries of the Caribbean and North Atlantic to become better educated as to our respective cultural similarities and differences.



Each year, we have a Celebration. During the last weekend in July, Rotarians gathered in Reston, Virginia (Washington D.C.) for our 2011 Celebration. Our host, Rotary D-7610, did a fantastic job! We kept an upbeat Caribbean theme throughout the event. Most importantly, this was the first time after seven years that our Celebration was held in Zone 33.

D-7610, PDG Horace McCormack, who served as the Caribbean Partnership Celebration Chair, has been elected to be our next Caribbean Partnership Chairman. Congratulations to Horace! I'm confident that he will have the support that I have experienced.

Horace McCormack



Our next Caribbean Partnership Celebration will take place in D-7030, Trinidad, July 27-28, 2012, at the Hyatt Regency. I hope all of you will join us and experience fellowship as you have never experienced! D-7030 PP Ian Gillette is serving as Conference Chair for this event. PP Ian and his team are working on the agenda, and will have more details out to everyone soon.

The essential part of our Caribbean Partnership is our Partnered Clubs. Serving as our Partnering Coordinator has been a highlight for me, and I'm delighted that D-6910's, PDG Gene Windham, has agreed to be our next Partnering Coordinator. I'm confident that his fresh new ideas will continue the success of our Caribbean

Gene Windham

Partnership Program.

Compassion is a key word that describes our Caribbean Partnership. Quite simply, we care. Let's look at all that we have accomplished since our beginning, from helping Haiti before and after the earth quakes of 2010, to the Caribbean Clubs that have helped communities on the US Mainland, showing that our Club Partnering is indeed a two-way street.

Over the last seven years that I have been associated with our Caribbean Partnership, I will always cherish the many lifelong friendships that have been made and I look forward to seeing all of you in July!

Warmest Rotary Regards,

jv Vlass PDG 2006-07 Rotary District 6910
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Get Excited About
Rotary!!!

View this video

<http://www.rotarynowvideo.com>

REDI Conference 2012

What is REDI?

REDI is the Rotarian Emergency Disaster Initiative. Launched in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina by the three Rotary Directors of the paired zones along the gulf coast, REDI has become a source of disaster awareness for Rotarians, Rotary Clubs, Zones, and Districts.

Don Mebus, Barry Rassin and Bob Stuart convened the North American-Rotary Emergency Disaster Initiative "REDI" to discuss what had been learned and to help the zones be prepared for any future disaster.

Since that time, REDI's scope has broadened to include the Caribbean and South America. This new scope triggered a name change in 2010 to Rotarian Emergency Disaster Initiative.

REDI is not a part of Rotary International; rather it is an initiative by Rotarians for Rotarians.

REDI's Mission is to train Rotarians to be prepared when disaster strikes. REDI does not provide disaster response, but is dedicated to training and preparation.

REDI VI Conference Mission is to develop awareness of, and encourage preparedness for, the multiple hazards that result in disasters.

REDI VI Conference Date & Location

- Friday, March 16 and Saturday March 17, 2012
- **DoubleTree by Hilton Berkeley Marina**
- 200 Marina Blvd., Berkeley, CA 94710

Conference Conveners

- RI Director Noel Bajat, Zone 21 -27
- RI Director Ken Boyd, Zone 25- 26
- RI Director Ken Schuppert Zone 30 - 31
- RI Director John Smarge Zone 33 & 34

Conference Hosts

- District 5160 - District Governor Dave Dacus
- District Governor Elect Laura Day
- Rotary Club of Berkeley, California, President Reginald "Reg" Garcia

Conference Chair

- District 5160 - PDG Karl Diekman

For more information, see <http://rediconference.org>



Rotarian Emergency Disaster Initiative
REDI Conference VI

Friday & Saturday, March 16-17, 2012
Berkeley, California

Register today at
www.rediconference.org

Sponsored by REDI and Rotary District 5160
Convened by RI Directors Ken Boyd, Ken Schuppert,
John Smarge and RIVP Noel Bajat

Rotarian Emergency Disaster Initiative (REDI) trains Rotarians to be prepared when disaster strikes.

The REDI VI Conference Mission is to develop awareness of, and encourage preparedness for, the many hazards that result when disaster strikes.

Conference begins 9:00 a.m. on Friday, March 16, and ends 5:00 p.m. March 17. Conference fees and meals: \$249

REDI Begins, 2007

The first REDI workshop was held in January 2007 in what more fitting place than New Orleans, still reeling from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005. Katrina was one of the five most delay hurricanes in recorded history. Rita was the most intense tropical cyclone ever observed in the Gulf of Mexico.

Rita and Katrina

Highlights of the first REDI conference were heart-wrenching PowerPoint slideshows. The devastation to Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana caused by deadly Hurricane Katrina in August 2005 showed the need for disaster readiness plans. Just one month later, Rita brought death and destruction to Texas and Louisiana emphasized even more pointedly the necessity for readiness.

For Questions, contact



PDG Karl Diekman
REDI VI Conference Chair
Rotary Club of Woodland
Past Governor District 5160 (2010-2011)
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Woodland, CA 95695

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ROTARY AT THE UN

Rotary at the United Nations



Past RI Director Barry Rassin discusses Rotary's relief efforts in Haiti after the January 2010 earthquake during a panel presentation at Rotary-UN Day, 5 November.
Rotary Images/Alyce Henson

Past RI Director Barry Rassin (from District 7020 – Rotary Club of Nassau) discusses Rotary's relief efforts in Haiti after the January 2010 earthquake during a panel presentation at Rotary-UN Day, 5 November, 2011.

More than 1,000 Rotarians, UN officials, Rotary youth program participants, and guests celebrated the special relationship between Rotary and the United Nations on 5 November.

Rotary-UN Day, held annually at United Nations headquarters in New York City, included panels on health, water, and literacy, highlighting Rotarian projects that advance the goals of the UN and improve lives around the world.



Kiyoo Akasaka

Kiyoo Akasaka, UN undersecretary-general for communications and public information, commended Rotary for its ongoing collaboration with the United Nations to improve the health of children worldwide, and for its contribution to polio eradication.

"Our shared vision for a safer and better world is what brings us together here today," Akasaka said. "It's your model of Service Above Self and your sterling results in improving health that makes Rotary one of the most important partners of the UN."

Peace and justice

Both organizations are striving to create a more peaceful and just world, noted RI President-elect Sakuji Tanaka.

"If you were to seek the one idea, the one goal that is at the core of Rotary, you would find the same goal that you find in the charter of the UN: to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbors," Tanaka said.

Timothy E. Wirth, president of the United Nations Foundation and Better World Fund, stressed the importance of partnerships.

"Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon recognizes that every problem the UN faces cannot be [solved] by the UN alone," he said, adding that Rotary's "understanding and commitment to partnerships will make so many of these goals we share possible."

Partnerships

Rotary is committed to partnering with organizations like the UN, said John Hewko, RI general secretary.



John Hewko

"Rotary is learning by experience that it can accomplish more in concert with others than it might on its own. Working together multiplies our success: one plus one equals three," Hewko said. "This new formula provides a unique opportunity to enhance humanitarian service, which is what Rotary is all about. It helps build understanding and peace -- the mission of Rotary and the UN."

Zulfiqar A. Bhutta, head of the Division of Women and Child Health at Aga Khan University, discussed the strategic partnership between the university and Rotary, and the challenges of promoting maternal and child health in developing countries in Africa and parts of Asia.

More than 300,000 women die each year from complications related to pregnancy and childbirth, Bhutta said. "Our biggest challenge is reaching these poor women, families, and infants to give them adequate health care."

"I believe we are at the beginning of the journey with Rotary International to improve child and maternal health in the hardest-to-reach places in Central and South Asia and Africa," he added.



Ron Denham

Other panelists during Rotary-UN Day included Jacob Kumaresan, executive director of the World Health Organization, New York; Paul Edwards, senior adviser for UNICEF on water, sanitation, and hygiene; Ginny Wolfe, senior director of U.S. communications for the ONE Campaign; Philippe Kridelka, director of UNESCO, New York; and Ron Denham, chair of the Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group.

Rotary, which has a 66-year history with the UN, holds the highest consultative status offered to any nongovernmental organization by the Economic and Social Council, which oversees many UN agencies.

FUN AND FELLOWSHIP



District 7020 Governor Nominee, Jeremy Hurst, accosts RI Director John Smarge after a plenary session at the recent Zone 33/34 Institute at Reston.

John (*on the left*) is a great supporter, friend and advocate for Rotary in District 7020 and a tremendous RI Director with an exciting vision for RI in the future.

At right from Facebook – Rotarian Susan L. Johnson went to the St. Mary Parish Rotary Club (President Paulette Phillips) meeting recently (they are only a year old) and the President Earl Watson came over from the Ocho Rios Club in St. Ann Parish came over to meet her --- sooo cool!! Susan is a member of the Ponchatoula Rotary Club of Louisiana, U.S.A.



Ponchatoula Rotary Club
The Rotary Hut
Corner of West Hickory & Nth Sixth St.
Ponchatoula LA 70454
Phone:  (985) 386-3511 
Meeting every Thursday at noon.
Serving the Ponchatoula and world community since 1936

Coming Events

RLI – District 7020
January 14 & 15, 2012
St. Thomas, USVI

REDI VI
Rotarian Emergency Disaster Initiative
16-17 March, 2012 Conference
The Doubletree (Hilton)
at the Beautiful Marina in Berkeley California
More Details Coming Soon

Caribbean Partnership Celebration, 2012
Planned for Trinidad
Hyatt Regency
July 27-28, 2012

Bahamas Edition of the “This Close” video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZLb5dZxWzFE>

3 prominent Bahamas Rotarians are featured. Very creative!

*AG Charles Sealy, PP Raquel Wallace Nassau Club (founding club - Rotary Clubs of The Bahamas),
and Lindsey Cancino, District 7020 Foundation Grants Chair*

HEALTHY REASONS TO HELP OTHERS

on

<http://www.huffingtonpost.com>

An excerpt –

If you see someone who is drowning and throw him a rope, he gets a benefit, no question about it. But you might, too. Your body might flood with feel-good chemicals that have a deep evolutionary heritage. You might get a little extra buffer from life's stresses. Your heart might beat a little healthier. Your immune system might perk up. Your mood might lift.

Do this kind of neighborly thing on a regular basis and, studies suggest, you may live longer. There's only one caveat: "You have to genuinely care," says Stephanie Brown, Ph.D., associate professor of preventive medicine at Stony Brook University in New York. Want to get the "giver's glow?"

"We consistently find that volunteering and helping behavior is associated with a reduced risk of mortality," says Brown. "We see this over and over again in prospective studies that control for other variables, such as baseline health and gender."

For example, a study in Detroit looked at 423 married couples over age 65. They were asked if they helped anyone other than each other in the previous year with transportation, errands, shopping, housework, childcare or other tasks. Those who did were about half as likely to die over the next five years than those who didn't. "Now," says Brown, "we need to find out why and how."

She and fellow researchers have already uncovered a few clues.

To help someone you don't know, you have to overcome the natural impulse to avoid risk. Every time you help a stranger, you are reaching out a little, and that can make you feel vulnerable. The theory is that to overcome those fears, your body releases a hormone called oxytocin, which helps you buffer stress while increasing social trust and tranquility.

This "compassion hormone," it turns out, is very good for your body. "You are limiting exposure to stress hormones like cortisol," says Brown. "That may be one reason why helping behavior is related to longevity."

Have a look at this website

by

PDG Bevin Wall – Zone 33 Rotary Co-ordinator



<http://rotaryresources.blogspot.com>

**The Rotary Coordinator's mandate is to help implement
the RI Strategic Plan in districts & clubs.**

Successful CP Projects

Stories of interest at December, 2011

Haiti continues to impress

RLI TRAINING IN HAITI

Rotary training in Verretes

The training was done as planned on day August 7, 2011. Six Clubs participated - St Marc, Petite Riviere, Hinche, Mirebalais, St Michel and Verrettes. The total of participants were 32.

The following topics were presented and discussed:

- 1) Rotary Beyond the Club - Caleb Lucien
- 2) Leadership - Charactersitics of a Good Leader - Robert Leger
- 3) Club Administration - Robert Leger
- 4) Conducting Good Meeting - Rosa Leger
- 5) Membership Retention and Membership Development - Caleb Lucien
- 6) Matching Grants - Robert Leger

ADG Gary Marcelin did a good job for the preparation of the room, the pause café, and the lunch. The participants were very satisfied and asked for the training to continue for more topics.

The next training is planned for the South - Aquin, Cayes and Jacmel.

Leogane, Carrefour, Port au Prince, Champ de Mars, if interested, are also invited to participate. For this next training to be successful as in Verrettes, Pignon, and Cap-Haitien, I suggest to fix the date limit for registration quite early.

As a point of note: There are 19 Rotary Clubs in Haiti.

<i>Cap Haitian</i>	<i>Aquin</i>	<i>Carrefour/Mon Repos</i>	<i>Delmas Aeroport</i>	<i>Hinche</i>
<i>Jacmel</i>	<i>Leogane</i>	<i>Les Cayes</i>	<i>Mirebalais</i>	<i>Ouanaminthe</i>
<i>Petionville</i>	<i>Petite Riviere</i>	<i>Pignon</i>	<i>Port au Prince</i>	<i>Port au Prince/Champ de Mars</i>
<i>Port de Paix</i>	<i>Saint Marc</i>	<i>Saint Michel</i>	<i>Verrettes</i>	

Total 19 clubs

Below left – Caleb Lucien talking about membership retention.

Below right – Caleb Lucien, ADG Gary Marcelin, Rosa Leger, and Robert Leger



Above left – Robert Leger talking about Club Administration.

Above right – Rosa Leger talking about Conducting a good meeting



News from D-7750 - Greenville, SC

Literacy - Partners in Haiti

...submitted by Sara Mansbach*



This group that promotes Literacy meets regularly with interesting guests, volunteers, and Rotary Leader Club representatives. They meet at the Michelin Family Health Center in Greenville, South Carolina. Rotary District 7750 Project co-chairs are Richard Ameris and Sara Mansbach .

At their most recent meeting this fall, their agenda included the topics listed below:

- Come and learn about our progress to date and our path forward.
- Meet the Steering Committee.
- Learn about large and small volunteer opportunities.
- Find out what you need to know to serve on a Haiti Work Team.
- Discuss our Revised Project Overview.



At left – District Governor of D-7750, Gary Goforth and his wife, Kathy - Emerald City, South Carolina

DG Gary writes:

I am very excited about the work being done in Haiti by our District 7750 Rotarians.

- Charles Warne and his wife, Gillaine, have been working in the Cange, Haiti area for over 10 years and have done some remarkable work with the Partners in Agricultural program.
- More recently, Dr. Sara Mansbach, our District Literacy Committee Chair, has raised funds for the development of several school libraries and preschool reading programs.

Our district is committed to Haiti, and we are working towards the development of a 3-H Grant in the next 1-2 years.

Two related websites:

<http://rotary7750.org/WCSprojects.asp#Haiti>

<http://rotary7750.org/WCSprojects.asp>

** Dr. Sara C. Mansbach, Literacy Consultant , Rotary International District 7750 Literacy Chair 2007-12 Partners in Haiti Literacy Project, Early Readers Rotary Project, Founder, Ready4Reading*

Background – Partners in Haiti Literacy

On a November weekend in 2009, the seeds of District 7750's involvement with Cange literacy were sown. It started with Haiti District 7020's Partnership Retreat. A group of Rotary club members from Zone 33/34 stayed in the Karibe Hotel in Petite Villion. We

were supposed to bring ideas for partnering while we enjoyed a meeting and informal party—a time of fellowship, service, bonding, learning and cultural enlightenment.

A new D-7750 Project. Yet, it was really from our next five days on a visit to Cange, from talking with Haitian Headmasters, teachers, and leaders that we came back with a new District 7750 Project. We left Port a Prince late on the Saturday afternoon and traveled the 45 miles to village by van. Route 3 was not yet fully paved back then. An hour into the drive, the road became a combination of cavernous ruts, bouncing rocks, and dust swirls as we jolted towards the village on rock outcroppings of the Central Plateau. We passed scores of adults on foot, broken down vehicles, burros with bananas, and youth in ragged AFL t-shirts. And we finally arrived in the oasis of Cange.

Fast forward from the travelogue to the discoveries. During the visit, we saw Partners in Health’s impressive efforts in the hospitals and clinics in the area, and water projects and the Zanmi Agrikol farms supported by funds from District 7750 and the Upper South Carolina Episcopal Diocese. Great and impressive progress.

On other days, on field trips down dirt roads, we honed in on education. We viewed new schools with sturdy sidings, schools hidden under thatched roofs with log walls, schools without walls with mountain views, and an adult education class with plastic Rubbermaid chairs under the eucalyptus trees. And we saw the children of the Central Plateau and we fell into deep admiration for people of all ages striving to learn.

Lacking literacy. But in a wide range of preschool classrooms we saw few if any books. No preschool or primary school books for children to ponder over, laugh at or wonder about. We never saw a teacher read a book. We had brought along some French and simple English picture books and read to youngest students in broken French. The 3, 4, and 5 year old children pressed in to look and crowded with delight. At each school, we left a few books behind along with adoring faces. Hugs. Rock star status for a day. At every school.

Then some of us visited the library. On the shelves were—1948 and 1954 reference sets, ancient magazines, a quantity of used children’s picture books in English, fewer books in French, only a few in Creole.

All of us Rotarians were deeply moved. Before we left, we met with Maitre Lucien, the Bon Sauveur School Headmaster; Episcopal Priest Father La Fontant; and Marie Flore Chipps, Zanmi Lasante Program Manager of Water and Education Projects, to talk together about bringing books to the village. And we went home remembering the eager faces of the children of Haiti.

January 12, 2010. Two months later, Hotel Karibe collapsed in dust. The world changed in Haiti. Port au Prince was in ruins, and a steady stream of 7,000 refugees sought help and shelter in Cange. For nearly 2 years, what had been a Library building became a medical supply depot.

Poverty. Today Haiti is the poorest country in our Western Hemisphere. Family poverty is extreme. The adult literacy rate for both sexes aged 15+ is 55 %. Average years adults have attended school is 4.9. Only 1 in 5 children have access to public school. The expected years children will attend school is 6.8. (UNICEF 2010)

But Haiti is resilient and Cange wants change. And it is through education that Cange will change. And we had already witnessed that the children want books. . . .

Some of the Rotarians who had visited there communicated with Cange through its darkest times in the past months. We have kept in touch with Cange leaders and together we are planning a mission that will meet their requests. We are in the process of forming and solidifying a group of Rotary Clubs, agencies and individuals to provide sustainable support for literacy in Cange.

We have named the organization Partners in Literacy Haiti, and our mission will provide French and Creole books and literacy services for libraries, schools, and homes to enhance Haitian families and children’s literacy levels. Starting with Cange.

Partners in Haiti Literacy. Partners in Haiti Literacy will be operated from Upstate South Carolina by a Steering Committee that will serve as an informal board. Our 4 District 7750 Charter Rotary Clubs are the Rotary Club of Easley, Greater Anderson, Pleasantburg, and Greenville providing volunteers and support. We seek Rotarian volunteers world-wide for different purposes; in Haiti, a Haitian Rotary Club Partner; in the USA, Caribbean, French and Canadian-Haitian Work Teams. Our current partners include:

Bon Sauveur & LaPleides School Systems	Star Bright Books Inc.	University of South Carolina Upstate
Zanmi Lasanti (Cange)	The Alliance Francaise	Hinche Rotary Club, Haiti
Michelin Ecole Francaise Bilingue	FOKAL	Partners in Health
	Public Libraries in SC	

Cange leaders adopted a detailed First Year Literacy Plan in January 2011. Our first step has been to begin to lay the groundwork to establish a functioning community library with a paid part-time librarian. A simple library manual translated in French will be a guide. A June 2011 Work Team visit by iPDG Becky Faulkner and her husband Rotarian Tom Faulkner built rapport with Dada Pierre-Louis, the paraprofessional librarian newly hired by Partners in Health; many outdated books were weeded.

The Rotary Read to Me Program. The Rotary Read to Me Program will be the first reading program introduced for use by teachers. Picture books build fascination and the motivation to read for all children. A teacher's manual has been written to incorporate principles of reading to very young children to ensure that young minds are engaged. Because we know that weather in some classrooms may harm the books, we will provide 50 Creole and French books in 19 preschool classrooms in tightly sealed book bins circulating from the library.

We have just returned from our November Team Visit which lasted three weeks and have much that is positive about what we did with our Cange partners and Katharine Mathews, our new education liaison from Zanmi Lasante. And we have begun a wonderful collaboration with FOKAL, (La Fondation Connaissance et Liberté/Fondasyon Konesans Ak Libète) We are eager to share the details in another article.

Education. Education will change Cange. It can change Haiti. We are hoping to build a model that others can replicate and adopt throughout the Central Plateau and beyond.

Fundraising. We are just embarking on a comprehensive fundraising campaign to direct all funds to submit a Matching Grant with Hinche Rotary Club for this project. Tax-exempt donations may be made to the Pleasantburg Rotary Club Foundation. Checks should be written to:

Pleasantburg Rotary Club Foundation
Attn: Dr. M. H. Varn / Partners in Literacy Haiti
27 Stillwood Drive Greenville, SC 29607

Our website for Partners in Literacy Haiti is at www.haitiliteracy.org. For more information contact: Dr. Sara Mansbach, District 7750 Literacy Resource Chair, 864-414-0875, saramansbach@gmail.com.



*Above left – The Cange Library Committee. At right – Training teachers about the brain.
Below – Students' hand-made puppets sent to Haiti, and the Preschool Curriculum, Ages 3 and 4.*





Above left – Sharing a book at Lafontant Preschool. Right above – Some students need workbooks.



Above left – Cange Library. At right - 21 teachers received 26 books in airtight bins.

Celebrating International Literacy Day Words around the World

--This article was submitted by Carolyn Mansbach (D-7750) and carries interest for all Rotary Clubs.



Since 1967, September 8 has been celebrated as [International Literacy Day](#), with the goal of focusing attention on the need to improve literacy worldwide. As students, parents, and teachers settle into their back to school routines, it is worth looking at the status of literacy both at home and around the world.

National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) Director Steve Barnett and U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan read to preschoolers at the State of Preschool 2008 release.

According to the [fact sheets](#) from the [International Reading Association](#), an estimated 860 million of the world's adults do not know how to read or write—more than twice the entire United States population. More than 100 million children globally lack access to education. Illiteracy plays a role in a damaging cycle of poverty, poor health, and a lack of mobility.

In countries with a literacy rate below 55 percent, the average per capita income is \$600. Geography plays a huge role in this cycle: 98 percent of non-literates live in a

developing country. About 52 percent of non-literates live in India and China, and the continent of Africa has a literacy rate of under 60 percent.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) also provides [compelling information](#) on the extent of this problem globally.

Either out of naiveté or a desire to believe the problem hasn't reached our shores, it is easy to think of illiteracy as a problem "over there." In reality, though, Americans whose literacy skills are never fully developed lag behind fully literate peers in a number of ways.

Research from [ProLiteracy Worldwide](#) finds that one half of all adults in federal and state correctional institutions in America cannot read or write at all, and reading problems are seen in 85 percent of juvenile offenders. Health costs for individuals with low literacy skills are four times higher than those with individuals with high level literacy skills.

Students with poor literacy skills may struggle in a number of subjects and some will eventually drop out before high school completion, a grim outcome when the income gap between those with a bachelor's degree and those without is ever growing.

Starting children early on the road to literacy is an important step in helping develop these skills. Recognizing this importance, NIEER has several recommended resources on developing early literacy skills in the early years, including:

- A policy brief, "[Early Literacy: Policy and Practice in the Preschool Years](#)," by Dorothy Strickland and Shannon Ayers.
- "[Hooked on Literacy: Why Dorothy Strickland Sees Language as Job One](#)," a *Preschool Matters* interview with Dorothy Strickland.
- "[What Leads to Literacy?](#)," a feature story from *Preschool Matters* on some of the factors most likely to indicate later literacy achievement.
- A [book review](#) of *Literacy Leadership in Early Childhood: An Essential Guide*.
- The volume [Handbook of Early Literacy Research](#) edited by Susan B. Neuman and David K. Dickinson.

For the literate, we cannot remember what it was like before letters automatically formed into words and words into sentences. We cannot turn off our ability to read and cannot imagine being unable to read our homework, a grocery list, or even street signs. For millions, though, this is their reality. Ensuring high levels of literacy attainment, beginning with the earliest years, both at home and abroad pays dividends in promoting educational attainment and creating a more capable workforce. Improving literacy rates is a massive goal which requires more than one day of activism, but today is a good time to start. And what better place to start than with early interventions?

- Written by Megan Carolan, Policy Research Coordinator, NIEER



Rotarian Action Groups provide assistance and support to Rotary clubs and districts in planning and implementing community development and humanitarian service projects. They are organized by committed Rotarians, Rotarian spouses, and Rotaractors who have expertise and a passion for a particular type of service.

Examples of Rotarian Action Groups:

- Fighting AIDS
- Volunteer Dentistry
- Blood Donation
- Water and Sanitation



News from D-7750 - continued

PARTNERS IN AGRICULTURE ZANMI AGRIKOL

Zanmi Lasante



Zanmi Agrikol



...submitted by Pam Weaver, District Administrator, Rotary District 7750



Partners in Agriculture – ZANMI AGRIKOL - was formed in 2002 as the Agricultural Arm of Zanmi Lasante, and is situated in the village of Cange, Haiti.

It has as its stated mission ---

The Elimination of Malnutrition in the Plateau Central.

PIA is currently working in two different areas -- the gardens in Cange, which are hillside demonstration gardens, terraced and planted with vegetables and fruits, to educate and show the local populace what is available and achievable, and two larger 35 acre farms down on the flat land beside the Artibonite River.

Nutrition Program.

The farm at Corporant started in 2004 with massive plantings of 15,000 banana trees, corn, beans, vegetables of all kinds and fruit trees, and the produce distributed to hospitals, schools and clinics. More recently, the gravity of the malnutrition problem and our ability to help was re-assessed, and it was decided to change our policy and re-dedicate the farm to growing the food medications to be given to the children in the Zanmi Lasante (Partners in Health) malnutrition program.

These three products are *Nourimanba*, a peanut based mixture with minerals and vitamins added to make a peanut butter like medication, and *two forms of Nourimil*.

Nourimil is a cereal/protein nutritive supplement of rice and beans or corn and beans ground into powder form, and used for the slightly less serious cases of malnutrition, or following a period of treatment of Nourimanba.

We are now growing, harvesting, processing, labeling and distributing these three products to all nine malnutrition centers of Zanmi Lasante (PIH).

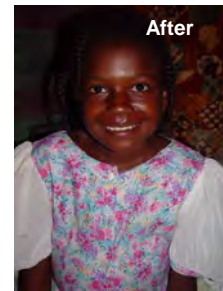
The doctors are attesting to the truly exciting and positive results seen in the recovery of the children.



In 2010, we made

- 300270 lbs. of Nourimil
- 56,068 kilos of Nourimanba
- distributed to 9 different sites, and
- treated over 2,454 children

Since its inception, the Malnutrition Program has treated 17,076 children.



The Family Assistance Program

The Family Assistance Program was started to try to get to the real cause of the malnutrition problem, which is the farmer's inability to supply sufficient food to feed his family.

Our trained Agronomists go out into the field to interview families with children in the MN program, and attempt to assess how best to help them.

Training sessions for all in the village have been started, and explanations of how to change age-old farming practices to better cultivate and nourish the land are being received with excitement. Appropriate tools are given to each family along with seeds for the different seasons, fruit trees such as Mangos, Avocados and Citrus, and trees for re-forestation and eventually a goat.



The women are being educated, through the formation of Mothers' Clubs, in correct nutrition for their children, learning about the 'building blocks' of absolute necessity for daily nourishment.

After the first harvest, families are required to give back the same amount of seeds as was gifted, and a baby goat after their goat has had its kids. They then give these gifts to another needy family.

This not only ensures the continuous growth of the project but also teaches about sharing and concern for neighbors. Being able to share of one's own bounty and labors is excellent in building the self-esteem, so desperately needed.

We are currently assisting nearly 1500 families, reaching nearly 15,000 people, helping them to re-build their lives and trying to assure happy, healthy, balanced, food secure communities.



Whilst this agriculture program is vitally important to the life and health of the people of the Plateau Central, it is but a part of the whole Socio-economic development that is taking place in this region.

Schooling, Hospitals and Healthcare, Housing, Employment, Small business and Spiritual Guidance are all working to help establish a viable level of independence for a people who have known only degradation, deprivation and sporadic social aid for generations.

Agriculture – Vocational School

As the next step in this development to further education, and introduce the possibility of future employment and a viable livelihood, we are currently planning a new Agriculture-Vocational School, to be built on land adjacent to the farm in Corporant.

This is extremely exciting, as nothing of this nature exists in this area, and will respond to the desperate need for the young to have farming knowledge and/or a trade to learn and work at after finishing high school.

The school will become the site of Cottage industries and various trades such as a new charcoal production, food processing and ceramics, and will also be able to respond to the need for Church and acolyte retreats, summer camps, convention gatherings and seminars, and sporting events. QUITE A PROJECT!!!

Without the inspiration, encouragement and dedication of Father Lafontant, Marie Flore Chips and our Haitian team, these projects and future ones could not have been and will not be achieved.



The participation of the Upper Diocese of South Carolina, Churches of many denominations, PIH, charitable institutions, Rotary, and private individuals and Foundations, have helped us to realize their dreams.

You can

- adopt a family (\$250)
- give a goat (\$150)
- treat a malnourished child (\$120)

Contact Charles and Gillaine Warne (ggghaiti@yahoo.com)

A related story from Greenville, D-7750 Gillaine Warne Awarded Doctorate

Partners in Agriculture Program



On September 1, at the Fall Convocation at Furman University, Gillaine Warne was awarded a Doctor of Humanities in recognition of her work with Christ Church Episcopal in Greenville for founding the *Partners in Agriculture* program near Cange, Haiti.

The program is a thriving multi-farm project. It provides assistance for more than 1,500 families.

Gillaine's husband Charles, the World Service Chair for Rotary District 7750, has also worked on a number of Rotary projects to jointly benefit the area. An agricultural trade school is now being built under their direction.

At left - Gillaine Warne, founder of the Partners in Agriculture program in Haiti as part of the mission work of Christ Church Episcopal in Greenville, delivered the convocation address. She also received an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree, the university's highest honor.

Gillaine Warne—An Australian agronomist now living in Greenville, Warne provides hope and opportunity to residents of Haiti whose lives have been ravaged by natural and man-made disasters.

As part of the extensive mission work of Christ Church Episcopal in Greenville, she founded the Partners in Agriculture program near Cange, a village in the Central Plateau of Haiti. This program, which started with a simple hillside garden, has become a thriving multi-farm complex. One of the most impoverished areas of Haiti, the Central Plateau had for more than a century been deforested and unable to feed its people adequately.

Alongside her husband Charles, and with the help of Christ Church parishioners and Zammi Lasante, the Haitian partner of Partners in Health, she planted trees for re-forestation, grew crops to be used as food medication for severely malnourished children, and started a small transformation factory for these products.

She began a family assistance program to teach about sustainable agriculture, nutrition, community awareness and environmental responsibility, and to help restore hope and dignity to the region. The families involved now number more than 1,500, and the program touches the lives of their more than 15,000 dependents.

To meet the need to educate the youth of the region, an agriculture/trade school is being built. There, correct agricultural practices and innovative construction will be taught, thus ensuring that young people will be able to work, be independent and contribute to the rebuilding of their country.

All these efforts instill in the people in and around Cange a sense of accomplishment and responsibility for their own well-being and that of their neighbors. She insists on discipline and commitment, and the people of Haiti respond in kind.

Fritz Lafontant Learning Center *Centre de Formation Fritz Lafontant (CFFL)*

...submitted by Pam Weaver, District Administrator, Rotary District 7750

Definition

The Centre de Formation Fritz Lafontant (CFFL) is an initiative of the highly successful organizations Zanmi Lasante and Zanmi Agrikol (Partners in Health and Partners in Agriculture), which have brought modern health care and sustainable agriculture practices to Haiti. The CFFL is located in Corporant, in the Central Plateau, and is named for the internationally respected patriarch of the community of Cange, the Reverend Father Fritz Lafontant.

The CFFL has for its objective a new and innovative approach to agriculture and construction, which can be replicated across Haiti. It will train a cadre of young Haitians to be agents of change in sustainable food production and innovative construction.

Context

The horrific earthquake of January 2010 laid bare the consequences of poor building practices in Haiti. Haphazard construction using severely deficient techniques resulted in the systemic failure of structures and the death of 220,000 people.

Following the earthquake, Haitians were excluded from the rebuilding of their own country because of their lack of construction skills. Thus the need for training in good construction practices is painfully evident.



Nearly total deforestation over the past 200 years throughout Haiti, and especially on the Central Plateau, has led to soil erosion and the depletion of natural resources.

At right – Fr. Fritz Lafontant and his daughter, Marie Flore Chipps

The malnutrition and even starvation for large segments of the population have now been made more pervasive by the influx of people



fleeing to the Central Plateau from earthquake zones. This has put an unprecedented strain on the already weak infrastructure of the region.

In spite of the critical need for skilled workers even before the earthquake, professional and technical training have always been one of the most neglected sectors of the Haitian education system. Few viable learning centers exist, and they do not have adequate equipment or programs adapted to new technologies and the demands of the market. Teachers themselves often receive no training in current technologies.

The Central Plateau in particular suffers from neglect, as aid has always focused on Port-au-Prince. The Central Plateau has no technical center for training its youth. The establishment of a center for training in current agricultural techniques and innovative construction practices has never been more timely or more urgently needed.

Mission and Philosophic Vision

Fritz Lafontant Learning Center

We envision a school of excellence with practical options that will promote human and natural resources already available in the region, but dormant. The five pillars upon which CFFL bases its philosophy are:

1. **TECHNICAL.** Developing technical competence to meet the standards of national and international markets.
2. **ENVIRONMENTAL.** Contributing to the promotion of a healthy, productive, and sustainable environment.
3. **ECONOMIC.** Promoting durable economic growth in the region by business management of products and services.
4. **ETHICAL.** Developing ethical behavior and values in one's profession.
5. **SOCIAL.** Social and moral responsibility among citizens through training activities that promote a sense of the common good.

Target Population

The CFFL will involve the following categories of people, chosen because of their motivation to improve their own quality of life and that of their community.

- Youth of the Central Plateau who have completed eleven years of traditional studies.
- Youth of the neighboring regions who have the Baccalaureate I certificate and who agree to return to develop their region of origin after training.
- Adults who have practiced a trade informally and now seek to improve their skills.

Programs

Zanmi Lasante, the 'parent' of Zanmi Agrikol, has provided humanitarian services in the Central Plateau for thirty years. Together they have recognized the need for the following market sectors and job categories: *Agriculture, Building construction, Woodworking, Plumbing, Electrical, Auto mechanics, Ironworks, Hotel management, Ceramics, Fiberglass.*



Implementation

We anticipate CFFL partnerships with Clemson, Greenville Tech, Virginia Tech, University of Florida, University of Georgia, and Earth University of Costa Rica among other institutions.

Other long-term, ongoing partnerships are with the 'Diocese of Upper South Carolina, [Rotary International](#), MASS Architectural Group in Boston, and 1000 Jobs Construction SA.

In the first year, 75 students will begin instruction in a 2-year construction program or a 3-year agricultural program.

The initial classes will be in Agriculture, Building Construction, and Carpentry. Among courses in the first year will be construction using compressed stabilized earth block, created from local materials.

The “Approach by Competence,” approved by Haiti’s Department of Education, is the modular system adopted by the CFFL. Modules are given at the rate of three per year. Graduates of the CFFL will hold the nationally and internationally recognized diploma for the degree of Technician in their field of training.

Budget and Staffing

Grants and private donations supporting initial construction, tuition subsidy, and programmatic costs will in time be complemented through tuition income and profits from partnerships with corporations.

Tuition will be \$2,500 per year and charged according to the student’s ability to pay. Funds to support Student Scholarships are urgently needed.

Director Abraham Cerventes whose educational, construction and management skills, obtained both in Haiti and overseas, are ideally suited to this position, will be assisted by three heads of departments and a team of specialized part time teachers.

Legal Structure

CFFL operates under Zanmi Lasante and its governing Education Board. Donations are tax-deductible and may be sent to:

Partners in Health, For the CFFL Student Scholarships
888 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215

OR

Contact Charles or Gillaine Warne at *charleswarne11@gmail.com*
864-901-5125

How Rotarian Action Groups Operate

- Each group functions independently of Rotary International, with its own rules, dues requirements, and administrative structure.
- Membership is open to Rotarians, spouses of Rotarians, and Rotaractors.
- Rotarian Action Groups must adopt RI’s standard bylaws for Rotarian Action Groups and operate in accordance with Rotary policy.
- Rotarian Action Groups regularly collaborate with clubs and districts on service projects in their area of specialty.
- Rotarian Action Groups can assist clubs and districts in obtaining funding or other assistance for their service projects from prospective donors and partners.

<http://www.startwithwater.org/> - An excellent website for information on water and sanitation

ROTARY NEGRIL, JAMAICA, RAISES FUNDS FOR POLIO AND HAS SOME FUN TOO!



Dominica Water Project – Districts 6910/7030

further to article that appeared in September, 2011, issue of CP Newsletter

Matching grant between Districts 6910/7030

Host Partner – Dominica Rotary Club (West Indies) (District 7030)

International Partner – Rotary Club of Conyers, Georgia (District 6910)



Leslie Behrends was involved with the Dominica Water Project.

Leslie is the "Chief Technical Officer" for "The Living Machine". He writes that "the Living Machine" is very similar to the ReCip system that was deployed in Dominica.

He continues to have great fun working with national and international projects, and hopes to make it back to Dominica - maybe early next year to vacation and check the treatment system.

Living Machine® technology for wastewater treatment is in direct alignment with the World Health Organization's current recommendations for addressing the global water crisis.

The World Health Organization policy brief on Water Health and Ecosystems includes the following recommendation:

"Natural ecosystems have intricate and resilient mechanisms that filter and replenish freshwater resources and sustain marine environments. Although human technologies may enhance or replicate these mechanisms in some settings, protection of the natural watershed also is critical.

An 'ecosystem approach' recognizes and ascribes value, including economic value, to the 'services' natural ecosystems provide in terms of water filtration and purification, and ensures their sustainability, through modern management regimes."

Nassau Project with District 6930



Rotarians from District 6930 on their District Conference Cruise in June worked with all the Nassau clubs on various community projects.

Rotary Club of Nassau cleaned the yard of an elderly couple living in the Fox Hill Community.

Some Benefits of Rotarian Action Groups

- They provide opportunities for Rotarians to engage in meaningful service in partnership with like-minded Rotarians outside of their own club, district, or country.
- Partnering clubs and districts can benefit from the expertise and collaboration of Rotarians from all over the world who share their commitment to a particular area of service.
- Rotarian Action Group projects have the potential to significantly enhance Rotary's public image.

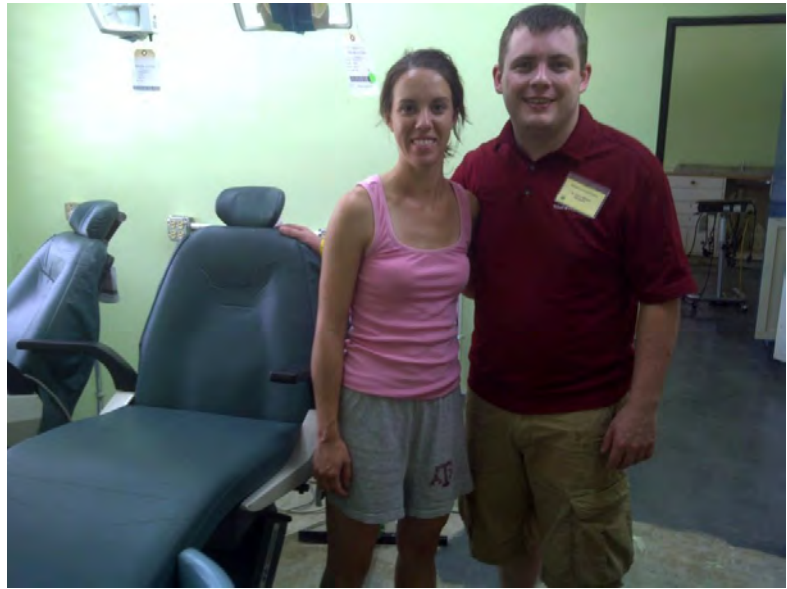
<http://www.startwithwater.org/> - An excellent website for information on water and sanitation

Caribbean Partnership Districts 6490 & 7020

RC of Montego Bay East, Jamaica (D-7020) and RC of Tuscola, USA (D-6490)
in association with Dentists from all over the USA from the Jamaica Dental Mission.

This project was carried out from the 18th of July to the 23rd of July in three health centers in western Jamaica.

This is a major Partnership Project between The Rotary Club of Montego Bay East and other Rotary Clubs in the USA and some Universities/Dental schools in the USA for years now.



Members of the dental team play with kids in the Flankers Community. Two dentists pose with new dental chairs.



Rotary Club of Montego Bay East Members host the Dentists to a dinner at the Thursday night meeting.

Below - Some members of the dental team!



*Above left - President Hermes presents Dr. Mcleod (Team Leader) with an award.
Above right - President Hermes presents Dr. Davidson (Team member) with an Award.*



At left - President Hermes presents a Dentist with an Award on behalf of the entire Dental Team.





Above - Dentists win one of our many Raffles.

Below - Rotary Club of Montego Bay East Member fellowship with Dentists



Above – members of the dental team on their way to work

DR. RICK DAVIDSON

*And his Tuscola Club (District 6490) are a big part of
\$185,000 dental shipment to Jamaica.*

...from <http://www.clubrunner.ca/Data/6490/HTML/136651//AugustNewsletter.pdf>

Editor Bill Wills



At left - Among those delivering \$185,000 worth of dental equipment to Jamaica is Dr. Richard (Rick) Davidson, far left, of the Tuscola Rotary Club. His work toward the Jamaican Dental Mission was part of the reason he received Rotary's coveted international "Service Above Self Award" at the District 6490 Conference in April.

This article originally appeared in the Western Mirror newspaper in Montego Bay, Jamaica.

A forty-foot container of dental equipment and supplies valued at \$185,000 arrived in Montego Bay recently, earmarked for the Flanker, Cambridge and Kew Park Health Centres.

Thanks is given to the generosity of the Rotary Clubs of Montego Bay East and Savanna-la-Mar along with Tuscola Rotary and several other Rotary Clubs in the U.S. in collaboration with the Jamaica Dental Mission, which sourced the goods.

Food For The Poor was responsible for receiving and delivering the container once it arrived in Jamaica. The shipment contained 25

dental chairs, sterilizers, generators, panoramic radiographic unit and xray developing machines, stools, cabinets, dollies, dental floss, seven pallets of school books and other miscellaneous items.

The Jamaica Dental Mission is the brainchild of Dr. Dwight McLeod, a Jamaican from the Kew Park community who currently resides, practices and teaches dentistry in Missouri, USA. His passion and commitment to improving the dental health of Jamaicans by conducting these clinics is in its twelfth year operating in Jamaica. He has tried operating from several different locations but now has finally found a niche at Flankers and Cambridge in St. James and Kew Park in Westmoreland.

The project has made a very valuable contribution to the health and well-being of the citizens of these communities who anxiously anticipate its arrival annually. Each year, between 63-75 dental students, pharmacy and dental faculty, and students from Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine, and other dental surgeons and medical volunteers come to St. James for a week and tirelessly conduct a 4-day clinic at these sites. Roughly, 150 to 200 patients are treated daily at each clinic.

Originally, the focus was primarily extractions and cleaning, but yearly addition of new equipment, more restorative dental work has been done, including fillings and partial dentures. Eventually, the goal is to include full dentures and root canal.

While Dr. McLeod concentrates on the outfitting of the clinics, his close friend and volunteer, Dr. Richard Davidson from Tuscola Rotary, concentrates on identifying financing through the Rotary Foundation Matching Grant Fund.

Clinics at the three sites began simultaneously July 20.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

CHTF
The Children's Health Task Force
Pilot Project



Working Together for a Healthier Cayman

THE HEART HEALTH CENTRE & PRIVATE SCHOOLS CELEBRATE WORLD HEART DAY

...submitted by Sue Rajah

The Children's Health Task Force, Health4Youth Program is thankful to the Heart Health Centre for celebrating World Health Day on September 29 by inviting the private schools to participate in a "wear red" dress down day. Proceeds were donated to the Children's Health Task Force, Health4Youth program, which was the catalyst behind medical screenings for children and bringing awareness with respect to childhood obesity.

A special thank you to Jacqueline Ebanks, Director of the Heart Health Centre for being instrumental in organizing the school's participation and supplying resource materials to be used in the classrooms.



"We believe schools play a critical role in the overall development of children and can be key partners in the prevention of heart disease", comments Jacqueline. World Heart Day was created in 2000, by The World Heart Federation, to bring awareness about cardiovascular disease by promoting activities and screening events all over the world.

At left – Dr. Shirley Cridland, Director of Cayman Heart Fund and Jacqueline Ebanks, Director of the Heart Health Centre.

We are grateful to Cayman International School and Montessori By The Sea, for their participation. Dr Shirley Cridland, Director of the Cayman Heart Fund and Health4Youth Program reminded students that it is important "to eat healthy, exercise and, make time for play and sleep".

The Health4Youth program was launched in an attempt to deal with the dramatic rise in the number of Cayman's school children who are either obese, or risk becoming obese. This remains a serious and acute problem in Cayman that affects nearly 51% of our students. Supported by the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education, The Children's Health Task Force was instrumental in helping to develop the NEW food policy which was implemented in the public schools September 2010. School canteens are now required to adhere to this policy and ensure that healthy lunches and snacks are offered.

Some of the Projects planned for next year are nutrition and healthy eating classes in the primary schools, measurement of students at least twice per year in order to track their progress, and, actively participate in the school curriculum to educate, motivate and challenge the students to eat healthy and exercise.



Local businesses install life-saving defibrillators

...submitted by Sue Rajah

(GRAND CAYMAN): In an effort to treat sudden cardiac arrest, one of Cayman's worst life-threatening medical emergencies, nine local businesses have joined the Cayman Heart Fund's initiative to install automated external defibrillator machines (AED) in places where the general public frequent.



According to the Cayman Heart Fund (CHF), most occurrences of sudden cardiac arrest will happen in a home or public place. In these environments, the chances of survival are reduced by 10% every ten minutes without immediate heart recovery.

Maples and Calder, one of the island's leading law firms, recently installed seven AEDs at their offices to ensure safety and provide accessibility for rescuers in the event of an emergency of this nature.

At left - Cayman Heart Fund Medical Director, Dr. Sook Yin (centre) and Lynette Chand, Project Coordinator (right) present Maples & Calder Partner, Nick Evans, with one of seven automated external defibrillators purchased and installed at the firm's offices.

"We are very pleased to partner with the Cayman Heart Fund on this initiative," said Nick Evans, a Partner at Maples and Calder. "Every precaution taken is a step in the right direction." Morven Bodden, Head of Human Resources, coordinated the effort on behalf of the firm and noted, "The partners were immediately in favour of installing the AED machines and, as an added measure, instructed HR to coordinate AED and first aid training for the staff."

With the quick response of a rescuer and accessibility of an AED unit, a victim of cardiac arrest's survival rate can substantially increase compared to just CPR. The AED machine assists to restart a normal heart rhythm by administering a brief, controlled, electric shock in the minutes before heart arrhythmia causes death. A user-friendly device, it provides clear, audible, textual, and visual instructions that walk the rescuer through the process even without previous training.



Other businesses who have installed defibrillators in association with the Cayman Heart Fund include Pure Healthcare, AON Risk Solutions, RBS Coutts, Smile Dental Clinic, Water Authority (Cayman), A.L. Thompson, Public Works Department (Cayman), and Cayman Red Cross.

Interested parties may purchase AEDs from CHF at an affordable cost of \$1,800 per machine including installation. CPR and AED training courses are offered by St. Matthew's University and through the Cayman Islands Red Cross.

CHF will be mapping AED locations for the public. "We are compiling a list of all AEDs installed on island; therefore, we would like to encourage any person/company who purchased an AED (not necessarily from CHF) to email the CHF and let us know so we could include their location as well," said Dr. Sook Yin, Medical Director of the Cayman Heart Fund. She underscored the fact that, "For a victim of heart failure, the presence of an AED machines can mean the difference between life or death."

The Cayman Heart Fund continues to appeal to businesses, schools, homeowners, and public entities in the effort to prepare, prevent, and protect the Cayman Islands from the risks of cardiovascular disease. For more information on AED installation and training, please contact the Cayman Heart Fund at (345) 916-6324, alternatively via email at caymanheartfund@gmail.com.



DEFIBRILLATORS FROM PARRY SOUND Ontario, Canada DONATED TO ANGUILLA THROUGH ROTARY PARTNERSHIP!

The West Parry Sound Health Centre, located in Parry Sound, Ontario, Canada, has donated five defibrillators valued at \$20,000 to the Rotary Club, and Rotary Parry Sound is co-operating with Rotary Anguilla to furnish the island with these life-saving machines. They have been taken to the island to five local health clinics.

The CEO of the West Parry Sound Health Centre, who is also the current President of the Rotary Club of Parry Sound, was able to offer the units to the Rotary Club of Anguilla. The defibrillators will be placed in the five local health clinics on the island, where they should prove to be valuable safety items of equipment for the health service in Anguilla.



At left – Rotarians Ralph Smith and Kitty Bucsko (Rotary Club of Anguilla), Donald Sanderson (President, Rotary Club of Parry Sound and CEO of the WPSHC), Rotarians Deb Stivrins and Howard Hager (International Committee, Rotary Club of Parry Sound) and Shannon Burrows (Manager, ED and ICU, Hospital staff).

The five defibrillators were declared surplus early this year when a generous donation was made to the West Parry Sound Health Centre last fall.

President John Jones (of RC of Anguilla) writes the following:

Many thanks for all that information on the defibrillators that I immediately passed on to Dr. Simmonds (Director of Medical Services, Health Authority of Anguilla).

In March 2010 (shortly after I returned to Anguilla) I and some twenty other senior clinicians in the Authority underwent an intensive week's training and examinations by the American Heart Association in the use of modern defibrillators. The course was paid for by the Pan American Health Organization. These trained clinicians, including Dr. Simmonds, then hoped that each of the five health clinics on Anguilla would be equipped with a defibrillator.

To date, however, only the Princess Alexandra Hospital has such a machine. Naturally, a defibrillator in each outlying health clinic is at the top of Dr. Simmonds' wish list!

Even though he was clearly delighted at the fantastic opportunity of having these life-savers in the health clinics, he did jokingly remark that he couldn't promise that they would be used unless a patient presented with cardiac arrest!!!

To sum up, the Rotary Club of Anguilla will be very proud to be involved in every possible way with their delivery to the health clinics. These defibrillators will prove to be a huge asset to the HAA, and they are very genuinely needed by our senior clinicians.

The defibrillators were brought to the island in early November, and were officially presented to the Health Authority of Anguilla (HAA) at the November 24 meeting of the Rotary Club of Anguilla. Dr. Kennedy Simmonds, who is the Chief Medical Officer, and Ralph Hodge, who is the Acting CEO of the Health Authority of Anguilla, were present at the recent meeting of the Rotary Club of Anguilla to accept this generous donation.



This is one very good example of Rotarians working together to fulfill their mandate to make the world a better place.



At left - Presentation of defibrillators: Ralph Hodge, Acting CEO of the HAA; John Jones, President of Rotary Club of Anguilla; Rotarian Ralph Smith; Dr. Simmonds, Chief Medical Officer; and Rotarian Kitty Bucsko.

Anguilla (pronounced Ang-gwill-a) is a British overseas territory. It is one of the most northerly of the Leeward Islands in the Lesser Antilles, lying east of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands and directly north of Saint Martin.

The territory consists of the main island of Anguilla itself, approximately 26 km (16 mi) long by 5 km (3.1 mi) wide at its widest point, together with a number of much smaller islands and cays with no permanent population. The island's capital is The Valley. The total land area of the territory is about 35 square miles with a population of approximately 13,500 (2006 estimate).

Rotary St. Maarten Mid-Isle International Spelling Bee

We just completed the finals of the First Spelling Bee in St Maarten Organized by Rotary Club of St Maarten Mid Isle in coordination with Rotaract Sunrise

This was an event that involved volunteers from all the other Rotary clubs in St Maarten.



In photo (l-r): Rotary Mid Isle President Ramesh Manek, Keya Pariani (Caribbean International Academy), Tyrese McBene Courtan (St. Joseph School), Criselma Maccow (Martin Luther King School, Maisha Marlin (St. Dominic Primary), Deidra Rainford (Charles Leopold Bell School) and Rotaract Sunrise President Janice Wever.

The St. Maarten Finalist Ms. Keya is on her way to St Kitts for the regional Finals of the Spelling Bee in St Kitts.

This is a great day for Rotary and St Maarten as this is the first time St Maarten is being represented in a regional final event of this nature

Countries competing in the finals are Antigua - Dominica - Grenada - Guyana - St Lucia - St Vincent - St Kitts - St Maarten.



The finals were scheduled on November 12, 2011.

Thank you to all the Rotarians who could make it to the airport to wish Keya good luck.



The Rotary Club of St. Maarten Mid-Isle is a small club of only 11 members.

They do make an international statement despite their small numbers! Well done!

The Rotary Club of St. Maarten Mid-Isle raised \$3000 U.S. to help victims of the spring earthquake in Japan. Rotary President, Ramesh Manek, presented Assistant Governor, James Ferris, with a check for that amount on November 8.

Rotary clubs around the world were encouraged in November to make donations to The Rotary Foundation. In President Manek's presentation speech, he mentioned that like the Japan disaster, people should not forget that Haiti is still in need of relief funds. "Rotary Mid-Isle club is committed to do its best to raise funds and donate towards such disasters because every little bit helps" he said.

Rotary District 7020's Haiti website can be found at :

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



Places I have, and not have been...

I have been in many places, but I've never been in Cahoots. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone.

I've also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognizes you there.

I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work.

I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity anymore.

I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often.

I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm.

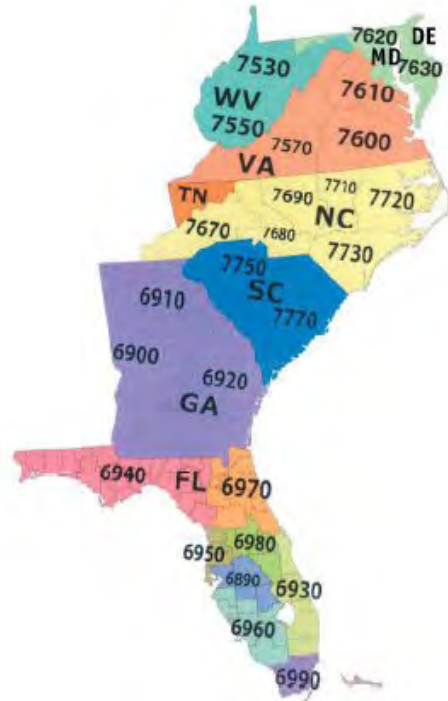
Sometimes I'm in Capable, and I go there more often as I'm getting older.

One of my favorite places to be is in Suspense! It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age, I need all the stimuli I can get!

And, sometimes I think I am in Vincible but life shows me I am not!

APPENDIX – A

Rotary Districts in Florida and along the East coast -



Zone 33

- ▶ USA: D. C., Delaware, Maryland, North & South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia

Zone 34

- ▶ Caribbean: Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, British Virgin Isl., Cayman Isl., Dominica, Fr. West Indies, Fr. Guiana, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, Netherland Antilles, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Trinidad & Tobago, Turks & Caicos, Virgin Isl.; Guyana, Puerto Rico, Suriname, USA: Florida, Georgia

APPENDIX B

Governors of Zones 33/34 - 2010-11

Mailing list for Caribbean Partnership Newsletter at December, 2011

This list will be updated as I receive more information. I print it here for your information.

<i>District</i>	<i>District Governor</i>	<i>Email address</i>
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APPENDIX C

INTERESTING INFORMATION – ZONES 33 AND 34

Totals for Zone 33

Total number of districts: 15
Total number of clubs: 784
Total number of Rotarians: 38572
Number of two-year terms out of 16 terms: 8

Totals for Zone 34

Total number of districts: 14
Total number of clubs: 774
Total number of Rotarians: 37029
Number of two-year terms out of 16 terms: 8

Interesting websites for Zones 33 and 34

- <http://www.rizones33-34.org/>
- <http://membership33-34.blogspot.com/>
- <http://rotaryresources.blogspot.com/> (Zone 33 Rotary Coordinator's Blog - Rotary Resources)
- <http://zone34retentioncentral.blogspot.com/> (Zone 34 Rotary Coordinator's Blog – Retention Central)

REFERENCES

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www.rotary.org