

NEWSLETTER

City of Baker, Louisiana

20,000 residents lose homes and businesses, Rotarians respond



BAKER, LA

Record rainfall created massive flooding that has since damaged more than 60,000 homes, local businesses and entire towns. More than 102,000 people have applied for Federal assistance and ironically some of the same people that went to the aide of those affected in New Orleans 11 years ago have now lost everything. The time to act is now. We have been in contact with Assistant Governor, Ginger Vann of Rotary District 6200 is a member of the Rotary Club of Baker and works for the City of Baker. Challenge Rotarians in your club to respond. This is an opportunity to help fellow Americans during the recovery efforts. The local High School is still underwater. Perhaps you can buy a new uniform for a child who attends Baker High, supplies can arrive directly to the City of Baker and help folks get back on their feet. Others of you may want to do more, after all the 2016-17 theme is "Rotary Serving Humanity."

Three Ways to Make a Difference

- 1) **Order Critical Need Supplies** on Amazon.com, direct link at: https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/KJMCITRN2XSH/ref=topnav_lists
- 2) **Financial Contributions** to the Baker Charitable Foundation 501(c)3 via PayPal at: bakerlarotary.us
- 3) **Hands on.** Be a part of the rebuilding process by going to Louisiana. Interested? Contact Ginger Vann gavanns@yahoo.com

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In August 2005, Hurricane Katrina and Rita caused massive devastation to Louisiana, Mississippi and Eastern Texas. At the time, a local Rotarian Brett Morey was living in the San Francisco Bay Area and was a member of the Rotary Club of Brentwood. Brett took immediate action by contacting the President of his club and organized more than 90 volunteers, created drop zones at 26 schools plus Union Square and took donations. The team received pallets of water from Safeway as hundreds of families donated baby formula, diapers, toiletries, clothes, etc. Rotarians and firefighters filled three semi trucks of supplies which were distributed by Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Baker in Louisiana. Brett served as President of the Rotary Club of La Jolla Golden Triangle, 2013-14 and accepted District Governor Marilyn Sanderson's request to serve as the District 5340 Youth Services Chair.

PICTURES TELL A THOUSAND WORDS

Rotarians in District 5340 know how to help people in need. This is an unique opportunity to involve every member in your club, gain the support of Interact Club members in local High Schools, Rotaract members on University campuses and of course family and friends. There are many ways to give when natural disasters strike and while the American Red Cross, FEMA, National Guard and other agencies have already begun the process Rotarians in the Baton Rouge area are helping friends and neighbors while coping with tremendous losses and grief for those lost.

Entire blocks of homes are underwater as some areas received more than 26" of rain within hours. Images provided by Ginger Vann, Rotary Club of Baker and City of Baker are telling.



Rotary Club of Baker - bakerlarotary.us

Ginger Vann - gavanns@yahoo.com

Assistant Governor District 6200



Businesses and residents pile debris and furnishings destroyed by flood water. Many dwellings uninhabitable.



Charles Gaiennie, Rotary Club of Houma uses boat to help elderly residents obtain medications - City of Baker

