



# Haiti Mission, Inc.

Volume 1, Issue 4

November 2007

*Special points of Interest.*

- Year in Review
- Miraculous Moringa
- Rummage sale report
- Pope Benedict says...
- Haitian Visitor
- Drilling news: Christmas in Haiti.

## The Year in Review

What a beautiful year for Haiti and Haiti Mission, Inc. Our end of the year financial report is up on the website. Although improving and developing water systems are and always will be our primary focus, the schools have been expanding at an amazing rate. To think that seven years ago there were no elementary schools in the villages and now there are three locations with almost 700 children receiving a basic education is truly miraculous!

We were able to get a source of high protein feed for our pig breeding facility as well as get a source for Moringa seeds which are trees that produce high protein leaves which do well in Haiti. (See article on Miraculous Moringa) We have great hopes for this program. The people of Haiti understand what to do with pigs. This breeding program will greatly accelerate the quantity and the quality of animals which the community will receive. Once the pig population increases, the people of

the area will be better able to sustain themselves by becoming more self-reliant.

The nurse/midwife whom we sponsor has been busy rendering medical care in the community. We have received numerous reports of how her intervention in various medical emergencies as well as childbirth has been the difference between life and death.

Being able to drill two wells this year has been the highlight of all our accomplishments. To have the proper equipment in place that has allowed us to drill these two wells has been an incredible goal that has finally come to fruition. We are working hard to have the pumps (see picture on the left) installed in both wells by Christmas of this year, but to paraphrase the song, "If not for Christmas, for Sometimes in the New Year."

As soon as the wells are pumping and we work out some more details, we will embark upon a poultry project which will shore up the egg shortage in the re-

gion. The World Health Organization (WHO) states that if a child can eat two eggs a week, the malnutrition which is rampant in the communities, would be greatly reduced. Not having a sufficient laying hen population is a major problem in Haiti in general but especially in outlying districts of Jeremie where we work.

Once again, your generosity has allowed us not only to continue all of the programs that God has initiated through this mission in Haiti, but also has allowed us to implement some new initiatives.

God bless you for being part of another wonderful blessed year for the people of Haiti and Haiti Mission, Inc.

*Lloyd Duplantis*

*"Whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because he is a disciple - amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward."*

- Matthew 10:42



Solar pump and panels.

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# Miraculous Moringa Movement!

Wikipedia says that Moringa is considered one of the world's most useful trees, as almost every part of the Moringa tree can be used for food or has some other beneficial property for both animals and humans. I had been introduced to Moringa by another mission group who was selling seeds as a fund raiser for their mission. I was fascinated by what was stated about the plant. Then there was an article stating that pigs in Haiti could not only survive but thrive on a diet rich in Moringa leaves. That was all I needed to begin some intensive research. As it turns out, a researcher in the mid-90s had determined that the restoration of the Haitian Creole pig was based on the ability to have adequate and nutritious feed. Traditional feeds such as those that are used in the US are impractical due to cost constraints. Moringa trees, which are native to India, thrive in all

sorts of climates and environments, only succumbing to cold weather. The tree does well in both droughts and rainy times and also does well in poor soils.

Since we are expecting our first litter of pigs in November as part of our pig breeding project, it is vital that the community have sufficient Moringa trees to sustain their pigs which they will receive. We were able to locate a source for the seeds in India. Three thousand Moringa seeds cost us \$175 to have them shipped to Fr. Joe's doorstep in Jeremie, Haiti. If that sounds like a deal too good to be true, that was our thoughts also. We figured that we had nothing to lose by placing an order. Sure enough, about three weeks after wiring the money to India, Fr. Joe emailed me to say the sack of Moringa seeds had arrived.

The seeds have been distributed to many of the families in the villages and have been planted so the process is on its way. We have another 3000 seeds ordered but it takes about 100 trees to properly support a couple of pigs (and you can't stop the goats from participating in the feast) so we are looking for donors for orders of 3000 seeds. Not only are the plants great for feed for pigs, goats, cattle and people, they help the environment by sustaining the soil and adding oxygen to the air. (Most of the Haitian Creole Pigs had been destroyed in the early 1980s so much of the tree population has been exploited to use this natural resource to make charcoal.) Be part of the Miraculous Moringa Movement, sponsor a shipment of seeds today!

*Picture below left was planted in Aug. Compare it to Lloyd's height, 6'4".*



Enor reunited with friends.



Rummage sale shoppers.

## Rummage Sale Madness

Our annual rummage sale was another wonderful success. This annual fundraiser was made even more special with the arrival of one of our associates in Haiti, Enor Rodrigue. (See accompanying article.) When the week began, it seemed as though we might not have a big selection of items for people to pick through. Each day brought new surprises and lots and lots of "treasures." We had one lady give us a house full of furniture along with a riding lawnmower. Several other families brought some very saleable items. By the time the Rummage sale began, we were afraid someone would bring something else. We were filled to bursting!

When the sale began, the parking lot at St. Bridget's looked like we were having a Christmas or Easter Mass. There was parking on the street only! The great news was so many of our friends and supporters showed up to help. Things went really well. It was especially wonderful to have some young people from the Interact club from Thibodaux High School and their advisors, Mrs. Sue Aysenne and Suzanne Achee. The Interact Club is a youth outreach of Rotary International that chooses a local and international group to support. They have chosen Haiti Mission, Inc. as their international mission in which to support and participate.

Besides having enough help for the sale, there is always that concern about being able to get rid of what doesn't sell. This year we had Angels on Wheels from Bayou Dularge come and pick up all the clothes that were left over to distribute to those in need free of charge. Habitat for Humanity loaded everything else in their truck. By 2:30 PM, the Community Life Annex at St. Bridget was clean and back in order. Praise God! This was another wonderful event that raised \$2100. This fund raiser allowed us to work hand-in-hand with many friends and supporters helping to fund our ongoing projects.

## Right on target!

A friend of mine called to say that the Pope was finally listening to me. After the initial surprise of such a statement, I asked him to what was he referring. He sent me the following article which was remarkable in its clarity and frankness. The Pope has publicly stated what many in the world have known through first hand experiences - sufficient water is major key to peace and prosperity. As the pope so eloquently stated, it is a basic human right. The following are some excerpts from the pope's article. The complete text can be found at: <http://www.georgiabulletin.org/world/2007/09/07/WORLD-2/> - When Pope Benedict XVI turns on the tap in his Vatican apartment, it's a reminder that potable water is a precious resource in today's world. In many countries, water has become a sensitive environmental, political and economic issue. In recent remarks to young

people at an Italian Marian shrine, Pope Benedict said he was concerned about the equitable sharing of the world's water supplies and warned that water shortages could easily fuel conflicts. Three days later the pope sent a greeting to an environmental conference in Greenland, saying the care of water resources was of "grave importance" for the entire human family. Last March, on World Water Day, a papal message called access to water an "inalienable right" that needs to be protected through changes in lifestyle. Experts point out that more than 1 billion people lack access to adequate drinking water, and that climate changes - including global warming and desertification - could aggravate the situation for many populations. Water must be treated as a fundamental resource that belongs to all. "Today common agreement exists that the survival of humanity and all species on earth depends to a great degree on the

fate of water." More specifically, the council said richer countries should do more to guarantee adequate safe water in poorer countries, where supplies are at greatest risk and where investment in infrastructure is urgently needed. One expert said water is the "blue gold" of the 21st century. Cardinal Renato Martino, president of the justice and peace council, told reporters how the issue came home to him when he visited Africa and saw people walking for miles to fetch their daily supply of safe water. (The same could be said for Haiti.) The Vatican missionary news agency, Fides, recently published a lengthy report titled "Water, Source of Life for the Christian and for Humanity." Citing U.N. reports, it said lack of access to safe water was primarily a problem of resource management and not due to a shortage of fresh water. Haiti Mission, Inc. is proud to be on the cutting edge of this dilemma with its focus on bringing adequate water to the villages of Haiti where we are working.

## Meet Enor Rodrigue

Enor was one of the first people I met when I went to Haiti the first time. He served as an interpreter for me during that first week. Since then he has always been there when we arrive at the airport to help us clear customs. He has assisted with all of customs' clearing and shipping from Port-au-Prince to Jeremie. He and his family have been the recipients of our family support but Enor has given us a lot in return. His expertise and familiarity with all the Haitian rules and regulations surrounding the port has been truly invaluable. Most recently, he has been in charge of seeing that our pig-feed ships out on a timely basis from P-A-P to Jeremie. This process is critical to our pig program being successful. Without proper feed and care, the pigs will not breed.

Enor's journey began four years ago as he began the process of applying for a VISA to come to the US. It is very difficult for Haitians to receive a VISA, much less American Citizenship. Immigration laws are heavily weighted against them. Enor persisted, continuing to send the information to the American Embassy, clearing one hurdle after the other. Finally, in January, 2007, he was notified that his application had been approved. He was given an appointment for an interview in May, 2007 and finally his perseverance was rewarded with his VISA arriving in June, 2007 for a five year period. His dream of coming to the US to visit as well as determine if it was practical to engage in a small business of purchasing certain items

here in the US which could be sold at a profit in markets in P-A-P would be possible.

Providentially, his trip coincided with our annual Rummage sale. An American Rummage Sale was quite an experience for Enor. He was able to get some things for his family back in P-A-P as well as a few items that he can "turn a profit" with when he returns home. It's the American-Haitian way!

It was wonderful having Enor visit our family and many of our Haiti Mission Family. Enor's story is just another example of how working hand-in-hand with one family at a time in Haiti has made a difference in their lives and ours.

## Drilling update: "Water for Christmas" (Fall 07)

Our dream and goal of having water flowing within 500 feet of everyone in the villages of Numero Deux (ND) and Ravine Sable (RS) is coming closer and closer. We have two wells drilled that are awaiting their pumps. The first well at Fr. Joe's compound (200 feet deep) will have a high volume solar pump installed. The system should pump approximately 3000 gallons a day which will be the primary water source for the compound which serves as Fr. Joe's

personal residence, guest house, a retreat center, a school and a depot for equipment and supplies. The water well will also serve as a source of water for approximately 50 families, the Porcherie (the pig breeding facility), the church and possibly for a chicken facility in the future. As you can see, this well will be an incredible blessing to the area. The second well (300 feet deep) is at the Pavilion School where 300 children attend school. This well will serve

the children as along with approximately 50 more families.

Can you think of a more wonderful Christmas present for all these families and for our mission than clean, fresh water flowing for all to use. Please keep this intention in your prayers. Thank you for your faithfulness and your support. Without all you do, none of this would be possible.

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LABLE



Mrs. Marlene Champagne was the designer and seamstress of this beautiful Star Quilt. It was donated to Haiti Mission and will be one of the main items for a raffle on World Water Day in March. Mark your calendars and plan on spending the day with us. There will be fun for all ages!

## Lloyd's Laughter

The first grade students had just heard the story of Adam and Eve. They were assigned the task of illustrating the story. Ronnie, whose father was a car salesman, was busy sketching a large car. When the teacher stopped beside his desk, she chided him gently: "Ronnie, you're supposed to make a picture about the story of Adam and Eve." "I am," he muttered without looking up. "Well, Tell me about it," the teacher encouraged. "That's God, up in the front seat," answered the young artist. "He's driving Adam and Eve out of the garden."

The dying man beckoned to his wife, "Sarah," he whispered, "be sure to put David in charge of the store when I'm gone." "David? Why not Joey? He's a smart boy." The man nodded weakly. Okay, but give Harry the station wagon." Protested his wife, "But Benny needs it for his big family!" "All right, give it to Benny," said the man. "But I think the house in the country should go to Shirley." "Papa," she said, "you know Shirley hates the country. Give it to Rosalie." The old man finally lost his patience. "Mama," he groaned, "who is dying – you or me!?"

## Upcoming Events

**December/January** – Gary Lirette leads a team to Haiti to install the solar pump and erect the building for the Kindergarten class at the Ravine Sable Pavilion school.

**January '08** – Drill team goes down for three weeks to drill more wells; Quarterly meeting for Haiti mission, Inc. (Exact time and place TBA)

**February '08** – Children's foot prints arrive. Shoe share process begins.

**March 29, 2008** - World Water Day at Peltier's Park in Thibodaux. Crafts, Games for the Kids, food and Education on water issues and Raffle. Time TBA.

**April 14-21** Next Haiti Mission Trip!

**THANKSGIVING BLESSINGS!!**

## Faie's Facts

Even if I thought I was going to die tomorrow, I should still plant a tree today, for others, to enjoy.

*-Stephen Girard*

Over the doorway of an English chapel are two words: "Think—Thank." If we stopped to Think more, we would stop to Thank more.

*-Parker Jordan*

Heaven is a state of thankfulness for having received what we did not deserve, and for not receiving what we really did deserve.

*-Author Unknown*

Small—People who think they are too big to do little things are perhaps too little to be asked to do BIG things.

*-Author Unknown*

The wise, analyze, but the unwise criticize.

*-Florence Stribley*

Careless Drivers, Note: Here lies the body of Elvis Spode .

He watched the signs, but not the road.  
*-Ogden Nash*