



Moving Mountains

The newsletter of Mustard Seed Missions, Inc.

Volume 5, Issue #3

March 2011

Calendar

- April 21-29—
Medical Team
- June 2-10—
Medical Team
- October 6-14
Medical Team
- November 5—
Local Vocal
Chord Bowl

Inside this issue:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Kolera Education | 2 |
| Brief Window of Time | 2 |
| Memorial Donations | 2 |
| Rain on the Roof Photos | 3 |
| How To Fix a Roof | 3 |
| February Trip Postponed | 4 |

Election Troubles Postpone February Medical Trip

See full story on page 4.

'Rain on the Roof' - 93 Houses!

We're happy to be able to report that Phase I of the Needs Assessment for our Rain on the Roof project has been completed! The goal of Phase I was to visit 70 houses with rain-collection cisterns, to evaluate the condition of the cisterns and the rain-collection systems on the roofs.

On January 11 and 12, 2011 Paul worked with a team of 5 Haitian men and hiked the steep mountains surrounding Platon, covering about 15 miles in two days. Three of the men were

from COTMA, the community leaders of the Platon "zone". The COTMA members had made a good plan for systematically



One of 93 houses needing roof repairs.

visiting all of the houses. We learned that the cisterns had been built 25 years ago, at or near the end of Baby Doc's reign, as a government project to provide clean water to the mountain communities.

Our assessment team walked to 93 houses, took measurements and photos, made notes about roof/cistern conditions and noted GPS locations in order to be able to prioritize a plan for restoring some of the cisterns to working condition.

(Continued on page 3).

Hungry for Education about Cholera

While Paul was hiking the mountains, Jan was providing health education about cholera ("kolera" in kreyol). We had asked the local pastors at Caiman and Platon to gather 10 community leaders at each place so that we could train the leaders, who could then go back to their villages and educate the people living there. We had no idea how hungry everyone was

for correct information about kolera. At Caiman, over 100 people showed up at the church to hear us train the 10 leaders. We planned one session at Platon and ended up holding sessions for two consecutive days, instead. We provided each leader with high quality materials including notebooks, visual aids, a packet of 100 handouts in kreyol, and 24 packets of Oral

Rehydrations Salts ("sewom oral"). These professional materials lent legitimacy to their responsibility to go back to their community and share what they learned. On the second day in Platon, Noel Lelice, one of the young community leaders returned to listen again and Jan asked him to do some of the teaching. He had learned well!

(Continued on page 2.)

Kolera Education (continued)



Jan and Amoce teaching about kolera at church in Caiman

The training included information about identifying kolera, and that it was not a magic poison powder in the water, as well as how to avoid catching kolera, and then how to treat it. We made 'sewom oral' from commercially available packets that we had brought, as well as in the easily made formula using simple table salt, sugar, and clean water. Each leader tasted both versions of the sewom oral so that they would be able to tell others that it was OK to drink. They decided the home-made

version tasted better! Following that we demonstrated how they could make clean water at home using the SODIS method (www.sodis.com). This is a solar disinfection method that produces drinkable water in six hours using clear plastic bottles placed on a flat reflective surface. It has been shown to kill the kolera bacteria. It will probably take some considerable training to get the community to adopt this method, but two people in each training agreed to try it, including a 10 year old boy.



COTMA leaders review photos to choose first five houses.

A Brief Window of Time



COTMA meeting. (Red Sox cap was a gift from Dr. Mark to Nicoderm, the head teacher in Platon.)

COTMA Meetings: During a brief window of relative quiet, Paul and Jan returned to Haiti for five days on February 24 in order to hold meetings with COTMA about Rain on the Roof and to provide more kolera training. Paul met with 6 community leaders to review pictures of the houses we thought it best to begin with. The leaders chose five houses. Their next task is to provide MSM with a budget.

Kolera Training: We provided kolera training to an additional 20 community leaders in two new villages (photos above). Both of these villages will be sites for medical clinics in April. To be able to provide the training ahead of time was very worthwhile. In one village, Dubreuil they had seen a fair amount of cholera. In the other, Duperon, they had not.

Memorial/Tribute Donations



Robert G. Burke
 Randolph Jackson
 Wallace J. MacDonadl
 Jennie Gnacek
 Arnold "Dusty" Hersom
 Lynn Gerslip
 Art Campbell

Foley and Shea Families
 Bigos Family
 Art Kennedy
 Husband and Brother of
 Mary Balfour
 William Blay

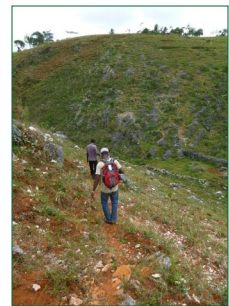
In Honor of:
 The Haiti Medical Team
 The Haitian People
 Dr. Matt Kane

Rain on the Roof Project



Paul filled out complete forms, with drawings, for each house and entered the material in a data base. At this end we will prioritize which houses we think will be the best ones to begin restoring, but not before we meet with COTMA for their recommendations and judgment. We will make the decision together.

Phase 2 will involve determining what portion of each project will be paid for by MSM and what contribution the local COTMA community will make for the initial restoration of up to 10 roofs.



How To Fix a Roof

1. Count how many 2.5' x 6' corrugated zinc panels are required (averages about 30).
2. Check to see how many rafters need replacing (tree poles, 2x4's, whatever kind of wood there is).
3. Have iron brackets forged for the gutters.
4. Walk one hour down the mountain to catch a tap-tap to Les Cayes.
5. Buy the materials at NIRA.
6. Find a big truck (you need \$\$) to carry all the materials through the river and back to the bottom of the mountain.
7. Find enough men and donkeys to carry all of the roofing panels and wood up the mountain.
8. Gather the local roofer and volunteers.
9. Find someone who has a homemade (tree limb) ladder.
10. Find someone who has hammer(s)
11. Climb on the roof and begin taking it apart. Most of the wood will be termite eaten or rotten and might be burned for fuel. Any salvagable metal panel pieces will be used for other things such as cistern covers.
12. From this point on the Haitian men will begin laying rafters on rough uneven concrete walls, and then begin attaching the metal panels, overlapping as they go.
13. Gutters will be hung next, but that's another process.



Mustard Seed Missions, Inc.

Faith Can Move Mountains

Primary Office:
2 Old Stage Road
West Hatfield, MA 01088

413-349-9399
mustardseedmissions@gmail.com

Website: www.mustardseedmissions.org

Mustard Seed Missions is a Christ-following mission seeking to serve the poor in Haiti. Partnering with Haitians, we jointly work to address the health and living conditions of the Haitian people leading to self-sustaining improvements. MSM visits Haiti regularly to hold medical clinics in remote rural villages for people who have very limited access to medical care. We work to provide medical care and improve community health, environmental conditions, and education. All of these actions are used to build relationships with Haitians who are actively engaged in this work. In these activities, we attempt to mentor concepts of good stewardship, integrity, leadership, and self-sufficiency wherever possible. Mustard Seed Missions does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, age, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or any other characteristic protected by law.

February Medical Team Becomes Two Teams

Presidential elections were held on November 28 but Haiti still has no newly elected President. President Rene Preval's term was up on February 7th. Our medical team was scheduled to leave Boston on February 6th but was cancelled due to brewing political turmoil that made the trip potentially dangerous. That trip has been rescheduled and we'll be returning to Haiti on April 21. Everyone was able to rebook their flights; some people will be joining the **April team** but others will be coming with our **June team** instead.

April Medical Team

April 21– 29, 2011

Dr. Mark Bigda
Jean Bigda
Dr. Peter Siersma
Greyson Pannill
Sharon Shumway, FNP
Steven Shumway
Paul Davis
Jan Davis

June Medical Team

June 2-10, 2011

Dr. Mark Bigda
Jean Bigda
Greyson Pannill
Bob Myers
Laurel Myers
Josh Beauregard
Jan Davis