

BON NOUVÉL!

Good News in Haiti!

July/August 2011



“SEEDS OF HOPE”



EDUCATE
EMPOWER
LOVE



Claudia, Fundraiser Committee Chair and friend, Bernadette



Flow- Power!

Purchase your flowers and bulbs through THEA! Great for this Fall planting season, birthday, housewarming gifts, etc.

Visit theaflowers.org
Campaign runs through Oct.

Your tax-deductible donation can be made payable to “THEA” and sent to:
THEA
48 East 80th Street
New York, NY 10075
or
through the THEA website:
theahaiti.org

What’s New?

It’s been an action-packed year so far with two trips to Haiti, THEA’s 2nd Annual Caribbean Night Fundraiser, and further Community Education Program developments.

THEA’s Community Education Programs are thriving. The training garden is filled with nutritious vegetables which the students share with those in need. The sewing courses continue to meet 2 or 3 times per week; and the medical education track students now have community health education materials to study in preparation for volunteer work with the local hospital or more formal medical training. A new college fund has been started to begin preparing for some of these students to go on for further medical education. Also, 41 students are able to begin primary and secondary school in the Fall 2011.

Your support and participation with THEA is making this possible and impacting the lives of over 100 families in Haiti. *Thank you!*

THEA’s 2nd Annual Caribbean Night was a GREAT Success!

Thank you to everyone who participated in THEA’s 2nd Annual Caribbean Night! It was such a fun evening with live music, tropical drinks, cultural displays, children’s activities, a silent auction, and more!

We would like to give a special thank you to Claudia Etienne, Marlene Ortega, and Denise Cherenfant - the THEA Board Members who chaired this event, the Manhattan Church of Christ, the many volunteers who came early and stayed late, all those who bought ads for the program and donated items for the silent auction, and all who came and participated to make Caribbean Night a fun and successful event! *Thank you!*

Save the date for the 3rd Annual Caribbean Night: June 24, 2012, 4 - 8 pm.



Michael Amitin, a great entertainer!

How Can You Help?

- 1) **Pray** for families in Haiti and THEA’s work there.
- 2) **Contribute monthly.** Help provide consistent schooling for the children and support the ongoing community agriculture, sewing, and medical educational programs sponsored by THEA. Contribute to THEA’s College Fund.
- 3) **Donate teaching materials and non-electric treadle sewing machines.** Empower schools, teachers, and students by providing hands-on learning resources. See website for details.
- 4) **Be a THEA translator** – English to Creole.
- 5) **Volunteer.** Host or help with a fundraising event including flea markets, penny wars, Caribbean Night, and others.

Your financial support is needed now to ensure the continuity in education for the children, community education programs, and stability for families.

Thank you for your support and prayers!



July 2011 Trip

This was such a faith-building trip with many successes and learning opportunities for all of us. THEA's 6-member team facilitated activities to help meet the needs of people in Haiti and strengthen our ongoing Community Education Programs. **Nutrition education** included devising a method to collect rain water and treat it for safe drinking and washing. Instructions were given on the distribution and use of the donated vitamins to take with water. Food was provided for about 40 children and their caretakers for the week and beyond. The importance of proper nutrition was stressed with all gardening, solar cook-stove, and medical classes this week. **Gardening education** included drip irrigation training for a source of nutrition year-round; garden design for optimal use of space; and product selection for highest level of nutrition first, *then* profit for possible future business opportunities. Matt, a THEA volunteer, taught how to make plant markers and seed beds for further organization of the training garden. Twenty younger children learned to plant and care for vegetable plants/herbs in pots which they could each take home. **Sewing training** included the older students in THEA's ongoing Sewing Training Program teaching 25 children to do simple hand stitches and included a service project for those in need of clothes in the community. An ongoing **Women's Bible study** started this week (a novel concept for women in Haiti) with the use of a solar-powered audio Bible in Creole called a Proclaimer. Our favorite part of the trip was when the older widows stepped forward to lead the Women's Bible Study! **Medical education** included THEA's medical track students receiving hands-on training with several in the community with rehabilitation needs. Also, each student was assigned a community health information packet which they each presented to the community at the end of the week. Around 40 pairs of reading and prescription eyeglasses were donated, so the students also helped to conduct a vision clinic. Almost every person who came was able to receive a pair of glasses which enabled them to see more clearly. Praise God!



Immediate needs:
Supplies needed for the Winter trip include:

- Vitamins (non-gummy)
- Prescription glasses
- Toiletry items
- Craft materials
- Medical supplies (over-the-counter pain medication, gauze, antibiotic and antifungal ointments, eye drops, splints, etc.)
- Water purification tablets



Learning to use the Proclaimer



Eye-glasses clinic



Sewing class for younger students. She's on THEA's Sewing Program waiting list.



Drip Irrigation Kit demo.

Keep informed!
 Sign-up for THEA's e-news, e-Bon Nouvel.
Visit theahaiti.org and sign-up today!

Mark your calendars and join us for THEA's upcoming events:

August 21st– Board Meeting- MCOC
August 28th– Church Picnic in Central Park, NYC; picnic lunches for sale
August 29th– Primary-College Tuition due
September 12th-13th– Symposium on the World Report on Disability in VA
September 25th– Hoboken Arts Festival
October 6th– Dinner at Rumba Cubana restaurant in N. Bergen, NJ
November 19th– Times Square Holiday Fair on 45th from 5th-7th Ave., NYC
December 10th– Holiday Tea with Cynthia Mudd as guest speaker at the Pitman Church of Christ in South Jersey
January– Tuition due for 2nd semester
January 2012– Next trip to Haiti
June 24, 2012– 3rd Annual Caribbean Night



"THEA is very grateful for your prayers and unconditional support to our educational programs in Haiti. Your generosity has helped 31 children go to school and 21 young adults learn a trade in agriculture and sewing. Because of you, our vision to empower Haitian children, families, and communities toward self-sufficient and productive lives has begun to materialize before our very eyes. Thank you and may God bless you."

*Shubert Etienne and Cynthia Mudd
 THEA Vice President and President*