



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S  
DESK



NUTRITION WITH NURSE  
NANCY



WHAT IS LOVE?



CARIBBEAN NIGHT  
SPOTLIGHT



### Letter from Cynthia Mudd, President of THEA

I always look forward to this opportunity to share with you all that God has accomplished through THEA over the course of the year as well as ask for your prayers for our upcoming work in Haiti. We are overwhelmingly thankful for all of you who have supported us through prayer, financial donations, and encouragement throughout the year.

In February, Marlene, Jason, Bunny, and I attended the graduation of THEA's 2nd sewing and gardening/nutrition classes in LaVictoire. It was a full community affair! The sewing students beautifully displayed their tailoring and sewing skills by making the graduation clothes. We also saw many of the graduates' beautiful gardens. Jason and I worked with the rehabilitation department at Hospital Bienfaisance de Pignon while Bunny and Marlene met with a local church in Pignon for a women's Bible study and children's program as well as visited several families in the hospital.

In May, Bobbie Solley from Healing Hands International and I went to TX for a collaborative workshop designed to train teachers in the U.S. to train teachers in Haiti creative strategies that especially encourage hands-on learning, critical thinking, and reading comprehension.

Then in July, Amy Jimenez, the 3 incredibly talented teachers- Linda Neighbors, Erica Meyer and Michelle Hall, and I went to LaVictoire and conducted the 3-day teacher training with 54 teachers representing 14 area schools. The seminar was well received and each teacher and each school received a bag of teaching resources (pictured above).

Also, we partnered again with Nehemiah Project to conduct the next level of Christian business training with several of THEA's program graduates and other community members and leaders. It also was a great success!

During the July trip, because of your critically important monthly donations, THEA paid for the 36 children in THEA's Primary/Secondary School program to complete this year of school.

In addition, we met with Marcelin, THEA's trusted and beloved agriculture teacher and Angelot, THEA's original gardening teacher and sponsored agronomy tech graduate. Because of this meeting we expanded THEA's Gardening/Nutrition Program from an ongoing certificate class of 15 students to also include 3 day gardening/nutrition seminars for families living in more rural locations surrounding Lavictoire. The 1st 3-day seminar of 15 students was completed in August and the second in October! Our goal is to be able to do one community seminar per month.

GREAT NEWS! Merly, the brilliant young woman who grew up in an orphanage started a therapy program at a university in Port au Prince this month!! Please join us in praying for her and her studies!

### **MICKENOLALOVE- SUCCESS STORY**

During a discussion of optimal child development within the teacher training in July, we made a very important announcement to all the teachers and other community leaders in LaVictoire. The announcement was:

*Despite all of the requests, THEA's Directors decided we can not add more children to our Primary/Secondary School Program unless they meet very strict criteria. The criteria includes: A boy or girl living with another family as a slave, called a "restavek" where the child is expected to do the house work for the family in exchange for food or school, etc. This is a very dangerous situation for the children. In exchange for the child being reunited with his/her family, THEA would enable the child to go to school and arrange for the family to have a garden and the father and/or mother to complete the business training.*

Two teachers approached us afterward. One teacher stated she has a child in her home, Mickenolalove, who works for her and does not go to school, but is willing to give her back to her parents. We enrolled Mickenolalove in school and arranged with our agriculture teachers to include her parents in the gardening/nutrition training classes. We will stay in contact with these two families and pray that more children in this dangerous situation can be reunited with their families for a bright future. Please join us in prayer for these children and their families.

## *Caribbean Night*

June 16, 2015 - New York, NY



We had another great year at Caribbean Night. Denise Cherenfant did an outstanding job preparing Caribbean dishes and Larry Mudd graced us with his MC abilities. We spent the night reviewing the past and looking toward the future. Be looking for an invitation online or in the mail in June 2016.

## ***Nutrition with Nurse Nancy: ANEMIA IN HAITI***

In Haiti over half the pregnant women and two-thirds of children under age 13 are affected by anemia. Anemia means a person's hemoglobin level is low and results in a decreased ability to carry oxygen throughout the body. Consequences of anemia include compromised neurological and cognitive development of children, increased maternal and infant mortality, and an increase in infections. Children's ability to function in school and learn is hurt by anemia. THEA is addressing the problem of anemia on several fronts. Our agriculture training program is helping with increased food production. THEA has held multiple nutrition education seminars that have included instruction on high iron foods. In partnership with Thirsty People we have provided water filters which can result in a decrease in water born illnesses, including parasites and worms. Also important is THEA's tuition support for girls and young women. According to research conducted by the World Bank, improved education for women results in a decrease in childhood malnutrition and anemia.

### ***WHAT IS LOVE?***

Marlene Ortega

My trip early this year in February was clearly God sending me to teach three topics that had recently convicted me at a bible study I had done called "True Love". It's taken from 1 Corinthians 13. The three topics that I wanted to teach was: Love is patient, it does not envy, it is not proud- three very difficult topics for me to teach, and to bring to a different culture.

God orchestrated the whole thing. When I brought up having a bible study to two different groups of ladies in Haiti they were on board. I prayed and asked the Holy Spirit to give me wisdom and the right words and He did! At first the ladies were apprehensive to talk about not being patient, being envious or having pride. But when I confessed that I struggled with these things they also confessed they did too. It was an awesome experience.

The young man who was my translator loved the study so much, he asked for the manuscript. He led a small group study at the orphanage where he lives. My lesson in all this is that I didn't want to go on the trip, but was obedient when God asked me to go and to teach lessons I had just learned myself. It was my best trip yet!



Bunny Stevens is always available for a hug

### **MY YEAR IN THEA**

Tia Dugan

While each year I help THEA with Caribbean Night, this year I took on more responsibilities and assisted in year-round fundraising. We engaged ProcessDonation, a company devoted to helping Non-Profits raise money through integrated payment tools, to help us have a better online presence for donations. This included the ability to accept monthly donations online, online RSVP capabilities for Events, and seamless reporting of donations. In 2016, I hope to create more opportunities for donations and reach a wider audience with THEA's message. For more information, email me at [Events@TheaHaiti.org](mailto:Events@TheaHaiti.org).

God is always fair. He will remember how you helped his people in the past and how you are still helping them. ... he won't forget the love you have shown his people. Hebrews 6:9-11 (CEV)

