
HAITI OUTREACH MISSION

Editor's Notes December 2012: Bill McNeece

It's the end of another very busy year for HOM! On page two find Len Sacketts photo essay of his experience as a HOM sponsored participant (along with Art Mulkey and Bill Dunphy) at the Habitat for Humanity build near Leogane, Haiti. On page seven find John Messina's report detailing his return to Haiti for the purpose of finishing work started in August (see issue five - HOM newsletter). And on page nine the wonderful fundraiser at The Comedy Club on November 9 - organized by St. David's - is pictured.

Valerie and I have been receiving many requests for end of the year charitable giving, as you have. Please consider Haiti Outreach Mission:

Haiti Outreach Mission
5700 Crooks Road
Suite 100
Troy, MI 48098-4100

<http://www.haitioutreachmission.org/>

248-474-3548

Haiti Outreach Mission Member Churches

All Saints	Lansing, Michigan
Corpus Christi	Detroit, Michigan
Our Lady of Victory	Northville, Michigan
St. Bernard's	Billings, Montana
St. Blasé	Sterling Heights, Michigan
St. Clare of Assisi	Ann Arbor, Michigan
St. David's	Southfield, Michigan



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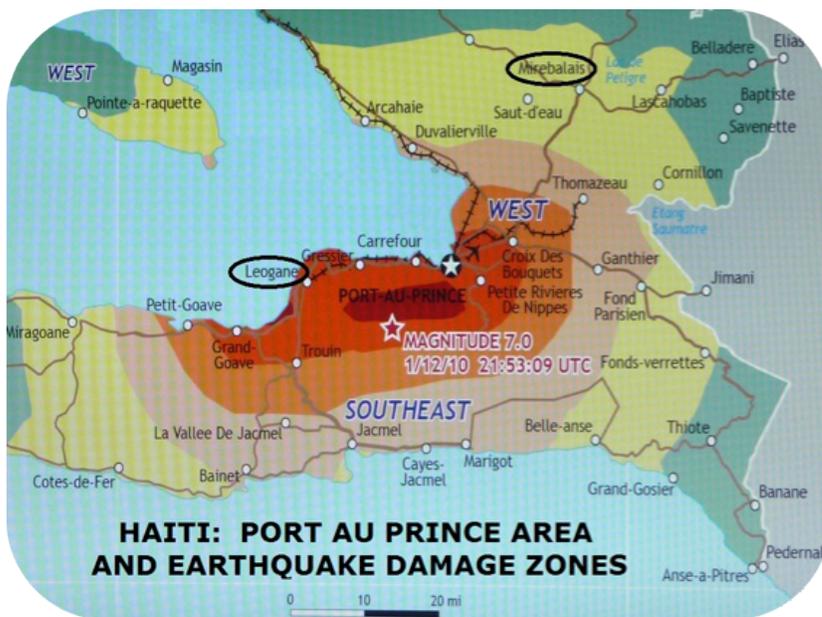
Habitat for Humanity Partnership

Haiti Outreach Mission designated funds to the 2012 Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project in Haiti. This donation enabled HOM to send three volunteers to help with on-site home building work, which took place on November 24 through December 1, 2012.

Art Mulkey (St. Bernard's), Len Sackett (St. David's) and Bill Dunphy represented HOM. A \$5000 donation to the project was made for each participant. (Total \$15,000).

Habitat for Humanity acknowledged HOM's Santo house build project donation of \$15,000 to construct one home in Leogane, the 2010 earthquake epicenter. HOM's two contributions totaled \$30,000, plus roundtrip airfare to Atlanta for Carter build participants. This completes our distribution of moneys collected in response to the earthquake.

At the Haiti Carter Build - November 24 through December 1, 2012 by Len Sackett



This map shows Leogane, the site for the Habitat for Humanity home construction where we worked. It was at or near the 2010 earthquake epicenter. ~80% of the town's buildings were damaged or destroyed. The Episcopal nursing school at Leogane received only very minor damage in the quake because it was built to international standards. A quarter million people died because Haiti is a developing country, not because of a magnitude 7 quake.



Trip and orientation started in Atlanta.

Art Mulkey, our House Leader waving. He came in a day early to help with handing out supplies. He is from Billings, Montana and also was sponsored by HOM.



Bill Dunphy is from Canton Michigan and was also sent on the trip by Haiti Outreach Mission (HOM).

Our home for the week. We were in a HUGE high ceiling tent that was divided into four 18-person rooms! Most tents were of the 2-4 person variety.



Our crew worked on houses 509 and 510. Putting the wooden upper walls up was the first task.

House 509 future homeowner and me sitting in the SHADE.



Lunch hall. We came over in shifts.

Bill Dunphy, Art Mulkey (in House Leader orange shirt) and me. Sub sandwiches were the lunch staple.



Haiti, no shade? Well, make your own. Me in FULL sun body armor and hardhat. I'm nailing down the sill plates on house 510.



Home-owners (green shirts) joined the crew on Monday. Give them any task, 5 minutes of training and they could do the job as good or better than most of us. They REALLY wanted their homes finished!! Here this owner is installing hurricane straps between the trusses and the perlin.



Art giving front porch installation instructions with Habitat person Ann looking on. Ann's side jobs were site safety and making sure we didn't forget to drink water.



The Carters answering questions Tuesday night and talking about other Habitat for Humanity projects.



Bedroom prior to adding door. I would estimate that this master bedroom measured about 6'x8'.



Hanging window shutters while still painting. Time is getting short.



Front view of house 510.



All smiles.



Here is the crew for 509 and 510. You can see that Bill Dunphy was the smart one – sitting in the shade. Art Mulkey is sitting on the right and that's me, Len, standing third from the right. Every other day I was not this dirty. It was Friday and we were rushing to get odds and ends done. I was holding rain gutters in place with my gut while screwing them in place. And of course Friday at 1:00PM is when we had our group picture with the Carters. Good thing I was in the back row.



Each home will have its own restroom with side washing room. Normal Haitian bathing method is using a water pail. The human waste will be recycled into compost.



There will be community water pumps for the families through out the housing/ community project.



154 homes were built last year and are now occupied. Woman to left of the pink house is cooking in side yard. Typical developing world method: Three stone fire on the ground with round-bottomed pot.



President Carter shaking hands and thanking each of us. We in turn were thanking him and his wife for all the great work they have done and are still doing.



Another pic of 2011 homes.... Haiti Outreach Mission was a partner in that build also. (See Newsletter 3 - Part one - January 2012

John Messina (St. Blasé) and Chris Gotke (St. Blasé) traveled to Haiti in December to finish work begun in August (see Newsletter Five - John insisted on returning to finish the job) - wiring St. Pierre school and installing toilets in both priest's homes/rectories. Below is John Messina's slightly edited report. - ed.

December 2012 HOM Construction Haiti Trip

Thursday, November 29

We arrived in Haiti at 12:35 PM. Haiti travelers will be happy to hear that we no longer need to take a bus to an old warehouse for customs and baggage. The airport terminal earthquake repair has been completed. A new customs area as well as modern turnstile baggage claim meant the process moved very quickly. We were picked up by Kato, sent by Father Jeannot, and arrived in Mirebalais at 2:30 PM. We went to St. Pierre rectory and spoke briefly with Father Jeannot about work to be done.

Went to St. Pierre school for a look-see...the area was very busy...many classrooms in use...young adults and adults. I noticed that the porch of the computer room had been screened in.

Received call from Father Leveque to make sure we arrived and were OK. He said he would see us on Friday. Since it was first Sunday of Advent coming up both priests were very busy.

Friday, November 30

Installed second toilet at St. Louis rectory...worked at St. Pierre school wiring the first floor, after school was out, approximately 1 PM. We completed three classrooms...planned to attempt to complete first floor of school on Saturday.

Saturday, December 1

When we arrived at St. Pierre school there were four Americans and one young Haitian priest there. The priest and one gentleman came over to us and introduced himself - "I'm Jim Snow from Virginia"...the other three people were from Idaho. The priest asked us what we were doing. I told him that in 2001 we helped to put the second story on the school and now we were there to try to put lights into all the classrooms, so rooms could be used in the evening. The priest stated he was a student at the school then as well as a cousin of Fr. Rospignac Ambroise. (*Pastor of St. Pierre at the time*). He said the second story allowed him to get the education he needed and that's why he is a priest today.

We finished most of the electrical work on the first floor of the school, and planned to complete the work in a couple hours on Sunday. Art Mulkey (*St. Bernard's, Montana*) and Jim Benner (*St. Bernard's, Montana*) arrived around 4:30 at St. Pierre. (*Art had been sponsored by HOM at the Habitat for Humanity build in Haiti. See Len Sackett's report above*).

No power at the rectory, Father said there is some problem with the lines. Generator is used from about 5 PM until 8:30 PM.

Sunday, December 2

Attended serviced at St. Louis - 5:30 AM Mass, then went to service at St. Pierre. It was a bit difficult to work in the school even on Sunday...they seem to have classes going in most rooms. We did manage to get first floor completed...all rooms on first floor have lights. Started work on second floor.

Monday, December 3

9 AM we started to install toilets at St. Pierre rectory - one on the second floor and one on the first floor. There was not a light in first floor bathroom...we provided wire and light, as well as switch to bathroom.

1:00 PM, arrived at St. Pierre school to continue electrical work. We ran new wire to four classrooms - used existing conduit...had to run surface conduit to 5th room due to elevation differences between 4th and 5th room. All rooms have new color-coded wire.

Tuesday, December 4

Fr. Leveque asked us to attend the funeral of his cousin who passed away in Hinche. We felt we should attend since it was a family member and he was saying the Mass.

Left for Hinche with Father Leveque at 10:30 AM. Attended the funeral Mass...had lunch and visited with Father Faublas (*former pastor of St. Louis in Mirebalais*)...got back to St. Louis rectory at 6:30 PM.

Wednesday, December 5

Installed 3rd toilet at St. Louis rectory...could not install 4th toilet in Fr. Leveque's room due to construction...he is having his room enlarged. Workmen were taking down walls. Art Mulkey said he would install the toilet before he left on Sunday.

Art, Jim, and Chris went to the village of Desvarrieux to take pictures of school children that would assist in fundraising. I finished the electrical work at St. Pierre school. As of this moment, December 5th, 2012, 6 PM, St. Pierre school has lights in all classrooms, one new circuit panel in principal's office and all new color-coded wire. I also installed a light in a new office on the second floor. Went to the medical/dental clinic at 2 PM, saw Dr. Anthony, the clinic's dentist. He had no power in the dental lab – I repaired the problem. Someone had done something in the circuit panel and dislodged the circuit. Asked about the generator. The generator was next to staircase to Dr. Anthony's quarters, under a blue tarp...it was completely taken apart because it had stopped working. After seeing what had been done to it, I believe it is beyond repair.

Thursday, December 6

Did not see Father Jeannot to say good-bye. He did send his driver to take us to the airport. Both priests were very busy due to the first week of Advent.

One future project may be that the orphanage is in need of painting.



Fuse Panel installed in St. Pierre school principal's office on the second floor – over the old panel.



Lights installed in St. Pierre school classroom.



New water conserving toilet installed at St. Louis rectory.

John Messina photos

Comedy Club Fundraising Event Sponsored by St. David's on November 9, 2012.

This fundraising event provided funds, which will be used to purchase medicine for our annual medical mission to Mirebalais, Haiti. The event featured a silent auction, 50/50 drawing, dinner, and comedy. It was held at the Comedy Castle in Royal Oak, MI.



Kathy Graham organizing silent auction bid numbers.



Silent auction bidders.



Delicious buffet.



Rector of St. David's Church, Fr. Chris Yaw, and Jan Ernst pointing out a silent auction bid winner.



*Thanks to all who attended.
A great time was had by all.*

50/50 winning ticket being drawn by Natalie Yaw as Fr. Chris Yaw and HOM Executive Committee member Joan Elkins look on.



Fr. Chris Yaw and Len Sackett present funds for the operation of St. Pierre Medical/Dental Clinic in Mirebalais, Haiti, to the President of HOM, Dr. Dominique Monde-Matthews.