

Sea Island Rotary Beaufort, South Carolina



January 19, 2010

SERVICE Above Self

Today's Meeting- Paul Sheppard - U.S. Census Bureau

Today's drawing - \$723.00

Curt Copeland has donated today's door prize.

From President Marc

Last week we heard from Ross Spencer, the part-time ShelterBox representative for our District 7770 (Ross's Club is in Chicago; he winters on HHI). And what a timely program it was, as tragedy struck Haiti that very day. Your Board has approved a donation of \$2,000 to fund two Shelter Boxes that will provide, shelter, blankets, mosquito nets, multi-fuel stove, tool kit, children's activity books, etc., for 20 poor souls in Haiti.

Last week we also inducted new member Wayne Blau, and Jennifer Morillo has been proposed. Please continue to build our Club by inviting potential new members to lunches and social events.

Thanks to all who worked the annual Oyster Roast, cooking up and serving a fine Lowcountry Boil. It was a great time for all!

Marc Fisher, 2009-2010 Sea Island Rotary President
"Many Hands Make Light the Work"

Upcoming Events and Speakers

January 26 TBD
February 2 Dr. Randy Wall, Beaufort Academy

Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries

January 19 Rob Marek Birthday
January 21 John Barber Birthday

In all we think, say and do....

1. Is it the Truth?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



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Marc Fisher

President-Elect
Randy Wall

Secretary
Kelly Singletary

Treasurer
Kathy Bundy

Sergeant-at-Arms
Ray Harvey

The Foundation establishes Haiti earthquake fund

by Ryan Hyland

Rotary International News -- 13 January 2010

The Rotary Foundation has established the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund for U.S. Rotarians who want to donate toward recovery efforts after a powerful earthquake rocked Haiti on 12 January.

The Haitian Red Cross is estimating that more than 50,000 people are dead and millions more injured after the quake, the impoverished nation's strongest in 200 years, crumbled government buildings, hospitals, schools, and shantytowns. Most of the capital, Port-au-Prince, is in ruins.

A ShelterBox response team of two U.S. Rotarians and one from the United Kingdom has already mobilized to deliver 500 containers of supplies to the affected areas. Also, more than 100 Aquaboxes are being delivered to Haiti to provide safe water.

Claude Surena, a member of the Rotary Club of Petion-Ville and president of the Haitian Medical Association, is sheltering more than 100 people in his damaged home in Port-au-Prince. He is also leading the efforts of the 17 Haitian Rotary clubs to ensure that the ShelterBox containers will be deployed effectively to the thousands left homeless.

The Rotary Club of Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles, has committed US\$50,000 to clubs in the affected areas. "Rotarians are working hard and fast to get help to those in Haiti," says Past RI Director Barry Rassin, of Nassau, Bahamas, who has previously coordinated relief efforts in the country. "We're at the same time working on long-term efforts."

More than \$75,000 has been donated to District 7020 in the Caribbean, according to Past District Governor Dick McCombe. The district will be coordinating much of the Rotarian relief effort through its Haiti Task Force, set up two years ago to administer all financial aid to the nation.

A six-member team of Rotarians from District 5890 (Texas, USA) has reported in safe after landing in Haiti for a humanitarian mission 45 minutes before the quake struck. They were scheduled to be there a week but will likely return early.

Dawn Johnson, president of the Rotary Club of Verrettes, L'Artibonite, Haiti, says the infrastructure couldn't handle a quake this massive.

"The government is highly centralized in Port-au-Prince, which is now entombed in rubble," says Johnson, who was in the U.S. while the quake struck. "The scale of this disaster is so huge. It is way beyond anything Haiti has ever dealt with before."

Johnson plans to return to Haiti at the end of the month. Her club is already working on getting clean water to victims. "I cringe a little at what I might see when I get back."

RI President John Kenny and Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair Glenn E. Estess Sr. have sent a joint letter conveying Rotary's condolences to victims of the quake and asking for more information on how Rotarians can help.

How to help:

- Download a PDF about the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund .
- Visit the District 7020 website for more information.
- Learn about other disaster relief organizations you can contribute to.