

Mission Team Visit Canceled

A mission team consisting of Brent Engel, Linda Mitchell and Jim Johnson, all members of the Board of Directors of the Fond Doux Foundation had planned to meet in Port-au-Prince this past month with some of the leaders of our mission projects in Fond Doux. Two projects were to be the center of their conversations – the Fond Doux Clinic and the chicken farm. However, unfortunately a crucial member of the team, Jim Johnson, suffered a compound fracture of his leg and underwent surgery Monday October 11th and then again on November 1st. It was a complicated surgery and will take time for recovery. This caused cancellation of the trip.

Long distance planning and coordination is difficult at best. Throw in the language differences (Creole and English), the ability to meet face to face to review what needs to be done seemed a wise move. Alternative plans for meeting and planning are being done through Zoom and having William Burke translate lengthy documents into Creole to improve clarity of communication. How quickly the two projects will be up and running is not yet known, but as soon as practical.

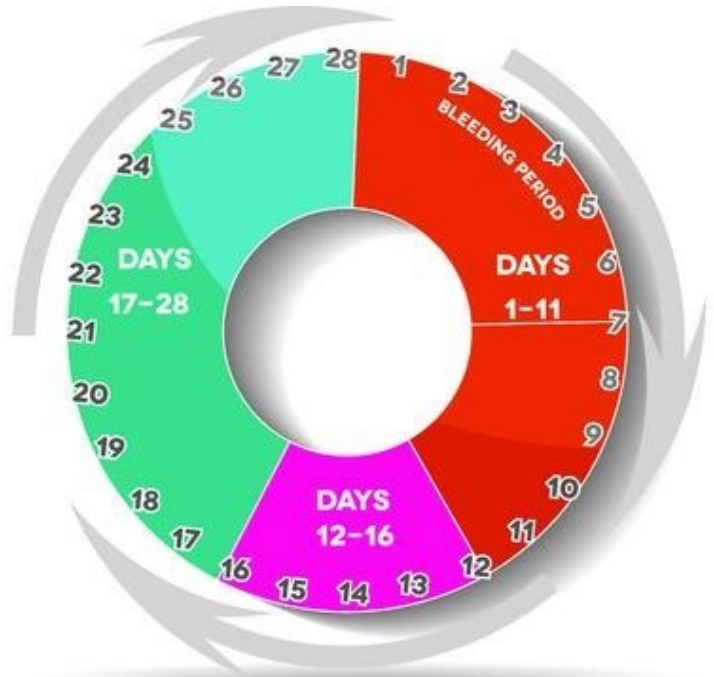
Health Education Classes Planned



Loudemie Ovide with a Hygiene Kit

Feminine Hygiene. Our Community Nurse is planning two health education classes this month. The first is with a group of 20 teen age girls to discuss sexual health and feminine hygiene. The session will include handing out the hygiene kits created by the Sewing Sisters of Epworth Church.

Birth Control. The second class will be on birth control for 25 couples. Ten years ago, this was a taboo subject. Just a few years ago, only the women would come; but now they have the men as well. They are teaching the rhythm method.



FOLLICULAR PHASE	PROBABLY INFERTILE
OVULATION	FERTILE
LUTEAL PHASE	INFERTILE

This chart will be distributed to the participants.



Nurse Myrdred and CHW Christela Planning

The Clinic Committee



The Clinic Committee

The FD Clinic Committee consists of five persons, two representing the Fond Doux Foundation, two representing the Wesleyenne Church which owns the building and a community representative chosen by the other four. The committee above (from left to right) is Jeanol Vertus, a school teacher (Wesleyenne); Emile Maceus, college student and the executive director of the FDF; Laudanie Ferus, bursar of the Wesleyenne Church; Jean Gaston Ovide, community representative; and Danis Joseph, principal of Capois la Mort Primary School (FDF). The FDF representatives have been introduced in previous issues of the Flyer. An article featuring Emile Maceus appeared in March and one on Danis Joseph appeared in June. The Wesleyenne representative Laudanie Ferus was introduced last month. A future issue will introduce Jeanol Vertus Jean Gaston Ovide is introduced in this issue.

The committee has been meeting to plan and oversee the repairs to the building and secure all the things necessary to open the clinic. Our community nurse will be conducting the clinic.



Nurse Myrdred Kaminski Delva

Good News from Mission to Haiti¹



Sandy and her Aunt in New Home

Mission to Haiti, a non-profit Christian organization operating from Miami, Florida sponsors children in the school in Fond Doux, College Mixte Capois la Mort. Sandy, the young woman above, is one of them. She is an orphan and lives with her aged aunt who has raised her as her own daughter. Sandy wrote to her sponsors in the United States about the house in which she was living. Her sponsors decided to do something about it.

According to Vision, the Mission to Haiti newsletter, "Half the walls had collapsed leaving the inside open to the weather. The house could no longer support the roof which made the roof leak."

The sponsors, Heidi and Jim, talked to their family, their church and friends and raised enough funds to build a new house for her and her aunt. Danis Joseph, the primary school principal, and Pastor Brucey Delma were instrumental in overseeing building the new home. We salute the sponsors Heidi and Jim, their fellow donors, Mission to Haiti and their associates for helping this Fond Doux family. It is a great example of how one family (by inspiring others also) can do so much. May we be likewise inspired! Previously the Foundation was able to do a similar thing for the Antoinette George Family, who lived in a tarp home for 10 years following the 2010 quake.

¹ Quotation and picture. used by permission of Mission to Haiti.

Fond Doux Flyer November 2021

Meet Jean Gaston Ovide



Jean Gaston Ovide

Jean Gaston Ovide was the person chosen by the representatives of the Fond Doux Foundation and the Wesleyenne Church to be the fifth and community member of the Clinic Committee. The interview was conducted in late September by Emile Maceus. Here is what he told us in his own words:

Jean Gaston: My name is Jean Gaston Ovide. I was born on December 24th, 1962 at Fond Doux. I live at Fond Doux as well. I am married and I have three children: two boys and a girl. The first one is Loudemie Ovide, the second one is Valens Ovide and the third one is Lovens Ovide. My wife is Gabriel Jeanitha.

I have two brothers. They are all living. I have too many sisters. (slight laugh) I have seven sisters. I have three living in Port aux Prince, one at Vialet and three at Fond Doux.

Due to the situation of the country, that is the economic system of the country, as a poor man, I cannot certify any one occupation; that is to say, I do what I have to do to survive. That means that I do many jobs in any domain to feed my family. I work as a veterinarian, although it is not something very helpful economically. It is not profitable because I can spend months without any veterinary work; but when I do find such work, I work as a veterinarian. Since I know that this is not sufficient, I also work as a farmer, as an animal keeper and as a gardener and sometimes I do a little business also.

I did not really receive training for becoming a veterinarian -- only when there were training sessions at Pastor Bruce's house with Doctor Libby. Those training sessions helped me a lot on how to care for goats because at the beginning, I only used to work on pigs, not on goats. Thanks to Doctor Libby, I am able to work on goats now. Each time

Doctor Libby came, Mr. Emile, you told me. So, I was able to participate (in that training).

I am a member of a church called La Prophetie (The Prophecy) located at Ravine Park. I am an evangelist even though I do not have the certification yet.

Emile: Do you have any idea why you were chosen to be on the clinic committee?

Jean Gaston: I think, first of all, it is because I am well known in the community and because I am a respected church member. And then they see that I can bring new ideas, bring advice. I think it is probably for those reasons that I was chosen to be part of this project.

The role that I plan to play in this project, I think, is to be neutral. I will not be for, I will not be against any side of the partnership, but I will be for the people of Fond Doux.

For us, the reopening of the clinic will be a big step for the people living in this community because when we need medical care or first aid for a kid, we have to go miles away to find assistance. I see that the clinic is going to be a developing phase for the community. That will help Fond Doux prevent the people in the locality from needing to go far away to find basic medical care. That will be very beneficial for us, particularly for people that have kids needing first aid or vaccinations. Thanks to the reopening of the clinic, the life of the people living here will be much better medically.

Emile: Would you be interested in seeing the Wesleyenne Church cooperate with the Foundation in areas beyond the clinic?

Jean Gaston: What I would like to see occur is a professional school because the community of Fond Doux needs that a lot. We need a professional school in order to prevent our children from going far away, from taking risks in Port aux Prince to find education.

You asked me a question that I did not really catch because it was a bit large. It was about the political situation of the country. I can only say Haiti is upside down. People cannot go about their activities. The situation of the country deserves to have a deep look. I don't want to be a politician. My objective, my reason to live, is to serve God only.

Emile: In the name of the Fond-Doux foundation and its partners, we thank you for answering our questions and I hope this introduction will help other people know more about the community and bring assistance needed for the people living here.

Madam Brucely has Surgery



Carlene Delma

Madam Brucely, well known to all mission team members because of her gracious hospitality and culinary skills, recently underwent surgery to remove a lump in her breast. The surgery was done in the Dominican Republic and cost \$2000. The cost was split between the Fond Doux Foundation and Mission to Haiti, two US Christian missionary organizations currently active in Fond Doux and with whom she has served. To date \$975 of the total \$1000 FDF contribution has been raised through special donations. The remainder was taken from our surgery/medical emergency fund, which is financed through special contributions. Thank you to those that contribute. More donations are welcome.

Other Surgeries/Emergencies

This year the Foundation paid for operations or emergency medical care for seven other people -- a woman with a broken leg, a man that could not urinate, a lung infection, and several other significant medical emergencies. The maximum that we have contributed to any one surgery or one person's medical care has been a little over \$1000. Most people in Fond Doux cannot pay such amounts.

Surgery Patient covered by FDF²



Some but not all of these patients might have been taken care of locally in our soon to be opened clinic if we have a functioning laboratory. This underscores the importance of a lab within the clinic (Phase II) as we proceed. The confirmation of diagnosis is surely a major component of modern practice of medicine.

Our long-term goal is self-sufficiency, but It is very difficult to turn your back on those that are in desperate need right now regardless. So, we help! You can contribute to this program or contact the Foundation for any reason in the following ways:

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Email: John@fondouxfoundation.org

Address: Fond Doux Foundation

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Durham, NC 27717

Website manager: Brent Engel

Newsletter editor: John Clausing

The Fond Doux Foundation engages friend-to-friend with people in and around the village of Fond Doux, Haiti, helping to provide better access to medical care and health education, improved nutrition through agriculture and animal husbandry, educational scholarships, and intercultural faith-based activities. FDF is a 501(c)3 organization based in Durham, North Carolina, USA, whose Christian community outreach began in 2011.



² Photo cropped to insure privacy.