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First  
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# NOUVEL FONDWA

ASOSYASYON  
PEYIZAN  
FONDWA

Box 13062 • Delmas, Haiti

[www.windowonhaiti.com/fondwa/fondwa.htm](http://www.windowonhaiti.com/fondwa/fondwa.htm)

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**D**ear Friends,

Peace and Greetings From Fondwa, Haiti!

We are very shocked and very sorry to hear about this terrible catastrophe on September 11th at the World Trade Center and at the Pentagon. We hope that all of your loved ones are safe and well. We hope also that those who are responsible for this terrorist act will be brought to justice. We want you to know that we are with you all in this tragedy and we keep you all in our prayers and thoughts. May the blood and the lives of the innocent ones help us to build a more peaceful world where all of God's children can live decent lives as real human beings.

We want to thank you very much for being part of our struggle here in helping the poor to improve their living conditions. We want to take this opportunity to inform you that a real miracle has been performed in Fondwa recently because of your continuing efforts to help us: we have begun building a school for the children of Fondwa! Although the building has yet to be completed, we have been holding classes since September. We hope that you will continue to help us complete this miracle. A special thanks to those who have made the construction of the school possible, especially *FOKAL* and *Starren BV* (Holland). We would also like to note those organizations that have helped us to finance the salaries of our teachers at *L'Ecole St. Antoine*, especially *Family Health Ministries*, *Fokal* and the *Sacred Heart Parish* of Pittsburgh. We would like to honor each one of you who have contributed in one way or another to our works in Fondwa:

*FOKAL*, Dr. David Walmer and *Family Health Ministries*, Felix Meienberg Family (Switzerland), *Paroisse Moutier* (Switzerland), *Paroisse Ste. Anne* (Switzerland), *Starren BV Corporation* (Holland), Bishop Winter and *Sacred Heart Parish* (Pittsburgh), *Holy Name Society*, *Partners In Progress*, John McKay and *SAJE Foundation*, *Peace Development Fund*, the *Holy Ghost Congregation* (USA Provinces), Fr. Al McKnight and family, *BUST* members,

*FUMCOG* (Philadelphia), Fr. Bill Zink and *St. Michael's Parish* (Remus, Indiana), Jim Hemphill and family, Sr. Anita Von Wellsheim, *CEIPAL* and *Ressins Solidarite* (France), *Fonkoze USA*, the sponsors of the *APF Tourist Educational Program*, *St. Joseph's Church* (Fr. Tom Byrne and the *Knights of Columbus Mission* in Arkansas), Don McClanen and *Harvest Time*, Jocelyne Belzair, Guy Antoine, Dr. Nancy Staples and *Christian Action Committee* (Fort Hill Presbyterian Church), Dale Stitt and friends, Sr. Anne Wisda, Sr. Mary Jane Schmitz, the *Sisters of Charity* in Leavenworth, Sandra Hick, the *Franciscan Sisters of Philadelphia*, Dale Easley and friends, Suku John, Molly and Paul Johnston, Sue Conlin and friends, Dr. Rich Gosser and friends, *Presentation Ministries*, *WCS* (Toronto), Annie Pilon and *L'Ecole Du Sacre Coeur*, Terry Hobin (Canada), Mr. & Mrs. W. Hawkshaw (Canada), Elizabeth A. Nigl, Audrey L. McKenzie, Renate Schneider, Matthew Rousso, Randy & Mary-Jo Mont-Reynaud and all of you whose names or organizations we may have missed. You are all very precious to us in Fondwa.

We are pleased to invite you to read about some of *APF's* activities during these past six months. You will find that Fondwa has been brimming with improvements, accomplishments, progress, and partnerships.

On behalf of the people of Fondwa, Haiti, we thank you again for your support. And in spite of the continuing political impasse in Haiti and the tragic events in the United States, we hope you will continue your partnership with us and visit us in Fondwa. May the God of the Poor, the Lord of the Little Ones continue to protect you and shine upon you all his merciful love and his kindness.

*Kenbe fem, pa lage.*

Father Joseph Philippe, *CSSp*  
[Apf222@aol.com](mailto:Apf222@aol.com)

# Fondwa School is Moving Up!

## *L'Ecole Fraternite St. Antoine Relocates*

One of the major events of the 2001 year will be moving *L'Ecole St. Antoine* from the *Twou Koffi* zone to the *Jonki* zone. It will be moved one kilometer up towards the *APF Guest Center*. We have yet to completely finish building the school, however we do have the foundation in place and began classes in September. For now, the three classrooms that have been completed will be the learning space for the kindergartners, a room for the *St. Antoine* headmaster and director, and a depot for school materials, as well as a cistern. We wait for the other eight classrooms to be built, for the primary and secondary school students.

The first three classrooms, the headmaster's quarters, and the depot were built with the aid of *FOKAL* (an international NGO based in Haiti) and the Holland-based *Starren Corporation*. The lack of additional funding has prevented us from completing the construction of the other eight classrooms for the primary and secondary school students, but we hope to find this funding soon.

We should say, too, that the financial problems we have had in paying the professors at the school have forced us to close the

last two grades of secondary school (second, *twazyem*) that we had been able to offer, for it was in these classes where enrollment has been particularly low. This means that *L'Ecole Fraternite St. Antoine* will now not be able to provide the last four years of secondary school (as we have never been able to offer the final two years before official graduation). We hope that once we have a steady income source to pay the salaries of our professors, we will be able to reopen these last two grades we were forced to close.

If you are interested in helping us with the final construction stages of *L'Ecole Fraternite St. Antoine*, provide lunch meals to our students and professors, or find a sustainable means for paying our teachers, please contact us at [apf222@aol.com](mailto:apf222@aol.com).

Despite these financial difficulties, we know that these recent changes to *L'Ecole Fraternite St. Antoine* will not only mean better working conditions for our teachers, and better learning conditions for our students, but will provide a quality education that will ensure a brighter future for the youth of our community.

## A University For The People

### *Inivèsite Popilè Fondwa*

With limited material resources, in a single classroom at the new *L'Ecole Fraternite St. Antoine*, local peasants and members from our *APF* team, all of whom wanted to share their talents and knowledge with others, gathered together with eager students of all ages. So it happened that *Inivèsite Popilè Fondwa* (University for the People of Fondwa) opened for session this past summer. The University was open

to all school children of any age, any local peasants who may have never had a formal education, and even those with higher degrees. All paid a small enrollment fee of 25 gourdes and were able to take classes in Accounting, English, Society and Politics in Haiti, Art and Design, International Development Issues, Health and Hygiene, Agronomy, Animal Health, Team Management and Public's Wealth Management.

For *APF*, this experience represents another step in the effort to break down the barriers which limit the education of all people. Most importantly, *Inivèsite Popilè Fondwa* has given us all the opportunity to learn from and share our minds with others who don't have the chance for a higher education at a university. In Fondwa, we are working to erase the mentality that knowledge is for the fortunate few who have the means to pay for it.

We hope to continue this program for two days a week during next quarter, with increased enrollment, increased participation of community members as professors, and an expanded curriculum. If you want to be registered as a teacher for a quarter, let us know at your earliest convenience.

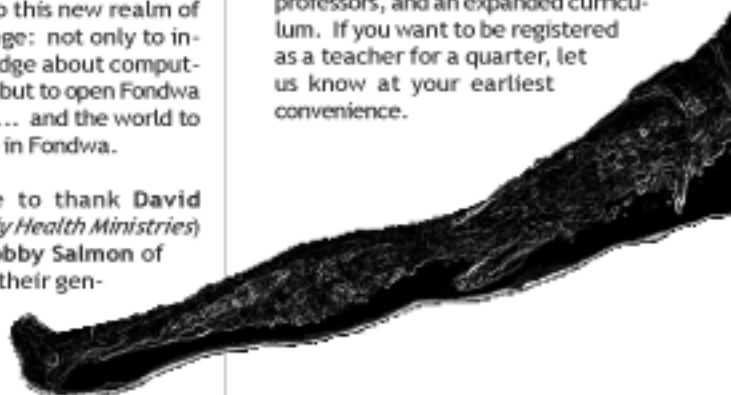
## APF Gets Wired!

### *The Internet comes to Fondwa*

In September, the *APF Guest Center* got wired! Yes, through a satellite connection, we now have access to the internet and to telephone abroad. Whether it's *Radio Zetwal* comparing prices of generators on the net, or *L'Ecole Fraternite St. Antoine* professors trying to keep in touch with professors from our twinning school in Holland, access to communication promises to make our work a little easier. We will also be able to maintain contact with all our *APF* friends who have visited us through the years and allow the international volunteers to communicate easily with friends and family. Our e-mail address in Fondwa is: [fondwa00@starband.net](mailto:fondwa00@starband.net)

In an age where those who don't have access to technology get left behind, we hope that many in the Fondwa area will be initiated into this new realm of information exchange: not only to increase their knowledge about computers and the internet, but to open Fondwa to the outside world... and the world to our community here in Fondwa.

We would like to thank **David Walmer** (from *Family Health Ministries*) and friends, and **Bobby Salmon** of North Carolina, for their generous donations of two computers for our internet service.



# APF Enterprises Expanding

## A New Carpentry School

At the end of July, we opened the doors to our *Carpentry Workshop*, located in Anbatonel. A team of carpenters from Port-au-Prince have since been occupying the space, where they are building school furniture for the new *L'Ecole Fraternite St. Antoine*. The furniture has been financed by *Fokal*, an international NGO based in Haiti.

As a commercial enterprise, the workshop will be constructing basic furniture for sale. Following soon after, we will begin the vocational trade school portion of this activity, training young people in the area in carpentry skills and eventually expanding the program to include masonry and plumbing. We hope to begin the trade school by December, but the lack of a diesel generator, and of carpentry tools, has prevented us from beginning any sooner.

We are in desperate need of used or new carpentry tools. If you'd like to donate any tools, please contact us at [apf222@aol.com](mailto:apf222@aol.com) or contact **Joyce Kim** at [JKim42@hotmail.com](mailto:JKim42@hotmail.com) for more information.

We are hopeful that the trade school will not only provide employable skills for the youth of our area, but also will help to maintain a sector that will contribute to the long-term development of the Fondwa region.

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## Kofraj: Tool Rental Shop

Our *Tonngato Commercial Center* is full of activities these days, especially with the addition of another business—a rental shop for construction materials needed for building roofs. In Haiti, we call such a shop, *Kofraj*.

We have high hopes for our new *Kofraj*, especially with the need for such materials as wood supports and nails, with all the construction happening in the Fondwa region and surrounding areas. We also hope that this will allow APF to save money on high transportation costs for materials that had usually been purchased in Port-au-Prince.

## Auto Service Store

In April, APF opened a fuel, auto parts and service station in *Tonngato* on the well traveled *Route L'Amitie* road connecting Leogane and Jacmel. We have put in place two cisterns which will provide unleaded gasoline and diesel fuel. The auto parts store is stocked with motor oil and coolant and we plan to enlarge our inventory to include windshield wipers, car radio parts, and car mirrors. We are also offering services like pumping tires, charging batteries, and making minor car repairs.

As we are the only such auto service station on this main stretch of highway, we hope to serve this market well: the tap-tap drivers traveling the *Route* several times a day, and private vehicles heading to Jacmel for the weekends.

## APF Technical Team

**Brice Rebaudet**, a third year student of International Agro-Economic Studies, comes to us from France. For the next six months he will work with us on managing water projects, including the water system for the new *L'Ecole Fraternite St. Antoine*. His biggest challenge, however, will be supplying water to the hill-top *Tonngato Commercial Center* and that area's 3,000 inhabitants.

After a six-month stay, **Nina Bekkers** returned to Holland to finish her last year in Int'l. Tourism Management. As one of the visitor's program coordinators, Nina has been critical to its success. She plans to be back for a month in January 2002, during which time she will be working to develop a joint Haiti-Cuba educational tourism program.

**Herauld Beauvais**, an administrator at the *Tonngato Commercial Center*, will spend six months in France on scholarship studying business management. **Gary Cassamajor**, who has been a professor at *L'Ecole Fraternite St. Antoine* for two years, will assume Herauld's duties until his return. We are very thankful to our friends at *Solidarite Ressins* in Lyon, France who helped us gain access to this scholarship program and to a vacation program for our Fondwa staff. Herauld is the fifth staff member to receive this scholarship and **Carole A. Pierre**, director of the APF Office in Port-au-Prince, was the third to benefit from the vacation program.

If you can help APF find study abroad scholarships in agronomy, nursing, or business management for Fondwa youth, or help to organize vacation for APF staff, contact **Father Joseph Philippe** at [apf222@aol.com](mailto:apf222@aol.com).

## Radio Zetwal Powers Up

### A New Transmitter Gives APF a Stronger Voice

Thanks to our friends at *Ressins Solidarite* in France, we will have a 250 watt emitter (we are currently functioning on a 15 watt emitter), which will enable us to broadcast out to Port-au-Prince. We are still looking for equipment that will help us support this emitter's capacity, like a four kw generator and an inverter, as well as batteries. This will allow us to continue to run *Radio Zetwal* even when the Guest Center's generator is malfunctioning, which has been the case the past four months, forcing us to shut down *Radio Zetwal*.

*Radio Zetwal* is our community's communication lifeline: it's how we broadcast information on when medical mission teams will be visiting, it's how we will publicize the opening of the carpentry trade school, and it's where we will broadcast taped sessions of *Invesite Popile Fondwa* classes. When we lose the power to broadcast, we lose the power to communicate to the people of Fondwa.

If you'd like to learn more about *Radio Zetwal* and how you can help the APF reach its members, please contact **Joyce Kim** at [JKim42@hotmail.com](mailto:JKim42@hotmail.com)

# Partnerships Bring The Promise of Progress

## APF + Family Health Ministries

APF is pleased to announce a growing partnership with *Family Health Ministries (FHM)*. FHM is an organization that was formed by a group of fellow Christians from *Duke University* and *Triangle Presbyterian Church* in Durham, North Carolina, who have been traveling to Fondwa since 1997. Its membership is growing and includes people, churches, and organizations both inside and outside of North Carolina. Its mission, like APF, is to empower impoverished communities to help themselves (*ede nou ede yo ede tet yo*). APF has invited FHM to help with several projects in recent years including financial assistance for the Fondwa school.

In January of 2000, FHM did a survey of families in the school and assessed the children's growth by measuring heights, weights, and hemoglobin levels. In response to the apparent malnutrition, FHM began supplying the children with iron, vitamins, and the deworming medicine, albenbazole. In May of 2000, FHM began to organize a sponsorship program to help pay the teachers' salaries and supplement the children's nutrition. Thus far, FHM has raised a little over one-third of the money to pay the teachers' salaries and provided \$12,000 this past school year.

If you would like to help the school by sponsoring a child, you may contact them at [www.familyhfm.org](http://www.familyhfm.org) or at PO Box 16725, Chapel Hill, NC 27516. You can sponsor a child for \$260/year (includes a Christmas and birthday gift) or a teacher for \$1,000/year. In addition, FHM has helped APF with their health education radio programs and plans to provide more radios for residents who need them in exchange for community service. The radio is our communication lifeline. If you want to help with this project, please contact them as well.

Finally, FHM is partnering with *Blacknall Presbyterian Church* of Durham, NC, agricultural researchers at *North Carolina State University* in Raleigh, NC and our French agronomist **Thomas Pitaud**, to introduce a symbiotic system of Tilapia and high yield agriculture. If this project is successful in Fondwa, we hope to use it as a teaching tool and a means of raising money for the school so that the school can move towards self-sufficiency. FHM will also like to help us build a new orphanage for our children. Join us in welcoming FHM into our community of friends.

## APF + Partners in Progress

Organized and brought together by the efforts of the *Pittsburgh Regional Haiti Solidarity Committee*, *Partners in Progress (PIP)*, a new 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, came alive with its first organizational Board of Directors meeting in Pittsburgh this past July. Fr. Joseph and Joyce Kim are both members of PIP's board. The three-day meeting in Pittsburgh was a grand success, bringing together for the first time dedicated supporters of APF and other peasants groups in Haiti.

PIP will be networking individuals and organizations in the United States to begin addressing some of our most pressing needs here in Fondwa and will also be coordinating the many already existing sources of support for APF projects from individuals and organizations as well as seeking new sources of funding for APF programs and projects. PIP will also be developing educational materials that will get the word out about the successes of APF in Fondwa and about the challenges facing peasant associations like APF.

To learn more about what you can do to help APF and the people of Fondwa move forward in their struggle, contact **Rich Gosser**, interim Exec. Dir. of *Partners in Progress*, by e-mail at: [rgosser@thisurfer.net](mailto:rgosser@thisurfer.net) or call him at 724.238.9204.

Contributions to APF can be made out to APF and sent to:

APF  
Box 13062  
Delmas, Haiti

We respect all requests that donations be used for specific projects.

## APF + Cuba

The past six months have been a productive time for the *Agricultural and Animal Husbandry Project*. The APF agricultural technicians and the peasant farmers were able to evaluate the 15 model gardens that they planted together this past March. These evaluations were an opportunity to reflect on the use of these new agricultural techniques introduced by our Cuban agronomist, **Norberto Banos Fernandez**. It was also a chance to critique the model gardens, looking at what aspects of the implemented techniques contributed to successful or less than successful model gardens. Now, with the reviews out, many skeptical peasants who had once declined participation in our model garden trainings have asked APF to help them produce their own model gardens.

Norberto tells us: "The first year we spent in Fondwa, we had three model gardens. This year we have 15. I'm very happy with the results, especially

now that the peasants are integrating the methods that we talked about in their own farms."

We were also able to build and maintain 10 tree nurseries (which had 2,000 saplings each) with our peasant groups, after three months of training on this activity. The peasant farmers will be planting those trees in October. We hope that these past few months of training will motivate the groups to continue to maintain their own tree nurseries, which will be a vital step in our reforestation objective for the Fondwa region.

On our Animal Husbandry front, we continued our campaign for animal vaccinations and animal health, as our Cuban veterinarian **Julio Simon** traversed the Fondwa valley providing vaccinations. With his supervision, APF opened its third pig sty, the profits from which will go towards paying the teachers salaries at *LEcole Fraternite St. Antoine*.