



HAITI MISSION, INC.
P. O. Box 694 Thibodaux, LA. 70302
Phone: 985-855-3127
www.haitimissioninc.com

AUGUST 2018

*"To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived.
This is to have succeeded."* *Ralph Waldo Emerson*



Mr. Ronnie displaying one of the delicious cakes he would bake every year to help raise funds for Haiti!

Tribute to Mr. Ronnie

As many of you know by now, our dear Mr. Ronnie Thomas who has served as Treasurer for HMI for many years has suffered a serious stroke and is debilitated to the point that he can no longer serve in that capacity. What a blessing he has been!! His enthusiasm and constant flow of suggestions on how we can raise more funds and do more to help has always been a source of encouragement and joy. Ronnie's life has been a life of service. He was born in the backwoods of Arkansas as one of nine children, whose father died when he was too young to even remember him. His widowed mother worked hard to do the best she could for her six boys and three daughters. Whatever she did instilled this service mentality into the entire family. All six boys enlisted in some branch of the military. Ronnie spent 23 years in the Air Force. Somewhere along the journey, Ronnie ended up in Schriever, LA for a visit to a friend and fate had him meet Betty Orgeron who was a widow with four small children at the time. They immediately fell in love and after Ronnie assured Betty that he would ask her father if it was alright to marry her and that he would become Catholic, he quickly made arrangements to get all her children and their belongings and shipped out to Japan. The Odyssey took them all over the world, having one more child of their own in the process. After retiring from the military, Ronnie eventually hired on with the USPS which is where I met him. I realized that he was the guy I had been seeing at Church often and at some point I invited him to become a member of our Knights of Columbus chapter. Once again, he became a blessing to the council, the community and the church parish by his willingness to serve in every capacity available in the council. When he learned about HMI and our work in Haiti, it was another "love at first sight" relationship for Ronnie and he was all hands on deck. One of the most special trips that he and Betty made to Haiti was in 2006 when they celebrated their 36th wedding anniversary there at a special Mass said by Fr. Joe.

Yes Ronnie, you will be sorely missed. We pray for your healing. We give thanks for your beautiful life of service to your family, your faith, your country and the poor in Haiti. May God Bless you abundantly and give you peace. Faie's Facts this month is a poem she wrote to honor Ronnie. We love you! Your Haiti Mission Family

Dedicated to Ronnie Thomas

Ronnie, what a jolly Generous soul is he!
His stories of days gone by,
full of details of how, when & why.
As treasurer of HMI,
He spent much of his time;
Determining to make all monies
match to the last dime.
Ronnie, though he fell
several times early on;
He kept right on going,
Going, going strong.
His keen memory & interesting stories
to which each he brings
An "I meant" & "out of it"
He adds to everything
Ronnie, several trips
to Haiti he did make;

In 2006 his bride with him
he decided to take.
While there all joined
in their 36th anniversary celebration.
What a blessing Betty was
with her cheerful disposition.
To the bank & post office
many trips Ronnie made;
At our HMI events
his joyful spirit will not fade.
Now that his health from HMI
made him retire;
Please, God, let him know
how many friends he has inspired.
Mr. Ronnie, although
we will miss you dearly;
May you feel
God's peace & joy clearly.

Patching up the bruises!

All the HMI mission teams bring several hundred dollars allocated for medical needs of the community that present themselves. There is no health insurance in Haiti so if someone gets sick or hurt themselves they often turn to Fr. Joe or the HMI group that is currently there. Here you see Hannah Brignac and Thomas Lirette, members of our Summer 2018 young people's team administering some first aid to one of the local kids. BTW, the young people on our summer team did an amazing job! The Holy Spirit inspired them and God Blessed them abundantly! Thanks to all for their Servants Hearts!



Heartwarming Testimony

We always appreciate testimonies of our new team members. Here is what John Landry had to say after his first trip to Haiti this Summer. "Dear Deacon Lloyd, I want to thank you for allowing me to participate in the Haiti Mission trip. It was the most amazing and heartwarming experience of my life. It was awesome to see all of the homes, water wells, and etc that y'all have made possible for the Haitians over the years. The relationships that I have built with the local Haitians, I will always treasure. Mrs. Tina, Therese, and Thomas were phenomenal leaders on our trip. It was inspiring to see how much love they have for our brothers and sisters in Haiti. I hope to one day be able to participate in a Haiti Mission Trip again. I definitely plan to still be involved by doing my part in the fundraising, awareness, and prayer role. Thank you again and God Bless you and your family. Sincerely, John Landry" We're so happy for John and so many others that have taken that leap of faith and trusted that HMI and the grace of God would take them somewhere special. No disappointments yet!



The Family of the Month

Saint-Louis Vital is a teacher at the St. Brigitte school in Ravine Sable. They have been living in the pitiful place you see pictured in the "Before" photo. Even though, in addition to teaching and farming on their property which his wife, Leonie, takes to the market in Jeremie to sell in order to help take care of the family, without help from an outside source, this family would have never been able to get out of their current situation.

Now, because of your hard work and commitment to the poor and needy, here they are in the beautiful, safe, strong and dry - House #130!! They send their love and their heartfelt gratitude to all those that have helped them receive the miracle of a beautiful and safe new home.



Church Construction updates – Pictures of the Church Construction project are on the website. Check it out! **If you would like to make a major donor pledge please contact Deacon Lloyd** lloydrem@lloydsremedies.com or call 985-855-3127) so that he can send you a pledge form.

If you would like to make a contribution of any amount to the church please note it on your check or with a note that you would like your donation to go towards the church partnership.

Haiti Mission, Inc.
POB 694
Thibodaux, LA. 70302
985-855-3127
www.haitimissioninc.com

This newsletter is dedicated to raising funds to help the families whom we have come to know and love in the villages around Jeremie, Haiti. May God bless you and your loved ones for your commitment to the poor by giving in whatever way the Holy Spirit directs you.

- _____ \$3750 would sponsor a new home and get a family “out of the mud and into safe secure housing.” (Our new home design is keeping the cost of constructing the homes at \$7500 with the \$3750 matching money for each home provided by funds raised from the annual silent auction)
- _____ \$1000 would help us drill a well in a community without fresh water.
- _____ Here’s my gift to help with the construction of the new church
- _____ \$100 would sponsor a teacher in the community schools. (Payable monthly/quarterly or yearly – we would appreciate a one year commitment)
- _____ \$35 would buy food and supplies for a family
- _____ \$12 annual membership in the “Woman-to-Woman club of Haiti that helps poor women get the medical treatment they need who otherwise would go untreated.

Here is my immediate donation to use where most needed:

\$1000 _____ \$500 _____ \$250 _____ \$100 _____ Other _____

This monetary gift is made in memory of _____
please send an acknowledgement card:

To: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

- _____ Send me envelopes to be a monthly "helping hand":
- _____ I will be a prayer partner and pray for the Haiti Mission.
- _____ Please put me on your email/info list. email: _____
- _____ I am interested in going on a mission trip.
Call me @: _____ Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Haiti Mission Inc. is a 509(a)(1) tax exempt public charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Tax ID#14-1861365

Haiti Mission - Caring with Generosity and Joy

THANKS FOR HELPING!

No donation is too small. No gift unappreciated!

Haiti Mission, Inc. does not discriminate because of race, religion, sex, age, disability, national origin or financial status.

**What you spend years building,
someone or something could destroy overnight. Build anyway!**

(Mother Teresa)