



*Haitians line up for water at Port-au-Prince after celebration reopens restored system*

## Haiti: Back in the water business again

**Rapid progress restores existing systems; new ones, with solar, in the works**

By JERRY GOODE

Thanks to quick response from a large number of supporters, earthquake-damaged water systems in Haiti are all expected to be back in operation by the end of June, and more new systems are coming soon.

An additional benefit is that, in response to the January 12 earthquake's lessons that electrical power is subject to interruption and generators are prohibitively expensive to operate and maintain, solar power

is expected to be in use within a year for all systems that need it.

As of May 31, over \$91,900 had been raised for LWW Haiti Relief, allowing the rapid restoration of existing systems. Grants are being offered to subsidize water systems, buildings, and solar equipment for new sites to assist teams in raising funds and deploying to Haiti more rapidly. The grants are intended to encourage teams to consider working in Haiti, where building and solar costs make

water treatment systems more expensive than in most places.

Quick response to the earthquake

**Continued on next page**

### DO YOU LIKE OUR NEW LOOK?

With this issue, *Water of Life* has changed its appearance. The redesign is intended to more closely identify the newsletter with other publications of Living Waters for the World.

Much credit for the look goes to Tonya Young, graphic designer with the Franklin, Tenn., firm of LocoMotion Creative. She's the wife of Steve Young, LWW administrator. 🌐

### In this issue:

*Plucky Miriam  
World Water Congress  
Sustainability Tool*

*From Peru to India  
Telling the story  
'Ambassador' is 8*

*Thanks to our donors  
CWU Who: Katy  
Walk for Water*



# Grants offered to Haiti mission partners

Continued from front page

damage came about after Bob McCoy and Chris McRae, co-chairmen of the Haiti Network Coordinating Team, visited sites within two weeks of the quake. Their study helped produce a Priority Plan of Action, with the highest priority given to restoration of existing systems that were damaged.

Through the efforts of volunteer teams, in-county workers, and the outpouring of donations from generous contributors, most of the systems are now back on line and operational. The next teams travelling to Haiti in June will complete the first phase of the plan and all existing systems will be operational.

By the end of June, four solar powered systems are to be in operation. Two completely new systems have been installed, and Initiating Partners have been secured for three additional systems where installation is planned later this year. Plans for installations that had been put on hold because of the earthquake are on track again and being scheduled.

The Solar Under the Sun School inaugural session that was held in Arkansas in May by the Presbyterian Synod of the Sun trained 30 students to design and install solar equipment with an emphasis on powering water



*Clean water flows again at Gonaves, Haiti, where the demand is strong.*

systems. It is hoped that these students will rapidly form teams to perform these upgrades and install new solar power

systems in areas of need.

*Jerry Goode of Laurel, Miss., is Haiti Relief Project manager for LWV. 🌊*

## TWO BIG MACS TO GO, PLEASE

The Haitian earthquake struck January 12. On January 24, LWV's coordinating committee co-chairs of the Haiti Network, Bob McCoy of Huntsville, Ala., and Chris McRae of Fort Smith, Ark., were in the country.

Their week of information-gathering led to forming a Priority Plan of Action for getting clean water to flow again as soon as possible. LWV is not designed as a quick-response program, but this case proved to be an exception. 🌊



Bob McCoy



Chris McRae



*Above: The flag, Gerald told Chris, means Haiti is not dead. Right: With proper care, Haiti's future can be beautiful.*



# Guatemala's plucky Miriam — Hit and run injury can't derail her hope

By TODD JENKINS

On March 29, 2010, in her hometown of Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, Living Waters for the World In-Country-Coordinator Miriam Mazariegos had her leg run over by a hit-and-run driver.

Due to the nature and extent of the injury (swelling from compound fracture, exposed bone), the leg could not be set for 16 days. During that time, Miriam lay in the hospital, but was not idle.

Intent on maintaining the Living Waters for the World plans that she had already scheduled, Miriam used her cell phone and her daughter Ariana used Miriam's computer to keep in touch with all incoming teams, assuring them that the work of LWW would go on.

Despite multiple suggestions from LWW and its teams for postponement or alternative resourcing, Miriam and Ariana insisted on seeing to the work themselves.

The day after being released from the hospital, while she was still in a wheelchair and returning to the hospital regularly for wound care, Miriam (regularly relieved by Ariana) managed to oversee the installation and participate in the Water Celebration with IP Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church of Kansas City, Mo., and OP Olindepeque Fire Department.

More than two months after her surgery, her wound has not healed. On the Pine Ridge/Olindepeque installation, RN Sandy Rawlinson (lead 102 for Pine Ridge) took photographs of Miriam's wound and distributed them to doctors and LWW folks when she returned. Fastidious efforts are currently under way to get Miriam the critical skin/muscle surgery and wound care she needs. LWW and its volunteers are expeditiously exploring every avenue of diplomatic and medical assistance necessary.

The winding path toward approval for a medical emergency visa, the essential docu-

ment needed to allow Miriam to travel to the United States for evaluation and treatment, does not have a fast lane. It allows gradual acceleration only when properly paved by detailed documents that are signed by duly authorized agents of recognized organizations. Driven by dedicated volunteers and supported by Living Waters for the World staff and leaders, Miriam has been provided with all of the necessary paperwork, has successfully negotiated the visa application and interview process, and been granted a travel visa.

Anyone who has been treated in a U.S. hospital, public or private, knows both how wonderful, but also how expensive this can be, especially when your insurance is not accepted. The LWW volunteers working on Miriam's case have used contacts and called in favors to negotiate for reduced fees from both doctors and medical institutions, and the total cost of her treatment cannot be determined until a comprehensive treatment and rehabilitation plan is completed, and both doctors and institution have decided the level of their billing benevolence.

An appeal for contributions to Living Waters for the World's Benevolence Fund has been sent to congregations and organizations that have ties to LWW and Guatemala, and nearly \$5,000 has been raised so far, but the need could prove far greater. To contribute, send a check made out to Living Waters for the World and mail your tax-deductible contribution to:

5016 Spedale Court, #399

Spring Hill, TN 37174

Please note in the memo line that it is for the LWW Benevolence Fund.

Throughout Miriam's arduous journey through accident, delayed surgery, and protracted healing, the bonds of friendship and commitment continue to blossom. By God's grace, we will endure; with God's



*Miriam Mazariegos still smiles*

help, hope will triumph.

*The Rev. Todd Jenkins, pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Fayetteville, Tenn. heads LWW's Guatemala Network Coordinating Team .*

## WHAT LIES AHEAD

July 3-10 — PCUSA General Assembly, Milwaukee

July 6-10 — CWU No. 28, Camp Hopewell, Oxford, Miss.

September 9-12 — Solar Under the Sun, Camp Ferncliff, Little Rock, Ark.

September 15-19 — CWU No. 29, Camp Hopewell

October 3-7 — CWU No. 30, Calvin Crest, Oakhurst, Calif.

NOTE: The August 15-19 session of Clean Water U which had been scheduled at Calvin Crest Conferences in California was cancelled due to low registration. Another is planned there in October.



# World Water Congress hears of LWW's work

By CRIS SURBECK

The work of Living Waters for the World was shared with an international audience of engineers and environmental scientists on May 16 at the World Environmental and Water Resources Congress held in Providence, Rhode Island.

The Congress is the main annual event of the Environmental and Water Resources Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE).

The presentation was by George Plouffe of Haverhill, Mass., with an introduction by Cristiane (Cris) Surbeck of Oxford, Miss. George has been a long-time volunteer with LWW, having been an instructor at Clean Water U and computer engineer with Oracle.

Cris is a member of ASCE and a recent supporter of LWW. As an assistant professor at the University of Mississippi, she offers a service learning course on water treatment during which the students test LWW's Clean Water Systems and provide data and calculations.

The presentation was well received and generated an interest by professionals who either volunteer on missions or teach in college.

An interesting contact was made with Dr. David Watkins of Michigan Technological University, who has had water and sustainability projects in Africa funded by the National Science Foundation, is an advisor to the Michigan Tech chapter of Engineers

Without Borders, and advises students on the unique Peace Corps Master's program in engineering.

Other presentations relevant to LWW given during the Congress were on control of disinfection by-products in drinking water, rainwater harvesting in Samoa, and a portable UV water disinfection system operated with a hand crank.

As part of LWW's participation in the Congress, Wil Howie, Ralph Young, Cris Surbeck, and George Plouffe authored a paper, titled "Providing Clean Water to Communities in Need: Living Waters for the World's Sustainable Clean Water Systems."

*Dr. Cris Surbeck is on the faculty of the University of Mississippi, Oxford, Miss.* 

## Sustainability Tool may help keep systems going

By RALPH YOUNG

For many years, one of the first questions about Living Waters for the World has been, "How many water systems have been installed?" (Answer: 347 in 24 countries.)

Since the strategic planning meetings last January, however, the key question has changed slightly to, "How many of these systems will still be operating 3, 6, and 9 years from today?"

The answer here is less obvious and introduces the concept of Sustainability.

That's not a new term to LWW, which had a Sustainability Subcommittee that met regularly for a period of time several years ago. Over the

last two years, Sustainability had slipped in priority as the mission expanded to train, equip, support, and link mission teams to share the gift of clean water with communities in need.

The very success of that expansion brought the concept of sustainability back to the front burner.

Our recent strategic planning process determined that one of our core mission values will be that the process of training, equipping, and sustaining our Initiating Partners and Operating Partners will be designed to reinforce independence of our clean water systems — their ability to keep going long after Initiating Partners have gone home.

Toward that end, LWW has developed a new System Sustainability Tool, basically an Excel spreadsheet used to score each system in seven critical areas of sustainability. After scoring each area, the spreadsheet will calculate a Sustainability Score.

A 4 score represents the best in a sustainable system. A score of less than 2.0 indicates that the system will need some attention to have a better chance at being sustainable.


The tool evaluates two dimensions for a sustainability characteristic:

- Management, Operations, and Maintenance covers the technical side of the mission project.

- Value and Mission relates to community service, the softer side of a mission project that is often overlooked in traditional sustainability studies.

Over the next two months, our Network Coordinating Teams will be trying out the System Sustainability Tool to determine the sustainability of their own systems within their network.

This tool is still a work-in-process, so if you would like to take it for a test drive to evaluate your own clean water system, please email Ralph Young at [ralph.young@livingwatersfortheworld.org](mailto:ralph.young@livingwatersfortheworld.org).

*Ralph Young of Paducah, Ky., is LWW's sustainability coordinator.* 

## First Peru, now India: Pennsylvania church roams the world

From Peru to India, Lower Providence Presbyterian Church of Eagle-leville, Pa., has gone virtually to the ends of the earth with the gift of clean water.

The following report was excerpted from the Spring issue of the church newsletter:

LPPC has again partnered with Living Waters for the World to install a clean water system overseas.

The first installation was in 2007 on the man-made floating islands of the Uros people near Puno, Peru. This second installation was in January 2010 at a Bridge of Hope Ministries school and orphanage

near Hyderabad, India.

Kary and Nanette LaFors from LPPC led the installation team of nine members: Rick Moyer and Karen Keiser, First Presbyterian Church, Pottstown, Pa.; Randall and Dee Swan, Presbyterian Church of King City, Mo.; Jim and Robin Gates and their grandson, First Methodist Church of Wenatchee, Wash.; Max Weller, Maple Valley, Wash.; and Gabriel Devathala, founder and president of Bridge of Hope Ministries and an Elder at Central Presbyterian Church in Norristown, Pa.

The group was hosted by Ga-


briel, whose home is in Vikarabad, India, and Srin Rao, vice president of Bridge of Hope. Prior to the trip they reached the necessary covenant agreement between the parties involved as to how the system would be operated and maintained..

The people met by the team were gracious and welcoming, and the children were happy and excited to be a part of the clean water solution. Although a few problems were encountered, such as getting backup power to overcome power outages, the installation went well.

The Health, Hygiene, and Spiri-

tuality training that accompanies all such installations was a great success. For three days team members taught teachers in the morning; then the teachers taught students in the afternoon.

The system will generate 300 gallons of clean water per hour, enough to meet the needs of an adjacent village as well as the school and orphanage.

(The article also described the operation and philosophy of Clean Water U, which the LaFors have attended, as well as citing statistics on the world water crisis.) 

## Helpers continue to tell the story of LWW mission

Efforts continue to tell the LWW story. The main focus of the summer will be the display at the General Assembly of the PCUSA in Minneapolis.

This year has seen a presentation in Eastminster Presbytery by the Huzineks and a display at Philadelphia Presbytery by Bill Reed and Rick Moyer, with more to come.

Numerous requests are received for presentations at individual churches or for materials for an assortment of groups.

The Development and Awareness Team has formed a task force to develop a strategy for promoting CWU at Calvin Crest in California. Among the western volunteers for that group are Jay Salyer, Sandy Salyer and Anita Wotiz. Email contact advertising CWU West will be made with virtually all of the California PCUSA churches.

Bill Reed tries to track the various presentations made around the country. If you make one please drop him a note ([willmreed@aol.com](mailto:willmreed@aol.com)) mentioning where it was, how it went and if you believe any followup would be helpful. 💧

## Our youngest 'ambassador' is only eight years old

By BILL BOWMAN

Graduates of Clean Water U are urged to become "clean water ambassadors" when they return home to their churches and communities. But even non-CWU graduates can become ambassadors as well.

Eight-year-old Cassie Partin is our youngest clean water ambassador. She lives in Buffalo Creek, Tenn., the site of several in-home water treatment systems sponsored by LWW's Appalachian Network. Her family has had clean water from their well since late 2006.

Recently Cassie noticed that one of her elementary school classmates was wearing the same dirty clothes to school every day for several days. She brought this to her mother's attention and asked why this was so.

Her mother, Tammy Siler, who is also a clean water ambassador, investigated and found out that the classmate's family was in desperate poverty, with no running water and no money available for food and utilities.

Tammy found that the husband had had

medical problems and was currently out of work, and that the situation was growing worse. With others in the Buffalo Creek community, she organized a food drive, and delivered food and hope to the family. She and Cassie took a shopping trip and found new clothes for the classmate and his siblings.

Tammy also contacted the Appalachian Network to see if clean water could be furnished to the family. Since there was no running water in the home, a well would also be required. Fortunately, the Network does have money available for well-drilling, and it has church volunteers trained to install treatment systems.

In this case, Rivermont Presbyterian Church of Chattanooga has both volunteers and funds available that can make a big difference in the lives of this family.

All this is happening in 2010 because an observant clean water ambassador knows the impact that clean water can have, and she wants to enable others to enjoy its benefits. Thank you, Cassie!

*Bill Bowman of Louisville, Ky., chairs the coordinating team of LWW's Appalachian Network.* 💧

## CWUWho —

# Teaching's no new trick for Katy Bedunnah

By KENDALL COX

For Katy Bedunnah of San Antonio, Texas, being a CWU 101 Lead Instructor was a natural fit. She was already a veteran trainer.

In her career with AT&T, her experience as a district quality consultant and team leader trainer involved working with quality improvement teams to address processes that were not working as designed. She retired from AT&T in 1989 and now shares her expertise with LWW teams who come to CWU for training.

Katy's involvement with LWW goes back to the early days, before CWU was established. On her first mission trip in 1997 to Guatemala, where the women boiled drinking water over a wood fire, she remembered how "the water had the smoky aroma of the wood fire."



**Katy Bedunnah**

That was just the first of many of Katy's trips to Guatemala.

She first heard about LWW when she was on a mission trip to a Presbyterian Border Ministry site in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, where their team got the opportunity to visit one of the first LWW water systems. Katy contacted Wil Howie for information about the new water

system, had the information translated into Spanish and sent it to their partner in Guatemala to ask if such a water system would be of help. At the same time, she sent an information-gathering document so they could begin looking for a proposed site.

Six weeks later she received the completed document, and plans were made for a site visit to take place in June 2003 by Wil Howie, John Gramling, Bob Turner, and Katy to assess the suitability of the site. A covenant was negotiated and plans were made for the first Guatemala installation of a LWW water system. The system was installed nine months later in March 2004, the same month the very first CWU was held.

Katy attended the second CWU in September of 2004, and Wil asked

her to become the Guatemala coordinator and later a CWU instructor.

She has found being a CWU Lead Instructor to be uplifting and inspiring. "It's wonderful to work with a team of people who are all on the same page—no hidden agendas, everyone focused on one thing—bringing clean water to people in need. I will soon be 75 years old, and it is amazing to me that there is something I can do at this stage of my life to be of service to people who volunteer their time and money to help other people. It is a wonder to me to watch classes develop from a room of strangers to volunteers who are truly inspired to bring clean water where it is needed."

*Kendall Cox of Greenville, Miss., is CWU Program Director.* 💧

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## Youth of Mississippi church raise \$1,000 with 'Walk for Water'

Young people of First Presbyterian Church of Greenville, Miss., raised \$1,000 for Living Waters for the World in their first annual Walk for Water.

Held April 17, the event sought to raise awareness and funds for LWW as a way to address clean water needs around the globe.

The youth created a short documentary film of their project to enter a national contest sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (USA). You are invited to view their video at <http://app.ymilive.org/teams/first-presbyterian-church-greenville-ms/video>.

The film interprets John 6:38 -- "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water" -- through the lens of mission and the Walk for Water.

One youth member noted that though their own four-mile path was straight and level, "other people walk across mountains and hills" in search of the water their families need. Another said, "God gave us the Holy Spirit to be like water for our souls, but God also wants us to share that water with others in the world. The Walk for Water provided money to give people clean water, but also I think it will provide hope which is like water for the soul."

Participants in the Walk for Water

discovered that mission is intensely relational. As Pastor Jonas Hayes noted, "So often times in mission, we ask the question: 'What are we going to do?' And yet mission is not just something we do: it is at the core of who we are. We minister to others, but we do so in authentic, genuine, loving relationship with them."

The church anticipates holding its second Walk for Water next spring. 💧

