

No. 21 — March 2010

*In this issue:*

*Appy net up to 40*

*Students study us*

*Leaders: The Hoges*

*She's angel of CWU*

*Yucatan stronger*

*Spreading the word*

*Thanks to our donors*

*Plotting the future*

*Myrick our new head*

## Quick action restores some destroyed systems in Haiti

### Much remains to be done to repair, upgrade equipment

The earthquake that smashed Haiti took its toll on the LWW clean water systems in that nation, but quick action has returned most systems to production.

With clean water a major need in the disaster, the demand for more units is strong, and LWW is pushing to install more units and upgrade existing ones to solar power.

LWW Haiti Network Coordinating Team moderators Chris McRae of Fort Smith, Ark., and Bob McCoy of Huntsville, Ala., were in Haiti January 24-30 to assess damage.

Their key findings:

1. All of our Haitian partners and their families were unhurt. They were deeply grateful to see Bob and Chris as tangible proof that we are partners with them.

2. Six of 19 clean water systems were destroyed. This is particularly remarkable given that the epicenter of the earthquake was near Leogane, which has been the center of our work since 2001.

Valdez Innocent, one of our full-time employees, immediately went to several damaged sites, crawling into destroyed buildings to salvage as much equipment as possible. Using parts from several systems, Valdez soon had a new system pumping out clean water!

3. LWW system sites that were unharmed are continuing to produce water to the best of



**LWW's top priority in Haiti is this destroyed orphanage at Leogane, where 100 children are homeless and three in four, without clean water, now have dysentery. Water system repair, with solar power, is estimated to cost \$12,000.**

their abilities. After the earthquake, our partners at our first solar installation, located in Arcahaie, immediately began producing clean water seven days per week, 24 hours per day.

4. Our Priority Plan of Action for Haiti calls for destroyed systems to be rebuilt as soon as possible, with first priority given to reconstructing the building and system at the orphanage in Leogane, where 100 orphans were left homeless.

Long term, the Haiti Network will consider the development of a program toward "expanding into the need" in Haiti, as the ef-

fects of this tragedy will be years in the recovery.

Solar Under the Sun (SUTS), a Synod of the Sun mission, in conjunction with LWW's Haiti Network has authorized a program to work with our original Initiating Partners to rebuild all destroyed clean water systems.

As part of this effort, and due to the lack of any reliable energy infrastructure for the foreseeable future, we plan to convert all clean water systems there to solar power.

Toward accomplishing these goals, SUTS was hosting its first Solar School March 13 – 16 at Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center outside of Little Rock, Ark..

#### HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP

To date, donors have contributed and pledged \$64,200 toward our clean water system rebuilding and expansion efforts in Haiti. Significantly more funds are needed – at least \$100,000 in total – to fully implement our Priority Plan for Haiti.

To donate or get more information, visit our web site, [livingwatersfortheworld.org](http://livingwatersfortheworld.org) and click on the Haiti aid box at upper right.

# Appalachia network up to 40 units, plans more

By JEFF WAGNER

February's wintry weather in Appalachia cooperated for a change, two successive weekends without snow in the mountains of East Tennessee.

That allowed First Presbyterian Church, Cookeville, Tenn., to install two water treatment systems in the community of Tazewell, Tenn. The units, one at Pleasant View Baptist Church and the other at the home of Patsy Arrington, were the 39<sup>th</sup> and 40<sup>th</sup> water treatment systems installed in Appalachia.

In addition, teams from Westminster Presbyterian Church in Nashville, Tenn., and West Emory Presbyterian Church in Knoxville, Tenn., traveled to Tazewell with Tim Myrick of First Presbyterian Church, Oak Ridge, Tenn. They met with families who are candidates for receiving clean water systems and conducted water testing.

If all goes well, the families will be receiving clean water systems in the not-too-distant future. Currently, three clean-water systems are in place in Tazewell with the potential for over 40 systems to be installed over the next two years.

Tazewell is the fourth Appalachian community where Living Waters for the World has systems in operation; the others are Buffalo Creek (Clairfield), Tenn, Greeneville, Tenn., and Frakes, Ky.

In the first two months of 2010, four more churches have declared their intent to sign, or have signed, covenants with the Appalachian network, pledging monetary support as well as resources to install water treatment systems in the region.

They are Westminster Church in Nashville; Great Bridge Presbyterian Church in Chesapeake, Va.; Erin Presbyterian Church in Knoxville, and a joint team from Trinity Presbyterian Church in Martin, Tenn., and First Presbyterian Church in Paris, Tenn.

The Spirit is indeed alive and at work in Appalachia.

*Jeff Wagner is Appalachian Network and information technology coordinator for Living Waters for the World.*



Engineering students examine data from their tests of procedures at the LWV Bryson Campus at Oxford, Miss.

## Ole Miss engineering students check us out

A unique working arrangement between Living Waters for the World and the University of Mississippi's Civil Engineering Department is producing benefits for both parties.

In the Fall of 2009, the Ole Miss department teamed with LWW by offering the course, Service Learning in Water and Sanitation Engineering, led by Dr. Cristiane Surbeck.

This water treatment engineering course not only strengthened the critical thinking skills of the students, but also opened their eyes to world water issues.

The students were thankful to LWW for allowing them to test the treatment system. They enjoyed the opportunity to gain hands-on engineering experience, to help LWW in evaluating the efficiency of the treatment systems, and to ultimately help people around the world to drink clean water.

Benefits to LWW came in the students' measurement of coliform bacteria concentrations and testing of the efficiency of the clean water system, as well as in proposed improvements to the Clean Water Systems Handbook and testing of an alternative system configuration.

Water quality results from four sepa-

rate sessions at the Camp Hopewell clean water buildings indicated an overall decrease in total coliform throughout the clean water system. A decrease in total coliform observed between the two filters indicates the usefulness of the filtration system in removing microorganisms.

Ozone, although difficult to measure accurately, proved to successfully disinfect water, evident by the decrease in total coliform along the churn. An alternate one-pass ozonation system was proposed and tested, but was not as successful in removing bacteria as the standard system.

A review of the Clean Water Systems Handbook led to several recommended revisions for the next edition:

- The calculation for the preparation of a stock solution of chlorine was corrected and confirmed in the laboratory.

- A new table was developed for determining the amount of bleach to be added to obtain a certain concentration for a given volume.

- The contact time calculations and chart for the number of passes required were updated to consider the ozone production capacity of the PZ2-4 and the different flow rates for each pass.

# Leadership Highlight: George and Dee Hoge's commitment to Living Waters runs deep and wide

Those who know George and Dee Hoge of Anchorage, Ky., know they don't do anything half-way. And when it comes to their partnership with LWW, they've jumped into the deep end.

As owners of SunTime Pools West, Inc., water is second-nature, and their influence is visible every time clean water is produced by a LWW system. That's because, way back in 1997, George greatly simplified our earliest hardware configurations using his considerable experience in water treatment.

George has been personally involved in installation trips to Mexico, Honduras and Guatemala, and the Hoges' leadership in the LWW mission is evident in their own Anchorage Presbyterian Church outside of Louisville, Ky. Anchorage PC clean water teams have established partnerships with four Guatemalan communities, bringing good news, friendship and clean water.

Throughout the years, the Hoges have been telling the LWW story, speaking at churches, presbytery meetings, and conferences whenever they can. Partners at every level, they donate an essential filter in our clean water systems, an in-kind gift worth thousands of dollars each year.

Living Waters for the World is blessed to have partners like



**George and Dee Hoge enjoy grandson, Harrison.**

George and Dee Hoge, and we thank them for their years of tireless service so one day clean water may flow for all of God's children.

## **Clean Water U Who —**

### **Behind the scenes: Pierce, the Dependability Lady**

**By KENDALL COX**

Issue after issue of this newsletter has carried group photos of classes of Clean Water U students. (None this issue because we haven't had a CWU session since the last issue.)

Someone who was at every one of these sessions since the beginning is missing from every graduating class photo. Always behind the scenes, helping ensure that things run smoothly.

When these photos were taken, she was no doubt making a run to a store to pick up some batteries or a toothbrush for a student or some ingredients for a recipe for the evening's party.

This edition's Clean Water U Who spotlight is on Pierce Buford, our assistant administrator, a title that calls for utilizing her gifts and talents (with a smile!) as hostess, tour guide, and historian.

This native of West Point, Miss., (and proud graduate of Ole Miss!) has a long history of serving the church and has done so in many dif-

ferent capacities, both on the local and national level. Of all the positions she has served in over the years, Pierce will tell you that her involvement with LWW continues to be the most exciting for her.

With all of her duties, she manages somehow to also keep up with the joys and needs of the members of the Living Waters for the World family and is quick to share the latest accomplishments of her two daughters or details of the activities of her grandchildren (of whom there are five).

Pierce's involvement with LWW goes back to the very early days of the organization, even before CWU, when she crossed paths with LWW as part of her work as development officer with the Presbyterian Foundation program.

One group trip in the early 1990s with Wil Howie to an LWW installation in Reynosa was all it took — she was hooked. The reason for her continued involvement is easy for her to sum up: She sees the work of LWW and CWU as an opportunity to respond to The Great Commission by not only provid-



**Pierce Buford, preparing Communion at CWU.**

ing clean water and teaching health and hygiene, but through these actions to show the love of Jesus Christ.

*Kendall Cox of Greenville, Miss., is CWU's program director.*



**Carlos Arias MacGregor talks with system operators in a small group session about health department compliance.**

## **Independence is hallmark of Yucatan operators' seminar**

**By JOANIE LUKINS  
Yucatan Network Team**

A “sort of Declaration of Independence” — that’s what the fourth annual Continuing Education Seminar for LWW’s Yucatan Network was last November.

Participants talked of future plans, application of income for ministry purposes, expansion of systems, marketing tools ... all indicators that the network has arrived at a point where they are no longer totally dependent upon their Initiating Partners.

Network members now have the technical expertise and experience, the business acumen, and the visibility in the marketplace to be a reliable and sustainable network of producers of clean water.

With 45 systems in place, and more scheduled for 2010, the challenge now is to continue to work for sustainable operations, to maintain quality control, and to direct the income in appropriate directions.

With 85 people in attendance (including system operators, presbytery coordinators, synod personnel, and Living Waters representatives), the seminar was held in Kimbila, Mexico.

Several testimonials about the impact that clean water has had on communities was encouraging, but best of all was

the feeling shared by LWW representatives that if Living Waters suddenly disappeared, the clean water capability in the Yucatan peninsula would continue.

Carlos Arias MacGregor, who is overall LWW coordinator for the peninsula, moderated the seminar with ease and confidence. Next year perhaps LWW will be present only as observers!

While earlier seminars were devoted to very basic questions (e.g., how does a filter work?), and last year they had progressed to production questions (e.g., how can I get more out of my system?), this year many of them were discussing the proportion of profits that should be plowed back into the business vs. used in the church’s ministries.

At this seminar, those systems that are struggling were placed in the presence of systems that are very successful, so that they were able to see that success is possible.

One more encouraging sign was talk among the operators of tithing some of their profits to a fund that would then provide another clean water system, installed solely by Mexican Presbyterians!

Representing LWW at the gathering were Ralph Young, Bill Harney and Joanie Lukins.

“Paso a paso” — step by step — this Network is growing larger, stronger, healthier, more sustainable.

## **Water income buys couple a new home**

Call it the parable of the clean water talents.

It’s a wonderful story from Monte Moriah church in Campeche, Mexico, where a Living Waters team partnered to install a clean water system in April 2007. Since that time, the brothers and sisters there have worked very hard, made improvements, and created a flourishing ministry of water.

They have been able to purchase a used truck in order to deliver the water to more people of the community: They proudly display the Living Waters for the World sign on their truck, and they provide over 800 five-gallon bottles of clean water to their community every week.

Some of the income from the water system has been used in a ministry of housing. These photos show an elderly man and woman who were living in what could not even be called a shelter. With proceeds from the water system, the church built them a new “house” of wood and tin — nothing beautiful, but it keeps the rain out and provides a decent place to live.

This ministry would not have been possible without the gifts that YOU first provided — time, talent, finances.



**Before: Only a lean-to was elderly pair’s home.**



**After: A more substantial tin and wood structure.**

# Volunteer presenters keep spreading the word

By **BILL REED**

Efforts to tell the Living Waters for the World story as broadly as possible continue with exhibits and presentations for a wide variety of groups.

Those since the last newsletter include: Scioto Valley Presbytery (Jeff Wagner), West Virginia Presbytery (Bill Bowman), American Public Health Association Convention (Kary Lafors), Greenville, Miss., *Delta Democrat-Times* (Ken-

dall Cox), Association of Presbyterian Christian Educators Conference (Pierce Buford and Joanie Lukins) and Presbyterian Women of St. Andrew Presbytery (Pierce Buford).

If you know of a group that would welcome an LWW speaker or exhibit let Bill Reed know at [willmreed@aol.com](mailto:willmreed@aol.com).

Check out the TV and radio spots on the LWW website ([http://www.livingwatersfortheworld.org/PageDF-Download-](http://www.livingwatersfortheworld.org/PageDF-Download-Files.php)

[Files.php](http://www.livingwatersfortheworld.org/PageDF-Download-Files.php)).

Federal law requires media outlets to provide segments of air time to charitable entities. Several of our folks have simply dropped by the local station with a tape and asked if they could add our spot to their station's play list. Sometimes radio spots can even be E-mailed.

If you'd like to help, contact Steve Young at the LWW office or e-mail him at [steve@livingwatersfortheworld.org](mailto:steve@livingwatersfortheworld.org).

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J. Otey Walker  
Nolan Waller  
Mary Weber  
Jack Webster  
D. J. and R. S. Wengert  
S. Camille Whorton  
Jim and Sarah Wilbanks  
Bill and Anne Williams  
Verna Williams  
Betty Anne Wilson  
Barry and Lois Wisniewski  
Daniel M. and Susan L. Woodworth  
Linda H. and James P. Worden  
Wayne T. and Joe Ann Wylie  
Julie Young  
Margareta Young  
Ralph and Stephanie Young  
Robin and Madelyn Young  
Steve and Tonya Young  
Sharon K. Youngs  
Walter and Gayle Yuras



Bill Reed, Kendall Cox and Carie Turner were among leaders who braved the snowstorm to plan LWW's path.

## Snowstorm? No obstacle to LWW's future plotters

Fifteen key LWW leaders came together January 29-30 to forge a new strategic plan for the organization, setting the course for the coming year and beyond. This was the planning event that almost wasn't, as a snow and ice storm descended on much of the southern U. S., including the Middle Tennessee meeting site.

These hardy souls braved the elements, ignored the conditions outside, and transformed a meeting room at Franklin's Sleep Inn into strategic planning central command!

The plan that was produced is exciting, ambitious, brings focus, and is designed to carry the organization forward. The key focus is on sustainability of our water systems in the field – developing the framework and infrastructure necessary to ensure that Living Waters for the World water systems are producing clean water for years to come. This objective touches and impacts every aspect of our organization, and we are blessed to have the collective input of our leadership reflected in our plan at this pivotal time.



Bob McCoy and Ralph Young shared their experience and insights.

## Myrick new LWW Committee moderator

Tim Myrick, a retired nuclear engineer from Oak Ridge, Tenn., has been appointed as the new moderator of the LWW Committee of the Synod of Living Waters.

Tim and his wife, Teresa, attend First Presbyterian Church in Oak Ridge, where they have been involved in its Living Waters ministry in Belize as well as their backyard in Appalachia.

Tim, who succeeds Joanie Lukins of Danville, Ky., as moderator, got interested in LWW some five years ago as he was preparing for early-retirement. He attended Clean Water U in 2004, then applied his newly acquired water knowledge in systems installations in the Viking Mountain and Buffalo Creek areas in East Tennessee.

Since that initial involvement, he has taken



Tim Myrick

a leadership role in the Appalachian Network, including securing a USDA grant source for \$150,000 to expand our efforts there.

Tim retired early in order to focus on community work, and is currently actively involved in Red Cross Disaster Relief, the Tennessee Nature Conservancy Board, Habitat for Humanity, and Aid To Distressed Families in Appalachian Counties, an agency where he has served on the board for 12 years. He is now a key teaming partner with LWW in the Appalachian work.

His passion for working with high school kids is evident by his 25 straight years of teaching high school Sunday School and his part-time teaching of AP-Environmental Sciences classes at Oak Ridge High School.