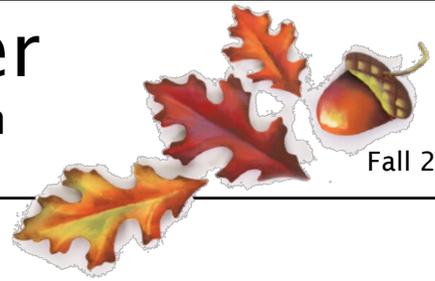




HBS Newsletter

Hôpital Bon Samaritain

Limbé, Haiti



Fall 2014

Note from Gail Nield, M.D.



My two weeks at HBS this summer were very busy yet fulfilling. The Chikungunya Virus has taken a toll on Haiti. As a dermatologist from Canada, I quickly had to familiarize myself with this viral illness transmitted by infected mosquito bites.

Geralda, a 4 year old from Kay Mira was one of many who developed Chikungunya. The symptoms are fever, joint pains, fatigue and rashes. Geralda had a very high fever and rash for days. We all worked around the clock to ensure that she had enough Tylenol and cold showers to keep her fever at bay. It was wonderful when her fever broke and she was back to her happy self!

I treated many HBS staff and out patients in the clinic with skin rashes, including rashes related to Chikungunya. The boy on this picture had severe Congenital Ichthyosis and was given topical creams to help him.

I will be using my photos to make a power point presentation for the HBS staff. I was able to share my large collection of medical lectures in French, using a USB Stick, with the medical staff and they were well received. I am thankful that I can continue to be of service to the patients and staff at HBS. I am already preparing for next year's trip!

Funding for Kitchen Makeover Project



Food for the Kai Mira Orphanage, Hodges House children, volunteers and staff alike is prepared daily in the HBS cafeteria. The roof has been leaking for a long time and needed to be replaced. Thanks to generous donors, the cafeteria roof was removed in October, and parts of the wood frame were redone before installing the new galvanized sheets. Workers are now concentrating on replacing the interior ceiling.

Next we have to update the kitchen and lots of work will need to be done. This includes painting of the interior and exterior walls, repair and clean the counter tops, install new doors, shelves and cupboards, updating the electrical and installing new appliances. We would like to complete the work on the cafeteria by the end of the year, preparing for the arrival of surgery teams and other volunteers early 2015.

If you are interested in donating towards the Kitchen Makeover Project, please let us know.



Tinesias Severno

Tinesias Severno from Bas-Limbé was only 9 days old when he was admitted to the hospital with septic facial impetigo.

Infectious skin diseases are very common in Haiti. When he first came in to the clinic, Tinesias was given oral and topical antibiotics and told to return the next day. When he returned, he already had a fever and was septic. He was quickly admitted to the pediatric ward and started on IV antibiotics and fluids. He made a rapid recovery and was discharged within 1 week. I was so happy that we were able to help this young infant who would not have survived without the care he received at HBS.

Gail Nield, M.D.

Limbé Water Tower

Limbé really needs a new water system to replace the existing one but in the meantime this system continues to serve its purpose pumping close to 300,000 gallons of potable water each day.

The water tower in Limbé was built in the early 1970' and underwent major overhaul in 2007. This year it was time to do some repairs again as the walls of the tower had a number of hairline cracks and were leaking. The lid of the pump house, which is located underneath the tower, was rusted and also needed to be fixed.

This tower which holds about 5000 gallons serves as the pressure system for the Limbé water system.

The water was emptied from the tower so the inner walls could be ground down and the cracks filled with water resistant cement/latex. The lid of the pump house was replaced by a newly made heat-sealed cover.



The Roll that you Play

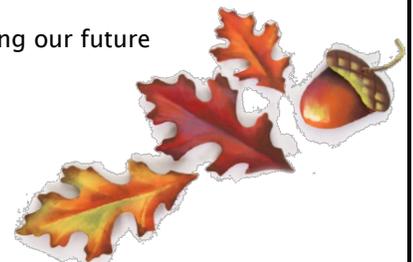
Does the bandage that I am applying to this patient look familiar? If so, we want to thank you for the roll you play in the mission of Hôpital Bon Samaritain. I had asked if I could thank the groups that convert bed sheets to bandages and was invited to contribute to this newsletter. It is wonderful having a supply of bandages that we can provide to patients freely. Every contribution, whether financial or material goes a long way.

My wife, Janet and I first volunteered at HBS during our medical training in 1982. We had the privilege of knowing and learning from Dr. William Hodges. HBS has occupied a special place in our hearts ever since and we have made many return trips. There is a lot misery at this hospital, but, wouldn't you know it; Jesus is also here!

We are spending this fall at HBS rediscovering our future roll at Hôpital Bon Samaritain.

Thank you all. You are needed!

Bill Benish, M.D.



Happy Thanksgiving!

HBS Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 32446
West Palm Beach, FL 33420

Tel: (561) 246-3360
E-mail: hbsfl@att.net
Registration: CH21155