



Supporting the Haitian ministries of Sam Rice, R.N.

January, 2008

Dear Sponsors and Friends,

Gospel Growers, Inc.
P. O. Box 968
Smithville, TX 78957

Attention:
Bob & Angie Brannan
(512) 237-5427

Board of Directors

Angie Brannan

Bob Brannan

Wanda Cervenka

Mark Miles

Billy Proske

Becky Walker

Advisory Director
Bruce Wharram

"And you shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not." Deuteronomy 8:2 NKJV

"Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen, and called its name Ebenezer, saying, 'Thus far the Lord has helped us.'" 1 Samuel 7:12 NKJV

The year 2007 has been a year of highs and lows, sadness and happiness. But by God's Grace the positive moments have definitely outweighed the negative ones. One thing that will be remembered is that 2007 has been the wettest year that I have experienced in Haiti since my arrival in 1982. The surplus rain has this country looking like tropical Ireland—very green and lush. The summer corn crop was good and the fall pitimi crop exceeded expectations. Unfortunately these blessings have nearly been overwhelmed by the terrible high cost of living which is slowly grinding the Haitian people down. Add to this the continued absence of employment and you will see that misery continues to dog this poor country. Countless numbers of young people have left and sought jobs in the Dominican Republic where they are often looked down upon. Every presidential election brings a brief period of hope and expectation of better days only to be replaced by disappointment and frustration.

A great improvement in Dariol has occurred with the telephone service due to the digi-cel tower erected recently in Cote de Fer. Almost everyone has a cell phone. I can actually call home from my front porch. This is an absolute blessing! ~~The drug rumors have moved further down the coast so we are free from that evil at present. Keep praying!~~

You may remember the crisis we had here in Dariol during July when three of our boys were falsely arrested in Fonds des Negres and one was shot and killed. It took many prayers and God directed efforts, but after 17 days the two boys were released from prison. This is definitely a miracle considering the amount of false evidence the arresting officers cooked up in order to avoid sanction of killing an innocent young man. Thanks to you all who prayed! One of these young men, Chilet, just got married on December 15th.

Web-site:

www.gospelgrowers.org
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(contact person is Wanda Cervenka)

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The different ministries that Gospel Growers supports are functioning well. I just spent the last weeks of December up in the mountains at the Radio Station doing a series of programs on the Nativity passages in the Bible. Let me tell you it was cool up there.

The Rural Church Workers & Pastors Bible Seminar Program is providing a solid base of Bible knowledge and doctrine to the many churches scattered throughout the mountains of Cote de Fer. I just gave out Sunday School materials for 2008 to about 100 churches of various denominations. Brother Obriant is doing a great job.

There are 11 Christian Schools which we are assisting with budgetary support. This is done through our sponsorship programs in which about 470 kids receive badly needed education and guidance.

The Medical Clinic at Dariol continues to receive and treat patients but the high cost of medicine is putting a strain on us.

We suffered a great loss to our mission with the passing of Bob Brannan who so ably administered Gospel Growers since its inception. Please pray for Angie as she seeks to continue the work with our other Board of Director committee members—Billy Proske, Mark Miles, Becky Walker, Wanda Cervenka, and Bruce Wharram. Many thanks to them for their service and efforts. Thanks also to our web-master, Don Petersen, who started and maintains our website. Many thanks to all sponsors and supporters who got us through another year. Your prayers and aid are making it possible for this ministry to continue.

Please pray for my poor truck which after 4 years on Haitian roads is definitely showing its age.

This February will make 26 years that I have spent service to the Haitian people and I have enjoyed and been blessed. Thank you all for making it possible!

God Bless You All and Happy New Year!

Love, Sam

Sam will be back home in the USA for furlough during

April '08 in Pennsylvania

and

May '08 in Texas

**If you would like for him to visit your Church
Please let us know by phone call, letter, or email
So we can put you on his schedule**