

Communi-clik

Breaking News from Florida's International Volunteer Agency



JANUARY 2006

LONG-TERM COMMITMENT TO SHORT-TERM ASSISTANCE CONTINUED

Grenada Children Battle Traumatic Stress

Disasters hit relief workers hard, but children are close behind when it comes to suffering post-traumatic stress. In order to equip staff to deal with children's fears, assistance was requested by Sister Francis Nelson, chairperson of the Board of Directors, Grenada Child Welfare Authority (GCWA), for caregivers at child care homes affected by last year's natural disasters. Building on training conducted last May, long-time FAVACA volunteer Pat Lager, LCSW, Florida State University College of Social Work consulted with 68 child care providers January 22-27, 2006. She also consulted with community leaders/board members for the homes. This volunteer mission was made possible through grant assistance from FAVACA's Caribbean Assistance and Recovery Grants Program and Jimmy Buffett's Singing For Change Foundation, Outback Steakhouse®, and Carrabba's Italian Grill.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines Beekeepers Revive

In February, 2005 Tomas Mozer administered a survey and conducted training for beekeepers in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. He made recommendations including: 1) retrain beekeepers in integrated pest control and disease management, 2) instruct beekeepers in general bee keeping and queen-rearing, and 3) continue monitoring surveys. Following these recommendations, volunteer Bo Sterk, Jacksonville, traveled to St. Vincent January 21-29, 2006. He trained seventeen beekeepers and two beekeeping technicians of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in integrated pest/disease management. According to Godwin Daniel, coordinator, IICA Office in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, "Mr. Sterk had a very positive interaction with the beekeepers and the Ministry's technical personnel. Even though his assessment revealed a very rapid decline in the bee population since Mr. Mozer's visit last year, his delivery of the training in integrated pest/disease management was so captivating that beekeepers who lost all their colonies have been motivated to reestablish apiaries once a supply of bees could be identified and procured. The Ministry has undertaken to work more closely

with the beekeepers in their efforts to resuscitate the industry.”

AGM PRODUCES NEW OFFICERS

FAVACA’s Annual General Meeting was held in Tallahassee, January 20. Newly elected officers include: Vice Chair – Fred Seamon, Treasurer – Rudy Moise, Officers at Large – George Moore, Frank O’Connor, Wendy Spencer. Term Renewals – Ken Boutwell, Todd Kocourek, Rudy Moise, Gerald Buxbaum.

COMMUNI-CLIK UPGRADED

The FAVACA Communi-Clik is switching to a new format that will require recipients to opt-in or sign-up to continue receiving this electronic newsletter. In the coming days you will be receiving an email inviting to join the “FAVACA_Clik mailing list”. You can simply reply or visit the linked website to sign-up. Thank you for supporting FAVACA and it’s efforts to assist our friends and neighbors in the Caribbean and the Americas.

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