

## Hohaye celebrates 9th Anniversary in Style

HOHAYE members and supporters celebrated with the non-profit organization during the benefit concert held on June 26 at the Levy Center that featured Léon Dimanche and Yvon Estanvil along with a mariachi band. Besides the warm and moving performance, both musicians urged the audience to support the organization financially so it can continue to provide charity work in Haiti.

The crisis that followed the January earthquake compelled the organization to deal with some basic unpredictable needs that fall in the category of humanitarian



operations. Shortly after the disaster the organization started providing hot meals to 600 individuals on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince every week.

The June event marked the organization's 9th Anniversary, and Pastor Franco Valdemar, HOHAYE's president, was rejoicing while looking forward to next year's celebration.



"Chicago once more has responded to HOHAYE's cause and pleaded on behalf of the Haitian people," he wrote in a recent e-mail. "Blessed be the Lord God Almighty.

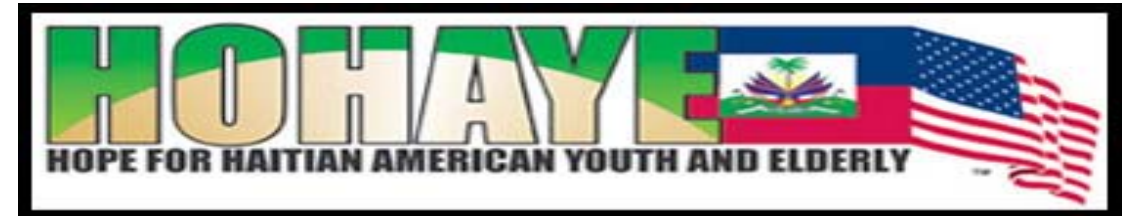
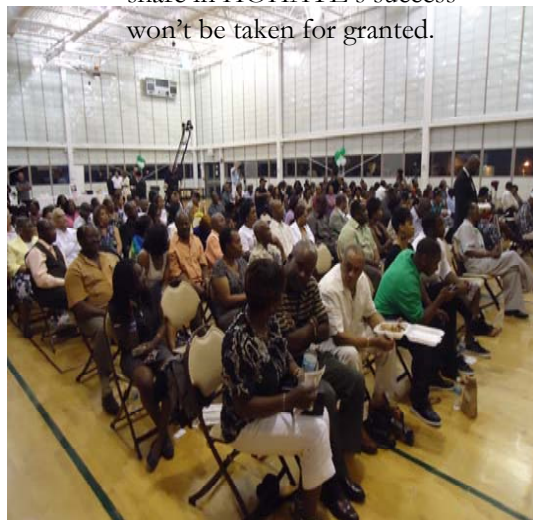
"I am proud of my general consulate here. Thank you Lesly!"

The remarkable performance of Léon and Yvon amused the audience and spurred quite a few fans to sing along. There was something else that captured the audience - a man who survived the quake that hit Haiti. He drew a vibrant applause as he

pushed his rollator toward the stage to share his tragic story. That man suffered from a spinal cord injury when the university he attended collapsed on Jan. 12. In the middle of his story, his doctor, whom he had expected, suddenly walked in and joined him. The applause grew even louder.

In his remarks, one of the partners of the organization Pastor Arthur J. Gass, President of Black Chamber of Commerce of Lake County (BCCLC), praised the work of the association. In April, Pastor Gass traveled to Haiti with Pastor Valdemar and his wife Carole for a seven-day mission trip. Pastor Gass witnessed HOHAYE's hard work first hand - especially the challenge to feed 600 people on a weekly basis. More importantly, the financial contribution the president of the BCCLC provided gave a huge boost to the work of the ministry that ministers to the souls of those it serves. Find more details and pictures from the trip at [www.bccoflakecounty.org](http://www.bccoflakecounty.org).

The 9th anniversary celebration will leave a good memory in the archives of the non-profit organization. The support of Fifth Third Bank and all the individuals from different walks of life that share in HOHAYE's success won't be taken for granted.



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www.hohaye.org  
2613 Brnot Ave. Waukegan, IL 60087  
847-625-8421

## Summer Mission - 2010

### Dealing with Customs in Haiti

It seems I heard a voice telling me one month in Haiti this summer will not be enough to deal with customs, to work on the Leadership Training Center, to organize meetings with the pastors, a seminar on *Who God Is and What He Has Done*, meeting with the youths of La Plaine and Fond Des Negres and also



waiting is nothing. Bureaucracy is really what hinders the development of this country.

When Carole, Rev Arthur Gass, and I went to Haiti last April, we thought sending a truck loaded with

humanitarian aid instead of a container would be better. After all, we thought, the truck can

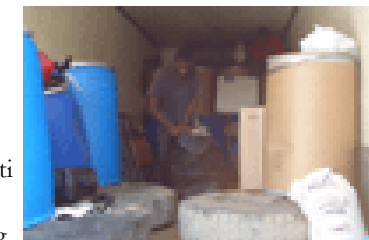
be used to move equipment back and forth very quickly and the ministry will start developing a self sufficient capacity. We had no idea how much time and money it was going to take to get things out of customs. The decision to buy the truck was a good decision but a very expensive one. I am not complaining. However, it was quite a challenge and a learning experience. I hope I learned my lesson and know better next time.

Since the earthquake, Haitians and friends of Haiti have not stopped giving items such as clothes, toiletries, & shoes as well as other supplies. I would say many many thanks to all of you! As I said above, the preciousness



of time is not yet learned in Haiti and until it is learned, the poor people will continue to suffer greatly.

Due to internet signal failure at the Haitian customs, it took us 28 days to get the two vehicles out. It left us only two weeks to do all the other ministries. The priority was to deal with customs first and that was not a bad idea. I had to learn. Finally I can report to you that every item is secure but it will take us another trip to sort everything out. I will keep you posted as to when we will be able to return. Pray that God will provide ticket money.



We were able to give away the 10 bags of rice. They were easy to identify and it did not take long to find people in need of them either. I would like to thank all who gave the bags of rice.

### Special points of interest:

- *The loading of the Truck*
- *The Challenges Ahead*
- *Thank You Note*
- *Hohaye's 9th Anniversary Celebration*



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### Working on the Leadership Training Center

Praise God Almighty! Phase 1 of the construction is almost complete. I see the light at the end of the tunnel after more than 4 years. One of our goals was to start working on the building the day after landing in Haiti. On July 15, we were on our way to Euro Ceram to buy tiles, cement, grout and toilets. On July 16, window installers, plumber, electrician, and masons started working. The job was challenging as the funds were not great. We had to get through many bumps in the road but I felt that even lending money would be a great idea to get the job done. I did and I am glad to report that the four weeks of dealing with customs did not hinder our ability to get the job done. We equipped the lead-

ership training center with ceramics, running water, electricity when connected to a generator, toilet, and doors. Two rooms are now available and I slept in one of them. Praise God!

Many thanks to all of you! You are the reason we are able to accelerate the work. Do not get me wrong we still have plenty of work to do. Electricity work is far from over. All the wiring and other materials will take another \$3,500.00 US Dollars. I also realized that the two generators we have will not get the job done if we are going to equip the Training Center with air conditioning. We will need to install a good AC system. I have no idea how much one will

cost but we will choose the least expensive path. We will also need at least a 15 kilowatt diesel to make it functional. The good news is, whenever I am ready to buy the generator I will not need to send it because they sell good generators in Haiti.

Keep praying that God opens doors so that we may complete the work by December of this year and start the 2nd phase sometime next year.

I invite you to mark your calendar for July 2011. This is when, by faith in God, I hope to open the center for Bible Training, leadership seminars, trade classes and youth ministry. I will keep you posted on the exact date.



Note the wiring in the ceiling.

### Congratulations!!

Institution Prima Achile has done it again. A student from the 12th grade (rheto) placed first in the national exam in the entire Nippes Department. As a result, this



student was awarded \$2,600.00 by the Department of Education. We were at Duverger on August 15 to cheer him

on and to celebrate the end of the academic year 2009-2010. It was quite an experience. An angry rain decided to put an end to the celebration.



### Meeting with Pastors & Youth

On Monday August 16, we met with a few pastors to talk about coming events. We spent 3 hours singing and praying together. At 1:00 PM we met with the youth of Fond Des Negres and for 4 hours discussed the possibility of opening a trade school in the area. It was indeed very good news to all the young people who on a daily basis are not doing much.



quality time with the youth of La Plaine so that we could develop a bond with them. We were able to do that every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30 to 5:00 PM. I was very impressed with their learning ability. They have already learned many songs and I taught them John 3:16 in English.



### Preaching Ministry, Visitors

I had the privilege to be guest speaker at a conference organized by the Eglise du Nazareen du Bel Air. The topic was "Who God Is and What He Has Done". More than 50 people participated and I had fun.

On Sunday July 18, I shared God's Word with the saints of Eglise du Nazareen du Belair. On August 22, I preached at Eglise du Nazareen de Tabarre.



We were blessed by the visits of many missionaries and members of Hohaye from the US. A special thanks to Guerdy Mondesir who brought 2 other missionaries with her from a covenant church located in Ohio. Many thanks also to Celiane Obrunoh and Therese Mondesir for visiting. We also received a visit from my brother who lives in Connecticut; Andre Chery; and Edith Bouzi who lives in Chicago. Overall it

was very good for the kids to see that other people are interested in them.



### Prayer requests & support

I ask that you continue to pray for the people of Haiti. I know that with God all things are possible. The people of Haiti need our prayers and support. I noticed discouragement on many faces. The majority of the people still live under tents. People are dying of all sorts of diseases. Mosqui-

toes continue to impose their rule on people. They play music in our ears day and night. Let's keep our eyes open to their condition.

Your support is crucial for the survival of this ministry. As you know we are a 501C3 organization and recognized in Haiti by the Departement des Affaires Sociales. Any amount you send will advance the work. Make check s payable to Hohaye and send to 2613 Brnot Ave. Waukegan, Illinois 60087. Thank you in advance. Thank you also for taking the time to read this report.

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