

PARADISE ORPHANAGE NEWS

SUMMER 2011

The work continues...



We have recently returned from our trip to Kaya, Burkina Faso. Along with our friends Howie and Fran Makofsky from New York we spent almost 3 weeks with the children at Paradise Orphanage.

We were surprised to find that the number of children has increased from 65 to 122. We thankfully had enough clothing to distribute to all of them from the 32 containers/bags we brought with us.

Georges and Esther, the couple who run the project were thrilled to have our help. Despite the extreme heat that aver-

aged 45 degrees celsius during the day and the Political unrest during the time we were there, we felt encouraged and blessed to be part of what is happening in Kaya.

It was great to be able to spend time with the children and get to know them better. They enjoyed the Art lessons we provided and learned some new games such as Memory, Chinese Checkers, Chess, and Snakes and Ladders. As always the Frisbees were a big hit!

We are busy sewing more uniforms to be sent in September for the new school year.

What Happened:

- 5 sewing machines purchased
- Shelter/ church constructed
- Nurse hired to make weekly visits
- Medical supplies purchased
- Cement pad poured around the well
- Shoes purchased for all children
- Soup from Ontario Gleaners delivered
- Clothing distributed for children, staff and families
- Sewing projects started

What's next:

- Construction of a new girls' dorm
- Up-grading Hydro
- Construction of an Activity Centre
- Another trip in 2012? Perhaps bring along a Team!?(Are you interested?)
- Need for on-going Funding to support the existing Project.

In The Bag!! ...New business Venture started!

With each visit to this small country we have required the expertise of a translator, which is how we met a young man named Oumarou. He is a 25 year old University student who left his Muslim family in the Ivory Coast to study in Burkina Faso. Life has been very difficult for Oumarou but he is trying to support himself and fund his education as well as support the work at the Orphanage. Together with us he has started a retail business called "In The

Bag!" He sells costume jewelry at a market stand close to the University. 50% of his profits go to the Orphanage. In April we left him with 100 small zip lock bags each containing a piece of jewelry. He sold it all in 10 days!!

Our friends Mike and Kathy Steinborn are coming from Burkina Faso to Canada in September and we would like to send another large quantity of jewelry to Oumarou to keep his business going.

If you could help us with this venture we would really ap-

preciate it. Garage sales, Gramma's dresser, your own jewelry box; all good places to check. He has also had success selling men's caps so we are on the lookout for them as well.

If you can be of any help please contact us soon.

Len and Carla Veitch
carlaveitch@hotmail.com

Howie and Fran Makofsky
hmakofsky@yahoo.com



Items for Sale!

Burkina Faso has many talented artisans who are eager to sell their work. Unfortunately there is not much of a market in the country since not many tourists visit. We were able to purchase some lovely Batik pieces from an artist just outside the Orphanage..

He was pretty excited to make such a big sale in one day. (More than he would normally make in a year!)

Some of the smaller batiks are being made into shopping bags.

There are some other beautiful larger pieces of batik available as

well, which would make lovely wall hangings.

The children enjoyed an art activity painting Gustav Klimt's "Tree of Life".. These wonderful canvases will look lovely in any home!

The children are very excited about having their paintings hanging in our homes here.

We will have all these items available for September 1, 2011.



Information sharing evening planned!

Thursday, Sept 1, 7:00 pm.

**Calvary Baptist Church,
Gravenhurst, ON (Corner
of First and Brock St)**

**Come and join us to hear
more about the work at
Paradise Orphanage and
enjoy a short video of the
children.**

Dessert will be served!

Children welcome!

www.kayaskids.org

Trip to New York planned!

Georges and Esther are coming to New York in November with their niece!

Etienne , Esther's brother and Yvonne are a lovely couple with 3 wonderful children who help with the running of the Orphanage.

They have a 2 year old daughter named Guedalia who had a serious accident at 9 months of age

when she stuck her right hand in a pot of boiling oil. Her hand has not healed properly and since Howie has connections to medical facilities in New York he has arranged for Guedalia to have surgery on November 14, 2011..

The family has decided that the best people to bring her are Georges and Esther. It is going to be a very big trip for all of

them and it is also quite a huge expense.. Howie has been working hard to make arrangements and has received a free trip for one adult and Guedalia from Air France. He is collecting donations for the other ticket and the expenses associated with the trip.

If you would like to help with any of these expenses please contact Howie ..

hmakofsky@yahoo.com

Beavercreek/ Fenbrook Inmates support the work....

A group of inmates at Beavercreek and Fenbrook Correctional Facilities have been sewing bags for us to take with us. These are re-usable shopping bags and they sent over 100 fabric bags with us.

They became invaluable since the country doesn't seem to have bags for shopping or just for carrying things around.

Whenever we gave items to anyone we put it in a bag and people were just as thrilled to be receiving the bags as they were the items in the bag. The inmates have also donated more than \$500 cash for us to take with us to help with the work at Paradise Orphanage. We are thankful for all who give.

