

SOL International Foundation is an independent, nonprofit, 501(c)(3) Public Charity. Through the support of donations and fundraisers SOL has been able to initiate and support community-based programs designed to promote education, arts and athletics for over 6 years in Roatán, Honduras.

# SOL NEWS UPDATE; MARCH 2011

## JAM CRUISE 7: A POSITIVE LEGACY EVENT:

On January 6, 2011 Jam Cruise 7 pulled into Roatan with a group of music lovers looking for more than just fun in the sun. Armed with 3 pallets of donations including school supplies, vitamins, books, and backpacks, these 'Jam Cruisers' joined SOL International for a great community day in Sandy Bay. The event was co-sponsored by Positive Legacy, whose mission is to create meaningful



opportunities for music fans and musicians alike to become active participants in reducing the environmental impact of the events they participate in, and to do



something positive for the communities they visit. Over 200 people participated in an afternoon of great music, local island-style food, and family fun. David "LEBO" LeBetard created a beautiful large painting during the event that still stands proudly at the SOL courts. Thanks to Julie V. and Jeffrey S. from Positive Legacy and all the Jam Cruisers who participated! Hope to see you all in Roatan again next year!!

### MAHOGANY BAY OPENS IT'S DOORS TO SOL:



We would like to thank the staff and management at the Mahogany Bay Cruise Terminal for their ongoing support of groups like SOL International and Roatan Rotary Club. In December 2010, working together with the Roatan Rotary club and <u>Care4Communities</u>, SOL sent 85 children to the cruise ship dock for the chance to meet Santa Claus and Miss Honduras! Each child received a holiday gift and a nice meal. In all, over 200 children from around the island were able to enjoy an exciting day at Mahogany Bay.

On Saturday, February 19 Mahogany Bay once again offered their facilities,

this time for the SOL Youth Baseball Banquet. 35 children from 4 different teams were rewarded for their hard work and dedication throughout the season with a day of fun. Food and drinks were donated and the children were allowed to enjoy water sports (paddle boats, stand up paddle boards, kayaks) and play soccer



on the beautiful sand field. A special thanks to Mike Reimers, general manager of Mahogany Bay, for his efforts!

# 5TH ANNUAL GOLDEN BUOY KICKS OFF



It's time for one of SOL's most important fundraising events to kick off - the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Golden Buoy competition! This event challenges the dive shops of Roatan to come up with creative and fun ways to raise money for SOL and give something back to the Roatan community. Last year's event raised over \$10,000 and the Golden Buoy was taken home by West End divers for

the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in 4 years. Dive shops host many interesting events throughout the month (BBQ's, raffles, underwater Easter egg hunts, horseshoe tournaments, poker tournaments, chili cookoffs, etc). The month-long fundraiser culminates with the Dive Shop Olympics where teams of 5 people compete against each other for the pride of their shop and the chance to take home the coveted Golden Buoy! Stay tuned to the SOL International Facebook page to find out about upcoming events for the Golden Buoy Competition. If you wish to make a donation on behalf of your favorite dive shop, visit the SOL website and click on Donate Now.

## BEAUTIFYING SANDY BAY - BOTTLE CAP MURAL



Throughout the month of December, SOL assisted residents of Sandy Bay in a clean-up and beautification project in their community. The children collected



thousands of plastic bottle caps from the beach and surrounding areas. These caps were then put to use beautifying a cinder block wall with a stunning new mural. In addition to the mural, an adjacent lot was cleared and cleaned of trash and debris with over 4 truck loads of garbage removed and sent to the dump. Congratulations to all the volunteers for taking pride in their community and assuming an active role in beautifying their neighborhood!



### LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL SEASON STARTS

The 2011 SOL Youth Baseball League is set to begin this Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at



the John J. Wood Field behind the West End gas station. This year there will be 5 teams of children ages 8-12, with one game being played every Tuesday and Thursday at 4pm and a double-header every Saturday with the first game starting at 3pm. Come out and support the kids as they learn valuable lessons about teamwork, dedication and hard work!

## GOOD-BYE ANDREA! WE'LL MISS YOU...

SOL International Foundation would like to send out a HUGE "Thank You & Good Bye" to Andrea Rivera Sosa! Andrea has worked tirelessly for over 3 years assisting SOL on so many levels. She has moved on to develop a graduate curriculum at a university in La Ceiba. While she will continue to assist SOL, her day-to-day presence will be greatly missed and we wish her the best.



#### STAFF CONTACTS:

Honduras

David Elmore, President

United States

Brandon Raab, Exec.

Director

Brandon@solif.org

Exec.

Mark Flanagan,
Program Director
roatanflanagan@yahoo.com

# SOL INTERNATIONAL WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF OUR MONTHLY DONORS

#### YOU CAN HELP SOL INTERNATIONAL BY:

- Making a donation
- Sponsoring a program
- Volunteering your time!
- Participating in fundraising activities
- Visiting our website to see our latest wish-list
- Providing supplies (school, art, sports or health)

#### TO MAKE A DONATION:

- Online: Go to the 'Make a Donation Page' at www.solsite.org
- $\bullet$  In Roatan: Go to any dive shop participating in the  $5^{th}$  Annual Golden Buoy competition
- By Mail: Make Check Payable to SOL International Foundation and mail to

Sun Trust Bank, Asheville, One Angle Street
Asheville, NC 28803
Tax ID# 20-4786732