

# **PPAF INSIDER**



**Public Private Alliance Foundation** 

May 31, 2018

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#### From the Executive Director:

Dear Friends,

In the past months our work supporting clean cooking in Haiti has expanded and new partnerships have developed. Last fall at Université Notre Dame d'Haiti-Hinche (UNDH-H) Rose Bazile of KDCK and Kathy Puffer of Solar CITIES Biogas trained students in solarcooking and in building a biodigester for biogas cooking. Rose returned in January for more, with Martha Port of PHP and support from PPAF. In the months since the start, a student committee at UNDH-H has become quite lively! Your encouragement and support helps make such advances possible. Thank you!

I also want to tell you about the recent study tour we supported for Haitian colleagues to visit sites in Florida, about the Science Day being organized June 2 at UNDH-H, and about the great results of biodigester fertilizer for fruit in Cotes de Fer.

Very importantly, please **Save the Date** for our fundraiser and friend-raiser, "A Benefit for Haiti: Reducing Poverty with Cookstoves," to be held the evening of Thursday July 12 at <u>Resource Furniture</u> in Manhattan, NYC.

Very best regards,

David Stillman

### **UNDH-H Student Group on Solar & Biogas Takes Off**

The training sessions several months ago at UNDH-H by friends of PPAF have led to a dynamic student committee. Members prepare feasts cooked on solar ovens and biogas, maintain one biodigester and have built another, have created a garden fertilized from the biodigesters, and host a Facebook page and a What's App site for the group to interact, show their progress and receive advice. Group members are organizing a Science Day on June 2 (see below). Their talent, initiative and motivation are outstanding. In all this the Vice Rector is a champion and big supporter. Thank you to the students for most of photos in this newsletter.





#### UNDH-H Vice-Rector and Student Leader on Study Tour in Florida

From April 29 to May 12 Vice Rector Father Herald Jean and student solar & biogas committee leader Peter Rubens Morency visited several sites in Florida, as organized by Solar CITIES Biogas, PPAF and KDCK/Solavore. PPAF covered airfare, car rental and some local costs. TH and Enas Culhane were hosts at the Rosebud Continuum demonstration and training center of Patel College/University of South Florida. TH took the guests to meet the dean of Patel College in Tampa, they spoke at Culhane's class on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, they saw functioning biodigesters of various sizes, and they gained helpful learning experiences at Rosebud.

PPAF Senior Fellow Tom Setchel then served as host and introduced the guests to ECHO Global Farm in North Fort Meyers. They met Brian Flanagan, Director of Agriculture Training/Intern Manager, Eliot Toevs, and several others. ECHO is a noted center for training and demonstrations in agricultural appropriate technology in developing countries. Tom is managing the monitoring of the biodigester at ECHO.



At an ECHO seminar Father Herald described the programs and plans at UNDH-H, including the solar and biogas work with biosciences and nursing students. Tours of the grounds, learning about ECHO's programs and meetings with staff were steps toward building future relations.



**Student Outreach** 

As the solar & biogas committee has gained experience, the members have visited local schools and invited students to the university campus, to explain and promote these innovations. Their initiatives are laying the groundwork for future work at the University and beyond.



## June 2 – UNDH-H to Host Science Fair

The Vice Rector and the solar & biogas student group decided this spring to organize Science Day (Journée Scientifique) on June 2 to explain and advertise the work of recent months, and steps toward future purchases and installations. Presentations are to be made by the various members, with a sampling of foods cooked on biogas and solar ovens. As part of the preparations, the students have conducted group interviews on two radio stations. A large gathering is expected, from around campus, around Hinche, and with professionals, religious leaders and others more broadly. The theme for the event is "Haiti and its Environment at the Dawn of Renewable Energy."



Alan Bigelow of Solar Cookers International (SCI) and Rose Bazile of KDCK/Solavore will attend as featured speakers. Kathy Puffer of Solar CITIES Biogas is coaching the students remotely and has made available the biogas video that Solar CITIES and PPAF produced. PPAF is supporting some costs of the event and is helping to publicize it with other organizations.

## Biodigester for Bountiful Fruit in Cotes de Fer

We have received wonderful photos from a pastor in Cotes de Fer, whose biodigester fertilizes amazing papaya trees and banana plants! As is said, the pictures are worth a thousand words.



PPAF will hold a friend-raising and fundraising event on July 12 at <u>Resource</u> <u>Furniture</u> in Manhattan, a prominent company promoting high-end transformable furniture that is sustainably built. Resource Furniture previously hosted a PPAF benefit for Haiti.

You can look forward to:

- $\cdot\,$  Meeting colleagues from PPAF, Solar Cookers International and KDCK
- · A great Silent Auction!
- · Demonstrations of solar cookstoves and testing devices.
- · Demonstrations of the company's furniture and accessories.

Invitations will be sent soon. Tickets will be \$35

#### HOW YOU CAN WORK WITH THE FOUNDATION

Your contributions make it possible for the Foundation to continue our work in bringing organizations and people together for sustainable development and clean energy. **"Like" us on <u>Facebook</u>**, view our videos on <u>YouTube</u>, join us on <u>Linked In</u> and receive our <u>Twitter feeds</u>.

(1) **Donate Directly.** It's quick, safe and easy to give online. Go to <u>www.ppafoundation.org</u> and click on the donation button you prefer. Please consider a monthly gift. You can also mail a check directly to Dr. David Stillman, PPAF, 166 Edgars Lane, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706, USA. The Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Its EIN is **71-1016293.** 

(2) **Become a Corporate Sponsor**. You'll be listed on our website and in our newsletter as a corporation that supports important work in agribusiness, clean energy, and broad assistance to people in Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Madagascar. Contact David Stillman at <u>ppafoundation@gmail.com</u>

(3) **Give through** <u>smile.amazon.com</u> Whenever you make a purchase through Amazon.com, please enter smile.amazon.com . When you start that account, choose Public-Private Alliance Foundation and a fraction of your purchase price will go to PPAF. It costs you nothing, and PPAF programs benefit from your action.

(3) **Live Green**! If you live in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Virginia or Illinois, you can help by changing your electricity provider to Viridian Energy. (Depending on where you live, you may also be able to switch your gas provider.) This saves money and supports green energy and a smaller carbon footprint, with the Foundation earning a small fee. Click here to learn more, and feel free to contact us. Go to www.viridian.com/PPAF or call 914-478-3450; email ppafoundation@gmail.com. You can watch a great 2-minute video by clicking at the top right on our page.

(4) Volunteer, serve as an intern, or get involved as a professional. Use the information above to contact us.

