



The SonLight Beacon

...the power is on

Spring 2007

Mama Tara and the kids get cool

Despite all the troubles encountered, seeing the smile lighting up Mama Tara's face when she opened the refrigerator and felt the cold—was well worth it.

February 25th, Allen joined a construction team from Arkansas in Puerto Limperia, Honduras. The purpose of the Arkansas team was to expand the orphanage facilities and install the solar power system Allen designed.

Trials and tribulations started even before the team arrived as difficulties getting the solar equipment through customs persisted and proved expensive. An additional \$2,700 over the



lar equipment had to be sent in by ship — presenting another set of difficulties to overcome.

The dock, previously damaged by a ship, proved unusable so small boats did the unloading from the big ship, which created a lot of stress for all concerned.

Saturday, the day after Allen was scheduled to leave, the team accomplished unloading the solar equipment and much of the construction

equipment. The electricians, Rich, David and Joe had already wired the dorm and kitchen areas for light and now started the install under Allen's supervision.

Monday, the team finished the solar power install, except for the refrigerator and freezer.

Team leader, KD Hill, and some of the construction team worked very hard Monday finding and unloading the remaining C-Beams (found under 2 tons

of rebar) for the construction—and the SunDancer fridge and freezer.

Allen's re-scheduled exit on Tuesday didn't work out as La Ceiba experienced thunderstorms in the morning canceling the Puerto Limperia flight.

After waiting around the airport all morning, Allen went back to the orphanage to help and finished wiring the SunDancers into the sys-



tem. The sight of Mama Tara opening the working fridge (above) became the highlight of the trip. This is the first time the orphanage and 84-year old Mama Tara have had refrigeration available.

"This will make a world of difference in their ability to take care of the kids here," KD Hill said.

Wednesday, Allen waited around the airport all morning as the Sosa airline clerk said that rain in La Ceiba again postponed the flight. Just when he was beginning to think that maybe God had forgotten about him...in flew a big (for Puerto Limperia's dirt runway) twin engine plane. When asked, the Sosa guys said, "That plane doesn't go to La Ceiba. It only goes to Tegucigalpa."

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expected \$1,000 in tariffs was required. Eventually the equipment cleared customs, but a week late and after much communication back and forth.

In the meantime, Allen assisted in the construction by helping the electricians in wiring, mixing concrete,

sifting sand, even becoming an assistant plumber for a day and, of course, took a lot of photos.

Since Puerto Limperia is not accessible by land, the construction and so-



Photo IDs: (counterclockwise from top right): Mama Tara and the fridge, sister orphans at Mama Tara's, The ship with the cargo, solar power equipment in small boat, team hoists solar panel rack to roof at Mama Tara's. Below: Kids wave goodbye as we leave for the last time.





Haiti needs lots of light

Allen's January trip to Haiti turned out to be a drastic contrast. At House of Bread orphanage in Monstrous, excellent facilities and comfortable weather made it difficult to leave for Cap Haitian where 4 million people live without electricity.

At House of Bread the goal was to troubleshoot a non-producing system and install more solar. Allen made short work of the troubleshooting by quickly locating and removing a bad panel.



Installing 10 new solar panels took another day, but the work went well and HOB can now cut generator time in half and plan to survive in the event of an oil shortage. Future upgrades to higher efficiency freezer and re-

frigerators and a DC water pump will further reduce generator time and save money. Running a generator is always more expensive than solar. Every \$1 invested in solar equipment saves \$1.50 in fuel costs within 24 months.



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Allen also delivered Jesus Film DVDs in Haitian Creole and French as well as English for the kids at HOB. The kids really liked hearing the film in their native language.

After four days in relative paradise (80 degrees, good food & even a beach), Allen took the 30-minute flight from Port Au Prince to Cap Haitian to survey two projects for North Haiti Christian Mission. Next stop was Drop of Love School and Orphanage in Limbe where they needed more solar to further reduce generator time. Since the generator there had been out for a few weeks, their need for additional solar had become desperate. Now daily life at the

orphanage can proceed under normal (for Haiti) conditions.

In Cap Haitian the poor road and sanitary conditions, lack of power and clean water make living difficult. The reality of 4 million people trying hard to make a life adds further complication.

Papa Matthew is the indigenous missionary leading North Haiti Christian Mission. His home, also a mission complex, houses mission teams from the US helping with construction, etc. Matthew's place is powered only by a small generator a couple hours each day.

Since the Haitian electrical grid only operates 6-10 hours per week, lack of a good generator or money to fuel it keeps NHCM from fulfilling its mission. One way Matthew and the NHCM staff minister to the community is provide clean water out of the well...another good reason for solar power.

At Drop of Love School and Orphanage Allen and the team had to wait to get the equipment out of customs. Allen tested a lot of things and visited the local seminary, which needs solar for teachers' residences.

Finally, the day before scheduled departure, the equipment came. The team worked most of the night. Currently, the system continues to perform well. Fine tuning awaits another visit.

As usual, with each SLP excursion to Haiti, more missionaries learn of the SonLight Power mission. Allen expects regular trips there.



The 2007 SLP Celebration Dinner (2/3) proved to be the best yet as chefs Lance, Jeff & Steve served more than 140 great meals followed by bananas foster for desert. Above: Molly Brown and the salads.



Mama Tara gets cool (Continued from, page 1)

Allen sprinted across the runway. (Editor's Note: Sprint is a relative term). The Atlantic Air flight personnel said, "Yes, we have a seat available—the flight takes 1 1/2 hours to get to Teguc...and we leave in 20 minutes." Allen made his decision in a heartbeat, and said, "Put me on it."



Allen didn't make it back to the US on Wednesday due to a full American Air flight. He contacted Pamela Hanson and stayed with her mission partner, Pastor Rafael. He even got to see Mauricio & Meilyn and their family as well as Bertha and Joel Mendez.

(Ed. Note: Meilyn was a translator for the Honduras SLP mission in 06

and Mauricio is scheduled to translate for the SLP mission to Guatemala this July. Both are good friends of the Rainey's. Many of you are familiar with Joel and Bertha, recent guests at the Rainey's along with Pamela while 6-yr old Joel underwent surgery to correct deformed legs.)

SLP Mission opportunities, needs

Summer mission trips to Mexico and Guatemala are still open as are fall trips to Ethiopia, Haiti and possibly a return to Guatemala, finances permitting. Prayer is also needed for all the trips, including the April (9-16) trip to Olmeca Mexico.

SonLight Power, a 501(c)3 non-profit ministry, uses Solar Power to share God's love primarily with children of developing countries. Please send much needed donations to: 7859 Bobolink Dr. Cincinnati, OH 45224. Feel free to contact Allen at: info@SonLightPower.org or (513) 521-0708.

Check out www.SonLightPower.org for updates