

8-1-11 UPDATE

Where did that saying come from "Water water everywhere but not a drop to drink"? We were in that situation this weekend.

Saturday evening the college group from St Louis was doing the dishes after evening meal and when Michelle passed by the sink she noticed there was just a dribble of water coming out. This was at the tail end of a very strong thunderstorm with lots of wind and rain and so as it continued to rain I went out in search of the problem. I quickly found there was no water in the reservoir and no water entering in so my initial thought that the line had been broken by falling rocks seemed to be holding up to what I was finding. Now for the task of finding where the break could be.

Mind you there are lots of places in the ravine where the water line is not visible from the "road" so you either have to hope that it is close by or you hear the water running. I followed the ravine all the way to the source on the four wheeler and was not able to see the problem so I turned around and continued my search. By the time I got back down to the reservoir it was very late and I was soaked so I returned and got the pickup and another light (batteries only last so long). This time as I drove along I spent more time getting out of the truck and walking so I could listen for water running (which was hard to do with the rain) and I was blessed to turn the truck off after a corner and immediately hear the rushing of water. Across a field and over the newly created stream I found where the line was snapped in two by falling rocks. Unfortunately the area where it was broken was about 25 feet up the wall of the ravine with difficult climbing to get to it so for the night I just went on up the line to a shut off valve and closed off the running water. I returned home for a short but cool night of sleep (cooling off is a great benefit of being out in the rain for hours).

Just before light I was able to head back up the ravine with 4 of the WISH workers and we replaced the broken line and removed some more potential rock slide material. I was happy that we had water back to the town before 6:00! I think that with the rain in the evening and our quick repair in the morning most people of the town did not even notice that there had been any interruption to the water supply. Thanks for all your prayers as we were able to complete this quickly and safely with very little interruption to people's lives.

So I mentioned that there is a group from St Louis here and they are lots of fun to have around. They also supplied some much needed parts for a couple of the compressors at the ice plant which needed to be brought into Haiti. They were willing to give up some space in their suitcases to bring them in. Saturday they spend the day playing with the kids from the orphanage and showing them some love and lots of fun. Today they will start Bible school at Pastor Foglas' church down at the saline as well as soccer/music/English sessions at the Youth Center. Yesterday they were able to be here to sing Happy Birthday to Joe who turned 11 years old as we all celebrated with some great home made pizza. I am attaching a photo of us eating the birthday dinner.

We also got to see Bena and his YWAM group because over last weekend part of the YWAM training group from Port au Prince came out to LaGonave to do some service projects. They all stayed at the twin's house and built a water tank for Pastor Foglas' church and did medical clinics in the mountains. It was fun to hear that Bena was learning so much and enjoying his time. He also has gotten his Visa to travel to West Africa with part of the group as they go out to do 2 month outreaches this fall.

Okay, enough information for now. I pray that all of you will have wonderful peace in your lives this week.
Rod

Broken Line



St Louis Team

