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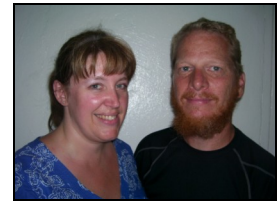
**Jan/Feb/Mar 2011**

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Sharing the love of Christ  
through deeds that will  
alleviate the needs of the poor,  
breaking the cycle of poverty.



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An Inter-denominational Mission Serving the People of LaGonave, Haiti since 1968

## Donna Doan Served God with Passion

Donnabelle Doan, aka Mme Deek, was called home by our Lord on January 2, 2011. Dick and Donna Doan served as WISH field directors for 13 1/2 years until 2001. During that time, many of us came to know this remarkable woman and appreciate her strong faith and passion for serving the Lord. She was a gifted teacher who always had creative stories to keep her students engaged. Her enthusiasm was as contagious as her laughter. Donna lived life with curiosity and wonderment. It was an adventure and joy to share the experience with Donna in her pursuit to honor God. Board member Bruce Roquet, who took several youth teams to LaGonave, remarked that, "It feels important to remember how she has lived, because in doing so her life becomes a model for all of us to live well and serve God with passion."



She had a knack for throwing a party and could turn any day into cause for a celebration. She hosted many work teams through the years and shared her talent for cooking and accommodating any number of guests on short notice.

Educating and giving to the very end, Donna donated her body to the University of Pittsburg Medical School. At a Celebration of Life for Donnabelle Ruth Doan on January 16 in the Wesleyan church in Warren,

PA, family, friends, and fellow missionaries gathered to remember, honor and praise God for sharing Donna with us. After singing many of her favorite hymns, people who knew Donna from all phases of her life related stories which often evoked laughter. Everyone remarked that she was a talker, who could take conversation to an aerobic level! The celebration continued into the evening hours as young and old gathered to play board games, a fitting tribute to Donna who played the game of life and won the ultimate prize of Eternal Life.

Just one of her lasting legacies is the English lessons she taught many young Haitians from the front porch of the WISH house. Those students now provide us with a knowledgeable pool of translators who have improved their lives and communities. Even the current mayor of Anse a Galets learned to speak very good English through Donna's tutoring.

Donna will be missed by her beloved husband Richard of nearly 53 years, her three children, Douglas, Deborah, and Diana and the six beautiful grandchildren she loved so dearly.

Always a scholar, Donna loved music and games. She coached several Bible Quiz teams and loved Bible Trivia and word games. She was unbeatable! Her ability to memorize music and hymns flowed from the piano keys as she played with great exuberance.

Anyone wishing to write a tribute to include in the memorial book being published by Doug Doan may contact Dick at: [dickanddonnadoan@yahoo.com](mailto:dickanddonnadoan@yahoo.com) or PO Box 662, Warren, PA 16365.

**View the newsletter in color at [www.haitiwish.org](http://www.haitiwish.org)**

## December Team from Boston First Since Last March

by Judy Bush

Our dental team from Boston, Dr. Ric Bush, Judy Bush and Alice Fuller, was reduced in size just two weeks before our departure date. Because of the cholera outbreak, Boston University would not allow the dental students to accompany us. The three of us went as planned and Ric was the only dentist. There had not been a dentist at the clinic since last March, so we knew the need would be great. Although there was no formal announcement that the clinic was open, the days were extremely busy as word spread that we were seeing patients.

Most of the patients were in acute need for dental extractions. Alice and I went to the larger schools and gave about 800 fluoride treatments. In the afternoons, we helped in the clinic.

This was our first visit since the earthquake and we didn't know what to expect. LaGonave seemed to have fared better than the mainland. The increase in population in Anse a Galets was very evident and resources are strained.

It was nice to see Butch and Tricia again. They certainly have had an overwhelming year, both physically and emotionally. We also enjoyed meeting and sharing meals with Rod and Michelle Geiszler and their three children.

**Judy Bush fills fluoride trays at St. Bernadette School. The team gave about 800 fluoride treatments to school children in the village. This is a great benefit in preventing cavities since their water system is not fluoridated and most don't have access to fluoride toothpaste.**



**Alice Fuller assists Dr. Ric Bush as the first dental team to open the clinic since last March. Word spread quickly that a WISH dental team was in town.**

We all came back from this trip more exhausted and more heavy-hearted than from our previous trips. Some of our old friends on the island seemed to have a sadness about them. And seeing the tent cities in Port-au-Prince was heart-breaking. We wonder how Haiti will recover. We marvel at the stoicism of the Haitian people. They have a strong belief in God and they trust in His goodness. It certainly is a lesson in living for all of us.



## Ann Arbor Dental Team Sees Unique Condition — Only in Haiti!

Dr. Marilyn and Bill Dahms and Tom and Claudia Larson from Ann Arbor, Michigan enjoyed a very productive 7 1/2 days in January at the WISH dental clinic. Once again there was no announcement made in the village but word quickly spread and there was no shortage of dental patients, most requiring extractions.

Dr. Marilyn relates the story of one young man who had been involved in a motorcycle accident nine days prior to his clinic visit. He had a cast on his broken shoulder that had been set in a Port-au-Prince hospital. This man had come to the dental clinic and wanted a perfectly good tooth extracted because it was out of line and he was banging on it. Dr. Marilyn's exam revealed that his jaw was broken and the front segment was hanging down so that his mouth would not close. He had no idea it was broken and the hospital had not even looked at it when his shoulder was set. Of course Dr. Marilyn directed him to return to Port-au-Prince where his jaw could be set and wired.



**Bill Dahms assists Dr. Marilyn while Claudia Larson tends to sterilization during their January dental mission.**

### Emergency Action No Coincidence

Frantz Augustin is one of the key employees at WISH. He is an excellent translator, teacher, painter, carpenter and musician. Last fall, Frantz and his wife, Wislene had their first child, Kaylar. In late January a team of doctors and nurses from Canada examined little Kaylar and determined that she had double hernias which could compromise her bowel and be fatal. The team did not have the expertise to operate on an infant so they sent the family to Port-au-Prince. The family was turned away from three hospitals only to be involved in an accident on their way back to LaGonave. Once again the Canadian doctors examined her and the bulge in her groin had grown worse. Butch, Tricia, and one of the doctors set out with Frantz, Wislene and Kaylar to get the op-



**This patient did not know his jaw had been broken in a motorcycle accident nine days before he came to the WISH clinic.**

eration done, even if it meant taking her to the U.S. They were able to find a hospital operated by Miami University and staffed with stateside volunteers who set up video conferencing with experts in the states and were able to perform the surgery that evening. Kaylar had two areas of infection from unknown origin. The surgery and antibiotics have put her on a course for complete recovery. Rod Geiszler reflects on the events, "Some might think it was just coincidence, but I am sure that God put specific people in place who were willing to do what was needed at just the right time.

## YWAM Brings Discipleship Outreach to LaGonave

When a team of twelve from Youth With a Mission (YWAM), a discipleship training program in Montana for college-aged students, was unable to leave their living quarters on the mainland due to the political protests in Port-au-Prince, they decided to bring their outreach to LaGonave.

Three team leaders and nine students spent three weeks in the village sharing their spirit in a variety of ways. They were involved with the children's choir, and the saline school and orphanage children enjoyed playing games with the group. They even put steel on the upper level of the new library building and helped with community beautification by picking up trash along the road. When the Breezy Sea boat had to be taken out of the water for repairs, the team gave the bottom of



**Rising to new heights,  
the YWAM crew put corrugated steel on the**

the boat a good scraping. Mission staff really appreciated a worship service hosted by the team in the yard of the mission complex.

After spending three weeks in the village and one week working in the mountains, the young people left with Haiti in their hearts.

**YWAM scraped the bottom of the Breezy Sea while it was in "dry dock" for repairs.**



## New Year—A Time to Remember and a Time to Move Forward

With Butch and Tricia Alexander in the states, the Gieszler family was flying solo as WISH directors for a few weeks. They began the new year with a reflection on 2010 as the year of the earthquake, remembering the hundreds of thousands of people who perished and the thousands who are still suffering in its aftermath.

New Year's Day is also Independence Day in Haiti. The Geiszlers celebrated the occasion with squash soup, which is traditionally eaten on New Year's Day. Rod tells us that, as slaves, the Haitian people were forced to grow squash but were never allowed to eat it. The tradition of squash soup celebrates the fact that they can now enjoy the fruits of their labor. They carry a strong pride in remembering how they overcame the hardships of the past while their resilience gives them strength for today.

The WISH container arrived in Port-au-Prince in December. Political unrest and the closure of offices for the New Year makes it difficult to predict when the container will be released from customs. Please pray that this process will be expedited and that the contents are safely transported to the island.