

THE PIPELINE

NEWSLETTER



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NEWS FROM CAMEROON

Much has been happening in the Kumbo region this year! Edwin Visi our consultant engineer located in Kumbo is reporting that in a variety of ways, the needs of 7 villages were addressed in his report for the period of January 1st-June 30th, 2011. There have been purchases of sand and pressure pipes, the construction and installation of spring catchments, storage tanks public standpipes, control valve chambers, break pressure tank, stream crossings and the backfilling of trenches for a total of \$47, 810. All this thanks to the generosity of our donors. *Beri Wo!! (Thank You)*



Checking a storage tank.

In addition we are pleased to report that the Engineers Without Borders (EWB) from Cambridge, England were involved in a partnership for a project in Sakir. It was heart-warming to learn of their firsthand experience through their Twitter entries. Sebastian Palmer, a Master's graduate in Civil, Structural & Environmental Engineering, who has been involved with EWB for 3 ½ years, wrote to us. Here are some excerpts:

"...reflecting on my time working with OKCW and Sakir, a week has passed since my return home—a week in which I haven't been able to stop telling people about the project, the people, the country and the great experience I had as for the first time I could use my training for the most valuable goal there is: clean water.

The welcome and sustained hospitality we received from the village was astounding. So was the villagers' commitment to the project, and the speed at which construction progressed on each "country Sunday" (community work days).

On the first of these, 175 people came to work at the spring catchment. While the men of Sakir built a rain shelter for the ensuing weeks, and excavated literally tones of clay at an alarming rate, we Western weaklings joined the women and children in carrying tones (again) of sand, for later use in concrete, down from the track to the catchment basin. The head really is the most sensible place to carry just about anything!

(...) this really is /their/project. Ours was an important, but in terms of effort relatively minor, contribution! (...) I am very grateful to all involved, particularly OKCW for bringing us into the project, the village for their exceptional hospitality, and also to Tata Benoit for making our travel through Yaounde run without a hitch! I am sure to continue my involvement with the project -- as we were told at our welcome to the village: we are one. More directly, I will always feel that I belong to Sakir." (Sebastian Palmer)



Village children carrying water on their head.

NEWS FROM OTTAWA

MONIES RAISED

At our Annual General Meeting held on April 11th, 2011, we were pleased to report that for the first time in our charity's history our donations and fundraising efforts exceeded CDN \$100,000. We raised an awesome \$117, 667.! Many schools , local and abroad, 31 in total, supported the project from September 2010 to June 2011 and helped to raise \$39,649.49.

PAST SPECIAL EVENTS

Our Appreciation Event was held on April 28th at The Centurion Conference Center. Sean McGrath, General Manager of The Centurion Conference Center was honoured for his ongoing support of our project initiatives. School principals, teachers, corporate and personal sponsors, as well as our faithful volunteers, were in attendance to recognize and celebrate everyone's efforts and accomplishments.

Our "Night at the Races" was held at the Rideau Carleton Racetrack on Thursday, May 19th. Thank you to all who attended. We managed to raise a net amount of \$1881.46. A mini workshop on "how to bet" was well-received, providing a fun evening for the more hesitant patrons.

A second annual garage sale was held in Orleans this spring raising \$770.

Three fundraising BBQ's also occurred this summer initiated by our prominent corporate sponsor, George Garby from PVC Plus Industrial Products Inc and Plas-tech located in Ottawa. The Trailing Edge (TTE) located in Bells Corner donated \$5000 as a corporate sponsor at their BBQ held on August 11th with special guest Matt Carkner from the Ottawa Senators who was present to sign autographs and pose for pictures. TTE also offered many prizes. Many thanks for the great support!

TRIBUTES TO OUR FOUNDER

A brief celebration in honour of Norma McCoy was held this summer on July 22nd in Ottawa, commemorating the first anniversary of her death. Let us continue our own commitment to the project and to the need for everyone to enjoy "clean" water, as Norma demonstrated so steadfastly.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENT

An O-K BRUNCH FOR A GREAT CAUSE

Once again we will be holding our annual fundraising brunch to support water projects in Kumbo, Cameroon. It will be held on Sunday, October 23rd at a new location: The Centurion Conference Center located at 170 Colonnade Road South in Ottawa beginning at 11:a.m. Tickets are \$35 for adults and \$20 for children and students. There will be a silent auction as well as crafts available through the sale of raffle tickets. VISA/Mastercard are accepted.

For more information and /or tickets, please contact Carmel Horan at 613-737-3681 or horanc@sympatico.ca

VILLAGES WITH WATER!

At this time we can boast of thirty-one villages receiving the gift of clean water thanks to the generous support of the people here in Canada and in the US as well as the hard, diligent and committed work of the Cameroonian people. Here we see a group of women dancing and singing as the pipes, that are unloaded, will bring the clean water into their village.



"Water is Life!" Thank you for your donation.