

Promise: . Leaving La gonave we planned for and promised frequent communication with the island. But calls are cut off shortly after the greeting and I'm unable to call back because their phones have little battery charge without the free solar energy system. Internet access is unavailable without the satellite. Our Kreyòl is more limited with time constraints and no visual charades!!

The new zone 6 association (APG) has met once with AAPLAG about the goat park. Davilma says they meet again Monday with the president of the development group. APG members donated 50 goats with plans to purchase 50 strong goats from an account we set up with AAPLAG. Fencing and water costs now create a need to use some of that money. A Florida group pledged \$500.00 to purchase 10 goats. That frees some funds for fencing and water. Angel sales will eventually help.

The fishing co operative has 15 fishermen forming a group to join the association. Fish purchased has more than doubled, creating the need for more igloos and a small motor for the bigger boat. Zone 6 Association will train new groups with help from AAPLAG.

Gardeners, using new techniques have limited harvest again. There were no hurricanes, the only way to raise the water levels for crops, made irrigation impossible. One group included old and very poor in a community garden. A portion of produce will be given to newly formed and trained groups to plant cooperative gardens using new techniques.

It is transition time for zone 6 APG, learning to budget, report and use new techniques and work together. There is "promise" the goat park will provide healthy goats for developing groups of poor peasants. There is "promise" fish sales to Petit Guave will encourage controlled fishing and more groups sharing profits and fishing equipment. There is "promise" of security for crops and increased harvest and new groups using new techniques. Anxiety is high.

Our transition "from Haiti to Here" is accompanied by anxiety. As we readjust our diet, replace a car and PC, insurance, phone and internet system we are self absorbed. Repair and rearranging plus reclaiming the garage from a messy badger take time. Climate, doctor and dental care, and doing our own cooking are foreign. Myriad changes seem secondary to feeling abandoned to the privacy we so longed for in Haiti.

Joe and I plus some La gonave friends are available for presentations. Funds to share expenses for fishermen, farmers and live-stock owners are critical. "Work" on south la gonave provides promise. With continued interest and support of developing industry, living conditions will improve for many.

By working together and caring for one another, APG was promised improved economy. Caring for the poor, old and sick is possible when communities work together. The "together" includes all of us. It sounds easier than it is. Persistence must accompany promise, as we all love our neighbors on sud la gonave.

Pastor Shirley, rearranging. www.centralumclawrence.org <http://gbgmlagonave.blogspot.com>