

Friend Ships Unlimited (a.k.a. Park West Children's Fund, Inc.)

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June 2011 - Activities Report

Dear Friend Ships Family:

Warm greetings. Thank you for all you do to help us to help others here in the US and overseas. Our teams returned from the work we accomplished in Morgan City, Louisiana to help the community prepare for potential flooding from the Atchafalaya Basin following the Morganza Floodway opening because of the rising Mississippi River.

At the *Friend Ships Village* in Roatán, Honduras this past month, our weekends have been full and exciting as we have hosted many activities including a youth retreat, a children's weekend Bible study, a Men's Encounter, an all-day prayer and fasting, an all-church all-day prayer and fasting event and as we go to print, a weekend gathering for 240 women to study, pray and fast.

In July, our present group of *Sea Hawks* will graduate from their year of training. They have proven to be a very dedicated and capable group of young Christians, serious about serving the Lord and growing in their relationship with Him. It has been an honor to work with them. Fortunately, about 85% of our total student body is staying on to work with us during this upcoming year as the rest depart to follow the dreams the Lord has put in their hearts. In August, a new group of *Sea Hawks* will arrive and this year, we have decided to take the entire group, 1st and 2nd year to Roatán, Honduras in order to birth the *Sea Hawks* program at The Village, in cooperation with the Honduran Fire Fighters.

We are hoping to welcome in a large group of Central American *Sea Hawks* to join with our new US group and together they will complete "boot camp", train in self-defense, food production and firefighting, live in tents and build the Roatán *Sea Hawks* training center. This will include housing and food production facilities. Our ship, Integrity, will transport the teams, a shipload of disaster relief supplies and building materials in order to carry out the Roatán project plus stand by for hurricane relief in the region.

Pearl and *Divine Wind*, the power and sail boat we have been completing on the West Coast, will travel around to meet Integrity and her team in Roatán and work together on birthing the new school. The establishment of the *Sea Hawks-Roatán* will fulfill much of the vision we have long held for this facility—providing training and a place where young lion-hearted believers can learn skills, how to serve others and draw closer to the Lord.

Pearl has now been configured to be able to comfortably accommodate up to 50 additional guests and will start her ministry by distributing 23,000 pairs of prescription eye glasses. The *Sea Hawks* will be trained to fit the beautiful custom glasses for students at the public and private schools of Honduras. In the future, we will carry out the same service for Belize, Guatemala and Nicaragua - all within one easy day's sail with our small boats from the island base in Roatán.

This, along with *Pearl's* other duties of sailing ahead of the *Hope* and *Integrity* for medical

missions, will prepare the way, opening the doors and hearts and readying the church to be of assistance. She will be used to travel from island to island and to the mainland to introduce the *Sea Hawks* program to Pastors and provide training for them. Our three new boats, *Pearl*, *Divine Wind*, along with our other sailboat, *Navy Blue*, will be the primary means of transporting future *Sea Hawks* from the US to Honduras and back. With the addition of the new student body of Hondurans and other Central Americans, it will be such a blessing to reach out with all kinds of works of service that glorify our Lord. What a great time to be alive!

A few months ago, we wondered with this economy, regarding people's ability to give being reduced and losing half our contributions, how is it that we would be here in three months with our huge overhead and no fixed income? But instead of decreasing, we seem to be increasing in our giving, our work is sped up and we're preparing to open a whole new aspect of the ministry in Central America, launch three new boats, start an entire new camp and the Lord only knows what else because we are totally willing and ready to go.

In addition, hurricane season looks like it will be crazy and wild and the excitement builds. We're thinking that we don't know how we are going to support such endeavors, but then we realize that is not our job. Our job is to go and lift up our God when the opportunity presents itself.

We have posted a new video on our website at www.friendships.org. Click on the "Sea Hawks" link if you'd like to see the latest video—the story of a group of Lake Charles students who raised funds to purchase rice and send it aboard *Friend Ship Integrity* to earthquake victims in Haiti.

Thank you once again for standing with us, for being an answer to our prayers and those of thousands of others who benefit from our services.

As it says in the Word, ***"2 Corinthians 9:12 This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. 13 Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else."*** Amen.

Warm Regards,

Don & Sondra and the Friend Ships Team

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I would like to receive a volunteer staff application so I can come and work with you.

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Please make any address changes or updates to this form and return to us by mailing to: Friend Ships, 1019 North First Avenue, Lake Charles, LA 70601 USA