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Farsight is dedicated to seeing a need and responding. Our goal is to give a "Hand Up" rather than just a "Hand Out"

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**Question:** How do you get 10 tons of concrete Beams to the top of a mountain?

**Answer:** You take eight college students on Christmas break and tell them you don't know if it can be done.

Above, Herb Miller and Aimee Blair hand off to Kevin Cooper and Mark Berggren. At first they tried to carry a beam all the way to the top. After each two-person team had carried one beam, they also didn't think it could be done.

Each team selected a section of the mountain and the relay began. At right, Kevin shares a beam with Janet Wix.

Once again, I was reminded of my "army of ants" because the beam weighed more than Janet. Each team carried a beam 100 to 200 feet depending on the incline of their section. Amanda Vaughn and Paul Halstead accepted the challenge of the steepest, last leg of the relay. Since picking the beam up was the hardest part, teammates waited with ropes to lasso the beam and hoist it onto the wall.

We quickly sorted out those who could stand on top the 8" wide wall and rope the beams. Tara Clark, Paul, and I rotated turns on the wall. Even though we were only 8' off the ground, the view gave the impression that one was standing on a pinnacle hundreds of feet in the air. Top right, Thomas, my school administrator and project manager helps me space the beams.



We are almost ready to set the blocks in place.

What do you do to top ten tons of beams? You move 28 tons of cement blocks. For this task we had lots of help.

The 20# blocks were an easy load for the kids. Each child, of course, had to negotiate a deal for a "la machine" (toy) or "capy" (baseball cap) or "See-wet" (candy). Edelman Enterprises gave us white baseball caps so we printed the child's name on the hat, hoping that doing so would discourage others from taking it. The next day most of the dads had new hats and the kids were back to earn another. The VBS in West Orange, Texas made cars, boats and helicopters. **THE KIDS LOVED THEM!!** They were eager to help to get one of these prizes. We wrote down names and made sure everyone got one.



## Aimee & Herbie sitting in a tree...

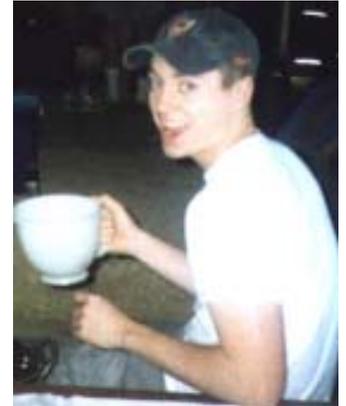


## Team Pictures

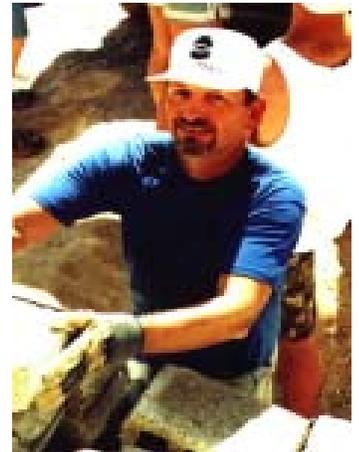
Well, not quite. There are no trees in Haiti. But, they are engaged and happily looking forward to a June wedding. I suggested a week-long mission trip for their honeymoon. This picture IS NOT the look they gave me in response to that suggestion.



**Paul Halstead** knows when the Creole fails, next comes sign language. If that doesn't work, you can try what I use; loud, slow English.



**Mark Berggren** proved to be almost as good at doing dishes as he was with the guitar. After a day of carrying beams, doing anything else was pure joy. And then, there is me, **Levern Halstead**. Somebody caught me working and I thought it would be a good idea to share that with all our supporters.



**Kevin Cooper**, with his little brother Sony, at left. Then again, if every kid that Kevin gave a hug to was related, he would be part of the biggest family on the mountain. Come to think of it, he is part of the biggest family on the mountain, where God is their father.



**Amanda Vaughn**, always energetic, but in this picture she is deep in thought, pondering the reality of her surroundings.



**Tara Clark** and her gang. As mentioned earlier, this is her fourth trip to the mountain and she may be back this summer as one of the interns.



LIFESAVER takes on a new meaning when **Janet Wix** and Mark discover that each tiny candy equals a block delivered to the clinic. I'm glad she brought lots. Not only did Janet carry beams, she was my constant companion when it came time to cook. **Karl Eustache** played the part of Island guide. He has come to live with us in Ft. Lauderdale for the school year. We have promised to feed him as long as he promises to teach us Creole.



## The School

There are now 63 students. They were on Christmas break so we didn't get to see them in action but we did get to meet with many of the parents. They gave very positive responses in support of the school and the teachers. Thanks again to Edelman Enterprises for the great deal on 65 hooded sweatshirts (Christmas from their sponsors). "Seguin Christian School" was imprinted in French, English, and Creole. I am almost positive that this is the only school in Haiti where all the students have matching uniform jackets. I slept in my hooded sweatshirt every night. I hope all our students are doing the same.

## Prayer Concerns

**Pray for Haiti** to find and elect some patriots with high moral and ethical qualities. In the past 200 years they have had 200 dictators, only 2 changes of power were non-violent. This year they elect congress, next year, a new president.

**Pray for the Farsight teams.** Check the schedule and pray before, during, and after each week of activity. If you have internet access, check our webpage for the team rosters and pray for the individuals. The web address is: [www.farsight.cc](http://www.farsight.cc).

**Pray for our financial support.** Last year 523 individuals and churches supported this work. The work lives and grows in direct proportion to our support base.

**Pray for the mission leaders.** I have a great Board of Directors with whom I am in constant contact. They are: William Stobaugh, Kentucky; Patricia Curry, Georgia; Paul Halstead, Kentucky; Richard Cropp, Florida; Dennis Grinn, Florida (retiring); Ken Powers, Florida (candidate) and Robert Sader, Florida (attorney). Our next annual meeting is February 19, 2000.

**Pray for the church family in Seguin.** For the first time, they are beginning to believe that there can be a better tomorrow. Working, sharing and thinking as a community is a new concept for them but they are willing to take steps of faith to work for a better future.

**Pray for your family.** Living in the United States of America creates within each of us a tremendous **false sense of security** that causes us to relax our guard around our children, loved ones, and even our moral standards. You don't have to look very far to realize that the only safe place is Heaven and the only way to get there is to give your life to Jesus **NOW**.

### Annual Statements

1999 contribution statements were mailed January 20th. If you made a donation but did not receive a statement, please call me. Farsight Christian Mission, Inc., is registered with the I.R.S. and has been granted 501(c)(3) status, making all contributions deductible from Federal Income Tax. Contribution statements are mailed annually unless otherwise requested. Our Federal ID # is:65-0797586

## Summer 2000

I am still in awe of the way the work is growing, the way that obstacles are overcome and the way measurable progress is made every day. **My New Year's Resolution is:** *Pray more, worry less, focus on the goal, pick up the pace, never doubt that God is ready, willing and able to overcome every obstacle and, last but not least, to recognize, acknowledge, and appreciate all the blessings and miracles God will send my way this year.*

## Summer Internship

June 24 - August 6

I have four confirmations and two more that I hope will be able to complete this team. These young people, three men and three women, will learn the language and the culture. They will be blessed beyond measure for their commitment. You could be a part of those blessings. If you would like to help replace some of their lost summer income, just make a contribution marked 2000 intern's scholarship. Farsight will credit their college account.

## Above and Beyond the Call of Duty

This month, honorable mention goes to TruTemper. Two years ago I bolted two wheelbarrows together in the shape of a giant clam, attached a handle and checked in at American Airlines with my fancy green and orange suitcase. After two years of merciless pounding, constant overloading, abusive and wreckless rocketing down mountain trails, both wheelbarrows are still functioning and still have all their original parts, including the tires. This ranks up there with the Israelites' clothes not wearing out while wandering in the desert.



**Thanks TruTemper.**

## Speaking at your Church, Camp, VBS

Paul, Amanda, and I have some time available in our summer schedules to personally present the work. If you would like to hear and see what is happening, ask your church, mission committee, camp director or VBS director to contact us and we will try to arrange a meeting.

### Memorials

Contributions have been made to honor the following who have been called home:

**Ethel Stobaugh**  
**David Ray**  
**Matthew Roff**

The souls saved and the lives made better will be a tribute to them.

### Teams Scheduled

March 10-19, 16 members, full  
May 27-June 3, some openings  
June 24-July 1, full

July 28-Aug. 6, some openings  
June 24-Aug. 6, summer interns

A team from Forefront Christian is working on a trip in May. Other weeks can be setup as volunteers accept the challenge.

## The Grand Lady of the Mountain.



While the whole world celebrated the coming of a new millenium, the mountain mourned the loss of "Grama".

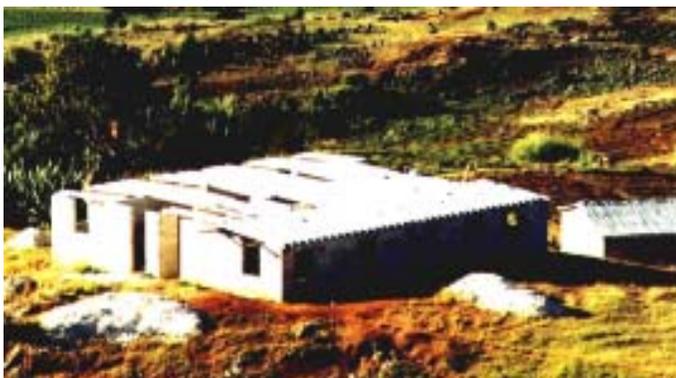
She went home to be with her Lord and Savior on December 31, 1999. She was about 85, as near as anyone could guess.

As lives go, I think she was pleased with hers. She dreamed of a thriving church, a school for her grandchildren, and a doctor to take care of those who are sick. She got to see her dreams come true. She was truly blessed.

We will miss her.

I was sorting through my box of pictures last week and came upon this picture (below). It looks like

both photographers stood in the same place. It's amazing the difference two and a half years can make. Then again, it seems like it was just yesterday that we were trying to figure how to get trusses on top the church building.



to see the man because he was too sick to come to us. Fortunately for him, my first aid kit comes stocked with anti-malaria medicine. In 36 hours we had his fever under control and in 48 hours he was up and moving, although very slowly. For those concerned about a team member contracting malaria, the malaria carrying mosquito lives below 3,000 feet elevation. Seguin is almost 6,000 feet in elevation. The only risk is the last night in Port Au Prince **IF** the team member forgets to take all their anti-malaria medicine.

Here is an urgent need that you can pray for **OR** perhaps you are a part of the answer to this prayer. I have had several conversations with a skilled, well educated, Physican's Assistant with a missionary's heart. She just needs to pay off her college debt before she can commit to working on the mission field. God knows the people capable of meeting this challenge, maybe you know them too. Pass this letter on to those people you know. This is an urgent need. We can literally count the lives lost through a delay in staffing the clinic.



Sometimes looking at a sunset is not enough. There are times when you have to become part of it. This also describes how the work has gone for the past three years. Everyone who goes on a mission trip becomes part of the mission, they take possession of the work, the projects and the ministry. That is why Aimee Blair came back for her 15<sup>th</sup> week, Tara Clark, her 4<sup>th</sup>, Kevin and Janet, their 2<sup>nd</sup>.

To list all the returnees would fill the rest of this column.



**Do you want God to grab hold of you and turn your life "right side up"? Maybe you should come up the mountain with a team this year.**

### The medical work

All week long, people in need of medical attention kept coming. One or two would be waiting quietly outside the church (our home for the week) at sunrise. More would arrive around ten a.m., usually moms or dads carrying babies. They know our schedule pretty well. They know they can catch us at noon and again at sunset. I would have Aimee ask "How long have you been sick"? They might answer "a week", sometimes longer. Aimee would ask "Why didn't you come sooner"? They would answer "we came as soon as we heard you were here". "How far have you come?" got answers like, "one hour north" or "two hours east". Some said they had traveled all day. For the five full days we were on the mountain we averaged seeing twelve patients each day. Our only problem was that I had not planned for this to be a medical clinic week so our medical supplies were limited to the team first aid kit. I could have dispensed more pediatric nose/cough medicine but other than that, we made do. One man, coming to Gramma's wake, came down with malaria. Melicent brought us to his house

to see the man because he was too sick to come to us. Fortunately for him, my first aid kit comes stocked with anti-malaria medicine. In 36 hours we had his fever under control and in 48 hours he was up and moving, although very slowly. For those concerned about a team member contracting malaria, the malaria carrying mosquito lives below 3,000 feet elevation. Seguin is almost 6,000 feet in elevation. The only risk is the last night in Port Au Prince **IF** the team member forgets to take all their anti-malaria medicine.