



**HELPING HAITIANS HELP THEMSELVES**

PO Box 1062, West Bend, WI 53095 • [www.viphaiti.org](http://www.viphaiti.org)

## A Message from the President

Hello! I am Julie Stauss the newly elected President of Ventures in People. A BIG thank you to George Schowalter for his leadership on the board and his service as President. He will be missed but luckily he asked if he could remain on as a consultant. I of course said yes.

As the holiday season approaches we are busier by the day with cards, gifts, baking, decorations and parties. We tend to think in our circle of family and friends. How about this year thinking of a wider circle? Many of us are comfortable some are not but there are few in Haiti who have anything to spare. Maybe you could help with a large or small contribution to someone less fortunate. How about buying a water filter for a family? Sponsoring a student? Donating to our English Teacher program? Contributing to the 4-H Leadership Conference in July of 2016? There are so many ways to help.



Please visit our website at [www.viphaiti.org](http://www.viphaiti.org) to see more about each of these programs. Please help us 'Help Haitians Help Themselves'.

Respectfully,  
Julie Stauss

**Gé Noël épi Kôta  
Nouvo Anés  
Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year**

## VIP of Ventures in People: Ann Neumann—Secretary



I am Ann Neumann, Secretary for Ventures In People. As secretary, I help write thank you notes to all the people who make donations to Ventures In People. Thank you for your

support. You are helping so many people in the Mirebalais, Haiti area.

I have been married to my husband, Roger, for 42 years. We have five adult children and five grandchildren. In April of 1997 we sold our dairy herd. We rent out the farm land and house. We moved into my parents' house in Kewaskum so we could take care of my mom who was suffering from dementia.

My parents always stressed how important education is to achieve in life. So when the opportunity came to help Barb and Karen with the Ventures in People Education Program, I offered to help.

Anyone who knows me, knows I enjoy taking pictures and always have at least two cameras with me at all times. Hey, never know when one will stop working and miss a photo. So the past two years I have been going to Mirebalais, Haiti to take pictures of all the students who are sponsored. I just got back from a trip I took on November 20th to take student pictures and spend time with our Education Coordinator Tenior and his family. It was a great trip and pictures will come out soon!

Besides Haiti, I also go and help the Padres and Sisters on mission trips in the Waspam, Nicaragua area.

Ann Neumann

## 4-H UPDATE



As the days wind down this year, I can't help but look ahead to 2016 with great anticipation and excitement and look back on 2015 with gratitude! 2016 is going to be a big year for 4-H in Haiti! First of all, 4-H in Haiti will be celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> birthday! That's two decades of instilling leadership and life skills into countless young people! To celebrate, we're gearing up to throw a big party... well, kind of. In case you haven't heard, 2016 will also be the year of our inaugural 4-H National Youth Leadership Conference in Haiti. Four days, 80 youth, a dozen workshop topics, guest speakers, leadership activities, and more... it's going to be an incredible and life-changing experience for the youth!

Looking ahead also makes me pause and reflect on all the things I have to be thankful for in the past year. First of all, I have an incredible group of volunteers helping me plan the upcoming leadership conference. Since July of 2014, our team of has put in a combined total of 400+ hours of planning and fundraising! Kudos to Karen Longrie, Jonelle Ritger, Aaron Brown, Maria Brown, Kelsey Kannenberg, and Sarah Parsons! You rock!

Secondly, this year has given us some wonderful opportunities to get out in the community and share the story of 4-H with others. We have travelled around the state to speak at 4-H clubs, pie socials, luncheons, board meetings, and more. Thank you to everyone who so warmly reached out to us and invited us to your organization! It was such a pleasure to meet you! We couldn't do this without you!

Finally, we have made some substantial progress towards our fundraising goal. We currently have raised \$5,900. That means we're over halfway to our goal of \$10,000! I have been touched by the generosity of organizations and individuals, near and far, who believe in our cause. Thank you!

**I feel truly blessed looking back at the past year, and I can't wait to ring in the New Year! I hope you join us for all the exciting things that are happening in 2016! Here are some ways you can stay involved:**

- Sponsor a youth to attend the upcoming leadership conference for \$150 or make a donation in any amount you feel comfortable with.
- Invite us to an organization that you are part of. We would LOVE to share more about 4-H in Haiti- especially details about the upcoming leadership conference.
- Visit our website and watch our video about the conference: [www.viphaiti.org/4h](http://www.viphaiti.org/4h). If you haven't had a chance to do so, please check it out! You'll hear firsthand how 4-H is changing the lives of young people.
- Plan a fundraiser to benefit 4-H.
- Come with us as a volunteer! We have a limited number of spots available for volunteers who want to teach at the July 2016 conference. Contact me at [help4h@viphaiti.org](mailto:help4h@viphaiti.org) for more information. Applications are due December 31<sup>st</sup>.



Wishing you many blessings now and throughout the New Year!

*Jocelyn Ritger*

Ventures in People 4-H Coordinator

[help4h@viphaiti.org](mailto:help4h@viphaiti.org)

## STUDENT EDUCATION PROGRAM

People sometimes ask us if we know what has happened to any of our students after they have gone through our VIP Education Program. So from time to time we will be sharing stories of some of them. We'd like to tell you about Vilgrain Verde who graduated six years ago. She went on to continue her education at the State University in Port au Prince preparing to become a teacher. She is presently teaching at Lycee, the public high school in Mirebalais. At the same time she is continuing her studies at the University and in two years expects to become a lawyer. How proud we are of her and her accomplishments. Stories like this make us so grateful for the sponsors in our program who understand the need for education in Haiti and help us to get the children started in this process.

This year we have 192 students in our program. As always, when school began Louis Tenior Guerrier, our education coordinator in Haiti, discovered that over the summer a few of the children moved away and are no longer in our program. To the sponsors of these children we reassigned a student. If you are one of these sponsors this will be explained to you when we send you a new picture and information. Ann Neumann recently returned from Haiti where she took the students' pictures and we will get them to all of you as soon as possible.

We have four teachers teaching English every week in six of our ten schools. It is our hope to be able to spread this program into all ten of our schools. However, until we receive enough funds to do this, it is a dream. Karen Hintz and Ann have witnessed the classes in session and are pleased with how the classes are being taught. We want to thank those of you who have contributed to this program, and we want to encourage others who feel it is of value to consider helping us to reach this dream.



When we hear from many of you as to your desire to do what you can to enrich life in Haiti through education, it warms our hearts. Thank you!

Karen Hintz, Ann Neumann, and Barb Seefeldt

## Online Shopping

'Tis the season! Save money and time this holiday season by shopping online and contribute to Ventures In People at the same time!

TO SHOP ONLINE at SHOP.COM VISIT [www.viphaiti.org](http://www.viphaiti.org) and CLICK on the SHOPPING Tab

Or you can go directly to the shopping site at [www.supportviphaiti.com](http://www.supportviphaiti.com)

**Register** by signing in (Follow the prompts)

### CLICK

#### STORES:

To shop at specific stores

#### SHOP IT ALL:

For specific products or services

#### HOT DEALS:

For coupons or special deals

VIP HAITI receives royalties from purchases and you receive Cash Back. If you prefer you can send the "cash back" you receive to VIP by clicking REDEEM and mailing to the VIP address:

PO Box 1062  
West Bend, WI 53095

## Get the Newsletter Electronically

VISIT US AT [VIPHAITI.ORG](http://VIPHAITI.ORG) and sign up on-line. The news is available the day it is printed and helps reduce postage costs for VIP.

## Thank You George

As he steps down from presidency we would like to give a HUGE thank you to George Schowalter and his many, many years of service to Ventures in People and Haiti!



## WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP!

The dollars you send are put to work as you designate. Please mark the lower left hand corner on your check to indicate your wishes. Undesignated Funds are used at the discretion of the VIP Board to target: Special and Priority Needs as well as Disasters and Emergencies.

- \$160 Sponsor a child in school for one year
- \$120 Salary for an English Teacher for one month
- \$150 Educate a 4H Member on Goat Care and provide him/her with a goat
- \$150 Provide a Grant for a 4H Club for a Community Improvement Project
- \$55 Provide a family with a water filter system

### I/WE WISH TO DONATE

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10    \_\_\_\_\_ \$25    \_\_\_\_\_ \$50    \_\_\_\_\_ \$100    \_\_\_\_\_ Other

I/WE WISH TO \_\_\_\_\_ Remember \_\_\_\_\_ Honor    Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please Acknowledge to: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

All donations will be acknowledged—Memorials and Honorariums to recipient as designated.

**THANKS FOR CARING - THANKS FOR SHARING**

**You can bring help and hope to the Haitian People with a Tax Deductible donation to**



**VENTURES IN PEOPLE  
FOUNDATION, INC.**

Helping Haitians Help Themselves

PO Box 1062  
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[www.viphaiti.org](http://www.viphaiti.org)  
(501c3 organization.)