

Rotary



ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE



Photo: Marigot, Saint Martin - Getty Images

Hurricane IRMA Recovery Committee Report Report #4 Sept 18, 2017

NEWS FROM OUR DISTRICT DISASTER COMMITTEE

[DG Robert has made a video](#) asking for assistance. This has now been posted to Vimeo.

The Recovery Committee is looking to all the Coordinators to provide regular updates from each territory so that we can keep the Disaster Recovery Committee updated as well as our fellow Rotarians, Donors, and friends. Please assist them by keeping them updated with your activities.

This will enable the district team to channel the aid effectively and in a timely manner.

And finally, we have one change in the team as Rotarian Jacqueline Heyliger is leaving for Houston, TX where her professional avocation calls, and PDG Rupert Ross is stepping into that role as District Disaster Chair.

AQUABOXES: Negotiations are underway with [AquaBox](#) to deliver a supply to St. Croix, our primary staging and transshipment point. PDG Rupert is on the ground there and will be handling logistics moving forward.

Below: Aquabox Contents



NEWS FROM OUR ROTARIANS

We trust that those who are in the path of hurricane Maria will stay safe. The thoughts of the entire committee are with our brothers and sisters in Maria's path.

USVI: St. John – PP John Fuller reports that St John was hit with at least a 10 - off the SS scale. In the aftermath we got Seabees from Virginia, search and rescue, our own resources and we are recovering. Limited ferries to St. Thomas now, no AT&T but I can roam texts with Sprint. Reports of crime are exaggerated. The Police, Navy and Marines are keeping order which is fairly easy here. We are all together. Evacuated about 700 people to PR. FEMA is here and taking charge. Mike Bloomberg came yesterday and is devoting lots of people and resources to St John. Seeing the devastation is painful but watching our people together is gratifying. Lee and I are alive, we have roof and walls.

USVI: St. Thomas – AG Marston. The government is advising people to leave if they are unable to access a generator or do not have enough food provisions. The availability of electricity is likely to take some time. Because of the threat of hurricane Maria, the St John authorities are putting pressure on non-locals to leave if they can.

Marston was live on radio recently taking calls from Rotarians and members of the community. The plan is to continue airing this talk show at least twice a week so that Rotarians can take note of the needs of the community expressed by callers and for Rotarians to share efforts. WSTA Radio AM1340 can be heard on many eastern Caribbean islands.

Presidents Council is meeting this week to assess needs of Rotarians and possible projects. Internet still intermittent and there is no water or electricity in most communities outside of town, but messaging is quite steady and emails are starting to be received through phones. The airport is still closed to commercial flights

AG Marston is now the Coordinator for St. Thomas and St. John whilst *PP Anna Paiewonsky* is focusing on her frozen water initiative freezing bottles of water for distribution. Rotarians can use these as a cooler for food first and then to drink.

As many club leaders as were able, met recently to identify common Rotary goals for recovery in USVI North, and to initiate common action and implementation plan.

Saint Barthélemy is progressing – Coordinator Abigail Lees writes: Hello from St. Barthélemy and thank you for this efficient approach to streamlining aid to the areas most in need within our district.

St Barthélemy has restored approximately 90% of water and electricity. I do not have a percentage of homes destroyed or families displaced. Our local government has been extremely efficient in setting up different social services and although things are very difficult for a number of families, most people on the island are in safe, covered dwellings.

Supermarkets and the main gas station are now open and stocked as well. Our Public schools are set to reopen 1/2 day before the end of September.

I met with the Vice President of the collectivity who has specifically requested that our club focus its efforts on major reconstruction and/landscaping as our island heavily relies on the tourist season, this will an extremely important part of rebuilding our economy.

I should have more statistics for you next week. We will also begin to develop our major short term and long term projects and will communicate on our exact needs as we find partners and get estimates.

Please note my correct telephone number: 0690590931

Thank you again for the efficient coordination. We in Saint Barthélemy wish to reach out to all our fellow Rotarians effected by this catastrophic hurricane. Together we will rebuild!



British Virgin Islands: Tortola

44 Shelter Boxes have arrived

How Haiti is helping the BVI.

Rotarian Fitz Pierre-Louis from RC Leogane has expert knowledge of Sawyer Filter and has advised many on best practices involving the distribution and use of the filters. Fitz, along with a team, is travelling to Tortola to work with local Rotarians to distribute filters across the island. He has been instrumentally involved in Phase 1 of the Haiti National Water Filter Project, a 1,000 filter Global Grant in Les Cayes Haiti and the surrounding area and is currently spearheading phase 2, a 1,200 filter Global Grant.

Saint Martin-Sint Maarten – PP Jeff (Soc) Sochrin

writes: Rotarians have been volunteering at a local bakery, baking bread and distributing to those in need in their community. (Photos courtesy of “Soc”)

AG Marcellia reports that the Food & Water Distribution Team coordinated by the Ministry of Public Health, Social Development & Labor that consists of representatives of the Dutch Marines, Red Cross, K1 Britannia, Samaritan Purse , Community Leaders & volunteers, Civil Servants and a team of the Ministry of TEATT hereby informs the public of the point of distribution of **Food & Water for Sunday, September 17th. 09:30 AM (approx) - Cannegieter Street - (Ring Road across from the Yellow Building / MIN VROMI)**



Persons are requested to bring suitable bags and clean containers to receive the Food and Water. An updated schedule will be given daily.

Rotarian Keturah de Weever from the E-Club is working in Sint Maarten with helping at the National Operational Coordination Center so has first-hand data available.

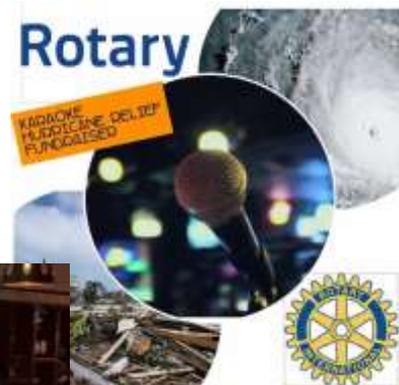
HOW OTHERS ARE HELPING

In Barbados on September 16, three Rotary Clubs in Barbados in partnership with Starcom Network hosted a Radiothon to receive pledges and donations for Hurricane Irma relief. This fundraising drive will benefit Anguilla, Barbuda and the BVI. Donations were pledged by Companies and individuals from \$5 and while final totals are not available as pledges still are being received, it is estimated to be over BDS\$130,000 (US\$65,000). Rotarians also held a collection in the shopping malls while the radiothon was live.

The Barbados Rotary Clubs are already in touch with Rotary in the affected islands and will be working to quickly have funds available to them for the recovery efforts.

Rotary Club of Sarnia, Ontario is holding a Hurricane Relief Dinner tonight.

All the Rotary and Rotaract Clubs in Grand Cayman held a [Karaoke Night on Saturday](#) raising approximately US\$3,300.



In Holland District 1570 (Midden-Nederland) Governor Lies van Wijngaarden invites all clubs in our district of Central Netherlands to participate in our Rotary Aid for Saint Maarten and the other affected islands in the Caribbean. Our Rotary Action will be about reconstruction. Lies van Wijngaarden:

'International aid and cooperation is now really a Rotary core point. I call Rotarians and the clubs in our district to make a contribution to Rotary SRFN's special action number at the Renkum account number NL 56 INGB 00 0000 9779, under: Help for Hurricane Irma. The communication possibilities with Sint Maarten are still limited. But because we are organizing this through the Rotary Clubs on the spot, I am convinced that our money will come true." (Translated via Google)

[Rotary Great Britain and Ireland Fundraising](#) is now over £53,000 (\$72,000)

[The Rotary 7020 Hurricane Irma Recovery Fund](#) has received approximately \$18,000

[Soca For Life Benefit Concert New York by Lyriical and friends](#) in Brooklyn, NY last weekend. Just 48 hours after Soca artiste Lyriical (Devon Martin) received a role model of distinction award from the Caribbean American Center (CACNY) of New York for his contributions to the community, he continues to prove that he is a true humanitarian. Lyriical teamed up with his Soca brother Kerwin Dubois and a number of other Soca artistes to host a benefit concert to help all areas affected by hurricane Irma. **All performers have donated their services to this effort and 100% of the tickets sales will be donated to [Rotary 7020 Hurricane Irma Recovery Fund](#)**



HOW 7020 ROTARIANS CAN HELP US

As soon as is possible, the District Committee wants the clubs to start identifying projects. We are receiving information from international sources interested in Global Grants for the affected areas. Please send your requests/suggestions to PDG Haresh Ramchandani hramchandani@hotmail.com

DONATIONS MAY BE MADE TO:

US\$	Donate Here
£ Sterling	Donate Here
€ Euros	To be advised

OUR BENEFICIARIES RECEIVE 100% OF THE FUNDS RECEIVED

Plans are in place for our district to receive crowd-funding. More details will follow



The fund will be managed by Rotary's DNA-RAG Rotarian Action Group, a 501(c)3, #[47-3860087](#) in cooperation with District 7020's Disaster Relief Committee.