



April/May 2006

“Give a man a fish, he eats for a day, teach him to raise fish and vegetables and the whole community eats.”

Englewood United Methodist Church Visits MSF

On February 25th a group of members and mission workers from the Englewood United Methodist Church came to visit Morning Star Fishermen. In addition to a tour and some very basic lessons on aquaponics and the Morning Star Mission, grilled tilapia and chicken prepared by Pat McKee made a wonderful meal as MSF volunteers and EUMC members shared in fellowship.

The Fourth Annual Calypso Ball

March 25th marked the 4th annual Calypso Ball at Lake Jovita Golf and Country Club. This was our most successful fundraiser to date. We would like to thank everyone who came, volunteered or donated to the Ball; a great time was had by all. Special thanks go to the Tampa Tribune and David West, UAG Citrus Motors and Brian Olsen, Dr. Drew Kycynka our M.C., Dane Parilo, our auctioneer and Lake Jovita Country Club for hosting the event. Heartfelt thanks also go out to all the volunteers and donors who made the night possible.

New Faces at Morning Star Fishermen

March also saw the addition of two more residents at the Morning Star Fishermen Campus. Ray and Adeline Sutter have joined us from Washington State. Ray is an educator and aquaculturalist, while Adeline is a teacher. They have extensive experience in the mission field and are a blessing to MSF.

Hans Visits Copse Place of Safety in Jamaica

In March Hans traveled to Jamaica to inspect and lend a hand to our latest aquaponics project at the Copse Place of Safety, a home for troubled boys. The home resides on a long inoperative sugar mill, and the large processing tank, build by slaves centuries ago will now be used to feed the children of the home and a nearby school for children with disabilities. Hans put his plumbing skills to good use with the new system.



St. Leo Basketball players help Morning Star volunteer Ray Sutter collect fish and modify a pond on Community Service Day.

St. Leo Students Lend a Hand

On April 1st students from St. Leo University again came out to Morning Star Fishermen to take part in Community Service Day. The men's basketball team came to help with some demolition work, while other students and volunteers helped clean the dormitory and paint the hatchery.

Community Service Day is a once a semester event at St. Leo where students take part in a variety of projects to help worthy causes in Pasco County.



Students and teachers from Hope Christian Academy in Plant City visit the campus for a tour and discuss the possibility of building their own system.

A Visit from Hope Christian Academy

On Friday, April 21st 21 students and 2 teachers from Hope Christian Academy came to tour the Morning Star Facilities in Dade City. The students are now interested in building their own backyard aquaponics system at the school and are exploring the possibilities that growing your own fish and vegetables presents. pose

Did you know?

Protein malnutrition, or kwashiorkor, is among the greatest killer of children under the age of 5 worldwide. Children who do not consume enough protein during early and juvenile development will have permanent physical and mental damage. The introduction of high quality protein, such as that found in tilapia, has a lifelong impact on the health and wellbeing of the needy communities and their people.

Hernando High School Interact Clubs Visits Morning Star

The 21st of April also included a visit from the Interact Club of Hernando High School; Club Members toured the facilities and learned about the cooperative efforts of MSF and the Rotary to fight world hunger.

Interact Clubs are part of Rotary, with a focus on High School students who are interested in community service and helping others.

Idlewild Baptist Church Visits Morning Star

Through our supporters Jim and Carol Hendry of A Matter of Taste Café in Dade City, a group of interested members of the Idlewild Baptist Church mission's group toured the Morning Star campus in Dade City on April 22nd. The church is interested in supporting Morning Star's mission to help the hungry feed themselves.



Race winners and other participants in the first annual Race Against Hunger pose following the awards ceremony.

The Race Against Hunger Takes Off!

April 22nd and 23rd marked the first ever Race Against Hunger at the Dunedin Causeway. Races consisted of a long distance race on Saturday, followed by a series of buoy races on Sunday. 13 racers participated in the distance race, while 12 boats took part in the buoy races. The wind was one of the big factors in both days races, with Saturdays winds topping 20 knots, resulting in a number of capsized boats, while Sundays very light winds made navigating the buoy course a challenge. All in all a great time was had by all, with money being raised for Morning Star, and the sailors getting to enjoy the thrill of racing catamarans.

How Can You Help?

Morning Star Fishermen always has the need for volunteer help at the campus, and financial support of our missions. If you would like to help, or come out to the campus for a tour, contact Hans or Jon at (352)523-2722.

Morning Star has a Baby

Amidst the hustle of our fundraisers and students Morning Star Fishermen passed a milestone in March which essentially went unnoticed. MSF Student Ivania Ruiz and Rotarian Silvio Echaverry, along with members of the community of El Rosario, Nicaragua, created Morning Star Fishermen Nicaragua, an independent organization which follows the teachings of Morning Star, and which is involved with building and running a training center in El Rosario.

Ann Kennedy, Joan Gutierrez, and Pat McKee have spearheaded an effort to raise money for this project through Rotary International. The project is a cooperative effort between the Rotary Club of San Antonio, Florida and Club Rotario Jinotepe, Nicaragua and will be the first of many projects to use the training of Morning Star Fishermen and the resources of Rotary to fight world hunger.

Dorm Improvements

With new students coming and plans for more on the near future, we have decided that the dormitory needs to be improved to better meet their needs. Thanks to the generosity of Idlewild Baptist Church, Wayne Wetzell, and Dolores Riego de Dios we will be able to renovate the kitchen, dining/living area and bathroom. Any help to lend a hand getting the dorm ready before they arrive is welcome.

Upcoming Seminars

We will be holding a one day seminar on May 20th, at the MSF campus starting at 9 am and going to 3 pm, including lunch. The seminar will cover the basics of tilapia farming and aquaponics and will cost \$125.00 per person. Please contact Jon in the office (352)523-2722 for reservations and questions.

Please also keep in mind that should you wish to attend a longer study course this is also possible, and can be arranged through Jon or Hans at the office (352)523-2722 or through email at msfseminar@yahoo.com.

Solar Power Project Begins at MSF

One of our current research projects at the Dade City Campus is to reduce our need for electricity by installing a photovoltaic system to use the sun's rays to power our greenhouse aquaponics system. We are currently looking for underwriters and solar equipment manufacturers and distributors to help make this project a reality. Any help or suggestions are most welcome as we move forward in our mission to become as self sufficient as possible.



Joel Calder and Hans Geissler discuss the possibilities of aquaponics in Jamaica at a previous visit to our Dade City Campus.

New Student and Vistors at MSF

June will be a busy month at Morning Star, with Joel Calder of the Copse Place of Safety, a boy's home in Jamaica, will be coming to study for six weeks before returning home to start growing fish and vegetables.

Also in June, Niroshan Fernando, a Rotarian and fish farmer from Sri Lanka will be visiting MSF for a week hoping to apply the technology of aquaponics to fish farms in is country.

Morning Star Theme Song

“Let's Fight World Hunger” is now available on CD for a donation. The song is sung by Earl Harrigan, and written by Mike Roberts. Please contact the office at (352)523-2722 if you would like a copy.

HOW YOU CAN HELP



Thank you for all your help. May
God Bless You,
Hans and Sigrid Geissler, Founders

As you can see there is a lot going on at Morning Star Fishermen. Every new day opens up new opportunities to serve the Lord and help the needy. But we can't do it all without the help of believers and workers like you. We need volunteers to help maintain the campus, visit us and lend a hand. We are also in need of equipment to maintain the property and to continue our ongoing research to find better, simpler ways to teach the hungry to feed themselves. We also need financial support for mission projects and planning, the people we work with are so desperately poor that you will be amazed at how far a little money can go. As you plant a seed in good soil, God will multiply it and return it to you as a Blessing in your life. We cannot experience a harvest without first planting the seed. You can donate through our website, www.morningstarfishermen.org. If you have items to donate, call us at 352-253-2722, so that we can make arrangements.