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### Officers

**Gabrielle Vincent, President**  
**Edna Noré, Vice President**  
**Yves Jr. Doréus, Treasurer**  
**Erline St. VII, Asst. Treasurer**  
**Lynn M. Delva, Secretary**  
**Géraldine Doréus, Asst. Secretary**  
**Eunice Noël, Public Relations**

Sonjé Ayiti Organization Inc.  
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## Who are We?

By Edna Noré

Sonjé Ayiti Organization Inc. (S.A.O.), which means Remember Haiti in Creole, is a not-for-profit organization whose primary focus is geared towards destitute families and orphaned, homeless children in the rural areas of Haiti. S.A.O. is comprised of native-born Haitians and first-generation Haitian-Americans. After Hurricane Jeanne ravaged through Haiti, in September 2004, and left 2000 dead and 300,000 homeless, we decided to come together to make a difference. We were saddened and angry that no efforts were made to warn or alert the island of the coming storm. Haiti is no more than 200 miles from Miami. We felt that more could have been done to prevent or lessen the devastation that was caused. Hence, instead of moping about the situation, S.A.O took the initiative to be a voice for the voiceless and a beacon of light to those in darkness. Our cause is not new. However, amidst the pain and suffering, we want to bring HOPE, not just through WORDS, but also through ACTION to our brothers and sisters. As the words on the Haitian Flag states: "L'Union Fait La Force", by uniting for this common cause, we strongly believe that S.A.O. will succeed and Haiti's present crisis can be reversed.

Presently S.A.O. has fourteen members. Although the majority of members are Haitians, we welcome and encourage members that are not of Haitian descent to join and help make our vision a reality. S.A.O.'s current list of members is as follows: Gabrielle Vincent, Edna Noré, Yves Jr.

Doréus, Lynn Delva, Géraldine Doréus, Erline St. Vil, Eunice Noël, Dr. Harold Katner, Lounna Marcellus, Gabriel Benoit, Jean Richard César, James Marcius, and Jeanine Élie.

## Mission Statement

**Sonjé Ayiti Organization Inc. (S.A.O.) seeks to empower the lives of destitute families and children living on the Caribbean island of Haiti by educating, feeding, clothing, and providing medical assistance and Christian guidance to those in need in an effort to reverse self, community, societal, cultural, and economic deterioration.**

## Objectives

- Reduce illiteracy by implementing long and short term educational programs for both children and adults;
- Construct facilities for educational learning, Christian assembly, orphaned children, and the homeless;
- Implement social development programs in which to improve living conditions and health awareness;
- Establish Medical Centers staffed with qualified professionals to provide basic medical healthcare and to train and counsel residents on benefits of nutrition and natural healing;
- Implement agricultural programs to raise the awareness of preserving the environment and how to live and prosper from the land and training programs to increase skills in the labor force;
- Provide spiritual nourishment in a Christian environment through evangelistic meetings/programs;
- To encourage (Haitian) youth to give back to the community and Haiti.

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Committees

Sonjé Ayiti Organization Inc. is comprised of fourteen (14) committees. These committees include Education, Medical/Health, Children (and Adult), Clothing, Food, Building/Logistical, Legal, Environmental, Fundraising, Hospitality, Public Relations, Planning/Program, Spiritual, and Grants/Research & Development. Momentarily, we are in need of more dedicated members to head these committees. Please refer to the bylaws for committee descriptions.

# Fundraising

In order to operate, methods of generating funds must be implemented. At the present time, S.A.O. is utilizing the monthly dues and funds from February's raffle to defray registration and legal costs. Last month, we had March Madness, where pennies were collected. However, our goal is to collect 1,000,000 (a million) pennies by July 1, 2005. Do you know that those pennies can send 200



hundred primary aged school children to schools at \$50/child? The funds from this 1 million penny drive will be used towards July's Haiti site visit. Please collect as many pennies as you can and bring them to each meeting.

A large 5 gallon containers will be placed at the two designated meeting places. Guys and Gals, we can do this. There is no shame in asking for pennies. Believe me, no one will say NO. We encourage members to share their fundraising ideas as well as participate in all our fundraising events.

# Meeting Schedule

**Date: May 08, 2005**  
**Time: 4:00 PM**  
**Location: 5748 Wellborn Creek Dr., Lithonia, GA 30058**  
**For directions call Gabrielle Vincent at (770) 323 – 1319.**

**Date: May 22, 2005**  
**Time: 4:00 PM**  
**Location: 2379 Wellborn Hills Ct., Lithonia, GA 30058**  
**For directions call Yves (Junior) at (770) 323 – 0377.**

**Date: June 12, 2005 Δ**  
**Time: 4:00 PM**  
**Location: 5748 Wellborn Creek Dr., Lithonia, GA 30058**  
**For directions call Gabrielle Vincent at (770) 323 – 1319.**

**Date: June 26, 2005**  
**Time: 4:00 PM**  
**Location: 2379 Wellborn Hills Ct., Lithonia, GA 30058**  
**For directions call Yves (Junior) at (770) 323 – 0377.**

**Special Meeting**  
**Date: July 9, 2005**  
**Time: 8:00 PM**  
**Location: 5748 Wellborn Creek Dr., Lithonia, GA 30058**  
**For directions call Gabrielle Vincent at (770) 323 – 1319.**

**Date: July 10, 2005**  
**Time: 4:00 PM**  
**Location: 2379 Wellborn Hills Ct., Lithonia, GA 30058**  
**For directions call Yves (Junior) at (770) 323 – 0377.**

**Monthly dues (\$10) are collected at every 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of each month.**



# Projects

Many special projects have been planned. Within each project, it is anticipated that 10 schools will be built by the year 2015. Each school will accommodate approx. 200 students and will also have an associated trade school. The locations of the schools will be based upon the rural areas of Haiti with the highest need. Below is a list of proposed areas as well as the programs and activities we plan to implement. Site visits will be taken (prior to each project) to survey and access the needs of the target location and populations as well as to search for future school building sites.

Our proposed first site visit is scheduled for July 14 -21, 2005.

### School Sites

1. Baie de Henne
2. Mapou
3. Pilate
4. Ravine DesRoches
5. Guyotin Coco
6. Garde Champêtre
7. Corail
8. Trou-du-Nord
9. Jean-Rabel
10. Chansolme

### Programs & Activities

- Educational Programs
- Evangelistic Programs
- AIDS/HIV Awareness Program
- Medical Program
- Food and Clothing Program
- Adopt-a-Family Program or
- Adopt-a-Child Program

We have also collaborated with NAPS (National Association for the Prevention of Starvation) to do relief work in Port-de-Paix, Haiti this December. We plan to join them so that we can both support and learn more about overseas mission/projects since we are new to the arena of relief operations. More information on current and future projects will be given at a later date.

# Chaplain's Corner

By: Edna Noré

As we unite in this cause of helping others, it is extremely important that we, as an organization, unite spiritually in Christ. As on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-13), we must first be in one accord in order to succeed and to receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Keep in mind the enemy is not in our favor and he will do anything to make sure that we fail. That is why it is important that our foundation is rooted in the love of Christ. This work is not for self gain, but to fulfill in our godly duty. So, as we move upward and forward, I encourage you to pray for one another, this organization and the world. It is only through earnest prayer, faith, and works can we be effective. Let us be girded up in the truth, so that we not only make a positive difference, but leave a permanent mark that can not be erased.

## Inspirational Vitamin of the Month

“This is Me,” the Savior said,  
As bending low He kissed my brow,  
“For One who loves you thus has led,  
Just rest in Me, be patient now,  
Your Father knows you have need of this”,  
Though, why perhaps you cannot see—  
Grieve not the things you’ve seemed to miss.  
The thing I send is best for thee.

Then, looking through my tears, I plead,  
“Dear Lord, forgive me, I did not know,  
It will not be hard since You do tread.  
Each path before me here below”,  
And for my good this thing must be,  
His grace sufficient for each test.  
So still I’ll sing. “Whatever be  
God’s way for me is always best.”



## Announcements

- ◆ On January 24, 2005, Gabrielle Vincent, Junior Dorélus, and Edna Noré met with Sophia Jeffries and Mary Olivia Mitchell, founder of the MOM's Nonprofit Spiritual Foundation, Inc., for lunch at Sensational Subs in Atlanta to discuss our plan, to empower us to be proactive, and to give sounds advices to Sonjé Ayiti Organization, Inc staff. For more info on MOM's, visit [www.momsnsf.org](http://www.momsnsf.org)
- ◆ On April 01-03, 2005, Gabrielle Vincent, Eunice Noël, and Edna Noré attended a wilderness/mission retreat in Huntsville, AL, hosted by N.A.P.S. The retreat was very enriching and further encouraged us to be proactive in our cause. The logistics of overseas missions as well as spiritual unity was discussed. N.A.P.S. will send videos and DVDs so that the members who could not attend can view their relief work. For more info. on NAPS visit [www.napsoc.org](http://www.napsoc.org).
- ◆ As of March 18, 2005, S.A.O. is registered with the Secretary of State in the state of Georgia.
- ◆ On June 05, 2005, we are scheduled to present the organization to United Nations. Please check your emails for more information. Also check with Géraldine and Lynn to make certain your email address are correctly recorded.
- ◆ The organization's logo has been finalized. Kudos to Gabrielle and Edna.
- ◆ Please make an effort to be punctual at each meeting. There is so much to be discussed, planned, and done. Each minute counts.

# Sonjé Ayiti Organization, Inc. (SAO) Membership Application

Membership Information					
Title	Last	First	M.I.		
Street Address				Apartment/Unit #	
City			State	ZIP Code	
Home Phone	( )	Cellular Phone	( )		
Work Phone	( )	Email Address			
Profession					
Interest (Committees)					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fundraising
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical/Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	Food	<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal
<input type="checkbox"/>	Children (and Adult)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Building	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hospitality
<input type="checkbox"/>	Spiritual	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Relations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____
Special Skills or Qualifications					
Summarize special skills and qualifications you have acquired from employment, previous volunteer work, or through other activities, including hobbies or sports. (Please Do not leave Blank)					
Previous Volunteer Experience					
Summarize your previous volunteer experience.					
Person to Notify in Case of Emergency					
Name (Printed)		Street Address		Apartment/Unit #	
City			State	ZIP Code	
Home Phone	( )	Cellular Phone	( )		
Work Phone	( )	Relationship			
Agreement and Signature					
<i>By submitting this application, I affirm that the facts set forth in it are true and complete. I understand that if I am accepted as a volunteer or member any false statements, omissions, or other misrepresentations made by me on this application may result in my immediate dismissal.</i>					
Name (printed)					
Signature		Date			
Our Policy					
<i>It is the policy of this organization to provide equal opportunities without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual preference, age, or disability.</i>					

**\$25 annual membership dues to support the cause**