

EDITORIAL

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to all of the members of the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation for your extraordinary support. We are excited to welcome you to our very first edition of Fulfilling the Dream. Through this publication we will continuously update you on the progress of the Cigar Family Community Complex and its related projects.

These are extraordinary times for our foundation and the surrounding communities of Caribe, Ranchos Nuevos, Los Jengibres, El Verde and Los Arroyos. Construction has begun on the health clinic and school within our Cigar Family Community Complex. We have installed our first three water stations, providing many with safe drinking water. Finally, informational programs are underway educating the communities on the proper usage and maintenance of their new water systems.

A heart-felt thank you must be extended to David Luther and IDDI, the not-for-profit organization which has provided assistance to the Dominican people through development projects for the past 20 years. This project would not have been possible without the helping hand of this amazing organization. In this issue you will read about the one-of-a-kind fundraising event, the Toast Across America that has tremendously benefited our efforts by raising over \$300,000 in one day.

You will also read about the 6th Annual Cigar Family Celebration held in the Dominican Republic for the very first time. The celebration provided a glimpse for many of the cigarfamily.com members of the progress taking place at the complex's site. It was an amazing trip which made us all witness the true spirit of "giving back."

We hope you will join us in this new venture of the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation. Thank you for letting us share our excitement with you. Carlos Fuente Jr. and Eric Newman



Eric Neman and Carlos Fuente Jr. with Hans Hertell, US Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, and Hugo Guilliani Cury, the Dominican Republic's Ambassador to the US, at the Grand Havana Room, New York.

IN THE NEWS

The Cigar Family Charitable Foundation is grabbing international attention, recently being featured in the newspaper Listin Diario, based in Santiago of the Dominican Republic. The article titled, "A Foundation that will Benefit Five Local Communities," explained that Carlos Fuente of the famous Tabacalera A. Fuente



and representative of the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation is working with IDDI, Institute for Integral Dominican Development, to develop a project that will

include a school, health clinic, community center, sports complex. More importantly it explains that this initiative was developed, supported and promoted by the members of Cigar Family.

BECOME A MEMBER

Tell your friends and family about the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation, and how they can make a difference in the lives of the Dominican people. We need all the help we can get to finish construction of our community complex, and ultimately, make it fully operational.

Remind them that 100% of the net membership dollars collected goes directly to the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation. All administrative, legal, accounting, office, website and general marketing costs are totally underwritten by the Fuente and Newman families.

Potential members can pick up a membership form at a participating smokeshop, or simply email us at cfcf@cigarfamily.com to receive an enrollment form. Thank you for your help.

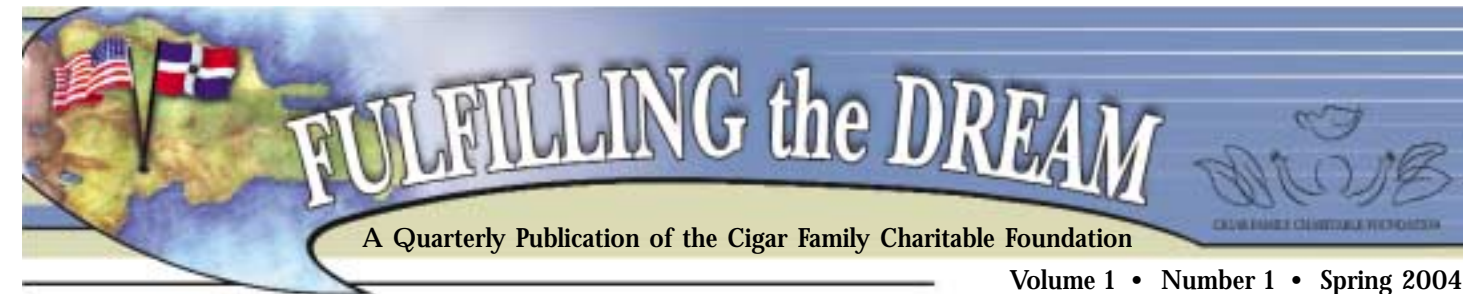


Publisher: Fuente & Newman Families
Editor-in-Chief: Carlos Fuente Jr.
Senior Editor: Eric Newman
Managing Editor: Liv Vesely
Art Director: Luke Beck

Contributors: David Luther,
Wayne Suarez, Bobby Newman,
Rich Dolak, Karl Herzog, Waldo
Tejada, Cigar Family members



Write or email your questions or comments to:
Fulfilling the Dream
Cigar Family Charitable Foundation
P.O. Box 2030
Tampa, FL 33601
Email: cfcf@cigarfamily.com



A Quarterly Publication of the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation

Volume 1 • Number 1 • Spring 2004

CIGAR FAMILY CELEBRATION 2004 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

During the week of February 18-25, 2004, Cigar Family members gathered for the sixth annual Cigar Family Celebration. Unlike previous years, this year's festivities were hosted in the Dominican Republic for the very first time. Approximately eighty participants attended the celebration, divided into two groups.

Cigar Family members were treated to Dominican hospitality which only the Fuentes can do best. Each attendee experienced four, full days of events including: tours of the Fuente's tobacco plantations and factories; sampling Dominican cuisine and music; enjoying the beach of Puerto Plata; and, most importantly, seeing first-hand the development of the Cigar Family Community Complex.

Each group visited Chateau de la Fuente, where everyone had a chance to meet with David Luther,



executive director of IDDI, Institute for Integral Dominican Development, and his hard-working team. Mr. Luther presented an overview on the goals and successes of the Cigar Family Community



Complex, and provided everyone with an understanding of the five surrounding communities and the challenges they face daily. This presentation was followed by a memorable ribbon cutting ceremony at the future entrance of the health clinic still under construction. Those participating in the ceremony included Carlos Fuente Jr., Carlos Fuente Sr., Eric Newman, David Luther, representatives from the five surrounding villages, and cigar family members.

(continued on page 2)

IDDI: THE ORGANIZATION THAT CHANGES LIVES



Behind the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation is an amazing, not-for-profit organization in the Dominican Republic. Without this organization, the ambitious project of developing the Cigar Family Community Complex would never come to fruition. Who is this dynamic organization that has changed lives in the Dominican Republic?

IDDI, Institute for Integral Dominican Development, was created in 1984, a not-for-profit organization whose sole purpose is to fight poverty, in urban as well as rural areas. This organization is made up of motivated men and women who work with the participating communities, helping them to help themselves.

IDDI is recognized by both the national and international communities as the primary urban development organization in the Dominican Republic. Numerous organizations around the world have used IDDI's community development experiences as a model for their own programs.

(continued on page 2)



CIGAR FAMILY CELEBRATION 2004

(continued from front cover)

Carlos Fuente Jr. stated, "Today is an historic day, not only for the Fuente and Newman families, but to all the members of Cigar Family who have given their hearts to the people of the Dominican Republic." He continued, "The Cigar Family Community Complex is a testament to our cigar family members' spirit of giving back"

Another highlight of the trip occurred at Chateau de la Fuente, where the community's children performed various dances for their American guests.

Additionally, a small committee of representatives from the five surrounding villages presented Carlos Fuente Jr. and Eric Newman a plaque, expressing their appreciation for their commitment to making a difference in their lives.



"I was deeply moved by the committee's presentation to Carlos and I. Their gratitude was overwhelming. They thanked the entire Cigar Family for giving them the hope that one day their children could

become teachers, doctors, nurses or engineers." explained Eric Newman.

Additionally, each group spent a day touring the Tabacalera A. Fuente's cigar and box factories. Carlos Fuente Jr. gave a passionate tour of his factory, introducing each Cigar Family member to the Fuente Fuente Opus X rolling room and aging room. Both groups were extremely impressed by the pain-staking details and inspections that go into hand-rolling a Fuente-made cigar.

All agreed that this trip to the Dominican Republic under the care of the Fuente and Newman families was a once in a lifetime event; an event that was shared with their fellow cigar family members through a bond of camaraderie and friendship.



TOAST ACROSS AMERICA RAISES OVER \$300,000

It was a landmark event unlike anything the cigar industry has ever seen before. On November 22, 2003, more than 5,000 cigar enthusiasts in more than 100 smokeshops in all 50 states lit up their cigars simultaneously. It was the Cigar Family Toast Across America, the largest cigar smoking event in history. The result? \$310,000 was raised in a single day to benefit the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to helping the children of the Dominican Republic.

"The Toast Across America was an unforgettable experience," recalls Carlos Fuente Jr., president of Tabacalera A. Fuente y Cia. "In one shining moment, the cigar lovers of America came together to give back to the people of the Dominican Republic who have given us the best cigars in the world."

The money raised will support the construction of a Cigar Family Community Complex in the Dominican Republic. The 23-acre complex will encompass a school, medical facility, adult training center, and youth recreation center, and provide safe drinking water for the people who live in the villages around the town of Caribe.

The world's biggest cigar toast took place at precisely 7pm Eastern Standard Time. As the clock struck the appointed hour, thousands of people across six different time zones raised their cigars in unison as they watched Carlos Fuente Jr. on TV toast the people of the Dominican Republic at the site of the new Cigar Family Community Complex.



"It was one for the record books," says Eric Newman, president of J.C. Newman Cigar Co. "When you look at the numbers - three hundred thousand dollars, five thousand people, one hundred smokeshops, fifty states, and all in one day - there's just nothing that compares."

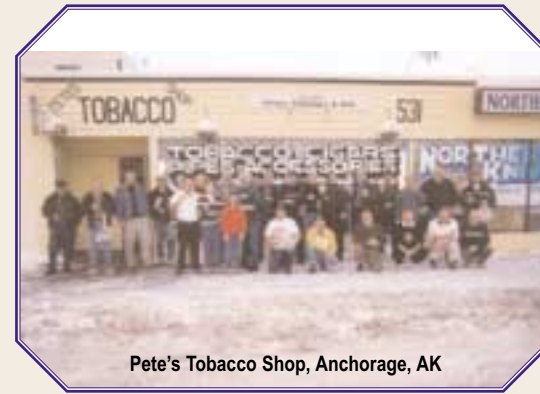
Achieving those numbers required months of preparation. The success of this enormous undertaking resulted from a unique partnership between tobacconists, cigar lovers, and the Newman and Fuente organizations. "Lots of people jumped on board to support the cause," Newman says. "The tobacconists provided food and drinks, we supplied special cigars and promotional materials, and cigar enthusiasts provided their hard-earned dollars."



Each attendee was asked to contribute a minimum \$50 donation. In return, each participant received two commemorative cigars made exclusively for the occasion and not commercially available, including a Fuente Fuente OpusX and Diamond Crown Maximus.

The Newman and Fuente families participated in locations all across the country. Eric Newman and Carlos Fuente Jr. toasted at the trendy Grand Havana Room in New York City, where former Mayor Rudolf Giuliani was an honored guest.

Those who missed out on the opportunity to participate in this remarkable event will get another chance on October 7, 2004. The Fuente and Newman families hope to make the Toast Across America an annual event.



THE PROBLEM OF CONTAMINATED WATER

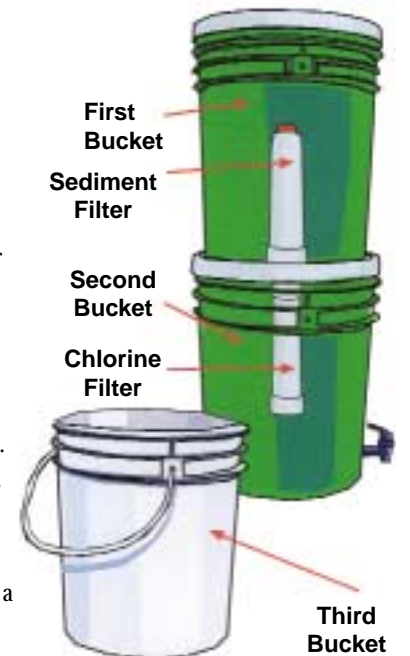
The Cigar Family Charitable Foundation has made the issue of safe drinking water a top priority. In addition to building six water stations within the surrounding communities of the Cigar Family Community Complex, our partners, IDDI, has taken on the challenge of educating the communities about the use and maintenance of a water purification system.

The lack of safe drinking water is one of the most serious problems that exist. In the entire world, nearly 4 million people, the majority children under the age of five, die each year due to the lack of accessible water outlets. In the Dominican Republic, much has improved over the past twenty years, but there are still over 200 thousand cases of diarrhea reported each year.

The Cigar Family Charitable Foundation has distributed numerous water purification systems to the families in these communities. This system consists of three buckets (as seen in the picture below): the first one contains a sediment filter that prevents dirt from passing through; the second one contains a filter that removes the chlorine from the water; and the final bucket is where the filtered, clean water is collected.

Additionally, IDDI teaches each family who receives this system about its proper usage. Each family member is instructed on the importance of washing their hands before using this system, the proper use of adding chlorine to the water before sending it through the purification system to kill the bacteria, and finally, the significance of cleaning their system every week.

Many of us in the United States take for granted our accessibility to "safe drinking water." To thousands in the Dominican Republic, water is a luxury. The Cigar Family Charitable Foundation has started the process of providing safe drinking water to the families in the area around the village of Caribe, Bona.



IDDI: THE ORGANIZATION THAT CHANGES LIVES



(continued from front cover) IDDI's executive director, David Luther, has been an essential element to the advancement of the community complex. Luther has identified a team of key engineers who have played a critical role in dealing with several challenges posed by the construction of the community complex, the most critical was that of lowering the water levels in the ground where the complex is being developed. The idea of instituting integral development in communities, and obtaining the active participation of the population is IDDI's focal point as an organization. This has been done with the people of the surrounding villages of the community complex. By selecting community leaders in each of the five villages (Caribe, Rancho Nuevo, Jengibre, El Verde, and Los Arroyos), IDDI has formed a grassroots, community committee with whom they can collaborate, guaranteeing the effective participation of the local population.

Over the last twenty years, IDDI has diligently strived to address the issue of poverty in the Dominican Republic, through programs that range from community organization and education, micro enterprise and housing loans, and health and construction. These programs provide the skills and tools necessary for people to make a positive change in their lives.

The Cigar Family Charitable Foundation couldn't have found a better partner than IDDI and its executive director, David Luther.