

## EDITORIAL

Dear members and friends,

Welcome to the 2005 Summer edition of Fulfilling the Dream. The Cigar Family Charitable Foundation has been very active these past few months. Our Cigar Family Community Complex continues to grow and expand. Many of our recent construction projects are near completion, like our high school, set to be ready for the upcoming school year. Likewise the basketball and volleyball courts are soon to be finished.

We have wonderful updates on our students at the Cigar Family School. You will be delighted to read about the improvement our students are making academically thanks to the arduous efforts of our teachers. This July many of our students also participated in our first annual summer camp, where our students had an opportunity to learn more about the environment. In addition, you will read about the pen-pal program established between them and the students of Berkeley Preparatory School in Tampa, FL.

In the last few months, the Cigar Family Community Complex has been honored with the visit of many distinguished guests including the Canadian and American Ambassadors to the Dominican Republic.

So much has been happening and we are excited to share it with you. Hope you enjoy!



*Carlos Fuente Jr., U.S. Ambassador Hans Hertell and Eric Newman with Cigar Family students*

Carlos Fuente Jr. and Eric Newman

## DISTINGUISHED GUESTS



*Eric Newman, U.S. Ambassador Hans Hertell, and summer college interns Amy Stencil and Grant Burrier*

The Cigar Family Community Complex has been pleased to receive many distinguished guests over the past several months. We want to thank them for their support and interest in our efforts to give back to the Dominican Republic.

- Canadian Ambassador to the Dominican Republic Adam Blackwell
- U.S. Ambassador to the Dominican Republic Hans Hertell
- Dominican Republic Secretary of State Carlos Morales
- Former Dominican Ambassador to the United States Hugo Guiliani Cury

## 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](mailto:cfcf@cigarfamily.com) to receive an enrollment form. Thank you for your help.



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## GIVING BACK

Cigar Family Members and supporting retailers have proven their commitment to the Dominican Republic since the inception of the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation (CFCF). They have shown their support through the various events, dinners, online auctions and fundraisers they have organized.

Most recently, Cigar Family members held their bi-annual CigarFamily.com Auction. Over \$20,000 was collected to benefit the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation. Some 70 members, both men and women, participated in this spring's online cigar auction. Various auction lots were created to provide packages in every price range from \$40 to \$5500.



What motivates this group of cigar connoisseurs? "Our love of people, humanity and the "family" they call Cigar Family. We understand the love and passion the Fuente and Newman families have for the people of Caribe," says Ric Webster, Cigar Family member and online auction volunteer organizer.

Trolley for Tots was another example of members giving back which took place May 17, 2005 at the Great Southwest Golf Club in Grand Prairie, TX. This annual event is in its sixteenth year, with the last three outings benefiting the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation. The golf tournament is held twice a year, in the spring and the fall, with the ultimate purpose of fulfilling children's needs. Last year \$10,000 was donated to the CFCF as a result of both tournaments. Over 100 customers and friends of Addison Cigar Co., Grapevine Cigar Co., and Arlington Cigar Co. all participated in this year's event.

*(continued on page 3)*



*Trolley for Tots Registration*

## SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM 2005

In conjunction with the Dominican Institute of Integral Development, the Cigar Family Education center and primary school hosted its first youth summer camp this past month of July. The purpose of the camp was not only to provide children with wholesome entertainment during summer vacation but also with the necessary resources to teach them the importance of conservation and protection of the environment.

The children were split into six groups, partaking in various activities from Monday through Thursday for four weeks. Some of the activities consisted of arts and crafts as well as reading comprehension and drawing exercises on the environment. Indoor and outdoor games, including field trips to the countryside complimented the program.

Finally, the camp ended with a field day that included "sack" races, cake and more. Over 150 participated in this year's camp, and it was an experience many of these kids will remember the rest of their lives.



## COMMUNITY MEETINGS: Helping Communities Help Themselves

In May of 2005, community members of the Caribe and adjacent villages: Los Jengibres, Los Arroyos, Rancho Nuevo, and El Verde met to discuss and pinpoint the present issues afflicting their areas while finding a solution to each of these



problems. Members of the Dominican Institute of Integral Development (IDDI) were present to listen and interact with the community, fostering the organization's mission of creating solutions for long-term sustainability and integral development.

Some of their complaints included unemployment, lack of housing and poor road conditions. Another issue discussed was the impact contamination has had on the residents' health due to the nearby mining and factories. Members were later asked to prioritize what problems need to be dealt with first.

During this meeting IDDI presented the Cigar Family's Master Plan as means of defusing any misconceptions about the project and to reassure them that they are part of the long-term plan of Cigar Family's objectives.

They discussed that the Cigar Family community complex will obtain the necessary means for the continued development of their community, serving many of their community's needs. However, IDDI also emphasized the need for community involvement in all aspects, from forming committees such as Neighborhood Watch initiatives to a Parent and Teacher Association in order to support long-term sustainability.

The Cigar Family Charitable Foundation will be incorporating many of the community's concerns into long-term projects to serve their needs and further fostering the concept of – helping others help themselves.



*Construction of a bridge connecting Los Arroyos to the Community Complex*

## WE HAVE BEEN BUSY!

Since our last issue of Fulfilling the Dream this winter, the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation and Community Complex has been busy. From new construction projects, to pen-pal programs, to impressive visitors, our community complex is taking on a life of its own.

Currently, the Cigar Family High School is under construction. It was Carlos Fuente Jr. who initiated this project out of concern for our current eighth graders. Since the Cigar Family primary school, completed this past September includes only grades Kindergarten to Eighth grade, where would these students be able to continue their education? The closest high school for these students was more than a half-hour away by car or moped, making it very difficult for many of them to attend.



*Cigar Family High School*

Instead of seeing many of these children lose hope and end their education, the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation has decided to build a new high school. This school will be a 2-story building and include a computer room, music room, science laboratory, and more. Construction has been working around the clock to make our early September deadline.



*Basketball / Volleyball Court*

Additionally, our new basketball/volleyball courts have been under construction and are nearly finished. This new sports complex will definitely be popular with the kids. Solar Panels were also installed recently on the complex to provide some electricity. Electricity is always a challenge in the Dominican Republic, especially the rural areas of the country.

In addition to our construction projects, we have been busy working with Berkeley Preparatory School in Tampa, FL. The middle division of Berkeley in Tampa has adopted the Cigar Family School as their International Community project. Through this program, the 7th and 8th graders of both Berkeley Prep and the Cigar Family School have begun a pen-pal program, writing to each other about their families, favorite music and school subjects.

There is so much more we have planned. We thank you for making this all happen.

## Cigar Aficionado Names Baseball Complex

We are excited to announce that Cigar Aficionado magazine and long time supporter of Cigar Family Charitable Foundation, Marvin R. Shanken, has sponsored the Baseball Complex in the Cigar Family Community Complex. In June after visiting the complex, Marvin Shanken, editor and publisher of Cigar Aficionado, had generously donated the money necessary to develop a baseball complex for the children of these communities. The baseball field and complex will be known as the Cigar Aficionado Baseball Stadium. The field should be ready for its inaugural game in mid-September 2005.

Currently, the Cigar Family Charitable Foundation is developing a naming opportunity program. This new program will be unveiled Fall 2005, offering anyone interested in naming a classroom, library, music room, medical consultation room and more.

If you are interested in learning about other naming sponsorship opportunities, please contact Liv Vesely at [liv@veselydiaz.com](mailto:liv@veselydiaz.com).

*David Luther, Executive Director of IDDI  
and Marvin Shanken, Publisher of Cigar Aficionado*



## GIVING BACK *(continued from front cover)*

Trolley for Tots' day started with participants signing in, great cigars, and a hearty lunch, all prior to tee time. Funds were raised through entry fees but also through a raffle where prizes are donated by cigar companies, restaurants, sporting good stores, and more. After a great day of golf, the early evening was filled with smiles, stories, jokes, cigars, dinner and the camaraderie felt by accomplishing something good for the children of the Dominican Republic.

These are just two of the many events our members and retailers put together as means of saying thank you to the people of the Dominican Republic. The Fuente and Newman families are always amazed at the generosity of our Cigar Family members and outstanding retailers. Thank you.

## GRADE AVERAGE SCORES IMPROVE 100%

Two studies were recently conducted at the Cigar Family School and revealed astonishing results about our students. The first evaluation was based on the overall academic improvement within a year compared to when they first began school last September.

As of last September, when the Cigar Family School first began its operations, the grade average of students was 30 to 35 on a scale of 100. Remarkably, by the end of their first full year at the Cigar Family School, the grade averages had more than doubled soaring to an average of 76 on a scale of 100.

The second evaluation focused on the school desertion rate - the percentage of students that abandon school. In the nearby city of Bonao, the school desertion rate is 20%. On the contrary, the desertion rate for the Cigar Family School was only 1%, with only 3 students dropping out during the year, incredibly low compared to other schools in and around the province of Monseñor Nouel.

Cigar Family Charitable Foundation congratulates our excellent teachers and faculty for their dedication to the school and children.

