

KALI NAGO COLUMN:

The newsletter of the Salybia Mission Project
December 2004

What is the Salybia Mission Project??

The Salybia Mission Project (SMP) is a non-profit student organization dedicated to providing healthcare to the Kalinago people (the indigenous Carib Indian tribe) in Dominica. SMP gives Ross students the opportunity of direct clinical exposure with Dr. Sanford 6-8 times a semester. During this semester, the new Women's Health Initiative has also allowed additional students to visit the territory and assist Nurse Paris in attending to the needs of women throughout the territory. The current construction of a new clinic will allow SMP to move out of its temporary location in the Salybia Preschool.

Kimbrough and Newkirk hold top spots

The Salybia Mission Project held its 5K run/walk on November 14th with an energetic group of 48 runners. Dale Kimbrough was the fastest male again this semester, finishing in 19 minutes. Cristin Newkirk reclaimed her top spot in the woman's division again this semester with a time of 22 minutes 8 seconds. The fastest male in the over 30 division was Craig Weingrow, with a time of 22 minutes 5 seconds, and Dr. Owen Parry was the fastest female in the over 30 division with a time of 36 minutes. Congratulations to ALL of the runners!



*Runners take their mark at the start of the
Fall Semester 5 K run to Cabrits*



*Helping to provide medical care for the
indigenous peoples of Dominica*

Clinic Holiday Wish List

The clinic could use these supplies to stock its shelves. Why not bring something back with you when you return from the semester break? You can drop off items in Mr. Hawley's office in the micro/pharm building. THANKS!

- *antifungal cream
- *latex gloves
- *sheets and towels
- *slides
- *brushes and wooden spatulas
- *multivitamins for kids and adults
- *folate
- *toothbrushes and toothpaste
- *lancets
- *alcohol swabs
- *decongestants
- *allergy meds
- *gauze tape
- *ACE bandages
- *birth control pills
- *condoms
- *ultrasound gel
- *diabetic meters & strips

Clinic Trips

Ask anyone who's gone before: trips to the Salybia clinic are quite an experience! Once making it through the rollercoaster-like ride past the airport, you and about 12 others are faced with a line of patients calmly waiting to be seen. The new students quickly learn how to take blood pressures and pulses, and then are given their first patient. Groups of two or three students interview a patient and then present the case to Dr. Sanford. This helps develop their history taking skills and allows students to learn various aspects of physical exams as well. Here are some pictures from this semester's trips to show you what it's like. Hopefully you will be able to join us next semester for one of the clinic trips!



SMP members taking blood pressures and patient history during a trip to the clinic.

Dr. Sanford and SMP members after a hard day's work!



If you would like more information about SMP, visit our website at www.geocities.com/salybiamission/index.html or email SMP@rossmed.edu.dm

Good luck on Exams!

The Spring Semester Executive are:

Nicole Berardoni – Director,
Meredith Heberer – Asst. Director, Cristen Beavers, Elisa Avik, Lana Shikhman, and Rasai Ernst – Women's Health Initiative, Japs Lee, Sanda Vujnic, Daryl Martinez – Clinic Coordinators, Elisa Avik – Treasurer, Michelle DeLota – Fundraising, Amy McCroskey and Sherry Modino – Membership Coordinators, Ema Dzaka – Membership leader, Eric Djenge and Jennifer Sabatier – Clinic Construction, Xavier Jimenez – Marketing, Ani Saryan – Newsletter

A Brief History of the Kalinago Tribe

Dominica is the only Eastern Caribbean Island with an indigenous Carib population. Many of the villages here retain their Carib name – the Carib name for Dominica is Waitikubuli. Since 1903 the Caribs have been concentrated in a 3700 acre reservation stretching for 13 km along the eastern coast. The population of 3,000 includes about 300 direct descendants. Some of the traditions still practiced are canoe making and basket weaving.

SMP recently held its end of the semester banquet at the Indian River Cuisine Restaurant in Portsmouth. Besides having a great meal, members got to talk with various professors outside of the typical classroom environment. Additionally, everyone enjoyed a performance by the Kalinago Cultural Dance group. Here are some pictures from the event...

