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[AmeriCorps - Hurricane Marilyn Recovery - U.S. Virgin Islands, October 16-November 19, 1995]
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AmeriCorps- Hurricane Marilyn Recovery

U.S. Virgin Islands:

October 16, through November 19, 1995.



As you return to your “normal” lives, know that you have done a good thing by participating in the hurricane recovery process. You have touched many lives in the five weeks we have spent here. The projects we have completed are many and varied, just as the people we have helped. From the debris removal of a totally destroyed, and stench-ridden, trailer, to the cleaning of a small apartment of a “Ghandi-like” amputee, to the filing of Food Stamps certification forms, you have all shown brightly in this great team effort. You have all done the AmeriCorps name real good. Even as the future of the program is threatened, you have added another major victory to the AmeriCorps banner!

Thank you for all you have given.

“YOU CAN NEVER HAVE ENOUGH BUCKETS”

LIGHTS AND VIRTUES

Jackson Browne

*Here's to lights and virtues
Here's to truths yet to be known
Knowledge to light the darkness
The search for things of your own*

*Here's to lights and virtues
Here's to reaching higher ground
A life of hope and purpose
Here's to strength yet to be found
Honor--though it goes unrecognized
and truth--though liars abound*

*The pleasure of love and friendship
The courage to be alone*

PHONE NUMBERS YOU MAY NEED:

Donna Hines- (202) 690-0693 for questions about per diem, travel and stipend

Joel Berg- (202) 720-6350 for questions about the future of AmeriCorps

all questions should first be directed to your project sponsor.

**“REMEMBER TO LIVE YOUR LIFE ONE DUMPSTER AT A TIME”
-DON’T SQUANDER THE SPACE YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN-**

AmeriCorps Virgin Islands Recovery Accomplishments

- 1. Florence Phillips- Mandal:** the first outdoor job; lots of debris and nowhere to put it; built some stairs
- 2. Clarence Calistro- Hospital Ground:** cleaned debris and garbage from a local FEMA worker's grandmother's house; cut trees with carpenter's saw!
- 3. Ricardo Williams- Tutu:** cleaned-up trash and debris around house and helped construct temporary roof to hold tarp
- 4. Rastafarian Community- Bordeaux Farm:** assisted Mennonite Disaster Service in construction of 9 tent platforms
- 5. Mariann Batiste- Tutu Valley:** the first roof removal; a wonderful and appreciative person; we figured out that a large crew gets more done than a small crew??!
- 6. Emergency response- Dorothea:** Bill, along with a FEMA-CR person, helped a homeless person move their belongings from the road side to a more secure place
- 7. Bernadette Gonsalves- Wintberg:** general debris removal from around the house and a very disgusting refrigerator
- 8. Terry and Italia Brunn- Wintberg:** general debris clean-up for a nice couple- Jimmy ramrods for the Seamsters Union.
- 9. Sean Penn- Coki Point:** lots of debris and Scott gets taken to the cleaners
- 10. Herman Charles- Lower John Dunko:** removal of hanging insulation and damaged ceiling; installation of tarp
- 11. Viola Liburd- Lower John Dunko:** same as Herman Charles, but on a smaller scale
- 12. Vivian Queeman- Mahogany Estate:** the notorious PVC adventure, directed by Jimmy, with Scott playing the gopher; removed pile of rubble

13. Beatrice Crime- Contant: three cement block walls that had fallen were removed making it safe to walk again

14. Patricia Thomas- Contant: removed small amount of garbage and realized our limitations concerning going onto and fixing roofs

15. Mary Jackson- Contant: removed damaged ceiling tiles and taught us that we can't staple into metal or glass?

16. Lutheran School- King Quarter: assisted Lutheran's in removing debris from school

17. Louis Guerrard- Mandal: removed sheet metal from field

18. Rastafarian Community- Bordeaux: Charlet takes stoves and other goodies to the Rastas, with Brad from FEMA-CR

19. Olivia Maduro- Hospital Ground: removed sheet metal and other debris from the gut in front of her house; Tim sliced his forearm, and Richard tried walking on nails

20. Robby La Place- Mandal: the trailer; the mess; the stench; Vontese wishes she had ten hands; Ana smiles on the front page; Dan is promoted to project leader; the lunch; Jimmy tests the strength of his shin; twisted steel; hellacious pile of everything stable and moving; scorpions, tarantulas, and skeletons

21. Edna Callwood- Tutu Valley: another day another roof removed at record rate; a real sheety day

22. Jocelyn Monsanto- Tutu Valley: Tutu Valley, must be another roof; a very twisted roof and a couple of trees; John earns trip to FEMA Medical Unit with sculpted wrist

23. Muriel Brewley- Tutu Highrise: Scott demonstrates the use of a Coleman stove and lantern; did anybody see his eyebrows?

24. James Webster- Bovoni: Mr. and Mrs. Webster were on hand to direct the debris removal and sorting; they wanted to save alot of things; quickly completed.

- 25. Trinita Hodge- Frydenhoj:** removed debris and sorted wood for a local FEMA person whose house was destroyed except for the bathroom
- 26. Olivia Maduro- Hospital Ground:** Dan, John and Ryan rebuilt the railings on this wood bridge; it is a good one, and a definite improvement
- 27. St. Thomas Livestock Association- Bonne Esperance:** lead by ramrod Tim, sheetmetal and other debris is removed from this non-profit's field; discovered we need monkeys in our tool bag to get sheetmetal out of trees
- 28. Webb Alick- Estate Tutu:** Ana and Mark help Lutherans remove debris and clean home
- 29. Ernesto and Ester Van ter Pool- Old Tutu:** another assist to Lutherans for debris removal and clean-up by Ana and Mark
- 30. Murphy Smith- Queen Quarter:** "Scott we need 4 flatheaded screwdrivers!!!!" application of crowbars negates this previous plea; hardheaded AmeriCorps members beatdown and shred an entire roof; Tim gets his arm in way of sheetmetal again.
- 31. Lillian Lopez- Queen Quarter:** removal of fallen branches and a dead sheetmetal fence and a well-deserved short day
- 32. Marva Ritter- Tutu Valley:** more debris and another roof; all done not enough tools!
- 33. George DeWerd- Hull:** a fine old man in a sad situation; a beautiful house that has suffered alot from Marilyn; removed debris, trash and Will done did what he did; we avoided the pool; for \$50 Dan would have been challenged to jump into the slimy soup, but alas! Dan wasn't there.
- 34. Judith Goodling- Anna's Retreat:** a Lutheran assist debris and damaged possession removal by the Ana and Mark Show.
- 35. Stove Demo- St. John:** Cheri lends a hand to a small group of elderly folks on the small island.
- 36. USDA Food distribution- St. Thomas:** help in the warehouse

- 37. Food Stamp work- St. Croix:** Vontese and Yvette wow 'em on St. Croix and help the USDA finish up their operations there
- 38. Food Stamp work- St. Thomas:** everyone got a shot at this as it went from day one to last day; assistance was given to USDA personnel in the certification and distribution process at up to 5 locations
- 39. Sarah Matthews: Tutu Valley:** quick work on a contact made by us removing part of a roof and clearing a path from the front yard to the backyard
- 40. Joe Potter- Tutu:** yet another Mark and Ryan relief effort removing damaged furniture with Lutheran help
- 41. The Hills- Tutu:** its getting boring but Mark and Ryan assist the Lutherans in removal of debris and damaged belongings
- 42. Leroy Boyce- Litton's Fancy:** dancing on the roof by Tim, Jimmy, Ryan and Abby; reinforcing the roof and re-application of our special off-white tarp to stop major leaking; return trip on one of the primo jobs of the tour- building a two-story staircase; cudos to Cherie, Ryan, Tim and Mark
- 43. Molly Mills- Mafolie:** lots of debris from around the house; took two days and 3 dump trucks to clear it out; one of those days with a VERY SMALL CREW!!!
- 44. Stove Demo- Donoe:** Charlet and Dina show some scared folk how to use a Coleman stove and lantern
- 45. Stove Demo- Oswald Harris Court:** more stove and lantern by the gas appliance queens
- 46. USDA- ESF 11- Special Project:** Cherie hangs in the DFO doing a few reports for USDA folk
- 47. Earl Bedford- Bordeaux:** the first of many tent platforms and tent assembly by our crack tent crew of John, Dina and Dan with a one day assist by Sammy and Will; there are very few flat spots on this island!
- 48. Olive Patrick- Bordeaux:** tent crew number 2 offers their first rendition of the tent platform while attempting to prove that the platform can be

flipped like a pancake; well.... you know those pancakes that you flip and they kind of hit the edge?

49. Charles Hughes- Bovoni: a good cleaning of this man's apartment and a ride to get him certified for Food Stamps; he had only been out of his apartment once since Marilyn; great job by Yvette, Cherie and Will

50. Fidelia Francis- Nadir: where have you heard this before: Ana and Mark help Lutherans clean-up debris and trash

51. Konger Gade Parsonage- King Quarter: Mark replants 260 year-old date palm tree "Markie Palmseed"

52. Frederick Lutheran Church- King Quarter: Ana and Mark continue their Lutheran ways and chop down a Royal Palm that is obstructing traffic- proving that what Ana and Mark giveth, A and M take away- the earth remains in balance

53. Bluebeard Hill Church- King Quarter: removal of branches from around a church as A and M near the conclusion of their religious quests

54. Reformation Lutheran Church- Tutu; set-up and construction of platforms to aid church activities as the assist to our Lutheran friends continues to turn toward a focus away from specific hurricane recovery for needy individuals; it takes us a while longer to wake-up

55. Reuben Wheatley- Havensight: a small amount of debris and some branches; referred by letter to FEMA

56. Mary Moorhead- an emergency movement of personal belongings for an evicted person; Mark creases the loaner van

57. Calvin Wheatley- Crown and Hawk: a mostly destroyed house; we cleared the property around the house and filled 2 large dumpsters over parts of three days; Calvin lavished gifts upon our members

58. Margaret Charles- St. John: removed 6 dumptruck loads from home and yard in 3 and 1/2 hours

59. I. Daniels- St. John: removed debris into dumptruck; how did these St. John's people come up with one of them? sure could have used them earlier

60. Lutheran assist: the straws that broke the camels back, or certainly thumped his or her hump; we help clean-up an old place to house volunteers; and then help clean-up another place where some of them stay; Scott and Bill finally see the light that several members have been shining into their bleary eyes;

61. Clement Aubin- Contant: the clean-up crew of Charlet, Ana and Sammy clean walls and other parts of the house, remove some debris and offer moral support; with an assist by Joycelyn of Community Relations

62. Miriam Waters- Savan: the clean-up crew of C, A and S help this elderly blind woman spruce up her house

63. Ethel Hamm- Savan: another Coleman Stove demo

64. Roberto Francis- Bordeaux: the tent with the most spectacular view constructed by the loving hands of Dina, John and Dan- in the wrong place! but all was not lost, Francis will move it.

65. Nathaniel Meyers- Bordeaux: injury and sickness strikes tent crew #1 leaving only 3; this does not stop Dan, John and Dina; they forge on building one platform for every three names they collect of people needing their own tent condo

66. Leslie Payton- Fortuna: Tim, Jimmy and Jason construct a tent platform on a site where Tim had to remove some animal's feces with a decorator plastic cup before the Senator would proceed with the project; tent is for a Public Defender who is trying a major murder case

67. Warren Williams- Bordeaux: a tent platform by Dan, Dina and John (DDJ)

68. Dolly Penn- St. John: heroic work cleaning the very modest digs of this woman; all furniture was removed, simple shelving was built, and garbage was hauled away; with help from FEMA-CR, she was given a new small refrigerator and clean linen.

69. Olive Greaves- St. John: removed debris to curbside on the small island

70. Sylvester Hamilton- Bordeaux: tent platform and truly nice man by Tim, Jason and Jimmy (TJJ)

71. Alphonso- Bordeaux: tent crew #1 (DDJ) steep themselves in tent platform construction techniques

72. Clarence Cipio- St. John: removed two truck loads of debris from around St. Ursulas Church

73. Earl Forbes- Bordeaux: DDJ construct a high flying platform; the rock was a nice touch.

74. Byron Evans- Bordeaux: delivery of tent and platform materials

75. Keith Brown- Bordeaux: DDJ complete the other half of the Forbes-Brown dual platforms overlooking a rapidly recovering farm

76. Heraldo Richards- Bordeaux: Tim, Cherie and Jason build their first tent platform

77. Blanca Sandin- Havensight: the recovery crew clears off the first floor of this once beautiful home; Mrs. Sandin offers her car to Sammy and others to show her gratitude.

78. Bayside Inn- Bolongo Bay: on two separate days our recovery crew helps this small business that has helped us so much; general clean-up, painting, landscaping; thanks to Carol and Brad!!

79. Dead cat- Bordeaux: a rather bloated feline is put to rest in a shallow unmarked grave; we think it was mostly dead at the time; fresh air blows through Bordeaux once again; Scott doesn't smell too good however

80. Fitzroy Libord- Bordeaux: two tent platforms by DDJ and TJJ; the dog-fighting Rastafarian

81. Austin Todman- Smith Bay: a final assist to the Lutherans for a family that had half of its trailer destroyed; Bill and CR-Dorothy score a dumptruck from the National Guard; Cherie become a truckdriver

82. John Ludvig- Bordeaux: tent platform material delivery

83. Jose Belardo- Bordeaux: tent platform material delivery in the dark by two zombies

84. Charles Leonard- Bordeaux: tent platform materials delivery

85. Dawn Knight- Bordeaux: tent only delivery

86. William- Bordeaux: TJJ construct a tent platform

87. Phil Pott- Fortuna: tent platform material delivery

88. Derrick Hodge- Fortuna: tent platform material delivery

89. Nevon Larson- Bordeaux: tent platform material delivery with an assist by Nathaniel

90. Jawini- Bordeaux: tent delivery only

91. Family #1/Tabernacle- Bordeaux: tent delivery

92. Sylvester Grant- Bordeaux: tent platform materials delivery

93. Jane Doe- Bordeaux: DDJ build an extension onto a Mennonite constructed tent platform to move tent and avoid the potential of falling rocks; their last work project

94. Denise Petersen- Bordeaux: tent platform materials delivery

95. Clyde Paris- Bordeaux: tent platform materials delivery

96. Timothy Turnbull- Bordeaux: tent platform materials delivery

97. Family #2/Tabernacle- Bordeaux: tent delivery

98. Family #3/Tabernacle- Bordeaux: tent delivery

99. William White- Bordeaux: tent platform materials delivery

100. Jean Chance- Bordeaux: tent delivery

101. The Tire Incident- Fortuna: what a miserable day! Mark and Scott wait for lumber that never shows and get a flat tire which takes several attempts to replace with a spare because the jack isn't long enough to raise the truck high enough to get the flat off; the spare is finally put on only to find out that the other front tire is flat; The TJJ crew rescues us with a trip to the tire repair shop.

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