Thanksgiving is a time for festivities for most in the USA, time to enjoy family. We inherited this holiday from our adoptive country but we have to remember also about controversies. Not all ethnic groups appreciate this day. It is also time to reflect on Poverty around the world. We eat together in family and watch sport, especially Football. This year, the NFL was in crisis with player protests and The "Cornucopia effect". This did not stop us from enjoying friends and family and at most, some days of rest.

I took the opportunity to attend the AMHE New York gala which was well attended. Many awards were presented by the NY Chapter to individuals, notably to Henry Paul MD, for his work with the NOAH organization in Fort Liberte, Ouanaminthe, Caracol.

The President of the AMHE CEC Roosevelt Clerisme MD. Took the opportunity to discuss about some of our projects.

The AMHE Board Of Trustees presented as well, a posthumous plaque to the family of the late Ronald Sanon MD and the message was delivered by Louis J Auguste MD.

We danced until the early hours of Sunday, under the musical notes of the Bossa Combo Orchestra.

I invite you to the FB page of the AMHE to review some pictures of the NIGHT and different activities of the week-end.

The AMHE NJ chapter kept their quarterly meeting, discussed the by-laws and the preparation for their June gala. A next Book review is scheduled for the month of December.

Marc Gaston an adviser for the AMHE NJ presented an Art Show with his more recent paintings. Some of his masterpieces can be seen on the corner of the artist once our Webmaster will be able to create a page for this artist.

Finally the AMHE was present at Primevere to enjoy a Sunday event with the orchestra " IMPRESYON".

Happy birthday to Harry Leroy Maxime Coles MD
Mon ami et confrère, le docteur Serge Alexandre m’a invité à son programme de Radio ce weekend pour une causerie sur l’abus des substances toxiques dans le milieu Haïtien. J’ai répondu volontiers à son invitation considérant d’une part, l’ampleur de la drogue dans le comté de Palm beach où il exerce sa profession de médecin, et vu aussi l’impact qu’un tel fléau est entrain d’avoir sur notre communauté.

Nous sommes ici en effet, au cœur de ce qu’on a baptisé, des lunes depuis, la capitale où le comté par excellence des programmes de réhabilitation des drogues et des toxicomanes. Je commençais d’abord par reconnaître que ceux qui utilisent les substances toxiques dans la vie peuvent le faire pour plusieurs raisons. Les pressions de tous ordres peuvent souvent porter les gens à se réfugier dans la drogue et l’alcool pour se soulager de leurs maux. Mais je renchéris aussitôt pour faire comprendre à mes auditeurs que se plonger dans la drogue est une arme à double tranchant. Car la drogue, sans faire pour autant disparaître les problèmes auxquels l’on fait face, risque d’exposer ceux qui en font usage à des problèmes encore plus complexes. Je ne perdais pas trop mon temps à établir un disting entre ceux qui font un simple abus des substances chimiques et ceux qui ont vrai problème d’addiction. Toute la différence étant que dans le cas de quelqu’un souffrant d’addiction, la personne n’est plus maître de soi-même, mais plutôt emportée par sa soif intense d’assouvir le besoin de se droguer, et que des lors qu’on a franchi cette étape on devient autodestructeur et un vrai danger social.

On voie, on tue, on se prostitue aux coins des rues, et l’on ne recule devant rien pour trouver de quoi se droguer… Par contre je leur parlais des conséquences fâcheuses de la drogue sur tous ceux et celles qui l’utilisent, aussi bien sur ceux qui vivent dans leur environnement immédiat. Ces conséquences, leur ai-je dit, sont d’abord d’ordre physique. Je mentionnais entre autres, le cirrhose du foie pour ceux qui utilisent de l’alcool, l’hepatite C et le virus du Sida chez ceux-la partageant la même aiguille pour s’injecter certaines substances. Je leur expliquais comment on peut se retrouver privé de sa license de conduire un véhicule, donc sans possibilté d’un bon emploi si l’on se retrouve à conduire son véhicule en état d’ébriété et que l’on est surpris en flagrant délit sur la voie publique… Et sans emploi, on sera sans revenu, donc sans la chance de pouvoir aux besoins de sa famille. Le divorce, la perte de ses droits parentaux, les problèmes legaux, la prison, le manque de regard et de supervision sur ce qui se passe dans son foyer étant des corollaires nocifs lies au problème de la drogue. J’ai insisté pour que qu’ils cessent d’être des absenteistes quand il s’agit de prendre en main l’éducation de leurs enfants.

Je leur donnas des signes avant-coureurs ou premonitoires du comportement exhibe par quelqu’un entrain de faire usage de la drogue, et je leur disais que le meilleur traitement était dans l’abstention. Je parodiais Descartes pour leur dire que si l’habitude est une seconde nature, la nature elle-même peut être bien souvent une première habitude.

Et le docteur Serge Alexandre, maitrisant bien l’auditoire, et jouant avec tact et dextérité sa partition, assurait le rôle de courroie transmetteur entre les auditeurs et moi a l’autre bout du fil… Le message semblait bien passé car les questions fusèrent de toutes parts. Je ne me séparais pas de l’auditoire sans pourtant rappeler de ne rien essayer dont on ne soit capable de bien s’assurer du contenu et de la provenance.

Je remerciais mon confrère de m’avoir invité, et à travers moi l’AMHE, à participer à cette causerie sur la drogue. Je lui promettais en suite de revenir la prochaine fois avec d’autres sujets de toute aussi grande importance pour notre communauté du comté de Palm beach, et pour nos internautes en général.

Rony Jeanmary, M.D.
Coral Springs, Florida.
25 Novembre 2017
Honoring Ronald Sanon

Ladies and Gentlemen.

In the name of the Board of Governors of the Association of Haitian Physicians abroad, I rise today to rectify an omission that has endured for too long. As it happens often, we enjoy all the good things that we have and take them for granted. It is only when we no longer have them that we appreciate truly all that they meant to us.

Yes, the AMHE had had the good fortune to count among its members a great physician, a great husband, a great father, a great teacher, a great role model, a great friend, someone that the Romans would call a “VIR BONUS” and that the Jews would call a “MENSCH,” a GREAT MAN. Ronald Sanon was all that and he has impacted the lives of all who have had any interaction with him.

My journey with Ronald goes back to the State University of Haiti Medical School, where he was my sister’s classmate and was two years ahead of me.

Ronald was always impeccably dressed, always smiling. His high pitched laugh was unique and recognizable from a distance. According to my sister, he was studious and always ready to help his classmates in need. He was also a good athlete and a star on the soccer team of the medical school, but above all, even when he was facing difficulties, he always believed and made you believe that living was fun and enjoyable.

When he spoke at his graduation on August 19, 1971, his words left their marks and still resonate in the hearts of his fellow classmates. One of them, Dr. Serge Pintro remembers his message: “You must welcome the future with faith and optimism. Let seriousness, determination, integrity and professionalism be the hallmarks of your future career. Always aim high in your quest for excellence.”

Ronald was very attentive to the teachings of his most revered mentors: Drs. Medard, Duperval and Gerard Pierre. In return, he was their favorite chief resident.

At the same time, during these formative years, Ronald was compiling proverbs, good advice, jokes and words of wisdom that he lived by and that later on, he was always willing to share with his younger colleagues, his friends, his patients or whomever would listen. All his life, he followed the guiding principles of humanism: Kindness to your fellow human beings, hard work, honesty, Sincerity and the Golden Rule : Do unto others as you would have others do unto you!

He applied these principles to be the best husband one can imagine, a great father and family man and a great healer. He also saw the importance of working together for the benefit of our community. He believed in the AMHE and never missed any of the Annual Conventions or any of the local chapter meetings.

After more than 40 years of devoted service to his numerous clientele and the community in general, Ronald was looking forward to some rest at last, to be able to fully dedicate himself to his wife that he loved so much, his children and daughters-in-law that he was so proud of and
his grand children, his greatest source of joy. As you know, Ronald departed abruptly from this earth, just two months after being diagnosed with a lethal brain tumor, leaving us all at a loss for words and begging for any explanation. Ronald has left an emptiness in our hearts. Another one of his colleagues, Isaac Desir, wrote that, “Your departure from this life remains most saddening. You, Sanon who always valued friendship, you left sorrow and regrets in our hearts that time will never erase.”

However, the seeds that he had planted over the years have blossomed. His children, Ronald, Martine, Christina and Ronald have done quite well, under his tutelage and that of their mother, Jocelyne, a neonatal nurse whose own life has been and is a model of compassion, dedication, love and hard work.

Jocelyne believed in Ronald’s support to the AMHE and all its endeavors. She has continued to contribute in Ronald’s name to the “Maison des Etudiants” in Port-au-Prince, which provides food and housing to the underprivileged students of the State Medical School.

In recognition of Ronald and Jocelyne Sanon’s numerous tangible and intangible contributions to the AMHE and our community at large, Dr. Ducarmel Augustin and the Board of Governors of the AMHE offer this humble plaque to Mrs. Jocelyne Sanon as a token of appreciation for her husband’s, her own and her entire family’s commitment to the AMHE and Healthcare in general in our community.

Louis J Auguste, MD, MPH

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**Décès de Dr Dambreville**

Chers collègues,

C’est avec peine que nous vous annonçons la triste nouvelle du décès de notre confrère le Dr Etzer Dambreville. Les funérailles seront chantées le dimanche 26 novembre 2017 à 11 heures au salon funéraire : 

Alfred Dallaire,

2159 Boul. Saint-Martin Est,

Laval, Québec, H7E4X6

L’AMHE exprime ses condoléances à la famille et amis éprouvés par le deuil.

Schiller Castor, MD

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**Upcoming Events**

**Nouvelle de la Floride:**

ACHETEZ VOS TICKETS À TEMPS POUR LE GALA TRADITIONEL DE DECEMBRE

DATE DU GALA : 23 DECEMBRE 2017

LIEU : WESTIN RESORT ET HOTEL RTE A1A FORT LAUDERDALE FLORIDA

BENEFICIEZ D’UN RABAIS DE $15 SUR LES BILLETS AVANT LE 12/01/17