

April 16, 2009 African Hospitality Institute Update

When Queen Elizabeth of England terrified and ready to run in fear was facing an invasion from Spain – an invasion that Spain seemed certain to win, she asked her wise mentor: "Tell me there is no certainty of their success. That any outcome is possible."

He responded: "The forces that shape our world are greater than all of us. How can I promise they will conspire in your favor? But this much I know. When the storm breaks, each man acts in accordance with his own nature: some die with terror, some flee, some hide, and some rise up as a mighty eagle."

From the movie: Elizabeth



From this side of the world, I am watching the drama of the economic downturn in America with concern and sadness. Many of our FAHI have been laid off from what was considered solid employment. Many are struggling to meet mortgage payments. Saving plans have been decimated. We here on the field are experiencing it as well. It is certainly a time for prayer, a time to find out what is our true nature.



April brings to a close the 1st term of our 2nd year of vocational training. We have learned so much over the last year. This second year is filled with much more 'hands on' practical experience. The level of excellence from one another as staff and from our students has been raised. We are also becoming more and more aware of the sacredness of serving and offering hospitality.



This year we have been again blessed with amazing visitors. In January, Chad and Becky Dale, currently living in China joined their friends Jason and Jenny Jost from Seattle to visit AHI. A wonderful visit to Uganda that they captured on film for preview at link is <http://gallery.me.com/chaddale#100463>

Heather and Eric Tuininga from the Seattle area spent a day with us – We put Eric to work giving a workshop on the Hospitality Industry when we discovered his work with Young Life's Malibu camp. He stunned the staff with Malibu's commitment that if a visitor didn't feel that their visit was the best experience in their life, they could get their money back. I have the staff return to that thought several times a month, as we search our hearts for why we at AHI don't offer such a guarantee. It places a whole new dimension of service for the staff to consider and strive for.



At the beginning of April, Guido Notari, owner and chef of the best Kampala restaurant: Mamba Point, visited AHI with his head cook, Irene for a one day intensive teaching. I have been praying for professional chefs to visit and teach here for the last seven years. It was an incredible answer to prayer. Guido is full of passion and life, a wonderful teacher and entertainer. He then went one step beyond my wildest dreams and invited key AHI staff to come and work in his restaurant and elegant guesthouse for a week. Umar is there this week and keeps sending me test messages about how much he is learning. Isa and Jesca will visit next week. Talk about God exceeding expectations. Who would have ever thought that your support of a little ministry out in the middle of no where would some day offer such opportunity to people who had given up hope of a future.



If you haven't read it yet, there is an article worth reading on missions in Africa from an atheist's viewpoint http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/columnists/matthew_parris/article5400568.ece Transforming the hearts and minds of the youth of Africa while teaching them a employable skill is the core of AHI. Thank you for your prayers. 'Let us not grow weary of doing good'. We can't do this without you!

Soaring like a mighty eagle, m

