



Mbegu Za Urafiki

S E E D S O F F R I E N D S H I P

Newsletter of the Friends of Tanzania / Marafiki wa Tanzania

FOUNDED 1991

SPRING NEWSLETTER

2009

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www.FOTanzania.org
info@FOTanzania.org



Do You Want to Volunteer in Tanzania? *Find Help Through our Website*



Ashley Speyer of Washington, DC, volunteered at Moivaro, near Arusha. When she returned she started her own NGO to support a new school there. Here she is with the children and below, constructing furniture for the school. For more on her work, see page 6.

“You were in Tanzania? Where were you? When was that? What did you do there?” Many FOT members are asked questions like this, and find the conversation then continues with: “Have you ever been back?” I am one of the fortunate ones who has been back to Tanzania since my initial 2 years there about 40 years ago, and I find that the next comment/question is often: “I wish I could go back! Can you tell me how to go about it?”

At FOT we are often asked by our members and others where in Tanzania someone might be welcomed as a volunteer. And sometimes we at FOT hear of organizations seeking volunteers. So with the goal of providing a service to those potential volunteers and some organizations, we plan to open a “Volunteer Opportunities in Tanzania” section of our website www.FOTanzania.org. This section will list organizations seeking volunteers in Tanzania, and is a free service to our members.

Organizations listed will provide FOT with a brief summary of the organization, their volunteer needs and skill levels required, and details about a person there to contact for further information.

We are still organizing this and hope we can get a “Volunteer Opportunities in Tanzania” section on our website by mid-May 2009. We invite our members to send suggestions about any organizations they know to Pat Kelley at volunteer@FOTanzania.org.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Spring greetings from FOT. I would like to start by asking for your help. We did so at our successful Winter Party last February and had a heartfelt response. Now I would like to broaden that to all of you all over the USA. Many of you have an interest in Tanzania and an interest in making sure our work continues. Please volunteer your time with us.

For starters, we need a graphic designer who has the time twice a year to help us put out our newsletter. Would you be willing to learn a publishing program? In addition, we need people willing to take on some organizing and administrative tasks – keeping our records, communicating with new people. Could an RPCV act as our FOT representative

with Peace Corps? All of these tasks and more can be done from your home anywhere. Let us know by contacting info@FOTanzania.org.

We continued after a rewarding 2008 by holding our Board Retreat and our Winter Party in February. As I write our newsletter, our Safari DC event is being planned for May and an educational event in the Fall. This year I am particularly pleased that a new venture, “Volunteer Opportunities,” will become a section of our website. I hope you will give us your thoughts about the DIRECTORY as we consider how to provide this information cost effectively.

I’ll be travelling to the Pacific Northwest in September and hope to see some of you then.

I am personally grateful to the Board members whose terms finished last year. Kyle Green continues as our website guru while Craig Hafner and John Hatch both continue on the Projects Committee. We owe them all a debt of gratitude for their service. And new members, whose names and short bio you will find elsewhere in this newsletter, have joined us and offer fresh insight into our work. Thank you to them. This issue, I thought I would show you a few faces of those working for you on Board.



FOT Board Retreat, February 2009, Arlington, Virginia. Last row: (L-R) Dick Geltman, Patricia Kelley, Malcolm Morris, Paula Hillery and Bill Svoboda. First row: Jennifer Kron, Dan Ehrenberg, Candy Warner and Karen Schaefer. Missing: Noreen Mucha and Sita Magua.

Thank you for saying “Yes.” All the members of FOT are grateful for the volunteer help that continues to expand our work and make it more responsive to you. Please imagine the many **THANK YOU**s that flow out to you. And to our members who continue to donate so that more projects can be supported – we can’t do it without you. **You make it happen!!!**

Candy Warner, President

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Friends of Tanzania /
Marafiki wa Tanzania
2009

Mbegu Za Urafiki/Seeds of Friendship,
the newsletter of Friends of Tanzania,
is published twice a year.

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S E E D S O F F R I E N D S H I P

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Have you been to our website? www.FOTanzania.org

WELCOME New Board Members

BILL SVOBODA – served in Tanzania with the Teacher Educators for East Africa from 1967 to 1969 with his family at the Morogoro College of National Education. He has remained in education, later becoming a professor, author, dean and founder of the new West Campus of Arizona State University. He joins us from the Phoenix area.

PATRICIA KELLEY – rejoins the Board after being a founder and supporting member until she and her husband, Craig Hafner, moved to Boulder and founded a local chapter there. She worked as a nurse in 1966-68 at Mnero hospital, outside Nachingwea and has since become well known in Hospice and Palliative Care through her work as an author and authority at the national level in the US and East Africa. Pat and Craig have visited several of our project sites recently.

JENNIFER KRON – comes to FOT through visiting Tanzania recently and supports our work. Her career includes working at the White House Office of Management and Budget. Currently Jennifer is a senior executive in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. Her management and coordination skills are already being put to use.

SITA MAGUA – was born in Tanzania and has worked at the US Embassy in Dar es Salaam. Currently she is a Senior Accountant with Abt Associates - International. Being a Tanzanian, she is helping vet our projects.

Welcome and thank you for saying “Yes!” We are all grateful for your contributions.

WE have new brochures for your friends. Contact us for more copies:
info@FOTanzania.org



Hongera Barack Obama khangas cloth from Tanzania is on display at the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art. Swahili translates “Congratulations Barack Obama.” Phrase below is “Upendo na Amani Ametujalia Mungu” (“God has Blessed us with Peace and Love”).

Friends of Tanzania Financial Report for 2008

INCOME

FOT Dues	\$	4,415
Donations above Dues*		46,781
Member Giving Back Donations		15,000
Calendar Sales		<u>1,711</u>

Total Income **67,907**

EXPENSES

16 Regular Projects	\$	32,160
2 Giving Back Project		15,000
Wire Transfer Fees		945
Brochures/newsletters		2,103
Committee/Admin/Other Expenses		<u>2,561</u>

Total Expenses **52,769**

Surplus/Deficit	15,138
Opening Balance	<u>11,265</u>

Carry Forward to 2009 **\$ 26,403**

* We are grateful for the one-time single donation in 2008 of \$25,000 which has enabled FOT to increase our project funding capacity.

Prepared by Candy Warner, Finance Chairperson

FOT Projects Committee Report

KAREN SCHAEFER, PROJECTS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

In tribute to springtime, the joyful time of new birth, I am happy to pass on news of the burgeoning of several Friends of Tanzania assisted projects. In follow-up reports from the project sponsors, word has arrived that three livestock projects, begun with help from FOT, have followed the age-old counsel to go forth and be fruitful and multiply.



Neema, the cow, whom you met in our last newsletter, has a calf. The Ebeneza Group purchased Neema and one other cow with FOT funds. In addition to the milk Neema supplies her calf and the orphaned children in the Ebeneza daycare center, the sale of her surplus milk helps the Ebeneza Group cover the costs of the food and school supplies they provide for the children.



Pigs, too, are proliferating. The Kanisa La Pentekoste Agizo Kuu recently sent us this photo of one of several litters of piglets born to the sows that were purchased in 2007 with help from a \$500 grant from FOT. Added to church members' contributions, money from the sale of the pigs enables the church to pay the rent on the home they maintain for orphaned children.

The Christian Youth Network's revolving goat project is also flourishing. With the birth of eight baby goats, the 52 goats originally distributed to families caring for orphaned or vulnerable children has now increased to 60. As soon as the goat kids are weaned, they will be dispersed to more project beneficiaries. The Christian Youth Network *"would like to thank the leadership of FOT and staff for their efforts and your good heart to grant us for the purpose of establishing economic empowerment for the caregivers of orphans and vulnerable children in our communities."*



We are pleased that most of our grant recipients for last year have already sent us detailed reports on their projects' progress. Receiving project reports is a goal of the Projects Committee. I appreciate Ellen O'Hanlon's efforts to make that happen. I also want to thank both Bill Svoboda who is expanding our list of Tanzanian-based contacts to vet proposed projects prior to funding and Sita Magua for her assistance in translating applications we receive in Swahili.

What is "Giving Back?"

Have you ever wanted to support a specific project in Tanzania, such as your former school, work site, or place you visited? You can do so by contributing to FOT's "Giving Back" program. Just contact FOT with information on the project you want to sponsor. FOT will review your request applying the same guidelines as it applies to its other projects. The project must also be approved by the FOT Projects Committee and Board. Through these special funded projects, FOT can increase its funding to projects in Tanzania, and you can benefit from having your project gift tax deductible. The project must be for at least \$500. You would be FOT's contact, getting reports at the end of the year. For more specific information on FOT's Giving Back Program, contact: info@FOTanzania.org.

NEWSBRIEFS

- Johnnie Carson has been nominated by Obama to be Asst. Secretary of State for African Affairs. Johnnie was a PCV, teaching upper primary school in Malengali, Iringa Region from 1965 to 1967. His career in the State Department has spanned 37 years including stints serving as ambassador to Zimbabwe, Uganda and Kenya. He was a featured speaker at FOT's 15th anniversary dinner in 2006.
- Hasheem Thabeet from Dar es Salaam is a University of Connecticut basketball superstar. He is 7'3" 265 pounds and started playing basketball in Dar at age 15. He has been named the Big East Defensive Player of the year for two seasons in a row. He averages 13.6 points, 10.8 rebounds, and 4.5 blocks per game. He gained access to U.S. college basketball fame by appeals over the internet and contact with a French basketball scout in Nairobi. He is destined for a career in the National Basketball Association.

FOT Funded Projects

November 2008 - March 2009

- **\$2,520** for materials to construct *school latrines in Kileo, Kilimanjaro Region*, for use by both Kivulini and Mkombozi Primary Schools. These two schools, with a total of about 700 pupils, are adjacent to each other. The *Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center*, which sponsored the project, is working to decrease the infection rate of schistosomiasis in the region and will supervise the building of the latrines and the follow-up public health training.
- **\$1,860** to purchase goats and build a goat shed for a *revolving goat project*. The *Christian Youth Network in Tabora* organized the project in which female goats will be given to caregivers of orphaned children. The Christian Youth Network will keep a male goat for breeding purposes. To begin the project, 52 goats will be distributed. As females breed, the baby goats will be given to more and more needy households.
- **\$10,000** for scholarships for girls to attend *Geita area secondary schools in Mwanza Region*. This five-year old project supported by *Barbara Torrey* through FOT's *Giving Back Program* is helping 18 girls attend and complete their high school classes when they otherwise would have dropped out.
- **\$5,000** for scholarships for girls to attend *Lutengano Secondary School, Tukuyu Region*. About 10 girls, selected by a record of good grades and exemplary citizenship activities at the school, will be helped to continue their education. This project is in its second year and funding is through *Anita Johnson* and our *Giving Back Program*.
- **\$2,020** towards the *Lushoto Aids Control and Youths Capacity Building sweater-making project in Tanga region*. Non-skilled young people will be trained to make sweaters and socks and their products will be sold to the community whose climate is cold during much of the year. The funds provided by FOT will be used to purchase three sweater-making machines and yarn, as well as spare parts for maintaining the machines. The organization will contribute rent for the training room, the project coordinator's salary, and the office attendant's salary.
- **\$2,450** for a *beekeeping project in Iringa region*. The project will be run by the *Lugarawa Trust Foundation*, a community-based organization that works hand-in-hand with the Njombe Development Office. The sale of the honey produced by the bees will allow the LTF to continue their support of approximately 25 orphans attending Tanzanian secondary schools and colleges.
- **\$2,900** for the *construction of five rainwater harvesting tanks* in Omukagando and Chonyonyo villages in *Kagera region*. This is a continuation of the 2008 *Mavuno Project*. Each tank will provide four families with a near-by source of clean water. In all, the tanks will furnish water to approximately 140 people. The FOT funds will be used to purchase cement and corrugated iron sheets for tanks. The Mavuno organization will supply the labor, stones and sand.
- **\$2,100** to the *Developing Free Education Services Centres for Orphans (DEFESCO) in Mwanza* for materials to complete two *classrooms* at their after-school tutoring center for orphans and destitute students. The classrooms are partially built but require a tin roof, a cement floor, and the installation of water and electricity.

Winter Potluck Party



Tanzanian Ambassador, Ombeni Sefue, and FOT Vice President Jennifer Kron with words of encouragement at our Winter Party.

Friends of Tanzania held its annual Winter Potluck Party on Saturday, February 28, at the Lyon Village Community House in Arlington, Virginia. Over 70 guests attended, including Friends of Tanzania members, former Peace Corps volunteers, and representatives from the local Swahili Meet-Up Group. We were honored to welcome His Excellency Ombeni Sefue, Ambassador of Tanzania, and several members of his staff to the celebration, and particularly enjoyed the delicious samosas and other treats they contributed. A highlight of the evening was a live auction of two Tanzanian Obama khangas. Guests also enjoyed browsing among videos, books, and music from Tanzania and purchasing the Tanzanian donated products for sale. Board members emphasized the many volunteer opportunities available to support FOT and hoped that many party guests would choose to join.

If you are going to Tanzania,
let us know at:
info@FOTanzania.org

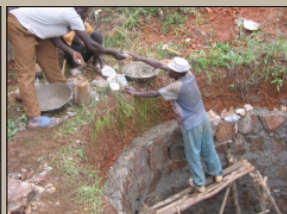
Have you bought products of
Tanzania available in the USA.
Check out our website:
www.FOTanzania.org

MAVUNO PROJECT REPORT

How to Build a Rainwater Harvesting Tank



Digging the tank



Lining the walls



Poles and roofing



Attaching gutters



Finishing the tank

Friends of Tanzania has teamed with the Mavuno Project to supply five villages in the far western Kagera Region of Tanzania with nearby sources of clean, fresh water. Before the completion of the Mavuno Rainwater Harvesting Project, women and children in the area had to fetch water daily from distances as great as 5 kilometers from their village homes. Last

year FOT approved Mavuno's request for funds to purchase cement and corrugated iron sheets for use in the construction of five rainwater harvesting tanks in Rukole, Ihanda, and Bugene villages. The Mavuno organization provided the stones, sand, roofing poles, and the arduous labor required for building the tanks. Today, each of the five tanks is shared by four families and serves, as-

suming an average of seven people per family, 28 people per tank or 140 people in total.

After the successful completion of last year's phase of the project, FOT is continuing our partnership with Mavuno through a second grant. This year's funding will go towards building five more rainwater harvesting tanks in two more Kagera Region villages.

What Other Things Our Members Do in Tanzania

Many of our FOT members have founded or are very involved in other NGOs working in Tanzania.

Jen Harding/Jiamini Scholarship Fund. Jen (PCV 2005-08) and some friends helped found the Jiamini Scholarship Fund to help needy kids in Newala, Mtwara Region to get an education. Jiamini is currently helping 36 students. They have also recently started an effort to improve the local schools in the areas of sanitation, water supply and textbooks. For more, go to www.jiamini.org.

Brian Singer/Project Zawadi. Brian (PCV 1993-95) founded Project Zawadi some eight years ago to help orphans and other needy children to get an education. Working with two local community organizations, PZ now sponsors almost 400 kids in Nyamuswa and Mugumu, two remote villages in Mara Region. PZ has also helped build several classrooms and teachers houses. Several other FOT members are on the board. For more, go to: www.projectzawadi.org.

Charles Sloan, Jr./Tanzanian Education Fund. Charles (PCV late 90's) founded TEF some 10 years ago to fill the need for a secondary school in Bagamoyo. The school now has over 300 boys and girls including an upper school and its student success rate is among the highest in Tanzania. The school welcomes volunteers in the fall to take part in an English immersion course for incoming Form I students. For more, go to: www.tanzaniaeducation.org.

Stan Muessle/Global Outreach. Stan volunteered with Global Volunteers ten years ago in a secondary school near Iringa where his daughter was employed coordinating volunteers. As a retired IBM executive he realized the urgent need for computer labs in the schools. His group, Global Outreach, has now built and equipped computer labs in a number of schools around Iringa. In cooperation with Tumaini University and Ruaha College in Iringa, Global

Outreach provides training to teachers and a maintenance and technical advice center to keep all the labs functioning. Several FOT members who taught in the Iringa area have sponsored a lab at their school through Global Outreach. For more, go to www.Globaloutreachtanzania.org.

Mary Speyer/Bricks and Books. Mary and high school daughter Ashley spent the summer of 2007 working with a school in Moivaro, a village near Arusha, through Cross-Cultural Solutions. Upon her return, Ashley with the help of Mary, and other school friends started Bricks and Books to build a new school in Moivaro. Last summer they were able to visit again and help with the finishing touches on the new school. The group is now looking to expand its work to help other communities find ways to support their schools as well as adding a new classroom in Moivaro. For more, go to www.bricksandbooks.org.

P A S S A G E S

RODGERS STEWART passed away on July 27, 2007 in Boothbay Harbor, ME. Rodgers was a civil engineer in Mbeya from 1961 to 1963. As a member of Tanganyika I, he and his group were among the first Peace Corps volunteers to go into service and were hosted by John Kennedy at a special send-off in the White House Rose Garden. When Rodgers returned from his tour of service, the Peace Corps was so unique that he appeared on the television show "To Tell The Truth." He spent most of his career working for the US government in disaster relief and facilities management and lived in Cabin John, MD.

J. DALE MULLINS passed away on September 19, 2007 at the age of 82 in Edmond, OK. Dale was a professor at the College of National Education in Dar es Salaam from 1968 through 1970 on a contract with Columbia University. He then resumed his career at the University of Central Oklahoma School of Education where he served as Dean for over 14 years. Following his retirement, he and his wife spent several years teaching English in Seoul, Korea. For all of his accomplishments in education, he was initiated into the Oklahoma Educator's Hall of Fame.

STEVE BEAVER passed away at the age of 68 on February 1, 2009 in Bangkok, Thailand. Steve was a teacher at the Tanga Boys Secondary School with the Peace Corps from January 1966 through November 1967. Steve was associated with the Thunderbird School of Global Management in Arizona for many years as Dean of Students. He was among the first members of FOT at its founding in 1991. For the past four years he lived in Thailand where he worked for Webster University. He loved Africa and with his wife led summer safaris to Tanzania and Kenya.

D U E S R E M I N D E R

FOT relies on your dues and donations to continue its development projects in Tanzania, including the projects described on page 5. If the number next to your name on the mailing label of this newsletter isn't a 9 (for 2009), you need to renew right away by sending the membership form below together with

your dues and hopefully a contribution for our project fund. You can also pay your dues and make a donation online at our website, www.FOTanzania.org. We ended the year with 363 members, but we think we should have a lot more. Invite your friends and colleagues from Tanzania to reconnect with Tanzania

by becoming members. If you send us the name and address of a prospective member, we'll be happy to send a sample newsletter and an invitation to join. Send it to info@FOTanzania.org and use the same email address to keep us up to date on any address changes. Don't forget a contribution for projects!

Asante sana!

2009 FOT Membership ~ New/Renewal Membership Form

Please print and return this with your check to:

Friends of Tanzania, P.O. Box 9123, Arlington VA 22219-1123

Check One: New Member Renewal

Name: _____ Date: _____

Name in Tanzania (if different): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone # (home) _____ (work) _____

Email: _____

Service/experience in Tanzania:

Peace Corps Teachers for East Africa Visitor, Other: _____

Place of work: _____ When: _____

Complete as appropriate:

FOT Dues (\$15 regular; \$5 student) _____

Contribution for development projects _____

Natl. Peace Corps Assoc. Dues (optional \$35) _____

TOTAL _____

FOT Projects are funded with contributions from members. Please be generous as every dollar of your contribution goes to projects in Tanzania. FOT's membership year runs from January to December. *See our privacy policy at www.FOTanzania.org.* FOT is a 501c3 charitable organization; your contributions including dues are tax deductible. NPCA dues are not tax deductible.

DIRECTORY 2009

Share YOUR opinion about the FOT Directory.

Normally FOT would be sending out our biennial version of the Directory (2009) to all our members with this issue. Unfortunately, we have found the costs of producing the Directory to be very high; we are also concerned that the Directory material becomes dated over the two-year period. We are therefore reconsidering our options regarding the Directory. Some options are: printing as before, providing a password-protected and continually updated version on our website, and eliminating the Directory but providing members with specific address information at their request. What do you think? Please let us know at info@FOTanzania.org, subject line: DIRECTORY.

Wish you were on a Safari in Tanzania?



You are invited to

SAMOSAS AND FRIENDSHIP

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2009 @ 7:00PM

Safari DC • 4306 Georgia Ave NW • Washington, DC 20011

RSVP to info@FOTanzania.org

We cannot take you to the Ngorongoro Crater, but we can take you to Washington DC's very own Safari DC as an alternative!

Come join us to admire William's "Obamarama" wall, eat samosas, check out some Tuskers and reminisce while listening to some Tanzanian and East African music.

The Samosas are on us! Dinner is on you!

Socialize with like-minded individuals including all of those interested in Tanzania.

Welcome all! Karibuni!



Mbegu Za Urafiki
SEEDS OF FRIENDSHIP

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Marafiki wa Tanzania

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