



Friends of Tanzania /
Marafiki wa Tanzania

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Mbegu za Urafiki

Seeds of Friendship

Newsletter of the Friends of Tanzania/ Marafiki wa Tanzania

Founded 1991

Fall 2008

A GRAIN MILL IN MBEYA

In September 2007, Friends of Tanzania provided a grant of \$3,000 to **Youth Build Future**, an NGO in Mbeya. Their goal was to build a grain mill that would provide employment for disabled people in the community and make life easier for local farmers, women and children who carry grain on their heads to the nearest milling site which was quite a distance.

In their June 2008 progress report, YBF enthusiastically reported a big *“thank you for the grant and that the project is sustained and is helping the community here and changing lives of workers.”* Their goal was accomplished in the building of the mill, installation of the machine *“and put into operation to serve the community, where people used to travel far to get the service of milling cereals for their food and nutrition.”*



Youth Build Future's Grain Mill in Mbeya provides employment to the disabled.

Additionally, since receiving the funds and generating a profit from the sale of the grain, Youth Build Future was *“able to plaster and cement our nursery school and buy*



sweaters for the children at the nursery school.” Thank you to all FOT members for their help.



President's Report

After 43 years away, this summer I returned to Tanzania. It was very exciting. During our three weeks my husband, Dennis, and I visited 8 FOT projects, made many contacts and saw potential projects in Northern and Eastern Tanzania. Seeing my old school (Kifungilo in Lushoto) was a highlight as I remembered with tears my challenging and happy days teaching there. To see how they had met new challenges was inspiring.

My trip made me want to do even more to help those projects FOT had already helped and to grow FOT's ability to respond to further needs there. The photo below shows me and water committee members at the Shashui Water Project in Lushoto District, a project supported by FOT.

I am very happy to report that David Memory, a long time FOT member from North Carolina (PCV, Tanzania, 1965-67), contributed \$25,000 to our project fund in October.



Candy Warner and Shashui Water Project committee members at the FOT supported water project in the Lushoto area.

His gift is our largest donation ever. He has asked us to use it to keep on with the kinds of projects we have been doing over the years. We are so grateful for his generosity which will allow us to support more good projects in the future. There are so many places where we can make a difference in people's lives in Tanzania and we are counting on everyone's continued help and support as we go forward. In the meantime, we express our enormous gratitude to David.

FOT's Safari Club event in Washington, DC last May was energetic. We found new members and made new contacts for some projects. In the summer, Board members met with the Ambassador to the USA, Ombeni Sefue, and one of our Board members met President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete as well. There is so much to learn about Tanzanian development and FOT wants to be a better source of information for its members and the public.

Thanks to all who serve FOT so generously with their time and talents. This year we see two long active members of FOT come to the end of their Board terms – again. Craig Hafner and John Hatch. In addition, Mwamoyo Hamza and Mary Segall had to resign due to new job responsibilities. With a heart full of thanks for what all four have done, **asante sana!** We will need new Board members and I hope you will consider Dick Geltman's request further in the newsletter.

I am thankful for the creative ways you have of giving (see the article later) and that includes your time as well. **YOU ALL MAKE FOT HAPPEN!! ASANTE SANA!**

Board of Directors

Candy Warner, President
Chair, Finance Committee

Dick Geltman, Vice President
Chair, Governance

Noreen Mucha, Secretary
Chair, Outreach

Kyle Green
Treasurer & Webmaster

Dan Ehrenberg

John Hatch

Craig Hafner

Paula Hillery
Chair, Communications

Paula Kenworthy

Malcolm Morris
Chair, Fundraising &
Membership

Karen Schaefer
Chair, Projects

Mary Segall

Board Coordinators

Rachel Saidi
Membership

Peter De Simone
Editor Newsletter

Marolyn Hatch
Treasurer's Assistant

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

FOT Projects News

Already in 2008, the FOT Projects Committee has responded to 44 inquiries resulting in 40 applications received. After much committee review, questions, correspondence and finally Board review, we were able to fund 14 projects so far this year. Since reporting to you in the Spring newsletter, 11 more projects have been funded for a total of \$26,180. I want to thank Mary Segall for her tireless work on the committee and for her contributions to FOT as she heads off to her new assignment in Palestine. And many thanks to all FOT members for the extra donations received to make these awards possible.

Karen Schaefer
Projects Chairwoman

FOT Projects Funded from March 2008 – October 2008

\$2,330 to the **Sylaseveso Organization** to teach carpentry, tailoring, and business skills to **unemployed young people** in **Tabora** town. A portion of the profits generated by the businesses will be used to continue the training program.

\$3000 for a **reforestation project in Njombe**, Iringa Region. This ongoing project is run by the **Njombe West Environmental Conservation Association**. The funds will be used to purchase seeds and equipment for a tree nursery. (Part of the funds for this project were given in memory of Mark Raymaker.)

\$3000 to the **Women's Department of the African Inland Church in Kambarage Province, Shinyanga Region**. The women's group will purchase sewing machines and tailoring material to **train local women in tailoring skills**. Ten percent of the income generated by the tailoring project will be used to support the on-going training program.

\$1500 to the **Ebeneza Group for a dairy cattle project in Kahama, Shinyanga**. The group will purchase dairy cows and use the profits received from the sale of milk and meat to help in their efforts to feed and assist orphaned children.

\$1500 for the purchase of **classroom furniture** and teaching equipment for the **Maranatha primary school in Kigoma town**. Last year Friends of Tanzania provided Maranatha funds for a roof for their new classroom building.

\$650 to the **Tanzania Self-Development Trust Fund (TASEDEFU) of Dar es Salaam** to purchase tools for a carpentry training center for disadvantaged youth.

\$2,900 for five in-ground **rainwater harvesting tanks which will be constructed in Kagera Region**. The **Mavuno** Improvement for Community Relief and Services organization is coordinating the project. The funds from FOT will be used to purchase cement and corrugated iron sheets for the project.

\$2,800 for **drilling boreholes and preparing hand water pumps** for a water project in Ruvuma region. The **Community Consulting and Training Organization** will provide \$4,000 for awareness training and follow-up to the project.

\$5000 to support the **Shashui Water Project in Lushoto, Tanga Region**. This application came to FOT through our partners, the Britain Tanzania Society. Phases 1 and 2 of the project have already been completed and successfully bring a reliable, clean water supply to 41% of the Shashui villagers. Phase 3 will extend the water supply to the remaining Shashui population of over 1700 people.

\$3000 for materials to build a **girls' dormitory at the St. Joseph Vocational Training Centre in Songea, Ruvuma Region**. The Sisters of St. Agnes run the center where both boys and girls who are school leavers receive training in tailoring, cooking, plumbing installation, carpentry and mechanics. The Sisters of St. Agnes will contribute an additional \$2000 towards the project.

\$500 to the **Sakale Development Foundation in Muheza, Tanga Region** to expand an existing **tree nursery**. The Sakale Development Foundation provides fruit tree and other tree seedlings to local villagers and informs them about issues of environmental protection. The FOT grant will be used to purchase composite manure and materials to build bamboo boxes for tree seedlings.

HIV/AIDS in Tanzania

Throughout the years, Friends of Tanzania has assisted many suffering from the effects of HIV and AIDS. From orphans left homeless, to communities extending care and resources, FOT has been there -- educating girls in Moshi, training women in Shinyanga, sports equipment for youths in Songea, bicycles for care givers in Mbeya. All have helped alleviate the suffering faced by individuals and communities throughout Tanzania and helped promote the best in young people and provide caring nurturing environments.

The population of Tanzania is approximately 39 million with about 44% under age 15. It is estimated that 7% of adults ages 15-49 are infected with HIV with women being affected more than men. Across Tanzania, 85% of the population are unaware of their HIV status, further compromising their health and increasing their vulnerability to opportunistic infections. As a result, 48,000 newborns are infected each year. Currently, only 32,000 Tanzanians receive ART, though the government aims to provide 400,000 people antiretroviral therapy in 2008. The United States government is the largest donor through the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), which was reauthorized on July 30, 2008 at a level of \$3.168 billion over five years in Tanzania. This greatly expands treatment, prevention, and care for orphans and vulnerable children and the health infrastructure.

For more information go to: www.pepfar.gov and for the Tanzanian Commission on AIDS: <http://tac aids.go.tz>

Young people in Songea checking out the new sports equipment purchased by the PAFABECA organization. Friends of Tanzania provided PAFABECA a grant of \$500 to purchase equipment to be used in their sports program, which targets young people at risk of contracting HIV/AIDS.



Neema

Meet Neema the cow. The Ebeneza Group purchased Neema with funds provided by Friends of Tanzania. With Neema, and FOT's grant of \$1500, the Ebeneza Group has launched its dairy cattle project.



The Ebeneza Group provides day care and purchases school supplies for a group of orphaned children in Shinyanga. The organization first approached Friends of Tanzania with a request for beds and bedding for the children. A short paragraph in this initial application mentioned the Ebeneza Group's hopes for developing an animal breeding project that would, in the future, supply a stream of revenue to cover the children's needs. Because FOT prefers to support sustainable projects that generate income, instead of considering Ebeneza's request for bedding, the FOT projects committee urged Ebeneza to focus on their livestock breeding plans.

Out of this fortuitous meeting of minds came Neema, the first of two cows purchased by the Ebeneza Group. Neema and her stall mate will provide the children with milk, and later, income from the sale of the cows' offspring will help cover the ongoing expenses of educating the 26 orphans cared for by the Ebeneza Group.

Maybe you would like to support their need for bedding? Contact us at info@FOTanzania.org.

Some Special Project Gifts

In addition to all of our regular gifts to projects, we have had some special gifts this year:

- One of our members in North Carolina is making a special gift of his distribution from an IRA.
- Two members in Colorado donated 20% of the sales from their toffee business in August (by the way you can order it at www.vernstoffee.com).
- A member from Montana is making a gift every month instead of just once a year.
- One of our members in Colorado arranged for a \$500 matching gift from his former employer's foundation in Yellow Springs, Ohio.
- A New York member nominated FOT for a \$500 grant from the Nassau Educators Federal Credit Union.
- A member from Wisconsin makes a contribution every year in memory of his brother who served in the Peace Corps in Tanzania

We are grateful for everyone's help in funding our projects, which are such an important part of FOT. If any of these ideas sound like something you could do, please go right ahead. If you haven't given anything to our projects fund this year or if you can give more, please send it to FOT, PO Box 9123, Arlington, Va. 22219 or go to our website and donate there. **We need everyone's help! THANK YOU!!!!!!!**

The Millennium Challenge Corporation Aid to Tanzania Begins

The Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 was signed into law in January 2004. It reorganizes the delivery of foreign aid to developing countries. Its implementing structure is a government corporation, the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), with a chief executive officer and a board of directors led by the Secretary of State. It is the source for the \$698 million commitment that President George Bush made to Tanzania during his February 2008 visit.

Its stated purposes are good governance (efficiency, transparency, anti-corruption), economic freedom (capitalism), and investment in people (transportation, human rights, advancement of women and girls, etc.). Specific purposes of the Tanzania grant are: rehabilitating roads and highways, and expanding and strengthening power and water systems.

The Tanzanian grant includes \$373 million for transportation (roads, airports); \$206 million for energy expansion and reliability, and \$66 million for water projects. Specific projects include rehabilitating and upgrading three trunk roads, five rural roads on Pemba Island, and the Mafia Island airport; a submarine electric cable between the mainland and Zanzibar, constructing a hydropower plant on Malagarasi River, and improving infrastructure distribution systems to six underserved areas, and improving water systems for Morogoro and Dar es Salaam.

Criticism of MCC has included its slow start and an obstacle course of bureaucratic barriers. However, Tanzanian media report that project money started to flow in September 2008.

Tanzania News Briefs

- There are 12,000 plant species in Tanzania. About one-quarter have medicinal value. 80% of the rural population relies on the 80,000 traditional healers who utilize various plants. The Institute of Traditional Medicine at Muhimbili University College of Health Sciences conducts research on traditional healing methods and materials. August 31 was celebrated as Traditional Medicine Day.
- Tanzanians report that funding through the Millennium Challenge Corporation (USA) will begin flowing to Tanzania in September 2008 and will include \$373 million for transportation (roads, airports); \$206 million for energy expansion and reliability, and \$66 million for water projects. Specific projects include rehabilitating and upgrading three trunk roads, five rural roads on Pemba Island, and the Mafia Island airport; a submarine electric cable between the mainland and Zanzibar, constructing a hydropower plant on Malagarasi River, and improving infrastructure.
- A new Conservation College will be launched in Arusha sponsored by the International Conservation Caucus.

FOT Seeks New Board Members

Would you like to serve as a member of the FOT Board of Directors? Do you know someone who could help FOT in its work and might be interested in this rewarding and enjoyable opportunity?

Board Members serve for two years. There are up to ten meetings a year, generally in the Washington D.C. area. Board members can join each meeting by telephone. Board Members are expected to serve on at least one committee and to attend most board meetings. (Occasional absences are understood.)

To nominate yourself or someone you know, please send your name, with a short paragraph (less than a page) describing your connection with Tanzania and the skills, experience and interests you would bring to the Board.

Send this information, or any questions you might have to Dick Geltman at rgeltman@comcast.net. Nominations and expressions of interest should be received by November 24, 2008.

FOT Local Chapter Highlights

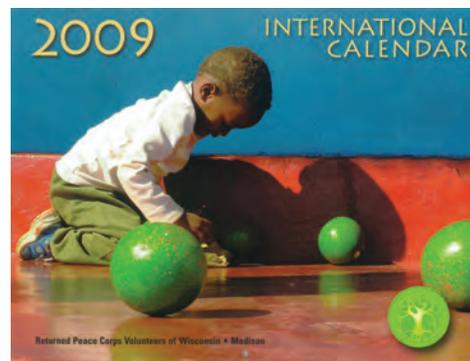
- **Missouri Chapter:** Peter de Simone reports that his group participated in a MultiCultural Fair in the Capital, Jefferson City, on October 4. Hundreds of people viewed the exhibit of arts and crafts organized by local Tanzanians who also sold batiks.

- **Colorado Chapter:** Pat Kelley and Craig Hafner hosted a pot-luck party at their home in Boulder, Colorado in late April which brought together more than 25 current and future FOT members to discuss the formation of the Colorado Chapter. The group agreed to share information and ideas for potential projects in Tanzania to support and to get together periodically.

- FOT is in talks with some Northern Florida members to start a group there.

2009 International Calendars for Sale

\$15 will put into your hands, postage paid, the daily informative and visually stunning calendar produced annual by the RPCVs of Wisconsin. Through early bulk purchase, FOT received a reduced rate which allows us to sell them to you and raise funds for FOT projects. They make unique holiday gifts and last longer than a bottle of wine as a "thank you" gift on visiting someone. Order more than one and share the enjoyment! Use the Membership Form on page 7 to order your calendars or send funds separately to the address there.



Dues Reminder

FOT relies on your dues and donations to support its development projects in Tanzania including the most recent projects described on page 3. We are now seeking dues and donations for our 2009 membership year. Make sure you are up to date by checking your mailing label. If it has a 9, you are already paid through December 2009. If it has an 8, we would welcome your renewal now or early next year. If it has a 7 or less, you are really late and need to renew right away. Please help get us off to a good start on our projects by making a donation in addition to your dues and by being as generous as you can. Our membership/renewal form is on page 7. Asante sana.

FOT Treasurer's Report

October 16, 2008

As reported in our last newsletter, we began 2008 with \$11,265 remaining in uncommitted funds. Since January 1, 2008 we have received \$43,093 in income from dues, all donations, NPCA dues and calendar sales.

During 2008, we authorized expenditures of \$32,274 including \$27,780 on 14 FOT projects approved to date. In the same period we had other expenses amounting to \$4,494 including wire transfer fees, NPCA individual member dues, committee costs and the Spring newsletter. On October 16, 2008 the amount remaining in uncommitted funds is \$22,084. - Kyle Green, Treasurer

A Gift Idea for the Holidays

This holiday season, consider a gift to Friends of Tanzania - a gift that keeps on giving - on behalf of your family, friends or co-workers. They can share in the joy of the season as they participate in our projects through your gift. We can provide you FOT brochures to distribute to announce your gift. Contact info@FOTanzania.org.

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: _____ Country: _____

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 _____

Calendars # _____ at \$15 @ _____

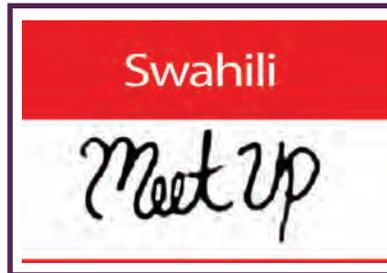
Natl. PC Assoc. Dues (optional \$35) _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

FOT projects are funded with contributions from members. Please be as generous as possible 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 501(c)(3) charitable organization; your contributions including dues are tax deductible. NPCA dues are not tax deductible.

Want to learn Swahili or keep up your Swahili language skills? Start a local Swahili- Meet-Up group **in your city!** These are social meet-ups open to anyone who speaks Swahili (including natives) or who wants to learn Swahili on a regular basis. You can also plan culturally related meet-ups such as cooking, East African movie screening, etc. There is a nominal fee to use the meetup.com website portal and it requires a committed organizer. Go to <http://swahili.meetup.com/> for more details.



Swahili Meet-Up Groups already established:

New York - 122 members,

Toronto - 44 members

Cambridge - 22 members

Washington D.C. - 130 members. Start one in your area.



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