

# KHOTSO

January 2009



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## Message from the Country Director



January marks many things. In the Gregorian calendar, we begin our year 2009. It's the year of the Ox in the Chinese calendar (beginning January 26), the year 5769 in the Hebrew Calendar, the year 1430 in the Hijiri (Islamic) calendar, and the Buddhist year is 2553 or 2552 depending upon when you start counting. More interestingly for Americans, this January, 2009 we will celebrate the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. on January 19 and on January 20 we will observe the inauguration of the first African American President of the United States. This coincidental juxtaposition should not be dismissed. It may actually mean something.

Time moves along as it will, as we humans strive to put order in our world, food in our bowls, dignity in our endeavors and meaning in our existence. Sometimes the great events of our time catch us in their wake and gather us toward a belief that we are part of a purposeful and progressive future spiraling ever up, driven by evolution or ascension. Yet we can witness horrible atrocities perpetrated in the name of protection or service, but more often control, that give each of us a shiver of awareness, the fearful knowledge that we are all of one and the same species with shared instincts as base as they are profound. Our common humanity is more complex than summation of our empathy, our compassion, our capacity for love and for revenge, our

need for security. Our interrelatedness is woven into our DNA and molded by environments made ever closer by technology and our individual need to explore. We are a global human family that is constantly squabbling.

Why would I speak to you, brave volunteers, of such abstract and difficult thoughts? The United States of America is about to inaugurate a President who has the ability and the support to unite and to illuminate our shared humanity around the world. Whatever you may think politically, this is a moment in the progress of humankind that must happen if there is ever to be a future without war, without starvation, without hatred. I speak also in these abstract terms so you may consider what you have in common with the people in the Basotho communities where you serve: so that you will look at what unites you with them; so that you may explore what you have in common rather than focus on how you are different.

If this message seems self-indulgent and not relevant to you, then you have my apologies. But some times the rant of Don Quixote has just as much impact as the practical advice of a coach.

Khotso Pula Nala.

Ted Mooney  
Country Director

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## From the Editor's Desk

Articles must be received by the 4th Monday of the month to be included in the following month's edition of the Khotso. **When submitting articles, please list the name of the person making the submission and a contact person for follow-up questions.** The Newsletter will be mailed on or about the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month. Please make sure that your mailing address is on file at the Peace Corps office.

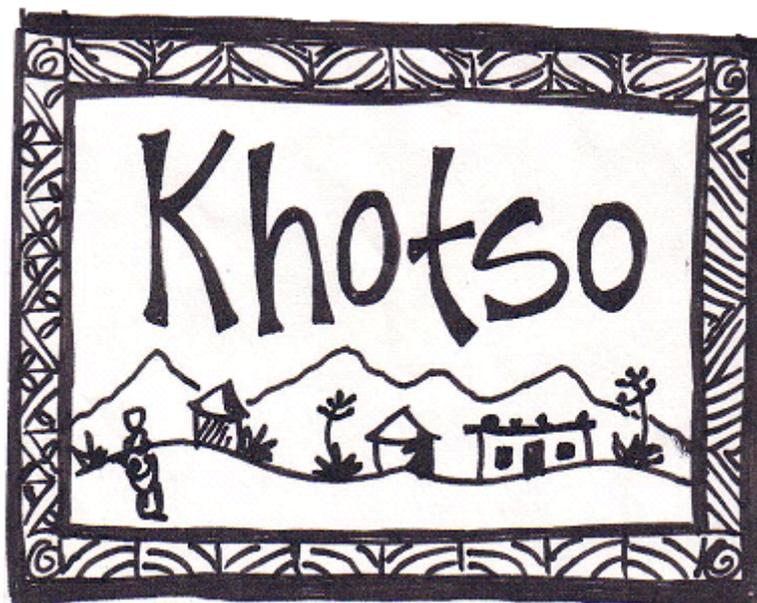
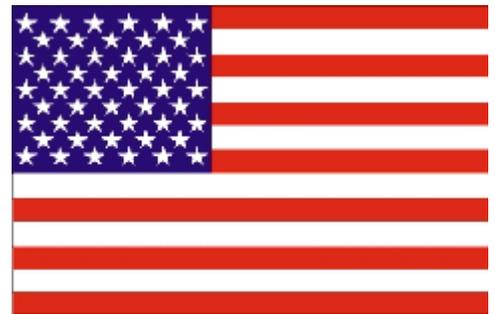
The editorial staff would like feedback from PCVs regarding the content. It is our desire to provide you with information that is informative, useful, helpful, and encouraging. We would appreciate receiving constructive feedback from you as to whether the information contained in this newsletter met your needs.

By submitting articles, you are providing Peace Corps Lesotho with the right to reprint your article in full or part in any publication.

Deepak Pullanikkatil  
Editor



Editorial



## PCV Birthdays

*Birthday greeting goes out to the following PCVs. The Peace Corps Lesotho staff sends you greeting and hope that you have a very prosperous year.*



### January

Stapleton, Janice	Jan. 1
Burk, Brett	Jan. 19
Souza, Alyssa	Jan. 20
Amirahmadi, Sasha	Jan. 25
Bradford, Barbara	Jan. 28
Banton, Rebecca	Jan. 29

### February

Dissen, Michael	Feb. 3
Tipsword, Jacqueline	Feb. 11
Cosimano, Sarah	Feb. 13
Lonergan, Akoua	Feb. 15
Chaudhary, Shafiq	Feb. 19
Prime, Robert	Feb. 19
Staudacher, Amber	Feb. 26
Jens, Nora	Feb. 28

### March

Kremnitzer, Kelly	Mar. 8
Orazio, Margaret	Mar. 10
Field, Jason	Mar. 13
Leaf, Kaitlin	Mar. 16
Thompson, Kaye	Mar. 20
Strain, Mandy	Mar. 24
Gordon, Ellen	Mar. 26
Hall, Eric	Mar. 29
Scheunemann, Ann	Mar. 31

Foreign Service Officer written exams will be administered February 7 – 14, 2009. More information will be provided at the date approaches. PCVs who are interested should register for the exam on-line.

### FROM VAC—Volunteer Advisory Council

With the Ed 07 group COSing, VAC lost 3 members. We would like to thank Kyla Kachman, Graham Hall, and Todd Ellick for the time and commitment to VAC and the Peace Corps.

I have been on VAC for two and a half years and the chair for the last year. I have seen the impact VAC can have on the lives of PCVs. I have appreciated the opportunity to serve on the VAC committee. Things

can change for the better through VAC. VAC helps PC staff find solutions.

Below is a list of the current VAC members:

Mokhotlong—Ben Shasby—co-chair  
 Butha-Buthe—Kevin Malone  
 Leribe—Tarsha Veiga  
 Berea—Merrill Nosler  
 Maseru—Robbie Prime  
 Mafeteng—Anne Marie Jackson—co-chair  
 Mohale's Hoek—Alyssa Souza  
 Quthing—Clare Dreyfus  
 Qacha's Nek—Megan Kelly  
 Thaba Tseka—Rebecca Reilly

VAC meets on a quarterly basis. The next VAC meeting with PC staff will be held on 9 February 2009. All VAC members should arrive on 8 February 2009 for meeting with the committee. Reservations at the T Center have been made. VAC members please remember, if you are unable to attend a meeting please send a substitute from your district.

Thanks, Becky Banton

### FoL (Friends of Lesotho) Grants

The next VAC meeting is February 9, 2009. If you want to apply for a Friends of Lesotho (FOL) grant, make sure your application is in by February 8<sup>th</sup>. Please place applications in the committee box in the VRC or give them to your VAC representative. You can apply for up to R500 per quarter. These grants are for small projects in your communities.

For those of you that have been granted applications, please make sure you write a thank you letter, turn in your receipts, and give a photo (electronically or printed) so that we can send information back to Friends of Lesotho. However, please remember PCVs who do not return reporting documents will not be allowed to reapply for grants the next quarter. Reporting documents include: thank you letters, pictures, and receipts.

If you have any questions about FOL grants, contact your VAC representative or Becky Banton. Thank you. There is an application attached to the Khotso.

PCV News Corner



**Staff Birthdays**



**January**

Deepak Pullanikkatil January 22  
Margaret Putsoa January 23

**February**

Dr. Johnson Fatokun February 21

**March**

Bernard Letsella March 15  
Fumane Tsehlana March 20  
Mamothe Mohapi March 6

**Peace Corps Lesotho Holidays**

**January**

January 1— New Year Day (US/LS Holiday)\*  
January 19—Martin Luther King Jr. Day (US Holiday)\*

**February**

February 16—Presidents' Day (US Holiday)\*

**March**

March 11— Moshoeshoe Day (LS Holiday)\*

\* PC Lesotho remains closed on this day.

**CHED Corner** By Maria Finch

**Special Request: This is due at All Vol!!!!...**

**CHED Volunteer Resource Guide Revisited!**

As I think you all know, I really encourage you to use each other as resources. Each of you has particular skills, perspectives, and experiences that may be very helpful to your fellow Volunteers.

I recently received a great idea from one of our new CHED members...create a guide to CHED Volunteers...who knows how to build keyhole gardens? Who has business expertise? Who has procured and planted trees at no cost? Who knows how to knit? Etc. Etc.

**Action:** I would like to request that the next time you are in town or can get online, please e - m a i l me ([mfinch@peacecorps.gov](mailto:mfinch@peacecorps.gov)) your particular areas of expertise. Please include: work skills,

perspectives, hobbies, and anything else you'd like people to know and that you'd be game to share. If you are able to take along a PCV friend on a work activity that might be beneficial to see firsthand, please include that as well.

I will compile a book and distribute it to all of you by All Vol at the latest. I'm really excited about this because I think each of you is a wonderful resource and it will be great to share your expertise with each other. **Note:** I have gotten a few of these now and they are wonderful. Please get yours in today so we can circulate this!

**The next CHED group**

The next CHED group will be arriving in June 2009. Please let me or Jimi know if you have ideas about good sites for our new volunteers. Volunteers have helped us develop some of the best sites in the past

through their excellent contacts and insider knowledge. We welcome your suggestions! Thanks!

**Maria's Musings**

I hope all of you have had very happy holidays! I hope you have taken plenty of time to relax and enjoy the company of good friends, and for some of you, your families. It's really hard to believe that 2008 is almost over! This has been very busy year for all of us! Thank you for all of your hard work, patience, dedication, flexibility, and stick-to-it-ive-ness. Lesotho is very lucky to have you and I am grateful for the chance to work with each and every one of you. I look forward to seeing you all at All Vol and to working with you in 2009. May 2009 be a wonderful year for all of you!



*Staff Corner  
CHED Corner*



**Health Corner** By Dr. J, Arlene and Mamotena

We don't remember days, but moments. Life is moving too fast- so enjoy your precious moments-

What Women Should Know Before They Get a Pap and HPV Test

Genital human papillomavirus (HPV) is a very common virus in men and women. It is passed on through genital contact, most often during vaginal and anal sex.

Most sexually active people will get HPV at some time in their lives, though most will never know it because HPV usually has no signs or symptoms. There are about 40 types of

genital HPV. In most cases, HPV goes away within two years, without causing any health problems. It is thought that the immune system fights off HPV infection naturally.

But sometimes, HPV doesn't go away within two years. Certain HPV types can linger on a woman's cervix and cause cell changes. These changes can lead to cervical cancer over time, if left untreated.

You can prevent cervical cancer by getting regular Pap tests and following up as recommended by your health care provider. The Pap test can find cell changes (caused by HPV) on your cervix. That way, cell changes can be treated before

they turn into cancer.

In the states your health care provider may use a new HPV test with the Pap test. The HPV test can find out if you have the types of HPV that are linked to cervical cancer. This test can help your HCP decide how soon you should be screened again, and what if any other tests you need. Take charge of your health by getting screened for cervical cancer, making sure you get your test results and medical care if recommended.

Have a safe and wonderful holiday. May your holiday be full of happy and warm memories. See you next year.

**Education Corner** By Clement and Malitaba

Khotsong bo 'm'e le bo nate,

Compliments of the new season, we hope you have all enjoyed your vacation.

Since it's a new year and we have a new group that arrived in November, 2008 and they

are still in Training. They now know their sites and they are happy. So let's welcome them to Peace Corps family in Lesotho. We hope that they will enjoy their first year in the Mountain Kingdom so lets give them a support so that they feel at home in Lesotho For

those who don't know that they have new people in their districts, see the Placement attachment.

**NB:** Please submit your Trimester reports if you know that you haven't submit them on time.

Health Corner  
Education Corner



<b>Education Sites - FY2009</b>			
<b>PCV name</b>	<b>Sites</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Mailing Address</b>
<b>Resource Teachers</b>			
1 Victor Cuevas	ECCD/Thaba Tseka	Thaba Tseka	Ed. Office, P.O. Box 170, Thaba Tseka 550
2 Nicole Evans	ECCD/Ha Shepheseli	Botha Bothe	Ed. Office, P.O. Box 230, Botha Bothe 400
3 Jacqueline Tipword	ECCD/Morija	Maseru	P.O. Box 68, Morija 190
4 David Gluck	Lesotho College of Ed	Semonkong/Maseru	LCE, P. O. Box 1393, Maseru 100
5 Margaret Orazio	Lesotho College of Ed	Moteng/BothaBothe	Ed. Office, P.O. Box 230, Botha Bothe 400
6 Michael Disen	Sefako Primary	Botha Bothe	P.O. Box 118, Thaka Banna 420
7 Janice Stapleton	Ribaneng Primary	Mafeteng	P.O. Box 244, Motsekuoa
<b>Secondary Education</b>			
1 Melody Murray	St. Denis High	Leribe	P.O. Box 110, Ha Khabo 460
2 John Anhalt	Lerotholi HS	Maseru	P.O. Box 264, Machache 130
3 Amanda Wilson	Ngoana Jesu Secondary	Maseru	P.O. Box 458, Mazenod 160
4 Kelly Kremnitzer	Tsakholo High	Mafeteng	P.O. Box 7, Tsakholo 960
5 Karen Lindquist	St. Agnes High	Berea	P.O. Box 44, Teyatefaneng 200
6 Ellen Gordon	Qhalasi Secondary	Mohale's Hoek	P.O. Box 137, Mohaleshoek
7 Kaitlin Leaf	Matsie SS	Mohale's Hoek	Private Bag F039, Mohale's Hoek, 800
8 Cullen Wade	Maletsema Secondary	Mohale's Hoek	Private Bag F002, Mohale's Hoek, 800
9 Gwen Kehr	Mphaki High	Quthing	P.O. Box 112, Mt. Moorosi Quthing, 750
10 Brett Burk	Tebellong Secondary	Qacha's Nek	P.O. Box 342, Qachas' Nek 600
11 John Murphy	St. Theresa Secondary	Thaba Tseka	P.O. Box 146, Thaba Tseka 550
12 Phillip Youngren	Sefako HS	Botha Bothe	P.O. Libono, Botha Bothe 422

## AFRICAN LIBRARY PROJECT

Congratulations to all African Library Project library applicants. Below is a list of libraries that have a partner. There are currently three libraries that have yet to be partnered, but we're still hoping they will get partnered. We have 49 libraries approved so far this year.

We are hoping to conduct libraries visits before the books arrive to talk to your library committee, and conduct library workshops after the books arrive. So, we need to set up two library visits over the next year. We will also be working with libraries that received books in previous years. So, Education 09 be ready for library visits as well.

Remember that the goal is to create sustainable libraries. So, working with the school or community to get them involved and taking responsibility for the library is crucial to the success of the libraries. If you find that your school or community has lost interest or not working to make the library successful, please let us know.

The "us" and "we" talked about in the above message are Becky Banton at 5801-6350 and Anne Marie Jackson at 5857-8363. Please let us know if you have any questions. Check out the list on page 7 and let me know if you see problems. The list is up-to-date as of 22 December, 2008 at 5:02 pm.

### New Source for Library Books/Information on Obtaining Sara Comic Books

When I was in Maseru a few weeks ago I went to the Primary Education Inspectorate to talk to a woman about getting a set of Sara comic books. I had gone to UNICEF and talked with a woman there who said that they gave their comic books to the Inspectorate to distribute. The woman I talked to said that they had shipped most of their comic books to Ministries of Education in each district. From there the books are supposed to be given out to schools, but I don't think that there is a system in place for assuring that the books are distributed. So if anyone is looking for some of the Sara comics, you could try the ministry in your district to see if they have some.

Also, this woman told me that they regularly get book donations from overseas. They are, from what she said, general story books, science books, basically whatever people want to send. They have a warehouse room where they keep them before distributing them to the districts. The woman said that she would be interested in coordinating with volunteers to get the books out to students in the district. This would help ensure that the books actually make it out to the schools, and that they are being properly used instead of being locked away. She is more interested in donating books to school libraries but said she would be willing to give books to community libraries as well. Also, she works with primary schools only, but is contacting her counterpart who works with secondary schools to get him involved. If anyone is interested in receiving books to supplement books from the African Library Project or a library that's already established, text me your name and site (59093454). My contact at the inspectorate asked me to make a list of interested volunteers so that she could start getting books together. This is a new idea and I'm not sure how many books I can get, but it might depend on the number of interested people. This also might be a quicker way to get some books than the African Library Project. Right now I'm trying to get this up and running, so give me your info and I'll do what I can to get this new contact functional.



PCV Life

AFRICAN LIBRARY PROJECT

#	PCV	Wannabe Library	District	Book Drive Contact	Book Drive Email
	Sarah Cossi-			Beverly Cossi-	<a href="mailto:bevcosi-mano@gmail.com">bevcosi-mano@gmail.com</a>
1	mano	Holy Names High School	Berea	mano	
2	Akoua Longan Caroline	*Khokhoba/Ha Lebeso Community	Berea	Renna Paley	<a href="mailto:paley@chezpaley.com">paley@chezpaley.com</a>
3	Decker Allison	*St. Agnes Primary	Berea	Judy Decker	<a href="mailto:nalot@cheerful.com">nalot@cheerful.com</a>
4	Schmale Merrill	*Mokoallong Primary and Secondary Schools	Berea	Mona Mense	<a href="mailto:mense@egyptian.net">mense@egyptian.net</a>
5	Nosler	St. Andrews Primary School and Community Library	Berea	Denise Marshall	<a href="mailto:nise@mtwebworks.com">nise@mtwebworks.com</a>
6	Liz Allen	*Assumption High School	Berea	Craig Decker	<a href="mailto:er1@cinci.rr.com">er1@cinci.rr.com</a>
7	Liz Allen	*Shalon Primary School	Berea	Dr. Laidley	<a href="mailto:drlaidley@gmail.com">drlaidley@gmail.com</a>
8	Liz Allen	*Tsoelangpele Primary School	Berea	Amber Bradshaw Mary Jeanne	<a href="mailto:shaw.amber@gmail.com">shaw.amber@gmail.com</a>
9	Ben Klein	Makhoroana ECCD Centres	Berea Butha-	Oliva	<a href="mailto:olivami@earthlink.net">olivami@earthlink.net</a>
10	Jen Warren Kaye	Mopeli Primary School, BB	Buthe	Nick Straus	<a href="mailto:nstraus@yahoo.com">nstraus@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:coycross2@yahoo.com">coycross2@yahoo.com</a>
11	Thompson Kaye	*St. Rose High School	Leribe	Coy Cross	<a href="mailto:mnickep@yale.edu">mnickep@yale.edu</a>
12	Thompson Kaye	Ralehlatsa Secondary School	Leribe	Nick Epple	<a href="mailto:ple@yahoo.com">ple@yahoo.com</a>
13	Thompson Kristan	*St. Rose Primary School	Leribe	Jill Bacon	<a href="mailto:Jill.Bacon@adosolutio.com">Jill.Bacon@adosolutio.com</a>
14	Reed	*Menkhoaneng Primary School	Leribe	Marion Moore Nancy Imamura	<a href="mailto:rammgm@msn.com">rammgm@msn.com</a>
15	Tara Stone Kaye	Molapo High School	Leribe	mura	<a href="mailto:imamura@4j.lane.edu">imamura@4j.lane.edu</a>
16	Thompson	*Rantuba Primary School	Leribe	Jozeffa Greer Nancy and	<a href="mailto:jozeffa@mac.com">jozeffa@mac.com</a> <a href="mailto:nrdanley@suddenlink.net">nrdanley@suddenlink.net</a>
17	Nora Jens Kaye	*Tsikoane Area ECCD	Leribe	Roger Danley	<a href="mailto:canoe-woman50@yahoo.com">canoe-woman50@yahoo.com</a>
18	Thompson Kelly Fern-	Mopeli Primary School, Peka	Leribe	Rebecca Judge	<a href="mailto:mzdiersen@ikm-manning.k12.ia.us">mzdiersen@ikm-manning.k12.ia.us</a>
19	eding Karrin	*Mafeteng Hospital	Mafeteng	Zane Diersen Maria Petropulos	<a href="mailto:mpetropulos@fowlerusd.org">mpetropulos@fowlerusd.org</a>
20	Parker Karrin	*Boleka Primary School	Mafeteng	los	
21	Parker Karrin	*Tanka Primary and ECCD	Mafeteng	Nancy Persons Maria Petropulos	<a href="mailto:npersons@bssd.org">npersons@bssd.org</a> <a href="mailto:mpetropulos@fowlerusd.org">mpetropulos@fowlerusd.org</a>
22	Parker Karrin	*Ha Moholi ECCD	Mafeteng	los	<a href="mailto:pcoshun@kewaunee.k12.wi.us">pcoshun@kewaunee.k12.wi.us</a>
23	Parker Anne Marie	*Maholi Primary School	Mafeteng	Pam	
24	Jackson Lorian Wyz-	*Mt Tabor High School	Mafeteng	Ann Gleek Maria Petropulos	<a href="mailto:GleekA@gips.org">GleekA@gips.org</a> <a href="mailto:mpetropulos@fowlerusd.org">mpetropulos@fowlerusd.org</a>
25	inski Lorian Wyz-	*Siloe High School	Mafeteng	los	<a href="mailto:los@fowlerusd.org">los@fowlerusd.org</a> <a href="mailto:wcheung@palomar.edu">wcheung@palomar.edu</a>
26	inski Maya Wash-	*Bereng High School	Mafeteng	Wing	<a href="mailto:uamynhan-son@gmail.com">uamynhan-son@gmail.com</a>
27	ington Alyssa	Nazareth Mission Community Library	Maseru	Amy Hanson	
28	Souza Alyssa	Good Shephard ECCD/Mohale's Hoek ECCD	Mohale's Hoek	Lois Langenfeld	<a href="mailto:llangenfel@aol.com">llangenfel@aol.com</a>
29	Souza	*Good Shephard Primary School	Hoek Mohale's	Lois Langenfeld	<a href="mailto:llangenfel@aol.com">llangenfel@aol.com</a>
30	Jeremy Keen Nicole Ofori-	Bethel High School	Hoek Mohale's	Rick Keen	<a href="mailto:Rkeenb24@aol.com">Rkeenb24@aol.com</a> <a href="mailto:anne_evans@verizon.net">anne_evans@verizon.net</a>
31	Atta	St. Stephens Upper Primary	Hoek	Anne Evans	

PCV Life





PCV Life

#	PCV	Wannabe Library	District	Book Drive	Book Drive Email
32	Lorian Wyz-inski	*Likuena High School	Mohale's Hoek	Pam	<a href="mailto:pcoshun@kewaunee.k12.wi.us">pcoshun@kewaunee.k12.wi.us</a>
33	Lorian Wyz-inski	*St. Patrick's High School	Hoek	Daniel Khalessi	<a href="mailto:dktennis@yahoo.com">dktennis@yahoo.com</a>
34	Lorian Wyz-inski	Mohale's Hoek English Medium Primary School	Mohale's Hoek	Lori St. Mar-seille	<a href="mailto:lsm104@hotmail.com">lsm104@hotmail.com</a>
35	Violetta	Senkoase High School	Mokhot-	Allison Pranger	<a href="mailto:amatlack@gmail.com">amatlack@gmail.com</a>
36	Kylie Krick	*Malimong Government Primary	Qacha's	Melody Krick	<a href="mailto:bsebl75@gmail.com">bsebl75@gmail.com</a>
37	Kylie Krick	*Mphahama Primary School	Qacha's	Melody Krick	<a href="mailto:bsebl75@gmail.com">bsebl75@gmail.com</a>
38	Kylie Krick	*Noosi Primary School	Qacha's	Melody Krick	<a href="mailto:bsebl75@gmail.com">bsebl75@gmail.com</a>
39	Mandy	*Sehlabathebe Primary	Qacha's	Jill Jones	<a href="mailto:jill6012@att.net">jill6012@att.net</a>
40	Mandy	*Mavuka Primary	Qacha's	Mary Jeanne	
41	Strain	*Tsoelike Secondary School	Nek	Oliva	<a href="mailto:olivamj@earthlink.net">olivamj@earthlink.net</a>
42	Chris Conz	*Leqooa Primary	Qacha's	Alyson Paul	<a href="mailto:paul.alyson@gmail.com">paul.alyson@gmail.com</a>
43	Mandy	*Quthing ECCD Centers	Quthing	Alyson Paul	<a href="mailto:paul.alyson@gmail.com">paul.alyson@gmail.com</a>
44	Clare Drey-	*Katse High School	Thaba	Robbi Heigh-way	<a href="mailto:HeighwaR@matc.edu">HeighwaR@matc.edu</a>
45	fus	*Khohlo-Ntso Primary School	Tseka	Kate Cozad	<a href="mailto:kcozad@cox.net">kcozad@cox.net</a>
46	Madeline	*St. Theresa Primary School	Thaba	Phoebe Har-	<a href="mailto:pulengtefo@gmail.com">pulengtefo@gmail.com</a>
47	Cozad	*Hloahloeng Primary School	Thaba	Alice Pope	<a href="mailto:apbar-">apbar-</a>
48	Phoebe/	*Mashai Primary School	Tseka	Amanda	<a href="mailto:acrogers@lcsc.edu">acrogers@lcsc.edu</a>
49	Pam Rogers	*Setala Primary School	Thaba	Carolyn	<a href="mailto:cmsau-">cmsau-</a>
	Pam Rogers		Thaba	Dr. Laidley	<a href="mailto:drlaidley@gmail.com">drlaidley@gmail.com</a>



### Peace Corps Director Tschetter Visits Volunteers and Attends the International Volunteer Co-operating Organizations (IVCO) Conference in Cambodia

Director visits one of the newer Peace Corps countries and delivers remarks on volunteerism

Siem Reap, Cambodia, November 25, 2008 - Peace Corps Director Ronald A. Tschetter visited Cambodia for the first time since the swearing-in of the initial Peace Corps/Cambodia Volunteers in April 2007.

Director Tschetter traveled with Peace Corps/Cambodia Director Jon Darrah to visit with Peace Corps Volunteers, staff, and local counterparts. A strong supporter of the Peace Corps, U.S. Ambassador to Cambodia Carol Rodley joined the group to tour a High School where Volunteers teach English.

Director Tschetter said in Cambodia, "Our program here is thriving. Cambodia is a fascinating country with such a rich culture, and both the people and the government are great partners. During my site visits I saw our Volunteers at work within your communities. Peace Corps Volunteers who serve in this country are unique in that they teach in a Cambodian school and live with a Cambodian family. They learn the language and culture firsthand. When they return to America, they become Cambodia's ambassadors to the American people."

Currently, there are 57 Peace Corps Volunteers serving in Cambodia. The program promotes the Teaching of English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) and is geared toward classroom teaching of English at the upper secondary school level and at regional teacher training centers.

Volunteers also support local English teachers and trainers through co-teaching to improve their English language and teaching skills. Many Volunteers collaborate with their communities through developing sustainable community activities such as building biogas digesters, raising silk worms, and carrying out sports activities.

Also during this visit, Director Tschetter attended the annual International Volunteer Co-operating Organizations (IVCO) conference entitled, "Local Perspectives Informing Good Practice." The group represents heads of agencies from a number of organizations around the world that send volunteers abroad. Director Tschetter discussed a new initiative at the Peace Corps to promote volunteerism.

In his remarks Director Tschetter said, "I know our organizations share common goals. We desire for people around the world to be empowered to live better lives and transform their own communities. Together we can have great impact through supporting service and service learning around the globe."

### Peace Corps Director Tschetter Visits the Kingdom of Thailand

Visit highlights long partnership between Royal Thai Government and Peace Corps

Bangkok, Thailand, November 24, 2008 - Peace Corps Director Ronald A. Tschetter visited Thailand for the first time as Director, emphasizing the 47-year partnership between the Royal Thai Government and United States Peace Corps.

Upon arrival Director Tschetter met with U.S. Ambassador Eric G. John and Deputy Chief of Mission James F. Entwistle, along with the Deputy Director General of the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency.

Director Tschetter (Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, India 1966-68) and Country Director John Williams (Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, Thailand 1965-67) traveled to Kanchanaburi and Chiangmai provinces to meet current Peace Corps/Thailand Volunteers and their Thai counterparts, and attended the monthly luncheon hosted by a large group of former Peace Corps/Thailand Volunteers.

During his meeting with Mr. Apinan Phatarathiyanon, Deputy Director General of the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency, Director Tschetter said, "Thailand is one of only three countries in the entire world where Peace Corps has had continual service since its founding in 1961. We cherish our relationship with the government and people of Thailand, a true 47-year partnership in every way."

In return, General Phatarathiyanon said, "We have a long and honored history with Peace Corps. I

From the  
Director's Desk





*From the  
Director's Desk &  
General Peace Corps  
News*

tell your Volunteers, you are American Ambassadors while here and once you return, you become Thai Ambassadors. Volunteers convey your unique culture and at the same time we learn so much from each other."

Currently, there are 96 Peace Corps Volunteers serving in Thailand. The first group of Volunteers arrived to Thailand in January 1962. Nearly 4,900 Peace Corps Volunteers have served in Thailand in sectors such as English education, health, water and sanitation, malaria eradication, agriculture, fisheries, the environment, and rural community development. Other projects include silk-weaving projects, community forest projects, HIV/AIDS education, teacher training, women's training, and local income-generating projects.

#### **Peace Corps Warns Public about Bogus Internet Dog and Animal Scams**

WASHINGTON, D.C., November 24, 200 - The Peace Corps' Office of Inspector General (OIG) is warning the American public to be vigilant against internet scams involving pet adoptions from Africa by a person or persons claiming to be affiliated with the agency.

"Since February of 2007, we are aware of seven U.S. citizens who have been victims of a pet scam," said Peace Corps Inspector General Kathy Buller. "We want to let the public know they should be careful in responding to ads for pet adoptions overseas, especially if the ads claim some type of Peace Corps affiliation."

One victim responded to an Internet ad about a Yorkshire Terrier puppy allegedly being given away by a Peace Corps Volunteer in Cameroon. The victim made a wire transfer to acquire the puppy before realizing something was potentially wrong. Earlier this month, the OIG received notification of an internet scam for an English bull dog also located in Cameroon.

U.S. citizens are cautioned against responding to these ads even if the person claims an affiliation with the Peace Corps. If responding to ads, look at the description, which many times is written in broken English. .

Also, as names used are often fictitious, contact the OIG to confirm the authenticity of individuals affiliated with the Peace Corps at [oig@peacecorps.gov](mailto:oig@peacecorps.gov)

#### **Peace Corps Master's International Partners with Gonzaga University**

WASHINGTON, D.C., November 5, 2008 - The Peace Corps recently welcomed Gonzaga University as its newest Master's International (MI) partner school. Gonzaga joins more than 57 other institutions in offering the Master's International option to potential Peace Corps Volunteers. Gonzaga's program, offered through the International Student Program, will grant candidates a Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) in tandem with a 27-month Peace Corps assignment.

Peace Corps Director Ron Tschetter said, "I am enthusiastic about our new partnership with Gonzaga University. With this partnership, the Peace Corps will have the opportunity to further develop the skills of Volunteers in the area of teaching English as a second language. I am confident that Gonzaga University will be a strong Master's International partner."

Candidates who have been accepted to both Gonzaga University and the Peace Corps will be eligible for the program which, in addition to class work toward the degree will include a full Peace Corps assignment overseas. After successful completion of the Peace Corps assignment, students will return to the campus to finish out their degree requirements. .

For more information about Master's International, please visit the Peace Corps website at [www.peacecorps.gov/masters](http://www.peacecorps.gov/masters).

"Gonzaga University's tradition of service to others - a principle we live by both in our curriculum and our university mission - makes our university uniquely matched with the goals of the Peace Corps Master's International program. We look forward with enthusiasm to making PCMI a leading destination for our graduates as well as an increasingly timely inspiration to our entire university community," said Mr. Raymond Fadeley, Dean of International Programs.

### Friends of Lesotho Grant Application Form

FOL funds are sent from the states by a network of returned volunteers and other Friends of Lesotho. FOL grants have a maximum disbursement of R500 per quarter per volunteer and are for all projects that do not consist of HIV/AIDS work (See HIV/AIDS committee.) The application requires that you describe your project, its beneficiaries, a **detailed** estimate of the cost of materials and the intended follow-up actions.

If your application is approved you will receive a check and be **required** to return receipts, any left-over money, 2 photos, and a thank you note that will be sent to FOL in the states. These thank you notes are a way of ensuring continuing funding and are required. Place receipts and thank you notes in committee box and place digital photos in the VAC folder under FOL Grant Photos. Completed forms should be sent to Peace Corps office addressed to FOL, given to a VAC member, put in the committee box in the IRC, or brought to the quarterly VAC meeting. Please feel free to use the back of the application form to complete any questions at length. Please include your full name as it appears on your bank account.

PCV Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Item	Unit Price	Quantity	Total
<b>Project Total</b>			

Attachment



1) Project Description:

2) Project Beneficiaries:

3) Community Contributions (additional funding, time, space, etc.):

4) Intended follow-up action. Also include any other comments here:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_