President’s Message

Lumelang!

In December my wife, son, and I visited my wife’s family in Lesotho. I don’t want to subject anyone to the home video version of our vacation, but I always return to the US with warm memories of being in the village, sitting around the kitchen catching up on family news, or waking up to crowing roosters, cowbells and the smell of cooking fires. But I also see that people are rushing to get to work in the textile factories, working hard to tend crops, teach children and care for family members.

While we were there, we had the pleasure of delivering a suitcase full of school supplies donated by a teacher in the US. The biggest hit seemed to be two dozen children’s scissors given to a village pre-school. The teacher who runs the pre-school was full of ideas for projects she could use the scissors for. While talking with her, she mentioned she had been working with a PCV for the last couple of years and had participated in workshops that had been sponsored in part by funds from FOL.

We also stopped at the Peace Corps office in Maseru to talk with PC staff and PCVs. When I mentioned Friends of Lesotho all of the volunteers said they had used FOL funds for projects at their sites or sponsored students through the Tuition Assistance Project (TAP). I’m happy to pass on to FOL members that their donations are appreciated by folks in Lesotho and are used to the benefit of many people in Lesotho.

The Volunteer Advisory Committee (VAC) and TAP are two primary recipients of FOL funds. In Lesotho, the VAC is a committee of PCVs that considers grant applications from PCVs for projects that will benefit their communities and schools. TAP is also a committee of volunteers that considers applications for tuition assistance. FOL relies on these volunteers to consider applications and award them in a fair and equitable way, and ensure that FOL funds will benefit the people of Lesotho.

As a US based organization, one challenge FOL faces is maintaining connections with PC staff and volunteers. Members of the VAC and TAP finish their service, new folks take their place, and we are often communicating with people we only know through email. I hadn’t thought much about it, but the volunteers in Lesotho feel the same way - they aren’t always sure who or what exactly FOL is. So it was interesting to receive an email from a VAC member who said she was involved in distributing FOL funds but didn’t really know who we were or where the money came from. We were happy she took the time to ask because it gave us a chance to explain something about FOL.

Finally, I’d like to thank the FOL Website Task force for their recent efforts. In this issue of the newsletter you can read about the new FOL website (www.friendsoflesotho.org) that has been rolled out. Members of the website task force have worked hard to give the FOL website a new look and add useful features. This will add a lot to FOL’s ability to communicate with its membership and other people who are interested in us.

Khotso,
Richard Rowan
FOL President
by Belinda Laidley-Collias

When I arrived at Mohale Clinic to take up my post as HIV/AIDS Health Advisor, the last thing I expected to do was teach at the local high school. As a biology major headed for medical school, I had never taught anything in my life and especially never to the adolescent age group! But my first few months teaching life skills was a fun and exciting learning experience for me, and my anxiety quickly disappeared as I walked into the classroom and was warmly welcomed by the singing voices of the most outgoing and animated group of teenagers I had ever met. For the remainder of the semester, we learned and laughed together as we explored topics from teen pregnancy to college education. While many of the students were shy, there were always the few who opened up and engaged in animated class discussions. I would look on with pride as these natural leaders confidently entertained their peers with drama and song, and I envisioned them going on to successful careers.

When I returned from the winter holidays, I was disappointed to find that several of my “star” pupils in life skills class weren’t there anymore. After some investigation, I learned that one boy in particular, who lived in my village, could not afford school fees, so he had gotten a job as a herd-boy to help support his younger siblings. This, I soon discovered, was the common trend among most of Lesotho’s promising youth. Whenever I wrote home about these problems, my family and friends in Vermont always offered their help and wondered what they could do. I was soon inspired by another PCV in my region who initiated a sponsorship program between her friends from home and students in her village to attend the local high school.

I followed her example and launched the Mohale Orphan Support Association (M.O.S.A.) about halfway through my service with the help of my family, friends, and fellow teachers at Mohale High School. It began as a scholarship fund for incoming Form 1 students who were capable and motivated but lacked the financial means to attend high school. The first step was the long and difficult process of selecting those few special students out of hundreds of children in need throughout the mountainous villages surrounding Mohale Dam, which have been devastated by the spread of HIV/AIDS. We asked chiefs and principals of primary schools to distribute applications that required students to write a statement of why they felt education was important and why they needed assistance to attend school. Reading through the responses we received was naturally very emotional. Out of the many applications, requests, and pleas from parents and teachers on behalf of kids with amazing potential, we only had enough money at that time to choose ten to receive scholarships. We named the students “The Flying Eagles Scholars” with the hope that they would soar like eagles through high school and on to greater futures.

Secondary schooling, we soon realized, involved much more expense than the initial 250 rand per year for tuition, which sounds like a pittance when converted into US dollars. A Mosotho parent must also buy books, school supplies, uniforms, and shoes, and there are countless other expenses associated with attending school as well as room and board; we had promised to cover all of this as part of the scholarship package, and it added up quickly! My mother was running herself ragged, asking for donations all over town and gathering our family friends to run fundraisers. Being the big softy that I am, I had allowed five more kids into the program by the time (Continued on page 3)
we were off the ground and running for the beginning of the 2009 school year, and the expenses were still rising!

We definitely hit some rough patches the first year, and there was a lot to figure out, as with any new endeavor. I organized the students themselves to take on responsibilities such as going to town to buy the monthly toiletries, food, or school supplies. I also required them to meet for weekly study sessions since they were required to pass all of their classes in order to retain the scholarship over five years.

By the time I COSed in June of ’09, the Flying Eagles program was running like a well oiled machine, and I left it in the hands of my colleague and most trusted friend, ‘M’e Tankie Sekese.

Running the program from home has had its own challenges, but I was luckier than most PCVs to have been paired with amazing counterparts who were enthusiastic about continuing this project and expanding it beyond just the scholarship fund. I have also enlisted the help of the Mohale Clinic staff and youth group to identify younger orphans and children living with HIV for family-to-family sponsorships and other programs that M.O.S.A. can fund to benefit the entire community, such as improvements to the local primary schools. During my service in Mohale, I helped the community obtain a school library and computer lab through the African Library Project, SchoolNet Lesotho, and an FOL grant. My vision for M.O.S.A. is to improve the primary schools in the most remote villages of the Mohale region and to establish more libraries.

Upon returning to the States, I reconnected with an old friend who is the founder of Aid for Kids/Degenhardt Foundation, and she graciously adopted The M.O.S.A. Project into her charitable organization, allowing us to have 501(c)3 status as a non-profit. This year, two new students were selected for Flying Eagles Scholarships, and we will continue to extend the opportunity to others as funds allow. I’m always looking for sponsors to help these kids attend school, and I truly appreciate all of the support and generosity that has come from the RPCV community, whose members know best how much these kids deserve a chance!

More info can be found at www.mosalesotho.org

The pictures above show students from one of the primary schools who received scholarships, and the little kids in front of the rondavel will be part of the family-to-family program that Belinda is working on developing now. (More pictures on page 7)
News from the Fundraising Committee

By Bill Moore

Committee Chair

Give at RAZOO—No Transaction Fee!

Friends of Lesotho members and supporters can now donate to FOL through the new online giving service Razoo. Razoo issues a receipt to donors and covers transaction fees so Friends of Lesotho receives the full donation. Check it out at http://www.razoo.com/story/Friends-Of-Lesotho. Contribute, if you like, and spread the word.

Calendars Priced to Sell!

The wonderfully uplifting 2010 “Smile!” calendar of Basotho portraits is now on sale at our online store: http://www.cafepress.com/lesotho. And, if you missed our beautiful 2009 Lesotho calendar, it’s back for 2010—at a very attractive price.

Also at Cafepress, you’ll find greeting cards, children’s and adult apparel, cups, mugs, posters, and other great bargains. All profits from this shop, approximately twenty percent of the cost of each item, go to scholarships for deserving students, orphanages, HIV/AIDS programs, and a variety of small development projects in Lesotho.

Shop Amazon and Help FOL

Another way to support Friends of Lesotho is by shopping at Amazon, using the link on the Friends of Lesotho Website (click on Other Fundraising Items from the Home Page). A portion of each purchase is donated to FOL, but this only works if you access Amazon through the Friends of Lesotho Website!

Walkathon Kits Available

A great way to acquaint people with Lesotho and raise funds for FOL’s Tuition Assistance Program at the same time is to organize a walkathon. Our freshly updated walkathon kit provides practical guidance on how to do this, along with materials and a list of informational resources about Lesotho. A walkathon can be a fun project for school classes, scouts, churches, civic groups, and other agencies. You can request a walkathon kit from Bill Moore at moowag@scc.net.

Request for Funding

Peka English Medium School on the border between Leribe and Berea districts is in dire need of more classroom space! The school has a partially completed building with walls but no roof, windows, doors, or flooring. PCV Kaye Thompson is working to get the building completed and ease the overcrowding of the current classrooms. It is expected that the two new rooms can be used not only for new classrooms that will alleviate the overcrowding issue, but they will also hold some bookshelves for a small library. The school would then be able to hire two more teachers.

The school expects that the community will help with labor and tools to include collecting stones and sand, and the school will provide security and maintenance of the materials and building. However, your help is needed!

The "Peka Classroom Completion" project is accepting donations through FOL. The project will hopefully be completed by May 15, 2010.

Friends of Lesotho 2009 Donors

Friends of Lesotho members and other supporters were very generous in 2009! A tremendous “Thank You!” to the many members and supporters who donated generously to Friends of Lesotho this past year. They are listed below. Treasurer John Hollister reports that total contributions for 2009 amounted to $46,020.73.

Re lebohile haholo!
News from Friends of Lesotho

FOL 2009 Donors: (continued)

- Iversen, Kirk
- Iwasa, Akiko
- J.J.V. Properties
- Jackson, Margaret
- Clark
- Jacobsen, Jill A.
- Jacobsen, Marilyn O.
- Johnson, Kirsten
- Julian, Donna K.
- Kacanek, Harold
- Kalarbn, Janet E.
- Karp, Kate
- Kastelic, Sumiyo E.
- Klein, Ronald D.
- Koehler (Bires), Patricia Ann
- Koester, Kevin D.
- Korn, David
- Kraft, J. D.
- Kriegl, Becki
- Kroll, Kristen A.
- Kussmaul, John A.
- (Jack)
- Lai, Ken
- Langlois, Herve
- Lansford, Jack L. Jr.
- Lawton, Robert
- Learmonth, Susan
- Leary, Rolf A.
- Lederer, Mary S.
- Lederman, Margaret
- Lederman, Robert
- Lehmann, Stephen
- Levander, Mary Ellen
- Lijestrand, James S.
- Lipitt, Daniel
- Locke (Vandervort).
- Sarah
- Lockhart, William
- Loyd, Tara
- Lundeen, Gail Irene
- Lyons, Sheila
- MacDonald, Patricia
- Mach, Nina M.
- Madison West Rotary Foundation
- Maltz, Mike
- Marrero, Leigh A.
- Martin, Roger
- Massey, David R.
- Mastalski, Linda A.
- Matteoni, Karen A.
- Mayo, Douglas
- McCart, Mari
- McCoy, John C.
- McGuire, Phillip
- Mckeever, Stacey
- Meador, Michael
- Meiller, Larry
- Melby, Mark
- Menier, Jenna
- Menier, Michele
- Meyer, Lucas G.
- Mill, Ben B.
- Mitchell-Harty, Jean
- Moja, Dr. Audrey Tsebo
- Moore, William
- Moore, William and Patricia
- Wagner, Mary
- Moreland, Scott W.
- Mork, Jane
- Morrison, Bruce
- Morrison, Joyce (Richardson
- Morse, Duane
- Mortimer, Amy (Anne)
- Moundville United
- Methodist Church
- Mudore, Constance
- Mueller, James P.
- Mueller, Kathleen S.
- Munson, Martha M.
- Munson, Sara
- Murksy, Christyna
- Neighbor, Ron
- Nelson, Karen
- Neu, Louise A.
- Neumann, Peter
- Nishikawa, Wayne
- Noble, Navile E.
- Noble, William
- Nystrom, Pamela
- Nyström, Richard (Dick)
- Oakley-Girvan, Ingrid
- O’Hagan, Bronwyn
- Olson, Ruth
- Olson-Kennedy, John
- Olson-Kennedy, Kristin
- Orr, Blair D.
- O’Shaughnessy, Nessa
- Paladino-Ferregio, Keri
- Pareiko, Kenneth S.
- Parker House, LLC (Bill Boedicker)
- Parker, Nina (Black Heritage Library)
- Parks, Mary
- Pavilish, Juanna S.
- Pedace, Diane J.
- Perry, Carolyn L.
- Perry, Elizabeth
- Pesche, Helene
- Pitts, Steve
- Polochick, George J.
- Potsane, Nicole
- Power, Teri S.
- Pranger, Allison
- Pryor, Anne
- Pugh, Sara
- Quinnan, Sherman L.
- Rea, Brad
- Reed, Donna
- Retzer Croyle, Jody L.
- Rocklin, Sydney R.
- Rohrmann, George
- Rooney, Mark B.
- Rosenberg, Adam Michael
- Roth, Lawrence
- Rowan Middle School,
- Open Doors Classes
- Rowe-Krumdick, Deena
- Russell, Joshua
- Saleh, Willy
- Schaeffer, Brent
- Schmetzke, Axel
- Schmitt, Dan
- Schmitz, Karen (Duve)
- Schreiber, Karen
- Scrugis, Margaret
- Seaberg, Penney S.
- Searle, Art
- Sherwood, Cecile
- Sherwood, David
- Shering, Teri
- Shiraiishi, Naomi
- Shriver, Ann
- Siegenthaler, Peter
- Sikowitz, Marshall
- Simonson, Mary
- Skidmore, Mary Jane
- Smith, Kim (Mr.)
- Smith, Marion
- Smith, Martin W. (Marty)
- Snyder, Beth (Rea)
- Snyder, Mary Louise
- Sodai, Jofrid
- Song, David Yoonsup
- Spanier, Tim
- Springer, Stephanie
- Springstead, Jeri
- Steele, Joan
- Stinner, Cheryl
- Stutzman, Pamela R.
- Swartz, Kathryn Ann (Organ, Kate)
- Swenson, Kate
- Synk, Robert M.
- Szabados, Elina
- Tabachnick, B. Robert
- Tabor, Peggy
- Taylor, Leslie VH, MD
- Teacher, Gail
- The First Presbyterian Church
- Theiler, Donald
- Thurman, Linda
- Tibbits, Peggy (Farrell)
- Tomlison, H. Bryan
- Trahan, Maureen
- Treski, Victoria
- Tulip Grove Elementary School
- Turek, Dan
- Uraneck, Susan
- Uraneck, Will
- Van Dusen, Dyan L.
- Van Haren, Gail
- Vancelette, David W.
- Vandegrift, Amy A.
- Veiga, Tarsha
- Vogl, Sally
- Waggener, J. Vance
- Walker, Allan (E. A.)
- Walter, Marj
- Ward, Qua (Rugaylah)
- Mccohn, Warner, R. Craig
- Webb, Elizabeth
- Weber, Mary E.
- Wheeler, Courtney
- White, Eleanor
- Whithurst, Charlene
- Willis, Catherine L.
- Winz, Greg
- Wohlgemahen, James Lee
- Wohlgemahen, Kathy
- Wolfe, Fields, Sheila K.
- Worley, Martha S.
- Yeap, Beng K.
- Young, Michael
- zanonymous3
- zanonymous5
- zanonymous6
- Zastrow, Laurie Ann
- Zehms, Keith R.
- Zeiden, Sharon R.

Membership Committee

By Dyann van Dusen, Committee Chair

Lifetime Membership Update

A big “thank you” to David Bertocci (Alexandria, VA) and Brad Gamble (Westerville, OH), who both recently signed up for Lifetime Membership, bringing our total number of Lifetime Members to 39.

Lifetime Membership is designed specifically to help FOL build up a reserve fund to sustain the organization’s ability to fund projects for years to come. Lifetime Membership dues are not used to cover FOL operating costs.

There are several levels of Lifetime Membership, starting at $250. Please take a look at the form attached at the end of the newsletter and give it some consideration.

Welcome to the Following New Members:

- Sarah Aghedo, Selma, AL
- John Clausen, Richmond, VA
- William Noble, Seattle, WA

Please also join me in welcoming home two RPCVs who joined under our new Complimentary Membership offer. We introduced this option as a way to introduce FOL to current and newly returned volunteers.

- Belinda Collias, Fairfax, VT CHED 2007-2009 Ha Mohale/Likalaeng
- Pam Rogers, Moscow, ID CHED 2007-2009 Thaba Tseka

I’m sure they would enjoy sharing the latest information with members who served in the same areas in Lesotho. Their contact information is included in our website member directory.
Troika Calls for Plan to Avoid Future Political Crises

A summit of the South African Development Community (SADC) Defense and Security Troika was held recently in Maseru to address the political crisis that has followed the February 2007 parliamentary elections. The summit was chaired by Mozambican President Armando Guebuza and also included King Mswati III of Swaziland and Defense Minister of Zambia, Kalombo Mwanza, who represented President Rupiah Banda, who is deputy chair of the troika.

The summit called for the Christian Council of Lesotho (CCL), supported by a team of SADC facilitators, to meet with representatives of the various political parties to devise a plan for overcoming the crisis. The group indicated that the plan, which should be submitted to the current chair of the SADC organ on political, defense, and security cooperation by the end of March 2010, should list the main points of disagreement and suggest possible solutions and contain a timetable for amending the Lesotho Constitution and Electoral Law to avoid a similar crisis.

Motorcycle Workshop

The Horwich Rotary Club in England along with colleagues from Douglas on the Isle of Man and Maseru are funding a motorcycle workshop that will help maintain motorbikes that provide a vital health link between remote villages. The bikes are used to get medicine and medical care to people in remote villages. Mahali Hlasa, Riders for Health program director for Lesotho, noted that even in the harsh terrain of Lesotho, if the motorcycles are maintained properly, they will not break down. The workshop enables Riders for Health in Lesotho to have the tools that are essential to maintaining the bikes.

King Letsie III Visits Singapore

King Letsie III made a state visit to Singapore from January 25-27, 2010. King Letsie was accompanied by Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Relations Mohlabi K. Tsekoa; Minister of Education and Training ‘Mamphono Khaketal; Minister of Public Service Semano Sekatle; Senator Morena Peete Lesaoana Peete; and other senior officials. During his visit, King Letsie signed a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in a number of sectors. The king also visited Singapore Cooperation Enterprise (SCE), Marina Barrage, Singapore Management University, and the Singapore Turf Club.

Diamond Mining Lease Transferred

Namakwa Diamonds Limited announced that the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho transferred the mining lease to the Kao Kimberlite Pipe to Namakwa Batla Diamonds (NBDL). Pursuant to the agreement, NBDL agreed to settle claims of certain $6.6 million, subject to verification by liquidators.

Kao’s main kimberlite pipe is the largest in Lesotho and the fourth largest in southern Africa at 19.8 hectares. It lies within a 20 kilometer radius of the Letseng and Liqhobong mines. The company anticipates 10 million tons of kimberlite being processed for the recovery of 700,000 carats over a five year period. Thereafter, it is planned to increase production to 5 million tons per year with an expected life of the mine in excess of 40 years.

Keith Whitelock has been appointed as chief technical officer for the project. Whitelock, who has over 40 years of experience in diamond projects, previously worked for De Beers and was CEO of Letseng Diamonds.
King Letsie Visits Ottawa

King Letsie III attended an event at the University of Ottawa marking the 5th year of Ottawa-based Help Lesotho to thank the organization for its support of the Basotho. Over a five-year period, Help Lesotho raised $3.6 million and benefited more than 5,000 Basotho with its programs. The organization matched 15 schools with Canadian counterparts and has coordinated the sponsorship of 250 orphans and vulnerable children by families in Canada and the United States. The organization has also paid the school fees of 150 children and put 16,000 children through gender-education training in an effort to increase the cultural value placed on women. Help Lesotho has also arranged for HIV testing for children, youth, and teachers.

Motorcycle Enduro Championship

The first round of the 2010 South African National Motorcycle Enduro championship series will take place in Lesotho in March. According to the race organizer, the Lesotho Off-Road Association entries for the Lesotho Enduro are up 30 percent from 2009. The Lesotho Enduro will cover three 60 kilometer regularity loops with a special stage in each loop. National competitors will have to complete three loops; riders in the Silver Challenge, Senior, and 400 Plus Classes two; and the Masters and Novice Class riders one. Organizers have promised that the route will not be as fearsome as that of 2009. The Lesotho Enduro will start at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 6, at the Trading Post at Roma.

(Continued from page 6)

by Scott Rosenberg, Chair of the Donations Committee

Edited from information provided by Stephen Gill, Curator

The Morija Museum has a number of new educational and literary initiatives underway. In brief, the projects include printing updated language dictionaries and a book on the Folklore of Basotho.

Dictionaries Project

To give you an idea of the importance of these projects, the Sesotho-English dictionary was last revised in the 1950s, and the English-Sesotho last edition came out 100 years ago!

Thabo Pitso has been working on the update of these dictionaries for many years. They are now about 80% complete, and the hope is that they will be ready for publication around July/August.

Thabo Pitso has been working on the update of these dictionaries for many years. They are now about 80% complete, and the hope is that they will be ready for publication around July/August.

For those who don't know, Thabo Pitso has worked in education for his whole life. He was the first Mosotho to head the old Lesotho Teacher Training College in Morija and has held numerous positions in the Ministry of Education, the Lesotho College of Education, and in various externally funded education projects. Thabo's command of both Sesotho and English is superior to that displayed in the older missionary-derived dictionaries. His current work will help to give the tools necessary to ensure that Sesotho continues to grow and develop as a language. He is now in his 70s, but he is going strong and is dedicated to completing the project.

Folklore of the Basotho

Published in 1906, this edition includes the original folktales (lits’omo) in Sesotho on one page and the English translation with annotations on the next page. Written by the scholar Ed Jacottet, it has never been reprinted. Peter Quella, a former Fulbright scholar to Lesotho who did his PhD thesis on folktales, is writing an introduction to the reprint.

The full cost of these undertakings are well beyond the capabilities of FOL, but if any of our members have a "publishing white knight" in their circle of friends, please put them in touch with Stephen Gill.
Memorial Scholarships

If there are other volunteers or staff who need to be added to the list, or if there are corrections to the current list, please contact Bill Reed at www.wc44reed@aol.com.

How to Contribute to the Memorial Scholarship Fund

Donations on behalf of a deceased volunteer or staff member who served in Lesotho can be made by going to our website, www.friendsoflesoto.org, and clicking on donations.

Our goal is to keep alive the memory and spirit of people whom we loved and who dedicated their lives in service to others.

Khotso, Pula, Nala!

Images of Lesotho

Photo credits:
Center left & bottom left: © Betty Hiebert
All other photos by Pamela Rogers

PEACE CORPS

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
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<td>1980-1982</td>
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<td>Mimi Austin</td>
<td>1984-1986</td>
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<td>1973-1977</td>
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<td>Linda L. Bogard</td>
<td>1977-1979</td>
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<td>Herman R. Branson</td>
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<td>Mike D'Adamo</td>
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<td>Ruth Dunn</td>
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<td>Barbara Hardy</td>
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<td>Agnes &amp; Frank Herriott</td>
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<td>Julia Jawoizs</td>
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<td>Carl Malmberg</td>
<td>1980-1982</td>
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<td>Shirley McGuire</td>
<td>1972-1978</td>
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<td>Judith Pasmore</td>
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<td>Sandy Puckett</td>
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<td>Jo Ann Roberts</td>
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<td>Jeremy Rolf</td>
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<td>Lesa Santliefie</td>
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<td>Maynard Smith</td>
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<td>Tim H. Stanley</td>
<td>1979-1981</td>
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<td>Terry J. Strong</td>
<td>1983</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alys White</td>
<td>1988</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Friends of Lesotho Has a NEW WEBSITE!!!

On behalf of the Board, I would like to extend a warm “thank you” to Bill Dunn for years of selfless hard work behind the scenes on the creation and maintenance of the Website and the member database. I've enjoyed working with Bill during this transition. Bill will no longer be maintaining and updating the Website, but he will continue in his role as Manager of the Membership Database.

A big “thank you” is also extended to Janissa Balcomb for her creative efforts in the design of our new logo and other graphic elements of the Website. Thank you also to everyone who helped to create, edit, and test content and the Website!

FriendsOfLesotho.org has been redesigned to allow for some new features and while remaining a repository for the wealth of information FOL members, prospective PCVs, and others interested in learning about or helping Lesotho have come to expect from the site.

New features include secure sortable member listings, full search capabilities, easy navigation, a member forum, and much more. Please visit the new site, poke around, and provide feedback using the “Contact Us” tab.

Thanks!

Marty Smith
mwsmith13@gmail.com

How to Access Member-Only Content

Member-only content requires that you login to access it. We do not publish member data to non-members, which necessitates this action. In order to register and sign in, please follow these steps:

1) Go to friendsoflesotho.org

2) In the bottom right hand corner, click on the “Register” link.

3) Fill in the registration fields, accept the disclaimer, and click register. Important note: you must register with the email address that FOL has on file for you. If you do not have an email address on file or would like to change it, please update your membership record by visiting http://friendsoflesotho.org/membershi/

4) Once you click register, you will receive a confirmation that your registration has been received.

5) Your registration email address will be validated, and you will be sent your account information.
Fundraising

Seeking Newsletter Sponsors

FOL members, would you like to help spread news of Lesotho to other members and friends? If you’re at a loss for words, chelete will do. Each issue of this newsletter costs about $400 to publish and mail (even with our growing number of email subscribers). At 3 issues per year and the annual report, that’s $1,400 for the year. So, if your employer or other organization you belong to would like to sponsor an issue -- or part of an issue -- we’ll shower them with thanks and make sure their generosity is properly acknowledged and recognized. For more information or to contribute, contact Bill Moore, Fundraising Chair, moowag@scc.net.

Friends of Lesotho – Treasurer’s Report

| OPENING BALANCE OF FUNDS ON HAND – 1/1/09 | $50,453.72 |
| REVENUE | |
| Dues Donations | $2,290.00 |
| Extra Contributions (Projects, Future Dues) | $43,475.02 |
| NPCA Dues to be Rebated | $420.00 |
| Interest (ING Account) | $516.55 |
| In-kind Donated Operating Expenses | $255.71 |
| Sales of Café Press, CDs, and T-shirts | $548.58 |
| SUBTOTAL REVENUE: | $47,505.86 |

| OPERATING EXPENSES (Including In-kind Donations): | |
| Duplicating | $1,032.48 |
| Postage | $1,222.19 |
| Computer/Internet | $48.00 |
| NPCA Rebates (Pass thru) | $420.00 |
| NPCA Annual Dues | $100.00 |
| Misc. Supplies/Fees | $381.82 |
| Fundraising Fees/Initiative/Event (incl. Café Press, Amazon) | $130.83 |
| Membership Fees/Initiative/Event 2008+ | $195.49 |
| Other | $0.00 |
| Telephone | $0.00 |
| Annual Mtg. / Mokete Expenses | $0.00 |
| SUBTOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES | $3,530.81 |

| PROJECT EXPENDITURES: | |
| Undesignated Fund ($250 min balance) | $7,592.15 |
| Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) Fund | $6,553.65 |
| HIV/AIDS Fund | $505.40 |
| Morija Museum Fund | $151.60 |
| Orphanages Fund | $8.70 |
| Memorial Scholarship Fund | $2.70 |
| Village Hope Project (PCV) | $3,700.48 |
| LCCU (Lesotho Child Counseling Unit) | $1,886.00 |
| Uranock PCV projects (Mountain Schools) | $10,169.37 |
| T. Veiga PCV Project (scholarship) | $1,045.00 |
| SUBTOTAL PROJECT EXPENDITURES | $31,615.05 |
| ENDING 2009 BALANCE | $62,813.72 |
Got Photos??
We would love to showcase your pictures of the people, places, and things of Lesotho and Peace Corps in our various publications, including this newsletter.
Please email your photos to Faye Farmer at f_e@hotmail.com

Sign up for FOL Online Store News

Did you know that you can sign up to receive updates from the FOL Online Store? Just go to the store home page, www.cafepress.com/lesotho.

Enter your email address in the box at the bottom of the "Store Newsletter" section, and click <Subscribe>. We promise not to fill your inbox with a lot of junk. We will send out store newsletters no more than three or four times a year, and only to announce new items or product lines, or when there are great deals available in the store.

Go directly to www.cafepress.com/lesotho

You can help FOL earn up to 10% extra from CafePress by going directly to the FOL store rather than getting there via the CafePress home page. So, remember to add "/lesotho" to the website address to do your shopping.

Photos on this page courtesy of Don Hanford, RPCV
FOL Marketplace
SHOP TO HELP

1. FOL Online Store
www.cafepress.com/lesotho
A wide variety of FOL, Peace Corps, and Lesotho-related merchandise.
All profits go to FOL.

2. FOL - Amazon.com Affiliation
A percentage of the purchase price of anything and everything you buy at Amazon.com will be donated to FOL, but …

- If and Only If – you use our special link to access Amazon.com

Go to: www.friendsoflesotho.org/shop/amazon
(FOL Amazon – on the FOL website drop-down list under Shop)
Click on the Amazon.com logo:

Add the webpage to your browser’s Favorites so it’s handy every time you go shopping.
It’s easy, and the best part – it costs you absolutely nothing.

3. FOL Special Stock
FOL holds several specialty items in stock that are not available online.
Bookmarks and luggage tags with one-of-a-kind artwork by a Mosotho artist.
Basotho music CDs are also available.

Go to: www.friendsoflesotho.org/shop/fundraising-items/
Thank you for considering Lifetime Membership
Some of the Benefits of Lifetime Membership

- Knowledge that Lifetime Memberships are used to fund grassroots projects in Lesotho for many years (Our operating expenses come from ordinary annual dues and represent only 4% of those dues.)
- A Lifetime Membership Certificate suitable for framing will be sent to you.
- Recognition in the Annual Report, Website and Newsletter.
- Tax deductible charitable donation.
- Save FOL money in renewal postcards.
- Your example and level of commitment may encourage other RPCVs to choose Lifetime Membership.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name(s):</th>
<th>Membership Options</th>
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<tr>
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<td>(Per person)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[ ] Basic Lifetime--$250</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[ ] Bronze Member--$500</td>
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<tr>
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<td>[ ] Silver Member--$750</td>
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<td>[ ] Gold Member--$1,000</td>
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# Members ____ Total Due $_____

Installment payments of $250/yr may be made for Bronze, Silver or Gold Club.

Please sign below as an indication of your commitment to pay future installments.

Date: ____________________________

Signature

Mail your check and completed form to: Friends of Lesotho, 4110 Denfeld Ave., Kensington MD 20895, USA.

Or pay on-line by credit card with our website links to JustGive.org or Razoo.org. Click on Join/Renew at: www.friendsoflesotho.org and follow
President: Richard Rowan (board2@friendsoflesotho.org)
Vice President: Dyann Van Dusen (board3@friendsoflesotho.org)
Treasurer: John Hollister (board4@friendsoflesotho.org)
Secretary: Kevin Freer (board1@friendsoflesotho.org)
Embassy Liaison: Scott Rosenberg (srosenberg@wittenberg.edu)
Board Members: Ronna Abbott (ronnaabbott@yahoo.com)
               Dick Nystrom
               Dan Schmitt

Additional assistance from the following members:
Graphic Artist/Fundraising: Janissa Balcomb
Finance & Audit: Matt Diver
Website & Database: Bill Dunn
               Martin Smith
Memorial Scholarships: Bill Reed
New PCV Contact: Elizabeth Perry (perry_41@hotmail.com)
Newsletter: Faye Farmer, Coordinator (f_e_@hotmail.com)
            Nicole Potsane, Layout & Design
            Allison Pranger, Copy Editor