



FRIENDS OF LESOTHO

# METSOALLE ea LESOTHO

Second Quarter 2012  
Newsletter

Newsletter Features Clickable Links!!

Download the newsletter from the  
F O L website  
[www.friendsoflesotho.org](http://www.friendsoflesotho.org) and you  
can click on all the website addresses.

## President's Message

Lumelang Metsoalle,

The Friends of Lesotho (FOL) is halfway into our 2012 program year and making progress on several initiatives established as goals in our operating plan for the year. The success in reaching our goals is due to the planning efforts made by committee chairs and the recruitment of committee members from the general membership.

We recognize that without membership participation on committees and task forces, we would not be able to accomplish the goals established in our 2012 Operating Plan.

The FOL Board operates by division of work processes through the use of committees, task forces, and representatives to associated organizations such as the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) and the embassies in Washington D.C. and Maseru. Our Board Operating Rules specify that we recruit at least one non-board member for each of our committees and task force groups as they are established. We exceeded this goal across all of our committees and task forces. This is a result of a very successful recruitment effort led by Peter Neumann earlier this year. The response to this call to service on FOL's board committees and task forces was very encouraging to the Board and committee chairs. In addition to the established committees on membership, donations, and fundraising, we now have an active finance committee and a task force focused on our website and social media.

Please consider joining FOL to achieve our goals. See page 8 for the committees and task forces, the people who make them successful, and ways you can contribute. I look forward to spotlighting their efforts with updates throughout the year.

Without this support from so many FOL members, we would not be able to sustain the organization and meet our commitments to the people of Lesotho. Thank you to all those who are able to support FOL with both your generous donations of time in service to the organization and money to support requests for funding for projects in Lesotho.



Ka Khotso,  
Kevin Freer, President  
RPCV Lesotho 1976-1978



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## “Under African Skies”

By Julie Galbraith

As a member of Fall Omnibus 1987, the Graceland album by Paul Simon became the sound track to my Peace Corps service in Lesotho. It was played at every party, at every gathering. When songs from Graceland played on the boom box, everyone got up and danced—even the non-dancers in our group. Today, it is played at each of our reunions, each of our gatherings. We played Graceland when we gathered for the funeral of our fellow volunteers and dear friends Barb and Scott Kloeck-Jenson. The Graceland album is now the soundtrack to my lifelong Peace Corps friendships, and a reverent set of hymns that honor those in our group who are no longer with us. On a global scale, the Graceland album introduced many people around the world to the music of South Africa and Ladysmith Black Mambazo, and encouraged many essential political conversations.

The 25th Anniversary Collector's Edition Box Set of Paul Simon-Graceland and a documentary about the making of the album titled “Under African Skies” are on sale now through Amazon.com. Use the “Amazon” shopping link on the Friends of Lesotho website when you make your purchase and a portion of the proceeds will benefit Friends of Lesotho. Enjoy the good memories and great dancing!!! 

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## A Hopeful Place in a Troubled Land

By Dick and Pam Nystrom, PCV's 2003-05

email: dickpam@nystrom.us

In 2003, my wife Pam and I arrived in Lesotho to serve as Peace Corps Volunteers at Maluti Adventist Hospital in Mapoteng (Berea District). It wasn't long before we became friends with M'e Mamello Lehlotha a young Masotho who had recently graduated from secretarial school in Maseru and taken a job at the hospital. She was grateful for her good job, but as we soon learned she was hoping for the day when she could return to her village of Pitseng to work on behalf of people with disabilities.

Mamello had TB of the bone as a child and still walked with a limp. Consequently, she had also known the painful reality of the discrimination that is so common against people with special needs, and the expectations that are placed upon family and the entire village to keep such people out of sight. And yet Mamello's mother had chosen to defy the tradition and do her best to give Mamello the opportunities that would be denied to so many others.


And so it was that Mamello soon returned to her village to do for others what her mother had done for her: creating opportunities for people with special needs to take their rightful place within the community. It was during the next couple of years that it was Pam's and my privilege to visit Mamello's village and watch admiringly as her dream unfolded.

First, a woman chief understood Mamello's vision and provided a rondavel where people with special needs could meet and make their plans. Next came the fields as a gift from the chief, the land that was needed for planting the gardens that would provide the produce to be sold at the market. One thing just seemed to follow another, until eventually this little group of “disabled” people had gained such a voice they could not be ignored and resources were found to build the community of Phelisanong for children, including orphans, and adults with “special needs”. Today this little village includes schools, dormitories, a medical clinic, and training programs, with a focus on overcoming HIV/AIDS.

In the early stages of this fascinating work, the Peace Corps assigned two volunteers to Phelisanong, and not long after, the Canadian NGO, The Glasswater Foundation, agreed to provide some funding. However, more significant than the finances was the fact that the directors of Glasswater, Gary McNutt and Andrea Palframan, made the decision to bring their school aged children with them and make Phelisanong their home for six months of every year.



During one of Pam's and my last visits to Phelisanong, we had the opportunity to reminisce with Mamello about those days at the hospital when she shared with us her desire to return to her village to work on behalf of those with special needs, to do what she believed God wanted her to do. “Now look at all this,” she said. “In the past no one expected anything of people with special needs. But today people are coming from around the world to see what they can learn.”

At this time Friends of Lesotho is contributing to the Post-Secondary Education Scholarship Fund so that some of the “graduates” of Phelisanong can receive the education that allows them to take their rightful place as leaders in Lesotho. For more information go to [www.phelisanong.org](http://www.phelisanong.org). 



## YOUR Donations at Work

The FOL Donations/Distribution Committee recently recommended (and the Board approved) over \$25,000 to support several on-going projects as well as one new special scholarship initiative in Lesotho.

### Special Needs Youth Get Helping Hand

Phelisanong Scholarship Fund is slated to receive \$2,000 this month. This special scholarship fund request came to our attention through Dick Nystrom, 2003-2005 RPCV and FOL Board member. Phelisanong supports disabled and other special needs students in Pitseng. These are students not supported by the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) due to the fact that no PCV is currently assigned to the school. For more details, see Dick's article on page 2.

### Tapping into Solar in Lesotho

Laptops to Lesotho will be even more energized with FOL's donation of \$3,863 which will be used to purchase solar panels, batteries and a regulator and inverter. If you would like to learn more about this exciting and innovative program started in 2011 by Janissa Balcomb (RPCV 1977-1980), follow this link to [www.laptopstolesotho.org](http://www.laptopstolesotho.org).

### 25% Increase in TAP Scholarship Requests

The TAP (Tuition Assistance Program) PCV Committee Chair, Lauren Parks, provided FOL with an estimate of \$20,000 to fund this year's scholarships for needy secondary students. This is an increase of \$4,000 from last year's program that provided partial scholarships for 161 students. In 2011, 21 PCVs took advantage of the TAP funds. This year 29 PCVs have submitted applications for TAP scholarship support. The FOL Board has approved an amount up to \$25,000 for this year, pending receipt of the final dollar amount needed.

### Little Angels Orphan Day Care and Pre-School

At the end of 2010 FOL entered into a 2-year agreement to support Little Angels which employs pre-school teachers (R1800/month) and provides 2 meals a day (avg. R4000/mo.) for approximately 45 orphans in Thaba Bosiu. Rose Paradise worked with the local village chief and other Basotho at the end of her PC service in 2005 to get this program off the ground and has remained in Lesotho since.

A total of \$4,580 was provided to Little Angels in 2011 combining contributions from FOL, Bloom Africa ([www.bloomafrika.org](http://www.bloomafrika.org)) and the Ohio Rotary. FOL sent \$2,885 for the first 6 months of 2012 and will be making its second contribution this month, per the MOU established in 2010. However, Little Angels operating expenses have increased in 2012, due in part to rising food costs combined with medical expenses for some of the HIV positive orphans. So, if you have a little extra in your budget this month, please send it to FOL for the benefit of Little Angels. As little as \$12/month will feed one of the 45 orphans cared for at Little Angels. To learn more about Little Angels, you can download the PowerPoint presentation prepared for FOL's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Reunion held last September. Go to the bottom of the screen at: <http://www.friendsoflesotho.org/aboutfol/25th/>

*Rea Leboha Haholo to all our members and non-member donors for your continued support and generosity.*

## Membership Committee News

By Dyann Van Dusen, Chair

### Lifetime Membership Tops 60

During the first months of 2012, the following individuals have demonstrated their lifetime commitment to FOL and the people of Lesotho by opting to convert their membership to a lifetime category: *Michael Meador, Steve Goertz, Peggy Anne Hawkins, Julie Galbraith and Claire Hilger all renewed at the basic \$250 lifetime membership level and Don Spicer and Nthakoana Peko as well as Stephen Brushett and Refiloe Bam went for gold.*

FOL has 4 Lifetime Membership categories: Basic at \$250; Bronze at \$500; Silver at \$750 and Gold at \$1,000 with incremental payments available for the top 3 levels.

### Core Membership Stable

Our core membership number remains in the 300 to 350 range and about half of those members add extra donations when sending in their renewals.

### Your Thoughts Please

Consideration is being given to the possibility of setting up a system for a "sustaining membership" category which would allow members to have a set amount of their choosing charged monthly to a credit or debit card. I would be interested in hearing your thoughts about this so please e-mail me at [dyvandusen@yahoo.com](mailto:dyvandusen@yahoo.com).

Thanks again to all of our long time faithful members for your continued support.





## Fundraising Committee News

### Friends of Lesotho Walkathon Kit

We have updated the FOL Walkathon Kit. This kit is a terrific way to introduce students, Boy/Girl Scouts and other folks about Lesotho; and, raise money for our projects. If you are a teacher or group leader, check out the kit. You may be able to raise funds for FOL and teach your class or group about Lesotho.

We have links on our website to the kit:

- <http://www.friendsoflesotho.org/shop/fundraising-ideas/>
- <http://www.friendsoflesotho.org/aboutfol/board-of-directors/committee-resources/>
- <http://www.friendsoflesotho.org/how-to-support-fol/>

### CafePress Alternatives.

The fundraising committee has been looking at CafePress and can use your input. Take a look at these options and let us know if you have alternative sites that you may think would provide better items and yield more in revenue to FOL. If the suggested new site requires graphic skills please advise if you are able to provide them or know an FOL member who can. For the time being we will keep the present store as it gives the most choices for Lesotho oriented products.

The FOL Board wanted to investigate alternatives to the FOL "store" at CafePress. This is due to the low yield to FOL from the store as well as the departure of Janissa Balcomb who created and managed it. Are there other ways to sell Lesotho oriented products that are more profitable to FOL?

### Summary and Options:

- FOL's CafePress store (<http://www.cafepress.com/lesotho>) has customizable items tailored to Lesotho RPCVs and their friends and family. FOL members can maintain a "contact" with Lesotho oriented products and make purchases that benefit them and send some funds to FOL.
- Its operation has been based on the effort and graphical skills of Janissa Balcomb. Such attention and skills would be needed for FOL to set up a similar store.
- Store alternatives were researched. None appear to be any better than CafePress. Any replacement would require new graphics design development.
- FOL could decide on selling one, two or a few items and order them quantity. Take membership and friend orders for them.

As a fundraiser, the CafePress store does not yield a lot - \$136 last year.

- Option 1. Keep the existing store. We want to be able to provide FOL members with a way to purchase Lesotho oriented items. If we do nothing and keep the store, there will be an availability of Lesotho oriented items with little additional effort needed. If we want to change CafePress items, we would need to find an FOL member with graphical skills; and, who is willing to operate the store.
- Option2. Ask the membership if they are aware of any online storefronts that sell tailor made products they are of better quality than CafePress. Investigate those stores and see if they are better both in quality and revenue potential for FOL. Several stores were investigated that do not appear likely to be better in quality or revenue. A new graphical design scheme would need to be developed to fit the store's requirements
- Option 3. Consider our own mail order store: An FOL member would hold the inventory and send the membership a request for orders of items like T-shirts or mugs. Develop a profit goal. Buy the items in bulk and sell to reach that goal.

If you have any ideas, email me and the fundraising committee will take a look...

[pneumann1947@yahoo.com](mailto:pneumann1947@yahoo.com) 

## Help Wanted

We sent out a membership wide email asking for folks to help on our various committees and task forces. Thank you to the 19 who responded. Anyone still interested??

We can use your help.

We are asking you to volunteer for FOL committees.

We can use your help in any and all committees:

Membership, Donations/Distributions, Fundraising and Finance.

Duties range from developing projects, reviewing proposals, seeking new members, revising information and fundraising kits to stuffing envelopes, typing letters, cruising the internet for articles on Lesotho, to managing our store and social networking sites. Time involved is 3-4 hours per month on email or phone.

In addition to our Standing Committees FOL periodically establishes special Task Forces requiring a short-term commitment. These are for our Annual Meeting, Board Nominations, FOL By-Laws, Website Social Networking Task Force, and establishing an Endowment Fund.

- *Anyone with a CPA? We are looking to audit our books and a CPA member familiar with our mission could really help out.*

*Also in great need are individuals with a knowledge and love of the world of social media for our Website Social Networking Task Force to help us improve our use of Facebook, the FOL Website, Twitter, etc.*

**YOU have a skill we need....YOU DO!! Please help.**

**Email me if you are willing to help...**

[pneumann1947@yahoo.com](mailto:pneumann1947@yahoo.com)



**amazon.com**  
and you're done.™

Did you know you can shop Amazon and support FOL at the same time? Your pricing does not change either. Amazon has an arrangement with Friend of Lesotho to pay us a portion of each purchase made through the link below. Use it!

<http://www.friendsoflesotho.org/shop/amazon/>

FOL made over \$700 last year with people using this link to shop at Amazon.



## Connections

By Verney Halse

Ficksburg, South Africa

I have a story of a PCV who became a very good friend of my wife and I, starting in 1968 at Thabana Morena, Mafeteng. I think Ian arrived at Thabana Morena High School late in 1967. The trading store at Thabana Morena, just down the road from the high school, belonged to my family, and my wife and I arrived there in February 1968.

Ian and I had a rocky start to our friendship, since he was thought I was South African, which I am not, having been born in Basutoland in 1934. My mother was born at Seapala in 1898, and my dad arrived in Basutoland in the late 1917/18 at the end of the First World War.

Having proved my Lesotho citizenship to both Ian and the Peace Corps office, Ian was allowed to visit our home at the store. We had a baby boy and Ian loved our child and spent a lot of his free time with us. We remember the winter of 1968 as a turning point in our friendly relationship. Ian lived at the high school which had no hot running water. By about mid July Ian had a well-developed, unwashed smell about him since deodorants were not too freely available in country stores at that time. One afternoon he was playing with our baby boy who suddenly pushed him away and would not let him near again. We obviously understood why our son was doing that, so my wife reluctantly asked Ian if he would like a hot bath. He jumped at the chance and that was the start of a very long relationship.

When Ian's service was up, he returned to the states and joined the Airforce. He was sent to Germany where he studied medicine, eventually married and went home again. We were in touch most of that time. I believe that all of Ian and Therisa's three kids, got Basuto LiLala blankets for their 1<sup>st</sup> birthdays from Thabana Morena.

Twenty odd years later we got an email from Ian telling us that he was coming to Durban for a Medical Conference. He came and stayed with us and we spent a very happy month reliving our experiences. Therisa had many stories about Ian from when they first met. One was how Ian would walk into a room full of strangers and insist on shaking each one by the hand, which he said was just good manners that he had learned in Lesotho.

As a result of our family's relationship with Ian while he was in Lesotho, our home has been a place of welcome to many PCVs. For instance, when our son, Jonathan Halse, took over the Lodge at Semonkong in about 1990, almost every Thanksgiving was celebrated with the PCVs at the Lodge.

My entire family has very happy memories of the volunteers who became our friends. We also have found PCV's as we travelled all over Africa. Once, hopelessly lost in Dar Es Salaam, the only European we saw was a young female Peace Corp volunteer who, when we approached her for help, sent us off in the right direction.

I believe that Peace Corps volunteers have been very, very good for Lesotho. Our good friend Ian Duncan is a prime example.



**TO ALL THE PC/LESOTHO RPCVs who gathered in DC:** Congratulations and Best Wishes as the Lesotho family of RPCVs gather for the Reunion to celebrate 50 years of Peace Corps service around the world. I am so envious and wish that I could have been there with you. I remember when Friends of Lesotho was launched, and the significant role the RPCVs of the 70's played. Earl and I were in Lesotho from 1975 thru '78, and I am delighted to see familiar names still playing key roles in FOL leadership. We started our Peace Corps service as members of Jamaica X (1969-71), and I continued my Peace Corps involvement until I retired in 1996. Health problems keep me close to home, but the Peace Corps fire still burns in me.



Joan Ambre, Lesotho 1975-78

*2011 Holiday Card  
from the  
United States Embassy  
in Lesotho*



*Kheto, Pula, Ntja*

*May Peace and Happiness  
be yours during this Festive Season  
and throughout the New Year*

M.E. Prof. and Mrs. Etshim Molapi Sebatane  
and Staff of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Lesotho  
in the United States of America



## Keeping in Touch with Lesotho

Having a hard time keeping up with the latest news in Lesotho? Do you need an easy way to keep up to date on what is going on in Africa? Friends of Lesotho member John Olson-Kennedy (known as “JFK” to his Peace Corps group) has put together this incredible list of information, including websites, audio streams, and podcasts—and it even tells you what a podcast is, and how to use one (for us oldtimers in the group). Thanks to JFK for gathering this information and enjoy!!!

### Websites – Lesotho-specific:

- Afrol News: <http://www.afrol.com/countries/lesotho>
- Africa Focus: <http://www.africafocus.org/country/lesotho.php>
- All Africa News: <http://www.allafrica.com/lesotho/>
- BBC: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-13728324>
- Flag: <http://fotw.us/flags/ls.html>
- Informative: <http://www.informativenews.co.ls>
- Letsema: <http://sentebale.co.uk>
- Lonely Planet: <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/lesotho>
- Public Eye Daily: <http://www.publiceye.co.ls>
- ReliefWeb: <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/doc404?OpenForm&rc=1&cc=ls>
- World Bank: <http://www.worldbank.org/ls>



John Olson-Kennedy “JFK” (left) and fellow Peace Corps Volunteer Jim Rubarth-Lay (right) on one of their more productive hitchhiking ventures in Lesotho, circa 1988.

### Audio Streams of Africa News:

The following are links you can use to listen to BBC’s Africa Service. This will likely work without the need to download any additional software, unless you have a really, really, old computer.

BBC’s evening News show, “Focus on Africa”. You’ll remember this by the “Trumpets of Doom” intro. [http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/africa/2011/04/000000\\_focus\\_on\\_africa.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/africa/2011/04/000000_focus_on_africa.shtml)

BBC’s morning show, “Network Africa”. This show is a more lighthearted than the “Focus on Africa” fair and may include music and culture. [http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/africa/2011/04/000000\\_network\\_africa.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/africa/2011/04/000000_network_africa.shtml)

### Podcasts:

If you are not familiar with these, you can think of Podcasts as radio programs that you download to a computer and listen to on your own schedule. Many of these are recorded from actual radio programs, but others are simply released as Podcasts.

In order to enjoy Podcasts, you do not need to go out and buy yourself an Apple iPod. You do however need to have a PC or Mac computer.

Download and install the free iTunes software: <http://www.apple.com/itunes/>

From within iTunes, click on “iTunes Store” on the left side and then in the search box at the top right, enter a subject or program name on which to search for matches. This will likely yield a long list of ‘hits’, many of which Apple will be happy to sell you. For the free Podcasts, just click on the “Podcasts” link on the left under the “Filter By Media Type”. When you find what you want, click on the “Subscribe” button and the latest broadcast should download to you computer.

For downloads, check out:

- “Africa Past & Present” African History, Culture, and Politics as presented by African Studies professors. <http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/africa-past-present-podcast/id279727168>
- “Africa Today” BBC World Service. Daily. ~ 20 minutes. More polished compilation of news from the African Service of BBC (Focus on Africa and Network Africa). <http://itunes.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewPodcast?id=263570559>
- “Africa Today” KPFA Pacific Radio. Weekly. 1 hour. Put on your Che Guevara t-shirt for this one. It’s a \*very\* left leaning look at Africa and the African Diaspora. <http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/africa-today-kpfa-94.1-fm/id76959008>
- “CNN Africa” Culture and News, with a focus on economic news. Every week or two. ~20 minutes. <http://itunes.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewPodcast?id=427163897>
- “Talk Radio 702 - The Africa Report” News from South Africa’s Radio 702. Daily. ~ 5 minutes or less. <http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/talk-radio-702-africa-report/id207683515>
- “PRI: Afropop Worldwide” African Music and related news. ~Weekly. ~ 10 minutes. <http://itunes.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewPodcast?id=121621170>





## Litaba tsa Lesotho (News of Lesotho)



### **Lesotho Prime Minister Resigns**

The breaking news out of Lesotho is that Prime Minister Dr. Pakalitha Mosisili resigned on Wednesday, May 30, after his party, the Democratic Congress, failed to win a majority in parliament following the May 26 general election. The Democratic Congress won more parliamentary seats than any other party, but not enough to take power on its own. On the Tuesday following the elections, the leader of the All Basotho Convention (ABC), Tom Thabane, announced that a number of opposition parties had negotiated a new coalition government. The alliance has a majority of 64 seats in the 120-seat parliament and Mr. Thabane is expected to be installed Lesotho's next Prime Minister.

For more information: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201205301252.html>, <http://www.topix.com/world/lesotho/2012/05/lesotho-premier-resigns-could-lead-opposition>, and <http://mg.co.za/article/2012-05-30-lesotho-prime-minister-steps-down/>

### **Road Construction Updates**

GEO Engineering Corporation has begun constructing the 42-kilometre Mokhotlong-Sani Pass road. The government also plans to reconstruct the Oxbow to Mapholang road. Rehabilitation of the 68.8-km Maseru– Mafeteng road, which began in September 2009, is projected be completed at the end of May. For more information:

<http://www.publiceye.co.ls/2012/05/11/m741million-road-construction-begins/>

### **Council targets motorists to generate revenue**

The Maseru City Council (MCC) is developing a Central Park in the Central Business District which incorporates a parking garage designed to regulate parking in the city and generate revenue. The MCC also plans to assume management of parking areas by the Victoria Hotel, Lancers Inn and Hopolang building. The revenue raised from parking fees will be used to maintain the parking garages and street lighting. To ensure enough parking spaces in the future, all new businesses in the city are now required to incorporate a parking area on their plans. For more information:

<http://www.publiceye.co.ls/2012/05/04/council-targets-motorists-to-generate-revenue/>



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### **KHOTOSO—News from Lesotho**

If you haven't been on the FOL website lately and want to find out what current PCVs are up to, how PCV life in Lesotho is different now from your time in country and get to know current PC-Lesotho staff, check out our webpage of current and past Khotso monthly newsletters. Go to <http://www.friendsoflesotho.org/membership/newsletters/>.

### **Investment Opportunity in Lesotho**

Would you like to own a backpackers hostel in Thaba Bosiu? Are you interested in providing hands-on support to an orphan project in Lesotho? If you answered yes to either of these questions contact Rose Paradise ([montica05@yahoo.com](mailto:montica05@yahoo.com)) for more details. To see pictures of the backpackers hostel for sale, go to <http://www.viviun.com/AD-174145>, an international real estate site.

### **National Peace Corps Association Upcycling Program**

Recycle your used iPods, cell phones, cameras and more!

Your no longer used electronics can truly make a world of difference! With 60,000 items to donate in 13 categories, we can create much needed funding to support the many missions we serve. Protect the planet AND support the NPCA. Join us as we launch the NPCA's innovative way to do good and be green. Donating your used consumer electronics is a safe and responsible way to re-purpose those items while helping the NPCA further its mission worldwide. Upcycling creates a 2nd or 3rd life for used consumer electronics. We think you'll agree Upcycling is an idea whose time has come. Information about how to participate can be found at: [www.causesinternational.com/upcycleforcharity/national-peace-corps-association](http://www.causesinternational.com/upcycleforcharity/national-peace-corps-association).

### **Bloom Africa**

Originating from service trips to Lesotho led by Scott Rosenberg through Wittenberg University, Bloom Africa was founded by college students in 2010. Bloom Africa strives to empower orphans and vulnerable children in Lesotho by providing resources, and is now developing Community Learning Centers to create sustainable impacts. Entirely volunteer operated, Bloom Africa is comprised of a team of young adults who have visited Lesotho through the service trips in the past. In addition to the projects in Lesotho, the organization focuses on advocacy and raising awareness for Lesotho and the issues it faces with HIV/AIDS. For more information, visit [www.bloomafrika.org](http://www.bloomafrika.org).



# METSOALLE ea LESOTHO

## Committees and Task Forces

### Many hands make light work

Thinking about how you can contribute to FOL beyond simply financially? We're always looking for volunteers. Here are some ways you can help:

Make an "in-kind" donation of time and/or money by offering to print and mail one of the quarterly newsletters. FOL continues to encourage its members to "Go Green" and receive their newsletter electronically, but we still have a hundred or so that are sent via snail mail. **For more details contact Faye at: f\_e\_@hotmail.com.**

It is time for a review of the FOL website. FOL would very much welcome some fresh insights on how we can improve it even more. To contribute **contact Dyann at dyvandusen@yahoo.com**

Are you an avid internet shopper; do you have a good eye for what sells; do you have time to help FOL conduct a cost-benefit analysis and make recommendations on how best to proceed with our CafePress relationship? To help FOL streamline and manage our CafePress store, **contact Kevin at mashai123@gmail.com**

FOL's annual meeting is conducted via tele-conference every March. However, the planning process starts every summer and involves: identifying and contacting potential speakers; reviewing the By-Laws and providing input regarding any changes needed; drafting the meeting announcement and voting ballot for posting on the FOL website and assisting with design, production and mailing of the election ballot and annual report. **To help coordinate or participate in the meeting, contact Kevin at mashai123@gmail.com**

If you have a basic understanding of budgets and financial spreadsheets and can spare maybe 1 hour every few months, John Hollister, FOL Treasurer would welcome your participation on the Finance Committee. **For more details contact John at johnh@zappedat.net.**

Help generate and implement fundraising ideas. Some activities include sending thank you letters to donors; drafting and mailing an annual fundraising appeal letter; calendar production and order fulfillment; and administering FOL's "Friends of Lesotho INC" Facebook Causes page. **For more details contact Pete at pneumann1947@yahoo.com.**

Members of the donation committee are directly involved in reviewing requests for project funding and communicating directly with PCVs, Lesotho NGOs and PC staff in Lesotho and Washington, D.C. **For more details contact either Richard at qhomaki@mac.com or Dyann at dyvandusen@yahoo.com.**

### 2012 Committee and Task Force Members

<b>Membership</b>	Dyann Van Dusen (Chair), Adam Rosenberg, Bill Dunn, Charles Fogelman, Janice Stapleton, Marty Smith, Victor Cuevas
<b>Donations</b>	Dyann Van Dusen and Richard Rowan (Co-Chairs), Dave Ruch, Dick Nystrom, Janice Stapleton, Lynn Mindermann, Ronna Abbott, Scott Rosenberg, Lois Sebatane
<b>Fundraising</b>	Peter Neumann (Chair), Bill Moore, Jan Kalnbach, Julie Galbraith, Victor Cuevas
<b>Finance</b>	John Hollister (Chair), Bill Dunn, Bob Sos, David Song, Kevin Caughlan, Kevin Freer, Richard Rowan
<b>Newsletter</b>	Faye Farmer (Chair), Nicole Potsane, Allison Pranger, Deena Rowe-Krumdick, Dyann Van Dusen (Khotso Coordinator)
<b>By-Laws*</b>	Richard Rowan, (Chair), Kevin Freer, Julie Galbraith, Dyann Van Dusen
<b>Nominations*</b>	Kevin Freer (Chair), Dyann Van Dusen
<b>Annual Meeting*</b>	Julie Galbraith, Kevin Caughlan
<b>Website/Social Media</b>	Christina Balch, Dick Nystrom, Julie Galbraith, Marty Smith, Peter Neumann, Josh Russell, Tammy Benabides
*Signifies current openings on a committee or task force.	

Did we miss anyone? Please email Kevin Freer at mashai123@gmail.com with corrections to this list so we can update our records.

Additional members on committees and task forces are always welcome. For more information on committee member requirements and committee descriptions, visit our website at: <http://www.friendsoflesotho.org/how-to-support-fol/board-and-committee-service/>



*Whenever you shop at Amazon.com, start at FOL first.*

Friends of Lesotho is an Amazon.com affiliate.

Access Amazon.com from the FOL website and a portion of the price of your purchase will be donated to FOL by Amazon.com.

Go to the FOL website, click on the "Shop" tab, select "FOL Amazon," and click on the Amazon link.

<http://www.friendsoflesotho.org/shop/amazon/>





## Bits & Pieces

### Peace Corps Connect Meeting

The National Peace Corps Association is holding its "Annual Gathering" June 29<sup>th</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup> in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The "Gathering" is a conference with many breakout sessions, an exhibit hall and a global expo. Much of the conference will be focused on career networking, training for effective advocacy, and of course, reconnecting with people you served with.

Friends of Lesotho will have a booth in the exhibit hall. We are also looking into the possibility of an FOL group meeting. If you live in Minneapolis or plan to attend the conference and you could spare an hour to staff the FOL booth, contact Richard Rowan (Qhomaki@mac.com).

If you are interested in attending, more information can be found at the NPCA website (<http://www.peacecorpsconnect.org/annual-gathering/>).

Friends of Lesotho - 2012 Treasurer's Summary for Board: May 31, 2012			
	1/26/2012	5/31/2012	Difference
Current Bank Balance (checking):	\$19,535.33	\$28,874.21	\$9,338.88
Current Bank Balance (savings):	\$40,894.48	\$40,962.52	\$68.04
Paypal (pending transfer):	\$1,158.85	\$0.00	-\$1,158.85
<b>Total (both accounts)</b>	<b>\$61,588.66</b>	<b>\$69,836.73</b>	<b>\$8,248.07</b>
<i>Interest Earned CY to Date (incl. above)</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>\$68.04</i>	<i>\$68.04</i>
Paid Membership (Incl. Adv Dues - 33 for 2012):	0	82	82
New members this Year to date:	0	5	5
Non-member cash donors Year to date:	0	10	10
<b>2012 Extra Donation Fund Status:</b>			
	Amount in	Amount sent	Amount Pending
<b>Donation Fund</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>to Lesotho (1)</b>	<b>Future Disbursement</b>
Lesotho Project Fund (2)	\$12,804.71	\$3,487.39	\$9,317.32
Scholarship Fund	\$25,504.13	\$2,040.00	\$23,464.13
Village Hope Project (PCV)	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$120.00
Little Angels	\$2,885.00	\$2,885.00	\$0.00
Sesotho Counting Book	\$1,472.91	\$0.00	\$1,472.91
LCCU (3)	\$13,541.25	\$0.00	\$13,541.25
Laptops to Lesotho	\$476.82	\$476.82	\$0.00
	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$56,804.82</b>	<b>\$8,889.21</b>	<b>\$47,915.61</b>
<i>Difference from Prior report:</i>	<i>\$14,822.02</i>	<i>\$8,889.21</i>	<i>\$5,932.81</i>
<i>Notes - 1) These include donation collection fees from Just Give and transfer fees in sending funds.</i>			
	- 3) Total LCCU "Likeleko Memorial" contrib. =	\$2,075.00	(combined 2011 and 2012 to date)
(2) Project cash sent (other than online fees) in period included:			
- Little Angels Wire, \$3,400 total sent: \$2,885 from Little Angels fund (\$13.50 in justgive fees), plus \$528.50 cash and \$40 fee from Project fund.			
- Laptops to Lesotho, \$3,386 total sent: \$2,909.18 from FOL Project fund, \$476.82 Laptops to Lesotho Fund			
- Phelisanong Scholarships, \$2,000 sent by wire, plus \$40 wire fee - both from Scholarship fund.			
<b>2012 Operating Expense Status:</b>			
Current Cash in Accounts (as above):		\$69,836.73	
<b>Subtract out:</b>			
Project Expenditure Obligations (per above, incl. interest)		-\$47,915.61	incl. fundraiser fund
Future Dues for Carryover		-\$195.00	incl. interest
Life Membership Fund (incl. interest)		-\$16,733.85	= total members
<b>Cash Available for FOL Expenses =</b>		<b>\$4,992.27</b>	
Unused Expenses in 2012 Budget -		\$4,729.70	
<b>Current Cash Reserve =</b>		<b>\$262.57</b>	excluding unspent budget
(Total operating cash expenses, incl. NPCA pass thru):		\$673.30	
(Total operating inkind expenses to date):		\$47.15	operating expenses only

# 2012 Lesotho Calendars

## Lesotho: The Mountain Kingdom

A photographic essay by Jeremy Wade Shockley



## Lesotho: The Mountain Kingdom

by professional photographer and  
RPCV Jeremy Wade Shockley

[www.cafepress.com/lesotho](http://www.cafepress.com/lesotho)

## Best of FOL's Lesotho 2: 2012



## BEST OF LESOTHO 2

2012 editions  
of previous  
FOL calendars  
available

## Lesotho 2012



## SCENERY



## LESOTHO



## LESOTHO LIFE



## SMILES

## Best of FOL's Lesotho 2012



## BEST OF LESOTHO 1

[www.cafepress.com/lesotho](http://www.cafepress.com/lesotho)

All profits go to projects supported by Friends of Lesotho



# FRIENDS OF LESOTHO

Making a difference at the grassroots level

4110 Denfeld Avenue  
Kensington, MD 20895  
(301) 942-2751  
[www.friendsoflesotho.org](http://www.friendsoflesotho.org)

\*Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Yrs in Lesotho: \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_: \*District: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Village: \_\_\_\_\_

CHED  ED Project(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation/Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

**Newsletters will be sent by e-mail as part of FOL's "GO GREEN" effort. If you prefer postal service, check here .**

FOL's Website Member Directory is accessible to members only by use of a secure ID and Password. The fields marked above with an \* will be included in the directory. Check here if you do not want to be listed .

**Privacy Policy:** FOL will not release member information to any organization, except the National Peace Corps Association, upon implied consent when a member joins both FOL and NPCA. FOL will share membership information with other FOL members and prospective PCVs seeking information about Lesotho.

Friends of Lesotho (FOL) is a registered 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. A copy of the current financial statement of Friends of Lesotho is available by writing 4110 Denfeld Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895, or by emailing [treas@friendsoflesotho.org](mailto:treas@friendsoflesotho.org). Documents and information submitted under the Maryland Solicitations Act are also available, for the cost of postage and copies, from the Maryland Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis MD 21401, (410) 974-5534.

*FOL is affiliated with the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA). \* If you choose to send your FOL dues directly to NPCA in response to their membership solicitation, you must specify FOL as your choice of affiliated group to receive the credit for dues.*

## Membership Form

Complimentary--PCVs during service up to 12 months after COS.

### Dues Are Per Person

Annual Membership--\$15 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Lifetime Membership Options

- Basic--\$250 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Bronze--\$500 \$ \_\_\_\_\_\*\*
- Silver--\$750 \$ \_\_\_\_\_\*\*
- Gold--\$1,000 \$ \_\_\_\_\_\*\*

**\*\*Payable in annual installments of \$250**

Additional Donation to FOL \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for:

- Greatest Need (default option)
- Tuition Assistance Programs
- Memorial Scholarships Fund *In memory of:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Yrs \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ Dist/Village/Job \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL to FOL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NPCA Membership--\$35 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*\*FOL will forward to NPCA for you.*

TOTAL CONTRIBUTION: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your check and completed form to Friends of Lesotho at the address above or pay by credit card by Clicking on Join/Renew from our website at [www.friendsoflesotho.org](http://www.friendsoflesotho.org) and select JustGive or Razoo.

For FOL use only. Please do not complete the information below.

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Member Since \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Source \_\_\_\_\_

Renew Date \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Members \_\_\_\_\_ NPCA \_\_\_\_\_ **11/01/2010**



**FRIENDS OF LESOTHO**

4110 Denfeld Avenue  
Kensington, MD 20895

301.942.2751  
board2@friendsoflesotho.org



## METSOALLE ea LESOTHO

Second Quarter 2012  
Newsletter



FRIENDS OF LESOTHO

- President:** Kevin Freer (board1@friendsoflesotho.org) - Chair By-Laws, Nominations
- Vice President:** Dyann Van Dusen (board3@friendsoflesotho.org) - Chair Membership, Co-Chair Donations, Chair Nominations
- Treasurer:** John Hollister (board4@friendsoflesotho.org) - Chair Financing
- Secretary:** Julie Galbraith (Julie.Galbraith@friendsoflesotho.org) - Fundraising, By-Laws, Annual Meeting
- Embassy Liaison:** Scott Rosenberg (srosenberg@wittenberg.edu) - Donations
- Board Members:** Kevin Caughlan (caughlan@earthlink.net)  
Victor Cuevas (animeon@gmail.com) - Fundraising  
Bill Moore (moowag@scc.net) - Fundraising  
Pete Neumann (pneumann1947@yahoo.com) - Chair Fundraising  
Dick Nystrom (dickpam@nystrom.us) - Fundraising  
Richard Rowan (qhomaki@mac.com) - Past President, Co-Chair Donations  
Dave Ruch (tiadavebyron@earthlink.net) - Donations  
Janice Stapleton (jstapleton225@gmail.com) - Donations, Membership

*Additional assistance from the following members:*

**Website/Database/Social Media:** Bill Dun, Martin Smith, Kevin Caughlan

**Newsletter:** Faye Farmer, Coordinator (f\_e\_@hotmail.com)  
Nicole Potsane, Layout & Design  
Mary Howard, Copy Editor  
Marisa Ernst, Printing & Mailing