



FRIENDS OF LESOTHO

METSOALLE ea LESOTHO

Second Quarter 2018
Newsletter

King Letsie III and Queen 'Masenate at Wittenberg

By Charles Fogelman, RPCV Lesotho

Their majesties King Letsie III and Queen 'Masenate led the Lesotho delegation that came to Springfield, Ohio in May. On a diplomatic trip that also included visits to Louisville, Washington, and New York, the King came to Springfield to serve as the commencement speaker for Wittenberg University's 168th commencement.

His majesty's speech did not focus merely on Lesotho or the U.S., but on global and universal challenges. Leadership, empathy, and inclusivity were among the issues he stressed to the graduates, organizing them around the Sesotho concept of *botho*, which he defined as "an inclusive view of humanity." His attendance at the ceremony is testament to the 15-year relationship between Lesotho and Wittenberg fostered by Dr. Scott Rosenberg in his various capacities as a Wittenberg professor of history, FOL President, and Honorary Consul to the Kingdom of Lesotho.

The night before the more formal event, I had the opportunity to attend a braai at the Springfield Polo Club in my official capacity as "guy married to an FOL board member." The King and Queen both attended, as did Foreign Minister Lesego Makgothi and Archbishop Gerard Lerotholi. In a room full of starstruck Americans and Basotho, the royal couple graciously greeted Wittenberg students, scholars of Lesotho, Rotary Club members, and others, even posing for photos with dozens of us.

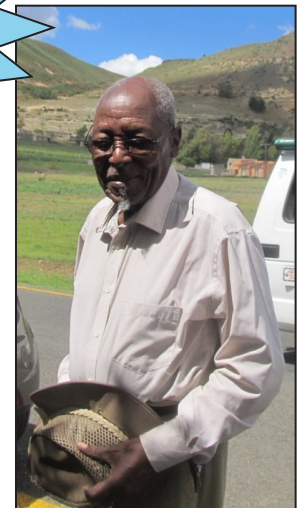
FOL members on hand included Stacey McKeever, Richard Rowan, Tara Browne, and Andrew Steele, alongside Professor/President/Honorary Consul Rosenberg. Scott made brief remarks, as did representatives from the Lesotho Nutrition Initiative and the Springfield Rotary Club, followed by the King himself.

My experience of the evening was like that of my American relationship with Lesotho: unexpected, unlike what I am accustomed to, and completely delightful. What a wonderfully odd experience to have

in Southeastern Ohio. In a scene not dissimilar from parts of the Free State, it gave me the opportunity to reflect on my own understanding of *botho*. Gathering with Basotho and American friends, family, and strangers for conversation and a buffet was not disparate to workshops at the Blue Mountain Inn, funerals at Thaba-Tsoeu, or weddings in Mafeteng. Some of my favorite memories from Lesotho come from strange and serendipitous ceremonies and buffet lines, where I have felt the truest sense of *botho*. It was a pleasure to feel those linkages from years ago in Lesotho, and an honor to be able to share my own love for the Mountain Kingdom with Morena and Mofumahali.



Newsletter Features Clickable Links!!
Download the newsletter from the FOL website www.friendsoflesotho.org and you will be able to click on all the website addresses.



Mr Kotela, former Head of Thabana Morena Secondary School, 2016 (He's 90 years old). Photo courtesy Kevin Caughlan, RPCV. See article on page 7.



King Letsie III gives commencement address at Wittenberg University's commencement.
Photo retrieved from Springfield News--Sun

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WHY THE KING WAS HERE: The story behind Springfield's connection with Lesotho

<https://www.springfieldnewsun.com/news/south-african-king-will-visiting-springfield-this-month-here-why/4Qmsdzjt5avp3FM2oITrQK/>



A Word From Our President, Dr. Scott Rosenberg

Lumelang Motsoelle,

First, I wanted like to thank our members who continue to support our work and the board members for all the hours they have put in. I am pleased to report that FOL continues to fulfill its mission to promote positive change and to assist the people of Lesotho.

This year we were lucky enough to be able to hold our Annual Meeting on March 11th, Moshoeshoe's Day. One of our speakers was Ambassador Sebatane, Lesotho's ambassador to the United States. Ambassador Sebatane has long been a friend of FOL and has been able to join our call the last several years. However, his term is coming to an end, and he and his wife Lois (RPCV, Lesotho) will be heading back to Lesotho. I would like to take this last opportunity to thank him for all the support he has given FOL, and for the kind and encouraging words that he had for all of us during the call.

Our other guest speakers were Reid Rector, Executive Director of Touching Tiny Lives (TTL) and Ken Storen, RPCV, Lesotho, and co-founder of TTL. We were able to hear about the work that TTL has been doing in Mokhotlong to combat severe malnutrition in children under the age of 5. Ken shared with us how he and his wife started TTL, and both Reid and Ken described the different programs they run. It was a very insightful, and interesting to hear what other RPCVs are doing to stay engaged with Lesotho.

At the meeting we also elected one new member, Tishina Okegbe, who will be joining the FOL Board and serving on the donations committee. Please join me in welcoming Tishina to the Board. I would also like to thank all the members who chose to return to the Board, all of whom were re-elected (Kathy Jacquart, Aparna Jayaraman, Stacey McKeever, Richard Rowan, and Bill Moore). Lastly, I would like to welcome our new editor, Tara Browne! 🏡



Sincerely,

Dr. Scott Rosenberg
President, FOL
Honorary Consul, Kingdom of Lesotho

Get to Know the New Newsletter Editor

Greetings Friends of Lesotho,

My name is Tara Browne and I'm the new FOL newsletter editor. While I'm not an RPCV, nor am I a Wittenberg graduate, I *am* a passionate humanitarian and supporter of the non-profit work in Lesotho. To be honest, I can't remember quite how I stumbled upon Friends of Lesotho, but I believe it was a crossover from my support and following the work of Touching Tiny Lives.

I've been working with non-profits in varying capacities for 20 years, including serving on fundraising and event planning committees, grant writing, organizing city-wide outreaches, teaching leadership classes to Rwandan and Ugandan non-profit leaders, and working internationally to help orphans in Costa Rica. I have previous experience working as a writer for a collegiate newspaper and jumped at the opportunity of throwing my hat in the ring for the FOL newsletter editor position.

I'm excited to be a part of FOL and help spread the news about the amazing things this organization is doing in Lesotho. To help you put a face with a name, below is a recent picture of me with His Majesty King Letsie III of Lesotho and Her Majesty Masenate Mohato Seeiso at the Braai at the Springfield Polo Club. Don't be deceived, I may look calm and collected but I was internally freaking out! It was an incredible honor to meet them both and a night I will not soon forget! 🏡





Skiing in Lesotho

By Kevin Freer, RPCV Lesotho 1976-1978

It's winter in the Southern Hemisphere. Who knew you could go skiing in Africa? Although there has not been an Olympic Ski Team from Lesotho to date, there are opportunities to develop new skills while enjoying yourself in *The Kingdom in the Sky*.

Skiing in Lesotho is always a somewhat haphazard affair. The best time to go is between May and August. The most convenient accommodation would be Afriski which is located next to the ski slopes (elevation 9571 ft. – 1057 ft.).

The snow on Lesotho slopes is not packed and can often be icy —conditions that can be 'leg-breaking'. The Ski Deck staff advise a couple of dry slope lessons if your skiing is not proficient. They offer specials on lessons during



the mid-year period.

The Ski Deck has information about conditions, although, if you've booked way in advance, there is no way of guaranteeing you'll hit snow. But snow or no snow, the area is beautiful, and the mountain walks are lovely.

Retrieved from

<http://seelesotho.com/skiing-in-lesotho/>



Joel Frushone, Associate Director for External Affairs

Feb 2018 Appointee (via Peace Corps Connect)

By Madeline Ura-neck, RPCV Lesotho

Joel Frushone joins the Peace Corps as Associate Director for External Affairs after serving for four months as our Director of Communications. Joel brings over 20 years of experience in Africa, where he lived for nearly 10 years.

Most recently, as the Global Communications Director for Malaria No More, Joel drove the organization's communications in the U.S. and Africa, while working closely with the African Leaders Malaria Alliance.

Previously, as the founder and CEO of Crescent Consultants, an international strategic relations firm that specialized in communications strategies and government relations in Africa, Joel worked closely with foreign governments, public and private enterprises, foundations, development agencies, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and others on policy and message development across the African continent.

Educated at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Joel began his professional career as a legislative assistant for Congressman Tom Ridge and worked as his personal assistant when Mr. Ridge was Governor of Pennsylvania. Joel went on to serve as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Lesotho, where he taught small-scale agriculture production to women and children from 1995-1997.

After his Peace Corps service, Joel worked as the communications and advocacy director for World Vision International in Rwanda and Burundi, where he promoted World Vision's work with genocide survivors. Subsequently, he worked as an Africa policy analyst for the U.S. Committee for Refugees, where he documented the plight of uprooted populations in Africa's most volatile countries.

In addition, as a consultant for the Stevens & Schriefer Group, Joel helped elect Republican U.S. members of Congress, senators, governors, and foreign leaders.





Lesotho's Influence in Marvel's *Black Panther*: The Blanket Wrap

By Kevin Freer, RPCV Lesotho

Black Panther was the hugely anticipated Marvel superhero movie of 2018 and set in the fictional Wakanda, Africa. One of the costume highlights in the film was, of course, the traditional Basotho blanket. These thick wool blankets are of deep cultural significance and history, conveyed through the symbols and bold combinations used in several scenes. W'Kabi (Daniel Kaluuya) and others are shown wearing Basotho blankets produced by a company sanctioned by the Basotho Royal Family.



Wakanda may not have been real, but the *Black Panther* costume designer Ruth Carter and Hannah Beachler, the film's production designer, both drew on very real tribes and cultures to represent the various peoples that form part of the nation of Wakanda. In *Black Panther*, Wakanda is a kingdom made up of several different tribes, each with their own distinctive style. Carter and Beachler researched traditional culture and clothing which they drew from across different parts of the continent, including Lesotho. Carter, along with her costume department, wanted to incorporate traditional Basotho designs, so the crew travelled to Lesotho and received permission from the Basotho people before moving forward.

A tribe of warriors disguised as simple farmers protect Wakanda's borders. Their most distinctive costume features are the blankets they wear. In Lesotho, a mountainous country surrounded by South Africa which gets snow in the winter, the Basotho blanket holds significant meaning. The most prestigious meaning being the corn cob found on the *seanamarena*, meaning "to swear by the chiefs." In the film, the blanket cloaks worn by the border tribe have a Wakandan symbolism and technology that turns them from farmer to warrior as their blankets emit force fields.

The border tribe lives in the mountains, in simple villages, hiding Wakanda. The rolling green landscapes of the border tribe look very much like those of Lesotho. What's more, the border tribesmen and women are skilled riders, just as the Basotho are, except that in the film they ride armored rhinos rather than horses.



History of the Basotho blanket:

<http://maliba-lodge.com/blanketwrap/2010/lesotho-stories/the-history-of-the-basotho-traditional-blanket/>

Retrieved from:

<http://maliba-lodge.com/blanketwrap/2018/uncategorized/lesothos-influence-marvels-black-panther/>; <https://qz.com/1210704/black-panthers-african-cultures-and-influences/>; and Google *Images search 'Black Panther Lesotho'*





Panthers and Blankets: A Reflection on the Representation of Africa in Media and Culture

By **Aparna Jayaraman**, RPCV Lesotho

I wore my Basotho blanket when I watched *Black Panther* in theaters.

I wore it with pride, my face glowing, my head held high as people gave me strange looks. Maybe they'd figure it out after the movie, maybe they wouldn't; it didn't matter, it was important to me.

Weeks into its premiere, *Black Panther* continued to dominate the news cycle; it commanded the box office becoming the fifth highest grossing film ever. It confronted casting biases in Hollywood and garnered critical acclaim from movie goers across the spectrum. The film rode the current national dialogue around race from the majority black cast to the GoFundMe campaign for children of color to watch the movie. But that's not why I wore my blanket.

Since returning to the U.S., I've been disappointed by what I've read about Lesotho and about the African continent as a whole. Corrupt leaders, droughts, and starving children; it wasn't that these articles weren't true, I could remember parts of my service that reflected these stories, but they felt unfinished, one dimensional, and unfair. *Black Panther*, however, was different.

Lesotho is not Wakanda, not by a long shot, yet I recognized it. I recognized my 'M'e in the Queen Mother, how she brought me into her family so fiercely and unconditionally and the way her eyes would look into the distance recalling her brothers and sisters who died before their time. I'd seen T'Challa's quandary in my village youth; proud Basotho who embraced the modern world while struggling to understand the role of tradition in it. And how many times had I seen bo-ntate look at their bulls the same way W'Kabi looked at his rhinoceros?



Aparna Jayaraman in her Basotho Blanket going to see *Black Panther*

All those articles may have gotten the facts right, but they didn't capture Lesotho's spirit. Entrepreneurship and innovation is booming in Africa with young leaders taking on the challenges their leaders fail to address. The onslaught of mobile technology, investments in education, and globalization have ignited local economies up and down the continent. Foreign investors such as Barclays Africa have left the continent because of local competition. Why don't we see these stories more?

The truth is, Africa is all of the above; it's the drought that's causing millions to go hungry while a developer is building an app to buy gas tanks with the press of a button. It's the woman who dies in her home from childbirth when her neighbor is a nurse. It's the kid who's founding a fintech company after growing up in a village where the main currency is cattle. *Black Panther* captured that so subtly yet so wholly.

That's why I wore my blanket to the theaters. As I secured my blanket around my shoulders, I knew I was going to see the Lesotho I had left behind, filled with the contradictions that only a place filled with ancient traditions and opportunities would have. And I couldn't have been happier.



SHOPPING?? PLEASE USE FOL'S LINK TO AMAZON

Amazon donates a small percent of purchases made by Friends of Lesotho year round, with no extra charge to the customer, if you access their site through

Friends of Lesotho's Web page, <http://FriendsOfLesotho.org>

One extra click by you enables FOL to send hundreds of dollars of donations to Lesotho each year.



Catholic Relief Services in Lesotho

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) plans and coordinates programs in three of Lesotho's four dioceses, bringing public and private sectors together for community-based development. Programs involve partnerships with stakeholders such as the Government of Lesotho, local non-government organizations (NGOs), international NGOs, public- and private-sector partners, and Church partners. The FOL Board and members may be interested in supporting their work in Lesotho which focuses on supporting livelihoods, climate change and natural resource management, emergency response, education, microfinance, HIV, and information and communications technology for development. Retrieved from <https://www.crs.org/our-work-overseas/where-we-work/lesotho>



From L to R: Preschool Education, Helping Vulnerable Women and Girls, Helping Women Live Independently, Restoring Mountain Eco-Systems

Unseen Africa — Except for Peace Corps Volunteers

By Kevin Freer, RPCV Lesotho 1976-1978

Many are familiar with travel guides to Lesotho published by *Lonely Planet*, *Rough Guide*, and *Southbound Pocket Guide*. Two recent additions less known by the general public have been recently published. It seems that travelers continue to document what they believe to be unseen discoveries and unseen Africa - which may be true - except for Peace Corps Volunteers!

Chase Guttman, an 18-year-old award-winning drone photographer expert from Syracuse University, featured pictures from Lesotho in a series of publications and on his website at Chaseguttman.com and throughout his Instagram account at <https://www.instagram.com/chaseguttman/>.

Francis Tapon, author of *The Unseen Africa Series*, has traveled to 54 African countries, including Lesotho. Tapon has featured Lesotho in his Twitter, Tumblr and Instagram accounts <http://francistapon.com/Travels/Africa/>.



Maletsunyane Falls, Lesotho
© Chase Guttman Photography 2017. Used with permission.

Fifth-largest Gem Diamond in History Sells for \$40 Million



One of the largest gem-quality diamonds ever mined has sold for \$40 million. A 910-carat diamond, named "The Lesotho Legend," was bought by tender Monday by an unnamed buyer in Antwerp, Belgium, according to Gem Diamonds. Gem Diamonds, which retrieved the rock in January, said it was the fifth-largest gem-quality diamond ever recovered.

The firm said it had removed the diamond from the Letseng mine in Lesotho. According to Gem Diamonds in January, it was the largest diamond to have been recovered from the mine.

Following the sale, Gem Diamonds CEO Clifford Elphick said in a statement that the company was "delighted," adding that its purchase highlighted the "exceptional quality of The Lesotho Legend itself" and the high standard of the Letseng

mine's diamond production.

Gem Diamonds has recovered a number of diamonds in recent months, with the company stating last week that it had unearthed six diamonds larger than 100 carats since the start of the year.





My time in the Peace Corps in Lesotho during 1972-1974

By Kevin Caughlan, RPCV Lesotho

[Editor's Note: This article is a continuance of Kevin's article "43 Years Later: My Lesotho Story" which was first published in the November 2017 newsletter.]

I graduated from Montana State University in 1968 with a degree in Mathematics Education. I had been teaching math in schools in Idaho and Montana for three years when I applied to the draft board for a Conscientious Objector status. I was then subsequently fired after a letter was sent to the school board revealing my status request. After being fired, I decided to go back to school to earn another degree in music. On my way to a talk at the university, I stopped at a desk recruiting Peace Corps Volunteers. I filled out an application and went on my way. After several months, I received a letter from the National Peace Corps Association informing me that I had been accepted to the Peace Corps and was assigned to a country I had never heard of – Lesotho. I looked it up in the World Book Encyclopedia and learned that it was newly independent (1966) and previously named Basotholand.

I was told to report to the D.C. office of the Peace Corps to be processed. There were 4 of us ranging in age 24 to 65, 3 teachers and a diesel mechanic. We arrived the day before our scheduled appointment at the Peace Corps Office. The following morning, we went to the Peace Corps Office where we were told what the next few days looked like, including vaccinations and general in-processing. After completing the in-processing, we were sent on our way. We flew into London and were bused to a day hotel to rest till our plane left for South Africa that evening. The trip from London to Johannesburg, South Africa was uneventful. However, on our arrival at the Johannesburg airport, we were singled out of the line and escorted to a small room. There we went through customs and were told that we must not leave the building we were in until the next morning when we would be sent on to Maseru, Lesotho.



Kevin Caughlan and Mr. Mahau, the English Teacher

We spent the next day getting oriented to Maseru and meeting our language/culture teacher. I remember spending most of the next 6 weeks being immersed in speaking (and trying to understand) Sesotho. I was never very good at learning languages, but I found that learning Sesotho by total immersion works! After the 6-week training period, we were given our assignments. I had hoped to be assigned to one of the mountain villages since I wanted to live in an area where I could really experience the culture. As luck would have it, there were 4 places we were to be assigned: Maseru (diesel mechanic), Buthe Buthe (math and science teacher), Thabana Morena, also math and science (that's where I chose), and somewhere in the southern area (I don't remember where). I thought I was going to teach math only, but wound up teaching math, physics, chemistry, and biology. There were several student behaviors I was not prepared for. For instance, the first day I walked into my first class, 60 students stood up. After that first day, I was in my apartment (2 rooms added to the end of an old barn) after dinner and heard a knock at my door. My students were waiting in line to have their homework checked. Needless to say, that also surprised me!

I have many more stories of my wonderful 2 years there, but the story I love to tell the most happened a few weeks before I left this beautiful country. About 7 weeks before I left Thabana Morena, I was bitten by a spider on my ankle. The infection increased to the extent that I could barely walk on it. I went to the clinic in my village, but they couldn't treat it fully. I had to go down, by bus, on a dirt road to the hospital in Mafeteng. I wound up staying overnight so I could get up early to go to the hospital the next morning. When I came out to catch the bus to go to the hospital, all the students were outside my apartment. Knowing I was injured, they'd come to carry me from my room, down to the bus stop where I took the bus to the hospital. At the end of the day, when I came out of the hospital, the bus was waiting for me and it was full, except for one empty seat my students had reserved for me. I was amazed that they treated me as one of their own. Part of this, I'm sure, is that I had learned their language and culture. I wish I still remembered Sesotho now. I returned to Lesotho in March of 2016 and am amazed at the growth and improvements that have been made over the last 41 years. 🏡

Submissions wanted!!

Help us create our awesome newsletter! We are looking for photographs, articles, news from the front, creative writing, reflections from your volunteer experience, travel essays, and anything else Lesotho-related.

Please send your submissions for the next FOL Newsletter to Tara Browne, tara.m.browne@gmail.com.

The next deadline is August 1, 2018



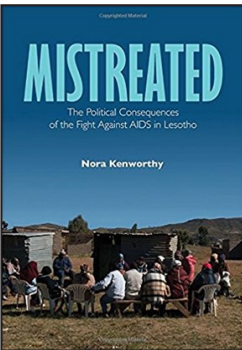
Summer Reading Suggestions

By Kevin Freer, RPCV Lesotho 1976-1978

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to FOL. Support FOL by starting your shopping at <http://www.friendsoflesotho.org/>

Segoete, L., Maienae, M. & Rosen, Z. (Eds.) (2017). *Likheleke tsa puo: New writing from Lesotho*. Barelitfest.com.

This essential book, "Likheleke tsa puo", meaning "wordsmiths" in Sesotho, contains 23 original stories that have never been published before. They are written in both English and Lesotho's original brand of Sesotho, because it's incredibly important to promote indigenous language and allow writers to express themselves how they are most comfortable.



Kenworthy, N. (2017). *Mistreated: The political consequences of the fight against AIDS in Lesotho*. Nashville, TN: Vanderbilt University Press.

As global health institutions and aid donors expanded HIV treatment throughout Africa, they rapidly "scaled up" programs, projects, and organizations meant to address HIV and AIDS. Yet these efforts did not simply have biological effects: in addition to extending lives and preventing further infections, treatment scale-up initiated remarkable political and social shifts.

In Lesotho, which has the world's second highest HIV prevalence, HIV treatment has had unintentional but pervasive political costs, distancing citizens from the government, fostering distrust of health programs, and disrupting the social contract. Based on ethnographic observation between 2008 and 2014, this book chillingly anticipates the political violence and instability that swept through Lesotho in 2014.

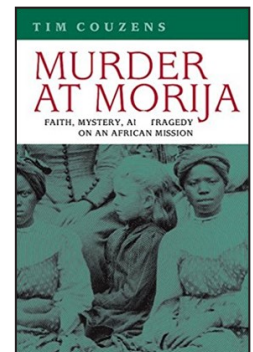


Couzens, T. (2005). *Murder at Morija: Faith, mystery, and tragedy on an African mission*. Charlottesville, VA: University of Virginia Press.

Just before Christmas in 1920, six people sat down to a meal at Morija, headquarters of the Paris Evangelical Missionary Society in Basutoland (Lesotho). All six were taken violently ill, and one of them died. They had been poisoned. The dead man was Édouard Jacottet, an eminent scholar and missionary. There was no trial and subsequently no one was ever convicted of the murder.

Who killed Jacottet? Drawing on the great tradition of the "locked room" detective story, Tim Couzens sets out, eighty years after the event, to solve the crime. Why was Jacottet killed? The answer lies buried deep in the past and is revealed here -- for the first time -- in a tale of heroism and courage, of sacrifice, deception, betrayal, and faith.

Written and researched with extraordinary care, this is a brilliant piece of detective work, but it is also much more. It is the biography of a deeply committed man, and a history of the Christian mission he served in Lesotho to whose people and language he devoted his life before it was brutally cut short in strange circumstances. And the story is a national and religious epic, enclosed in a classical tragedy tempered with the sardonic smile of comedy.



Retrieved from <https://www.amazon.com>

First FoL Crowdfunding Campaign a Success!

By Marisa Ernst

In September 2017, Friends of Lesotho launched its first crowdfunding campaign themed "Back to School: Education Assistance for Lesotho's Youth." 68 donors responded to the campaign, contributing \$6,685!

All funds went to the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP). TAP is administered through the Peace Corps Partnership Program (PCPP), which identifies deserving Secondary School students who otherwise would have to abandon their education. Income from the crowdfunding campaign will allow an estimated 50 girls and boys to complete an additional year in school and thereby increase their chances at a life course without poverty.

While crowdfunding campaigns may not appeal to everybody, the Fundraising Committee hopes that this additional fundraising method will attract supporters who prefer to contribute to specific projects, or who favor donating online over writing checks.

How would you feel about additional FOL crowdfunding campaigns? Please email your comments to ernst.marisa@gmail.com.



Be an FOL Member for FREE!

Aparna Jayaraman, RPCV Education, 2011-13, aparnaay@gmail.com

Hello, Bakhotsi! Your friendly FOL Membership Committee Chair Aparna here.

As mentioned in the last FOL newsletter, Friends of Lesotho stopped collecting the mandatory \$15 yearly membership dues starting in January 2017.

[What do FOL's free dues mean for you?](#)

If you're currently a member of Friends of Lesotho:

You don't have to do anything. Your membership automatically renewed.

If you used to be a member but are no longer a member:

Take two minutes to fill out the updated membership form either online or on the last page of this newsletter.

If you've never been a member:

What are you waiting for? There's never been a better time to start getting involved!

With membership fees in the rear view mirror, we need your help more than ever to continue doing the amazing work Friends of Lesotho does in Lesotho.

Amazon will donate money to Friends of Lesotho when you shop. Join Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.com) and add Friends of Lesotho as a beneficiary. Remember to use Amazon Smile when you shop on-line.

Get involved with one of the many committees in FOL.

Donate generously to our many projects, using the form online or the donation form attached.



Follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofLesotho>



Share your photos!

Send to editor at tara.m.browne@gmail.com



Follow us on twitter:

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Visit our website:

<http://www.friendsoflesotho.org>



And Remember :

We couldn't do and support the work, have the impact, and save the lives we do without your financial support. Your contributions support our work in:

- ◆ HIV/AIDS
- ◆ Orphanages
- ◆ Tuition Assistance including Memorial Scholarships
- ◆ The Morija Museum
- ◆ Peace Corps Volunteer Projects
- ◆ Community Development Projects
- ◆ Other types of projects as new opportunities arise

We work because you give.

Whether it's \$5 or \$5,000, all donations help us reach further and save more lives and because we're a registered 501(c)3, your donation is tax deductible!

If you'd like to give, please go to: <http://www.friendsoflesotho.org/donate/>

Newsletters Past and Present—The FOL Newsletter, *Metsoalle ea Lesotho* is posted on our website homepage (<http://friendsoflesotho.org>) each quarter of the year. The complete set of newsletters is available on our website from Issue Number One, Summer, 1987 to the present. Go to Membership > Newsletters for the archives.

Submit Newsletter Articles—Pass on RPCV updates. Recommend a Mt. Kingdom movie, music, book or Website. Share new or old photos. Been to Lesotho lately? Share it!

Submit articles, photos, or information of interest to our members to:

Tara Browne, FOL Newsletter Coordinator tara.m.browne@gmail.com



Friends of Lesotho - 2018 Treasurer's Summary for Board:		April 10, 2018	
	Interim	most recent activity:	
	Jan-2018	4/10/2018	Difference
Current Bank Balance (checking (1)):	\$19,566.75	\$10,747.86	-\$8,818.89
Current Bank Balance (savings (2)):	\$48,462.26	\$48,494.40	\$32.14
Total (both accounts excluding Paypal pending)	\$68,029.01	\$59,242.26	-\$8,786.75
Interest Earned CY to Date (incl. above)	\$0.00	\$32.14	\$32.14
2018 General / Project Fund Status:			
	Amount in	Amount sent	Amount Pending
	Fund (1)	to Lesotho	Future Disbursement
Start Calendar Year (after adjustments)=	\$34,524.57		
Donations received year to date (1) =	\$1,137.27		
Totals	\$35,661.84	\$9,949.79	\$25,712.05
Total difference from Prior report:	\$1,113.96	\$9,949.79	-\$8,835.83
(2) Breakout project cash sent (all fees under operating):			
Leratong Comm Ctr via Springfield Rotary Foundation	1/12/2018	\$4,200.00	PCPP total breakout:
PCPP posting #1 - TAP, ACH	1/18/2018	\$315.36	\$5,749.79
PCPP posting #2 - Local HS project, ACH	2/11/2018	\$1,000.00	
PCPP posting #3 - Library multi room, ACH	2/11/2018	\$1,000.00	
PCPP posting #4 - school roof, ACH	2/11/2018	\$1,000.00	
PCPP posting #5 - Toilets R4us, ACH	2/11/2018	\$1,000.00	
PCPP posting #6 - Pre-school Library Project, ACH	4/10/2018	\$434.43	
PCPP posting #7 - HS Renov Project, ACH	4/10/2018	\$1,000.00	
2018 Operating Expense Status:			
Current Cash in Accounts (as above, excluding Paypal pending):		\$59,242.26	
Subtract out:			
General / Project Fund (per above)		-\$25,712.05	
Life Membership Fund (reserve)		-\$23,289.62	
Available Operating Reserve =		\$10,240.59	
Unused Expenses in 2018 Budget -		\$5,517.21	
Current Cash Reserve (after budget) =		\$4,723.38	excludes unspent budget
(Total operating cash expenses, incl. pass thru):		\$57.79	
(Total operating in-kind expenses to date):		\$34.70	operating expenses only

Treasurer John Hollister, JohnHollister@friendsoflesotho.org, RPCV Thaba-Tseka, 1986-1988

SPEAKING OF TREASURERS...

We're looking for our next Treasurer! Love FOL, Accounting, Finance, and trying to think of ways to combine your passions? Look no further. At the end of 2018, our dear and faithful treasurer, John Hollister, will be retiring from his duties. We're seeking someone who is trustworthy, passionate, reliable, and good with numbers to be trained by John before taking the reins in 2019.



For more information or to apply, please contact the newsletter editor, Tara Browne, at tara.m.browne@gmail.com.



FRIENDS OF LESOTHO

Making a difference at the grassroots level

Mail to:
4110 Denfeld Avenue
Kensington, MD 20895

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Instructions: Mail this form and/or checks to Friends of Lesotho to the address above.
Or complete it online at our website • www.friendsoflesotho.org

Name (First and Last):

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

(not required if you are only making a donation)

Mailing Address (optional*):

*required if you'd like the newsletter mailed to you

What is your relationship to Lesotho?

- PCV, RPCV, or PC Staff in Lesotho
- Worked/Volunteered in an NGO supporting Lesotho
- Lived in Lesotho
- Friend or family of someone connected to Lesotho
- Other

How did you hear about Friends of Lesotho?

- Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
- During PC Service
- From a friend
- Google or another search engine
- Other

If you are or were a PCV in Lesotho please fill out the following information:

Cohort (ex. ED12):

District/Village you served:

COS Date:

DONATIONS FORM

Amount Donating:

\$ _____

Use my donation towards:

- Greatest Need
- Tuition Assistance Program
- Memorial Scholarship Fund

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- Check here to receive a physical copy of the newsletter in addition to email
- Check here if you do not wish to be listed in the directory (only accessible to other members)

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 may share membership information with other FOL members and prospective PCVs seeking information about Lesotho. Please note that NPCA membership is free (www.peacecorpsconnect.org). FOL is affiliated with NPCA.

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FRIENDS OF LESOTHO

4110 Denfeld Avenue
Kensington, MD 20895



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Second Quarter 2018
Newsletter



FRIENDS OF LESOTHO

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