



FRIENDS OF LESOTHO

METSOALLE ea LESOTHO

Fourth Quarter 2008
Newsletter

President's Message

I'm writing this letter over the Thanksgiving holiday, and a couple of themes come to mind. The first is transition. While the national transition unfolds in Washington, Friends of Lesotho has also been going through a transition. After many years of dedicated service to FOL, Bill Dunn and Ella Kwisnek are retiring from the board of directors. Bill and Ella have put in many, many hours of their time to keep FOL running and I'll say a few more words about their contributions later.

Although Bill and Ella are stepping down, FOL is fortunate to have four new members joining the board this year. They come from a variety of backgrounds, some recently returned from Lesotho and others whose work in Lesotho is not quite so recent, but all of them have maintained a continued interest in and connection with Lesotho over the years. Bill Moore, Dyann Van Dusen, Deena Rowe-Krumdick and Ronna Abbot are bringing new ideas and energy to the board and we look forward to their service over the coming years.

Five other board members will be continuing this year: Scott Rosenberg, John Hollister, Martha Munson, Kevin Freer and myself. Scott has been a Board Member for the past year and is the closest person we have to a presence in Lesotho. Every year he leads one or two groups of Wittenberg University students on service trips to Lesotho. He provides FOL with important knowledge of current needs and programs.

John, Martha and Kevin have all been members of the board for several years and provide the organizational memory and knowledge that will give the board some continuity and stability. John will continue to serve as Treasurer, Martha takes over as Vice President, and Kevin will take up the duties of Secretary.

Much of the work of the FOL Board of Directors is accomplished through committees composed of board members and several other active volunteers. Over the next couple of months

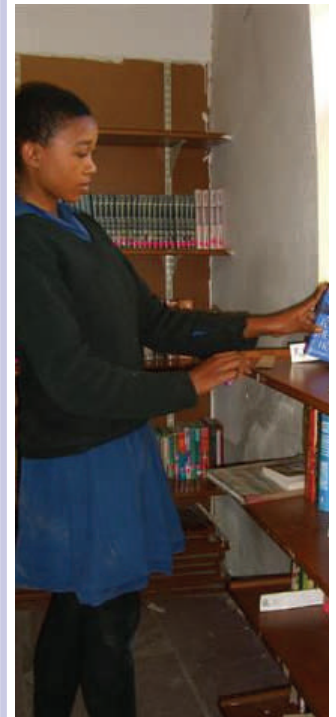
the new board members will be going through some orientation and the committees will be reorganized as new people join them and new chairpersons take over. If you are interested in getting more actively involved with FOL, there are plenty of opportunities and now is a great time to join a committee. You can find contact information in the newsletter and on the website.

At the beginning of this letter I mentioned that a couple of themes came to mind; transition was the first, thanksgiving is the second. We are thankful for the membership of FOL who support the organization both through their generous donations and volunteer work. I'd like to make a special note of thanks to Bill and Ella for all their hard work over the years. Ella has been Secretary since 2003, see her article on being secretary on page 2. She has been a reliable and steady hand, organizing board meetings, recording minutes and writing official correspondence. As chair of the membership committee she has helped maintain and expand membership, sometimes as a 'committee' of one. Among other things she has collated and mailed newsletters and written annual reports. We will especially miss her wise advice.

Bill has been on the board for many years and President of FOL since 2003. He helped expand the board, administered the membership database and developed and maintained the website. His willingness to serve as President helped FOL survive some lean years around 2003 and to grow over the following years. The list of Bill's contributions to FOL would fill many pages. We will miss his steady leadership. Fortunately, Bill will continue to help us out with the website and membership database. So, with thanks for contributions past and future,



Sala hantle for now,
Richard



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Secretary's Letter

FOL SECRETARY: Tangible tasks with intangible benefits

By Ella Kwisnek

It has been my pleasure to serve as the Secretary to Friends of Lesotho for the past several years. Although the tasks of the office may sometimes seem mundane, the benefits derived from contributing to an organization that is having a significant, positive influence on people's lives are immeasurable.

The office of the Secretary involves a few primary functions: taking meeting minutes, receiving vote ballots, maintaining certain FOL records, and assembling the Annual Report. Minutes are taken at the regular, special, and executive meetings. The secretary sets up the meetings using freeconference.com about three weeks before the meetings. The secretary also distributes dial-in information, the draft agenda, solidifies the agenda, and distributes minutes from the prior meeting. The secretary takes notes of the meeting and distributes final notes to the board for consideration at the next meeting. The secretary is tasked with counting ballots for the

annual board election, as well as the Board members' votes on extraordinary items.

The FOL Secretary is not the Historian of the organization, but does maintain copies of Memoranda of Understanding entered into between FOL and various organizations supporting projects in Lesotho.

Finally, the FOL Secretary is responsible for assembling and producing the Annual Report. This task begins with gathering information from various sources, e.g. a President's letter, Committee Reports, various Financial Records. After this information is gathered, it is assembled into a consistent format designed to highlight FOL's accomplishments, maintain financial transparency, and recognize contributors.

The key to FOL's success is membership involvement. Because all FOL positions are volunteer, those working full-time may weary of the demands of the obligation if they must be both an officer and a Committee Chair. However, as more members get involved, all positions become more manageable. Increased member involvement also provides more opportunities for various members to hold officer or Com-

mittee Chair positions and increases members' understanding of the organization.

I strongly encourage anyone who is considering getting involved in FOL to do so. Remember that anything worthwhile involves some sacrifice. In this case, it's time. During my time at FOL I have had the pleasure of working with an exceptional group of people whose dedication to FOL has never ceased to impress me. Through their efforts various new initiatives have been launched that will ensure that FOL will continue to make significant contributions to the people of Lesotho long into the future. That's what FOL is all about, providing scholarships to students who would not otherwise be able to continue their secondary education, funding projects that provide clean water to villages, supporting orphanages, and doing whatever possible to meet critical needs identified by current volunteers in the field and others who are in the country striving to make a difference. We can't all be on the ground in Lesotho improving the quality of people's lives, but working through FOL is the next best thing to being there.



New Board Members

Ronna Abbott served in Matelile Ha Seeiso from 2001 – 2003 with Matelile Tajane Development Trust. She also worked with students who did not have familial support or additional financial support to attend school. She has returned to Lesotho each year to enroll these students in school. Ronna is retired from sales and finds joy in fundraising at her church and time with her two grandchildren. She found her PCV service very gratifying and believes that FOL aligns with her ideals, working to support Lesotho's own efforts. Ronna will be on the Donations Committee and an NGO Liaison.

Deena Rowe-Krumdick served as an education volunteer at Ha Moruthane from 1987 – 1989. She has a variety of experience in a wide range of fields and is cur-

rently a Master Gardener Volunteer with Colorado State University. In addition, she volunteers at her children's school, and serves as a co-treasurer of her son's high school. She's interested in supporting the financing of the Tuition Assistance Program as a member of the Donations Committee.

Dyann Van Dusen served in Mazenod as an HIV/AIDS advisor from 2003 – 2006. She later worked with the Lesotho Child Counseling Unit (an orphan shelter in Mazenod) and then with the Mazenod HIV/AIDS Home Care Initiative. Dyann's past work experience has ranged from budget development to newsletters, including proposal development, financial reporting, and project management. While Dyann is not able to return to Lesotho, she has many

Basotho and American friends working on initiatives in Lesotho, and she remains committed to providing support through service to FOL. Dyann will chair the Membership Committee after she and Kevin Freer work through a transition.

Bill Moore taught at Paul VI High School in Mohale's Hoek District from 1983 – 1986. Bill recently retired from the Minnesota AFL-CIO where he was Chief of Staff and he now teaches in the Master of Advocacy and Political Leadership program at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. Bill's daughters continue the international trend with one serving in PC Boliva and the other spending her junior year abroad in France. Bill will chair the Fundraising Committee after he and Kevin Freer work through a transition.

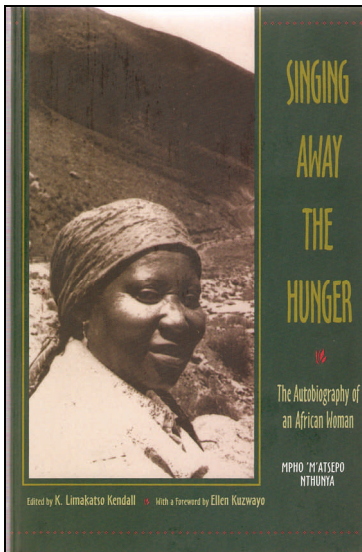




Book Review

“Singing Away The Hunger” by `Mpho M’atsepo Nthunya

Review by Dyann Van Dusen,
Board Member



The autobiography of a Masotho woman as told, in traditional Basotho storytelling fashion, to Dr. K. Limakatso Kendall, an American teacher who visited Lesotho. The book takes you through `Mpho’s childhood in Lesotho (she was born in 1930); her young adulthood in Benoni, South Africa during the time of apartheid and her return to Lesotho as a mature woman.

This is a fairly short book, easily read in an afternoon, unless you stumble over the Sesotho words and Basotho names like I did during my first read. But have patience, read slowly, absorb the culture and savour each chapter as a short story, which they are. To give you an idea, one chapter title is “Death by Novena”. It tells volumes about the influence religion has on young `Mpho. Another chapter is titled “The Child is Burning”, which gives you an idea of the harsh treatment `Mpho receives from her grandmother.

Years later (in Chapter 9) the now dead grandmother is still haunting `Mpho, at least according to “traditional healers”

President-elect Obama and the future of Peace Corps

The following is an excerpt from an article published in “World View Magazine”. For the entire article, please visit: <http://www.rpcv.org/pages/sitepage.cfm?id=1916&ref=2>

“To restore America's standing, I will call on our greatest resource -- our people. We will double the size of the Peace Corps by its 50th anniversary in 2011. And, we'll reach out to other nations to engage their young people in similar programs, so that we work side by side to take on the common challenges that confront all humanity. The Peace Corps has been a key part of meeting those challenges such as overcoming poverty, combating diseases like HIV/AIDS and malaria, and reducing the global education deficit. This will not be a call issued in one speech or one program. This will be an important and enduring commitment of my presidency.”

she seeks help from after multiple miscarriages. This chapter provides insight into the Basotho approach to healthcare--an approach that is still practiced today.

Near the end of the book, `Mpho talks briefly about what she sees as the beginnings of the illness we now all know as the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

`Mpho is still alive and living in Lesotho today. I imagine she is still telling stories to her grandchildren and great grandchildren. So, let your imagination take hold as you read “Singing Away the Hunger” and you might just hear `Mpho’s voice as she tells her story.

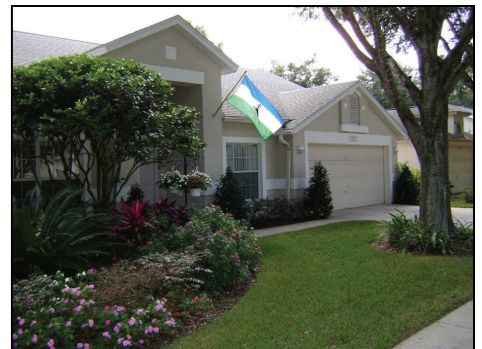
This book is a must read for anyone who has been to Lesotho (RPCVs--this means you all); who is currently living in Lesotho (PCVs and Basotho of all ages); family and friends of loved ones living in Lesotho; and anyone who is looking for an inspirational, educational and true story about an amazing African woman. To quote another reviewer who lived in Lesotho and bought the book out of a sense of nostalgia: “Truly a joy to read. I laughed and I cried”.

“Singing Away the Hunger” was originally published by the University of Natal Press and re-released by the Indiana University Press. New, used, hard and soft copies are available from Amazon.com. Click on the FOL website link to Amazon.com to order your copy today, so that FOL will receive some of the proceeds from the purchase.



Annual Meeting Party (Florida)

Kevin Freer, FOL Board Member, hosted his second FOL Annual Meeting Party. The FOL annual meeting is held in October and features several speakers who discuss several topics pertinent to Lesotho. If you are interested in hosting a party for the annual meeting, please contact a board member for more information.





METSOALLE ea LESOTHO

Litaba tsa Lesotho (News of Lesotho)

**David Ambrose, Professor
National University of Lesotho**

**Excerpted from:
Summary of Events in Lesotho
Volume 15, Number 3
(Third Quarter 2008)**

Box 958
Ladybrand 9745, South Africa
www.trc.org.ls

Huge Diamond Find

In September, mining group Gem Diamond reported finding one of the world's largest diamonds, a near-flawless 478 carats white gem, in Letseng Mine. With four of the world's 20 largest rough diamonds being found there, Letseng is now one of the most productive diamond mines in history. The diamond is estimated to be valued at more than \$12 million.



Land Ownership for Women

In May, the National Assembly passed an amendment to the Land Act that would require that both spouses be listed to register land. The proposed amendment repeals some provision of the Land Act of 1979 that provided that women could only have the right of land ownership after the death of the spouse. The Bill will provide joint entitlement to land by persons married in community of property. One member of parliament spoke in opposition to the amendment saying that it defied "Basotho traditions, customs, and laws of God." Yet another suggested that the spouses resolve such matters through chiefs and not via the courts.



Boys overtake girls in primary education

A recently issued report of the Bureau of Statistics contains statistics of primary school enrollment for the period 2000 to 2006. These show that in 2004, boys for the first time in nearly a century outnumbered girls in primary

schools.

The sexual imbalance in primary schools in the past was largely caused by boys being required for herding duties in the absence of men who were migrant workers in South Africa. Migrant work opportunities in South Africa are now very much reduced (less than half as many as 20 years ago), and there is the added problem that cattle theft is rampant with robbers using firearms against which school age boys cannot defend themselves. Consequently, cattle herding is now again largely an adult male occupation. Moreover, the existence of free primary school education, including a daily meal, provides a considerable incentive for all children to attend school.



Lesotho's national symbols highlighted in new book

Scott Rosenberg served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Lesotho from 1989 – 1992. He was awarded a Ph.D. in History from Indiana University. The National University of Lesotho Institute of Southern African Studies has now published his thesis as a book entitled Promises of Moshoeshoe: culture, nationalism and identity in Lesotho, 1902 – 1966.



Water Crisis

Three years of persistent drought has led to a water crisis in Lesotho. The water table has receded and boreholes and springs have dried

up. According to the Lesotho Department of Rural Water Supplies (DRWS), 30 percent of boreholes, wells, and springs in rural areas have dried up. Residents are thus dependent on limited surface water. DRWS statistics indicate that up to 30 percent of households nationwide lacked access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities. A study by the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare found that almost 60 percent of the health centers in Lesotho did not have access to clean water. In response to the crisis, the U.K.'s Department of International Development pledged \$1 million, which UNICEF has used to provide and rehabilitate hand pumps, construct boreholes, and erect water tanks.



Lesotho newspaper scene now increasingly dominated by English language papers

Ten years ago in 1998, Lesotho's regular weekly newspapers were largely in Sesotho. They consisted then of the political party newspapers Makatolle, Mohlanka and Lololi together with the Catholic Church newspaper Moeletsi oa Basotho, the government-owned Lentsoe la Basotho and the independently owned Moafrika. The weekly English newspapers were The Mirror, Mopheme, and Southern Star. Today the English papers are Informative, Lesotho Monitor, Lesotho Times, Lesotho Today, Maddhouse Weekly, Maloti

(Continued on page 5)

Corrections

It has come to our attention that several donors were not printed in the annual report. We apologize profusely for this oversight. The full list of donors is available on our website. We are grateful for all donations regardless of amount and we regret not being able to recognize donors adequately.

www.friendsoflesotho.org/annualreport08.pdf



Litaba tsa Lesotho (News of Lesotho)

(Continued from page 4)

News, Public Eye, The Voice of Free Democrats, Watchdog (which struggles to be a weekly, and also struggles to write English), and Weekly Mail (which despite its name is also not always weekly). As for Sesotho newspapers, four of those being published 10 years ago remain, namely Lentsoe la Basotho, Moafrika, Moeletsi oa Basotho and Mololi.



Lesotho performs disastrously in Olympic Games

A team of five Basotho left for Beijing on Monday 28 July to participate in the Olympic Games. The team was made up of three men and one woman, all marathon runners, who had had expensive pre-Olympics training in Eldoret, Kenya. There was also one boxer who had been at a training camp in Tunisia. Lesotho also provided one of the team of 34 international referees assigned to officiate in the boxing events. Nine officials accompanied the Lesotho participants, a fact that brought criticism in the press.

Alas! None of the marathon runners completed the course, while the boxer was eliminated in the preliminary stages. At the beginning of the 2008 Games, Lesotho was one of 31 African countries that had never won an Olympic medal.



New Lesotho heron species recorded and Burchell's Courser reappears after 107 years

There is no published Lesotho bird atlas, although birders are encouraged to send in monthly bird cards either to Dr. Ian Love at NUL or to David Ambrose. The Lesotho bird total was recently 349 species, of which 19 species were purely historical, defined to mean that all known records are earlier than 1950.

However, the species total has risen to 350 and one of the historical species has been again recorded in Lesotho.

The new species is the Green-backed Heron, *Butorides striata*. The species now recorded apparently for the first time in 107 years is Burchell's Courser, *Cursorius rufus*. The 1901 recording says, "Uncommon in Basutoland but in 1901 two large flocks came to Mafeteng from O.R.C. [Orange River Colony] probably owing grass growing too rank and long during the war [the reference is to abandoned farms, as a result of the British taking the owners as prisoners-of-war and putting their families into concentration camps during the Anglo-Boer War]."



Media Regulation

On July 21, 2008, the Lesotho Communications Authority (LCA) suspended Harvest FM for three months for "failure to cooperate with the authority." The suspension comes after the Lesotho Telecommunications Act (LTA) was amended to provide the Minister with the power to shut down radio stations without a hearing if the Minister determines that the radio station has violated the broadcasting law. The suspension came after the principal secretary of the Ministry of ~~Communications and the police commissioner~~ filed defamation complaints against the station.

The Committee to Protect Journalists, a New York-based nonprofit that works to safeguard press freedom worldwide, condemned the decision to suspend the station. Reporters



Without Borders also wrote to the head of LCA asking him to reverse his decision to suspend Harvest FM. In its

letter the organization stated, "The closure of Lesotho's only privately-owned radio station is a serious violation of free speech . . . Harvest FM's closure, which has been widely condemned by local and international press freedom activists, will only cause polarization and foster a climate of hostility between the government and the media."

Harvest FM returned to the air on October 22, 2008.

In October, the High Court of Lesotho found that the defunct Lesotho weekly, "The Mirror," had defamed Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili, and the court ordered the publication, its editor, and EPIC Printers to pay a M50,000 fine. The court found that the paper negligently published allegations without establishing their truthfulness.

Also on October 22, 2008, the High Court of Lesotho sentenced broadcast journalist Thabo Thakalekoala to two years in prison or a M200 fine for sedition. He also received a second two year sentence for criminal defamation and subversion; this sentence was suspended on the condition that Thakalekoala not commit a similar offence in the next three years.

Thakalekoala was charged with sedition after he read a letter on the air that called for the arrest of Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili and his senior officials for corruption. Thakalekoala contended that he received threatening calls insisting that he read the letter and that he did not think that the letter referred to the Prime Minister.

Thakalekoala has paid the M200 fine.



PLEASE PAY YOUR
MEMBERSHIP DUES
ANNUALLY

If you have comments, questions, suggestions, news, articles, websites, photos, or other items to contribute to this newsletter, please contact:

Faye Farmer at f_e_@hotmail.com or 2612 E. Geneva Dr. Tempe, AZ 85282.

We reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity and length.

We would be happy to return submissions.



METSOALLE ea LESOTHO

Family Literacy, Books for Basotho Homes

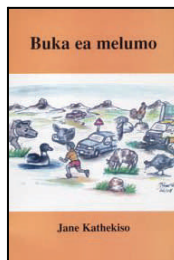
By Jane A. Hale



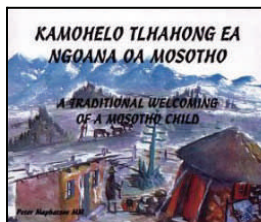
As Peace Corps Volunteers, you probably had occasion to share your books with friends in Lesotho. Many of you have worked hard to ship large quantities of books to schools, libraries, and other organizations. All of us know how eagerly books are received in this country with high literacy rates but no bookstores. When a U.S.-based pediatric literacy program called *Reach Out and Read* was instituted at Baylor Pediatric AIDS Clinic in Maseru in 2006, the thousands of children's picture books it distributed to families with very young children were welcomed with great enthusiasm. In many cases, these became the only books other than the Bible in a family's home.

It didn't take long before parents began requesting beautiful picture books for young children written in Sesotho about Lesotho. *Family Literacy Lesotho* [FLL] was thus founded in 2007 by about 40 volunteers from many sectors of Basotho society—including several Peace Corps Volunteers. FLL's mission is: **to encourage the development of beautiful children's picture books in Sesotho about Lesotho and put them in the hands and homes of Basotho children.** FLL's first project was to sponsor a nationwide Sesotho story-writing contest, to which 288 entries were submitted from all over the country. Her Majesty

Queen 'Masenate Mohato Seeiso has graciously agreed to be the official patron of FLL, indicating the importance of the children's picture book project to the preservation and enrichment of Basotho culture. FLL's first two picture books for infants and toddlers were published this July at the historic Morija Sesuto Book Depot and Print Works:



- *Buka ea Melumo*, a book about animal and vehicle sounds, written and illustrated by Jane Kathekiso



- *Kamohelo Tlhahong ea Ngoana oa Mosotho* (*A Traditional Welcoming of a Mosotho Child*), written, illustrated, and translated by Peter Maphatsoe

These are the *first-ever* children's picture books in Sesotho about Lesotho! Written, illustrated, copyrighted, and published by Basotho in Lesotho, they are a vehicle for,

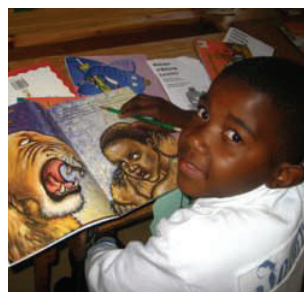
as well as a potentially important component of, the rich Basotho cultural heritage.

A generous grant from the Kellogg Foundation has allowed FLL to buy half of the initial press run of the first two books for free distribution to families with very young children through Lesotho's health care facilities. FLL is committed to helping sell the remaining books in Lesotho, the U.S., and elsewhere so the publisher will be willing to take on future children's picture book projects that we and others may propose.

Shortly after FLL was established, one of its members, Peter Maphatsoe, a 23-year-old artist, founded a sister organization, the *Children's Art Organisation of Lesotho* [CAO]. CAO works closely with FLL to develop picture books for children and to promote family art and literacy education in Lesotho. CAO established its initial headquarters in a small room in Khubetsoana, a populous neighborhood on the outskirts of Maseru. About 45 children began to come to the site before and after school and on weekends, to draw, paint, read, play, and hang around with peers and the young adult artists, who looked after them beautifully.

FLL and CAO have recently received an \$11,800 Rotary International Matching Grant to build on their initial successes by establishing a Family Art and Literacy Centre in Khubetsoana. The project is sponsored by Maloti Rotary in Lesotho and Waltham and Middleboro Rotary in Massachusetts. The Centre provides a place for the CAO artists to keep their supplies safely, to read with children, to work on FLL illustrations as well as their own pro-

(Continued on page 7)





(Continued from page 6)

jects, and to teach art to children and families. Since there is no place in Lesotho to buy children's picture books or to view the work of its many talented young artists, the Centre will also have a display and sales room for the books, arts, and crafts it produces.

Friends of Lesotho members are most welcome to visit the Centre when in Lesotho. Other ways to support its work include ordering the books, luggage tags, bookmarks, and umbrellas featured on the enclosed flyer (see order form on page 8), or making a tax-deductible donation. Even better, if you would like to write and/or illustrate a children's picture story about Lesotho—in Sesotho or in English—FLL and CAO would be happy to receive your submissions and work with you to get them in print.



For further information on these family art and literacy projects, please contact:

Professor Jane A. Hale
Director, Family Literacy Lesotho
1 Cornwell Hill
Marshfield, MA 02050
jhale@brandeis.edu
781-837-4101



CAO founder Peter Maphatsoe proudly showing FLL books and CAO products to King Letsie III at the Morija Arts & Cultural Festival in 2008

Funded Projects

Library project

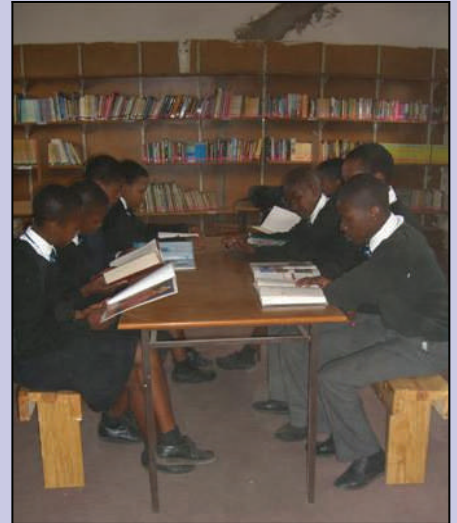
I received a FOL grant from the VAC committee. It was quite a while ago, but I am finally finished (just in time as I am leaving next month). I think this is a great source of funding for small projects here and the community really appreciates it.

The FOL grant was used to organize the school library as well as provide seating. The school has also recently hired a librarian so the future of the library looks good. We purchased stickers to label the books so that they can be returned to the proper place. Now students can find the books they are looking for! We also used the FOL fund to purchase benches. Just last week I took my students to the library and was amazed at how much easier it was to move about the library since students were able to sit on benches rather than the floor.

Thanks for the support. My teachers, students, and administration appreciate what we've done!



Sincerely,
Janeen Samuelian








ORDER FORM FOR BOOKS & CRAFTS



From Family Literacy Lesotho &
Children's Art Organization of Lesotho

Proceeds from these sales will be used to encourage the development of beautiful children's picture books in Sesotho about Lesotho and put them in the hands and homes of Basotho children.

Description	Cost	Qty	Total
Children's Book - <i>Buka ea Melumo</i> ("Book of Sounds") - in Sesotho. ** see description and picture in article on page 6 **	\$5.00		
Children's Book - <i>Kamohelo Tlhahong ea Ngoana oa Mosotho</i> ("A Traditional Welcoming of a Mosotho Child") - in Sesotho with English translation. ** see description and picture in article on page 6 **	\$5.00		
 Hand-painted Bookmarks - Paintings of Lesotho scenes and objects vary - let us pick one for you. Each has a plastic slot on the back for an id or photo.	\$5.00		
 Hand painted Luggage Tags - Paintings of Lesotho scenes and objects vary - let us pick one for you. Each has a plastic slot on the back for an id or photo.	\$5.00		
 Hand painted umbrellas.	\$30.00		
Tax-deductible donation - Please make check to "Global Primary Care" (a 501c3 at Boston University that sponsors Family Literacy Lesotho in the US), writing "Family Literacy Lesotho" in the memo line.	--	--	
Shipping & Handling - Please add \$1.50 for shipping and handling one or two books, luggage tags, or bookmarks. Please add \$5.00 for shipping and handling more than two books, luggage tags, or bookmarks Please add \$5.00 for shipping and handling each umbrella or if you order more than two books, luggage tags, or bookmarks	--	--	
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED			

Ship to (please print):

Name:

Address:



Make check payable to Jane A. Hale.
Mail your payment and order form to:

Jane A. Hale
Director, Family Literacy Lesotho
1 Cornwell Hill
Marshfield, MA 02050

METSOALLE ea LESOTHO



Project Grants & Tuition Assistance Program





METSOALLE ea LESOTHO

Bits & Pieces

Newsletter & Mailings Sponsorship

Thanks to our corporate sponsor for our end of the year appeal for donations with tax benefits. Eight employees from the Alcatel-Lucent Training Center in Altamonte Springs, Florida led by Board Member Kevin Freer, volunteered to photocopy materials, stuff envelopes and mail them out to members this November.



Alcatel-Lucent



HIV/AIDS Mural
Recipient of FOL Project Grant

	7/12/2008	9/7/2008	Difference
Current Bank Balance (checking):	\$13,097.30	\$7,277.35	-\$5,819.95
Current Bank Balance (savings):	\$33,976.18	\$34,155.15	\$178.97
Total (both accounts)	\$47,073.48	\$41,432.50	-\$5,640.98
<i>Interest Earned CY to Date (incl. above)</i>	<i>\$117.17</i>	<i>\$296.14</i>	<i>\$178.97</i>
Paid Membership (Incl. Advance Dues):	88	104	16
New members this Year to date:	9	12	3
Non-member cash donors Year to date:	38	44	6
2008 Extra Donation Fund Status:			
Donation Fund	Amount in Fund	Amount sent to Lesotho (*)	Amount Pending Future Disbursement
Undesignated Fund (\$250 min balance)	\$8,935.55	\$2,992.00	\$5,943.55
Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) Fund	\$29,310.71	\$9,035.90	\$20,274.81
HIV/AIDS Fund	\$1,108.60	\$600.00	\$508.60
Morija Museum Fund	\$113.81	\$0.00	\$113.81
Orphanages Fund	\$856.50	\$758.45	\$98.05
Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$1,293.45	\$0.00	\$1,293.45
Pachela School (NGO)	\$8,373.00	\$8,373.00	\$0.00
Village Hope Project (PCV)	\$6,256.52	\$2,678.00	\$3,578.52
LCCU (Lesotho Child Counseling Unit)	\$3,038.91	\$2,898.91	\$140.00
Totals	\$59,287.05	\$27,336.26	\$31,950.79
<i>Difference from Prior report:</i>	<i>\$2,829.66</i>	<i>\$8,544.95</i>	<i>-\$5,715.29</i>
Note (*) - These include donation collection fees from Just Give and transfer fees in sending funds.			
2007 Operating Expense Status:			
Current Cash in Accounts (as above):		\$41,432.50	
Subtract out:			
Project Expenditure Obligations (per above, incl. interest)		-\$31,950.79	
Future Dues for Carryover		-\$135.00	
Life Membership Fund (incl. interest)		-\$1,807.80	
Cash Available for FOL Expenses =		\$7,538.91	
Unused Expenses in 2007 Budget -		-\$3,579.28	
Current Cash Reserve =		\$3,959.63	
(Total operating cash expenses, incl. NPCA pass thru):		\$1,163.72	
(Total operating inkind expenses to date):		\$561.84	

7 = total life members to date

SIGN UP FOR EMAIL-ONLY DELIVERY OF YOUR FOL NEWSLETTER AND YOU'LL HELP FOL SEND MORE MONEY TO LESOTHO. SIGN UP AT THE MEMBERSHIP PAGE AT WWW.FRIENDSOFLESOTHO.ORG.



Bits & Pieces


CALLING LESOTHO

If you know of an economical way to call Lesotho, please let Dyann Van Dusen know. dyvandusen@yahoo.com



Request for a New Newsletter Coordinator

After several years as the newsletter coordinator for Friends of Lesotho, Faye Farmer is looking for her replacement. It has been a wonderful experience to grow with this organization and now it is time to give another person that same opportunity. The newsletter coordinator is responsible for receiving, organizing, and lightly editing submissions on a quarterly basis. It takes approximately 10 hours over the course of a week every three months. The layout and mailings are

separate tasks (and volunteer as well). Interested individuals do not need experience with editing or writing, but should be proficient and have access to Microsoft Word and Adobe Distiller (to create PDFs). Access to Microsoft Publisher, while not necessary, would be helpful. The transition/training period would span two newsletters. If you are interested, please contact Faye at f_e@hotmail.com, or any board member for more information. 

www.friendsoflesotho.org

You can now PAY your dues and make donations with a

CREDIT CARD

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and you're done.™

Friends of Lesotho is now 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 Donations Page on our website and use the link there to Amazon.com.

www.friendsoflesotho.org/fundraising/stuff.html

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

2009 Lesotho Calendar



12 beautiful images of Basotho engaged in everyday activities.
Captions give lots of information about Lesotho.

Images of Lesotho Gifts & Souvenirs

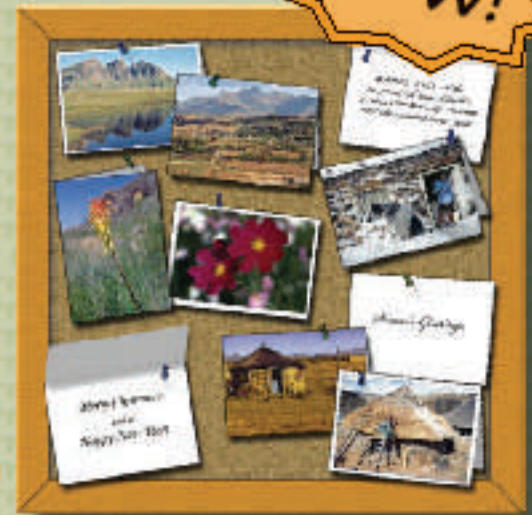
NEW!



Tote bags,
shirts, sweatshirts,
kid's clothing,
ball caps, mouse pads,
clocks, mugs & steins,
coasters, magnets,
buttons, stickers,
aprons and ...

... a great collection
of

new greeting cards!



ORDER CALENDARS, GIFTS, SOUVENIRS, AND CARDS ONLINE AT

Friends of Lesotho Online Store >> www.cafepress.com/lesotho

All profits, approximately 20% of purchase price, go to projects supported by Friends of Lesotho.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Friends of Lesotho



Please mail your completed form to:

**Friends of Lesotho, 4110 Denfeld Avenue
Kensington MD 20895, USA**

If you prefer to pay your dues or make donations online, go to

• <http://friendsoflesotho.org/dues.html>
and follow the instructions there.

Name:

Address:

Phone: home or cell:

work:

Email:

List your email on FOL website? Yes No

Information for FOL Directory

Current Occupation/Employer:

Family Members:

Years in Lesotho: from: to:

District:

Village:

Work Project:

Check to receive the newsletter via email only.

(This saves postage costs and results in more money being available to be sent to Lesotho!)

I would like more information on other ways to give, such as wills, estate planning, IRAs, or listing FOL as an insurance policy beneficiary.

I would like to receive information on Lifetime Membership in FOL

FOL Annual Membership (\$15/person)

\$

Additional Contribution to FOL

+\$

Total to FOL

\$

National Peace Corps Assn
Annual Membership (\$35/person)

+\$

TOTAL ENCLOSED

\$

If you wish, you may designate where your additional contribution goes; however, this is not necessary.

Greatest need (default)

HIV/AIDS

Orphanages

Tuition Assistance Program

Volunteer Advisory Committee

Morija Museum

Memorial Scholarship Fund – in honor of:

- 1 Privacy Policy: FOL will not release member information to any organization, except to the National Peace Corps Association, upon implied request when a member joins both FOL and NPCA. FOL will share membership information with other FOL members and prospective PCVs seeking information about Lesotho.
- 2 Matching gifts can enable you to double or even triple the value of your contribution. Many companies match their employees' personal donations. If your company is eligible, request a matching gift form from your employer and send it, completed and signed, with your gift. We'll do the rest.
- 3 Friends of Lesotho is a registered 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.
- 4 Friends of Lesotho (FOL) is affiliated with the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA). If you have included NPCA dues in your payment, we will forward them to NPCA. If, however, 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. NPCA membership is optional. NPCA multi-year discount available, see www.rpcv.org.

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. 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.

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

ver. 05/08

Check # _____ Amount \$ _____ Member Since _____ New _____ Source _____ Renew Date _____

Expires _____ No. of Members _____ NPCA _____

Friends of Lesotho

Friends of Lesotho
4110 Denfeld Avenue
Kensington, MD 20895

301.942.2751
wdunn@friendsoflesotho.org

www.friendsoflesotho.org

METSOALLE ea LESOTHO

Fourth Quarter 2008
Newsletter



FRIENDS OF LESOTHO

This newsletter was printed
at a reduced cost by
The Alternative Copy Shop
in Tempe, Arizona.

President: Richard Rowan (richard.rowan@courts.state.mn.us)

Vice President: Martha Munson (khotsocv@hotmail.com)

Treasurer: John Hollister (zapdoodat@erols.com)

Secretary: Kevin Freer (kfreer@alcatel-lucent.com)

Embassy Liaison: Scott Rosenberg (srosenberg@wittenberg.edu)

Board Members: Ronna Abbott

Bill Moore

Deena Rowe-Krumdick (deena_rk@hotmail.com)

Dyann Van Dusen (dyvandusen@yahoo.com)

Additional assistance from the following members:

Newsletter/Fundraising: Janissa Balcomb

Finance & Audit: Matt Diver

Website & Database: Bill Dunn (wdunn@friendsoflesotho.org)

Memorial Scholarships: Bill Reed (wc44reed@aol.com)

New PCV Contact: Elizabeth Perry (perry_41@hotmail.com)

Newsletter: Faye Farmer, Coordinator (f_e_@hotmail.com)

Nicole Potsane, Layout & Design