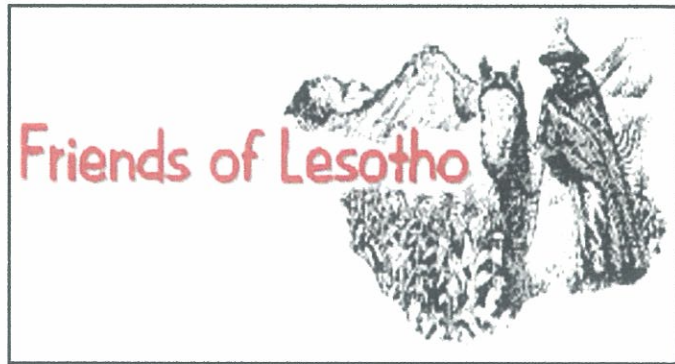


Annual Report



2004

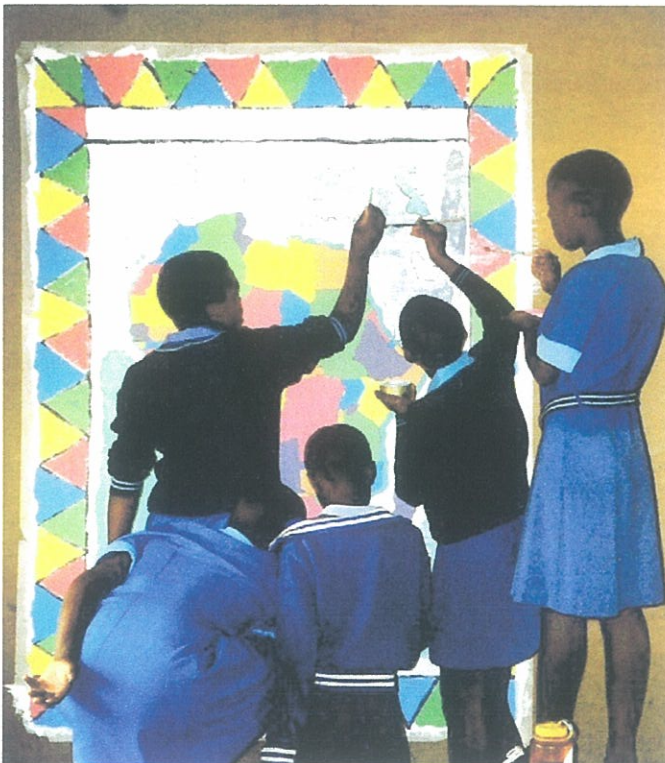


www.friendsoflesotho.org

About Friends of Lesotho

Friends of Lesotho is a non-profit organization promoting friendship between the peoples of Lesotho and North America. Friends of Lesotho (FOL) is comprised of former Peace Corps volunteers and others who share this desire. FOL provides scholarships and grants to small development projects in Lesotho, assists in locating old friends from Lesotho, and provides information about current events in Lesotho. FOL is affiliated with the National Peace Corps Association. The two primary means by which FOL provides funds to Lesotho are:

- Tuition Assistance Project (TAP) scholarships to primary and secondary school students based on academic performance and financial need.
- Volunteer Liaison Committee (VLC) grants provided to current volunteers for small projects not considered by major donors.



"We would like to thank you for your help with our pupils' studies. You gave us a tool with which to face the future."

- Staff of Sefapanong Primary





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you for taking a moment to review the 2004 Friends of Lesotho Annual Report. This is the first Annual Report ever produced by FOL. Its very existence is indicative of the changes in our organization over the past year. Many of these changes have been outlined in recent newsletters. The purpose of this report is to review and summarize the accomplishments of Friends of Lesotho during the year and to provide an idea of what directions the group will take in the coming year.

Friends of Lesotho has a diverse membership. This is true not only in demographics, but in the level of familiarity members have with the organization. Because of reciprocal arrangements with the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA), some members come to us via NPCA without an awareness that FOL exists or that their FOL membership is jointly held with NPCA. Few other organizations are faced with the obstacle that some of the membership is not even aware that they *are* members. However, given the uniqueness of our service and the qualities that brought us to that service in the first place, a simple *lumela* can easily establish or re-establish connection to the group.

For those less familiar with us, Friends of Lesotho has been incorporated in the state of Maryland since 1986. FOL is a 501C(3) non-profit organization, and an NPCA affiliate. FOL by-laws state that the purpose of Friends of Lesotho is to engage in various benevolent, charitable and educational activities intended to foster friendship between the people of the United States and the people of Lesotho, and to do everything necessary, suitable and proper for the furtherance of such purpose. The complete by-laws may be found on the FOL web site, <http://friendsoflesotho.org>. Membership as of this writing is 344, and the current Treasurer's report may be found later in this document.

It's interesting to note that our main vehicle for furthering the purpose of the organization has been to send money to projects and/or groups in Lesotho, yet we have never engaged in active fund raising. We've been fortunate, thanks largely to the Taipei American School and other large donors, but this inherent inconsistency begs for change. Do we begin fundraising activities, or do we search for other non-monetary avenues to support our purpose? Are there other organizations with which we could cooperate to further our purpose? Who will do the research and manage the change? These are some of the challenges facing FOL in the coming year.

Before any of these challenges could be addressed, FOL needed to solicit more participation from members. Only a handful of people had served with FOL year after year, and for that service we are grateful. But as those people retired or were drawn to other callings in their lives, participation dropped dangerously low. Although it seems far away now, it was only a little over a year ago that there were only four people actively involved in guiding FOL. Of all the accomplishments listed in this Annual Report, certainly the greatest one was replenishment of Board Directors and non-Director volunteers helping on specific committees. Without them many of the other accomplishments would not have been possible. With the election of new Directors at the Annual Meeting, the expected level of active participation for both Director and non-Director volunteers is around 14 people. Seeing our numbers grow has been very refreshing.

With that behind us for the moment, I look forward to three areas in which FOL will progress in the coming years. All three are intended to bring us closer to our stated purpose.

- The first is to move towards a more decentralized organization. The committee structures newly established this year will allow for increased member participation and give the full Board the freedom to see "the big picture". This decentralization is complimented by improvements in the use of technology, such as teleconferencing and electronic mailing, which have been of great benefit this past year.

- The second area, which flows from the first, is to increase member outreach. The contacts made by the Nominations Committee have already proved very beneficial in this regard. But it doesn't end there. Short term projects come up on a regular basis and drawing supportive members into the process will be a high priority. As PCVs we were expected to be leaders. Back at home, many of us tend to blend in and forget our potential. This is a call to become a leader again. And finally, outreach is a two way street. The single most common request heard from members is to have more news from Lesotho. Every effort will be made to do so.
- The third area is to improve the delivery of support to the people of Lesotho. Because communication can be difficult, we tend to fall into patterns, seeking familiar contact points and supporting familiar projects. But when change comes, we have, at times, found ourselves without contacts or without feedback from the projects we support. In order to more effectively manage our limited resources, efforts need to be made to increase networking among current PCVs, Peace Corps staff, and other non-governmental organizations.

2004 has been an eventful year for FOL, and the future is promising. Board teleconferences are now open to all members; please check the web site for dates and times. Welcome new Board Directors and volunteers, and thanks to all who have made this year a success.

Bill Dunn, President



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2004



Bill Dunn
Interim President



John Hollister
Treasurer/Membership



Kevin Freer
Interim Vice-President



Ella Kwisnek
Secretary



Ted Hochstadt
Legal Advisor



Richard Rowan
At Large



Martha Munson
At Large

Photo
Not
Available

Dorothy Holland
Newsletter

Photo
Not
Available

Ian Duncan
At Large

Committees

Distributions

Richard Rowan (Chair)
Martha Munson (member)

Membership

Kevin Freer (Co-Chair)
Ella Kwisnek (Co-Chair)
John Hollister (member)

Nominating

Bill Dunn (Co-Chair)
Kevin Freer (Co-Chair)
Faye Farmer (member)
Martha Munson (member)

Bylaws

Bill Dunn (Chair)
Kevin Freer (member)
Ted Hochstadt (member)
Martha Munson (member)

New Committee Members: Amy Bayer, Emily Christensen, Susan Colman, Patrick Davenport, Faye Farmer, Clair Hilger, Cynthia Holahan, Heather Mill

FOL ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2004

Sampling of Projects Funded

- HIV/AIDS Programs
- Khukhune High School newspaper club – learning computer literacy, improving English skills
- Supplies to paint maps, murals, and visual aids on school walls
- Bookshelves for libraries at schools
- Mattresses for daycare – for naptime and story time
- Student Enterprise Project in vegetable production at Matheko Youth Center
- Herdsmen hat making project
- Textile workshop
- Looms and beading project at Matheko Youth Centre
- Benches for Mphaki Health Centre
- Fish pond and vegetable garden for Maputsoe Youth Future Builders Club
- Bread baking self-reliance project
- Tsoha Morabali orchard expansion project
- Elelloang Basali Weavers' photography training
- Window repair at Makoae Primary School

Organizational Accomplishments

- Several new board members
- Formation of committee structure
- Revised Bylaws
- Planning and conducting Annual Meeting
- Planning and holding Board Elections
- Conducting regular meetings
- Award winning website



Treasurer's Summary for September 19, 2004

	<u>8/23/04 Report</u>	<u>9/19/04 Report</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Current Balance:	\$3,659.67	\$4,309.43	+\$649.76
2004 Membership:	\$1,030 (103)	\$1,240 (124 paid, YTD 2004)	

2004 Extra Donation Status:

<u>Donation Designation</u>	<u>Donations Received</u>	<u>Amount sent to Lesotho</u>	<u>Amount remaining to be sent</u>
Non-designated (1)	\$2,310.24	\$0.00	\$2,310.24
HIV/AIDS (VLC)	\$3,175.00	\$3,175.00	\$0.00
TAP (VLC)	\$10,424.25	\$10,324.25	\$100.00
Morija Museum	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Funds to Lesotho	\$15,909.49	\$13,499.25	\$2,410.24

1) Destination of non-designated funds as determined by FOL Donations Committee.

2004 FOL Operating Expense Status:

FOL end-of-year balance 1/1/04:	\$2,342.03
Total 2004 Operating Budget (2):	\$1,480.00
Total Expenses to 8/23/04:	\$1,682.89
Remaining Total Operating Budget:	(\$202.00)

2) Excluding NPCA dues passing through FOL to NPCA.

Line item budgets likely to be exceeded:

- postage (not mailing at non-profit).
- miscellaneous fees (all relatively small).

FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES OF FOL IN 2003

OPENING BALANCE OF FUNDS ON HAND – 1/1/03: **\$2,928.16**

REVENUE:

- Dues Donations 1,306.00
- Extra Contributions 9,501.92
- Interest on Bank Account 10.51
- NPCA Dues to be Rebated 490.00

SUBTOTAL REVENUE: **\$11,308.43**

EXPENSES:

- Duplicating 377.56
- Postage 359.02
- Teleconference 233.86
- Miscellaneous 49.12
- NPCA Affiliation Dues 385.00
- NPCA Member Dues Rebates 490.00

SUBTOTAL EXPENSES: **\$1,894.56**

DONATIONS:

- Volunteer Liaison Committee \$7,000.00
- Scholarship Fund (TAP) \$3,000.00

SUBTOTAL DONATIONS: **\$10,000.00**

ENDING BALANCE – 12/31/03 **\$2,342.03**

FOL MEMBERSHIP 2004

Margaret Abbott
Anthony Abner
Haley Alcock
Alice Alexander
Delton Allen
Joan Ambre
David P. Ambrose
Hilarea Amthauer
Jeff Bartels
Judy Baskey
Barbara Bauman-Eavy &
 A. Lee Eavy
Amy Bayer
Lorrie Beck
Jeanne & Joseph Becker
Michael Beilstein
David & Ntoetse Bertocci
Ava Marie Betz
David Biviano
Ben Black
John I Blanck Jr.
Paul Bloch & Dorothy Behling
Barbara Blum
Bill Boeddiker
Edna A. Boorady
Nicole Bosustow
Gary L. Bowne
Brad Bozick
Jan Brabham
Joan Bray & Carl Hoagland
Ruth Brody
Consuella Brown
Scott Brumburgh
Stephen Brushett &
 Refiloe Bam
Frederick Bryant
Marlene Buffington
Ken Burns
Craig Buscher
Lonny M. Buss
Ella Jean Buss
Dale Butler
Anne Button
Alfred Campbell
Sharon Canadine
Mike Carney
Mark Carr
Dennis & Cheryl Caspe
Tom Cassel
Ken & Mavis Castrop
Kevin Caughlan
Emily Christensen
Susan Chun
Jeffrey Clarkin

Ann Codrington
Russell Cohen
Kristen Collins
Susan Colman
Leslie Connors
Carrie Marie Connors
Susan Conrad
Joel Cook
Pete Cookingham
Lawrence Cooley
Thomas & Dee J. Cox
Tom Creeden
George & Julie Cromer
Wade Dallagrana
Patrick Davenport
Stephanie Delarosa
Laurence Delrae
Christine & Carmine Distasio
Matt Diver
Beth Dixon
Katherine Baginski Doar
Camilla & Brian Dodson
George & Sue Drake
Jan Droegkamp
Chad Dumond
Ian Duncan
Bill Dunn
Ruth Dunn
Pamela & Stephan Easterday
Roberta M. Ebbers
Scott Ehram
Eugene Erickson
Clark Etterman
Theresa M. Faix-Williams
George Fanelli & Anne Casper
Faye Farmer
James Ferguson
John Ferrick
G.P. Fitzgerald &
 Sara Kelly Fitzgerald
Kathy Fox
Kevin Freer
Amy Friedheim
Brad F. Gamble
Keedra Gibba
Eric Giddens
Karin Gleisner
Steve Goertz
Amy Goldknopf
Lisa Goldman
David Gorman
Karen Grabia-Otto
Michelle Graves

Donald & Joan Gray
Lloyd & Jean Greenway
Jim Gunsolus
Verney Halse & Semonkong Lodge
Don Hanni
Allan Hansee
Drew Hardgrove
David Harpman
Charles & Ellen Harvey
Patrick Hawe
Peggy Anne Hawkins
Jack Healey
David Heavin
Sherry Hellenkamp
Kathy & Raif Henry
Marie Henry
Katherine Herman
Paul Hesse
Claire Hilger
Cindy Hinman
Ted Hochstadt
Daniel Hogan
Dorothy M. Holland
Donald (Curt) Hollaway,
Lucia Hollaway
John Hollister
Chuck Hosking & Mary Ann Fiske
Richard & Mary Howard
Gail Hughes
Connie Hunter
Liz Hunter
Steve Hutton
Kirk Iversen
Margaret Jackson
Noel Jackson
Michael Jacobson
Kevin Jenkins
James Jensen
Leland Jinks
Mary Ellen Jones
Linda Jordan
Donna Julian
Paula Keady
Nancy Keller
Dana Kenney
Debra Jacobs King
Gary Klein
Nichole Kloehn
Dawna Knapp
Kirk & Nancy Knight
Patricia Koehler
Kevin Koester
'Ntsebe Kokome



Friends of Lesotho
4110 Denfeld Avenue
Kensington, MD 20895