

TEAA (Teachers for East Africa Alumni) Newsletter No. 23, July 2010. Published by: Ed Schmidt, 7307 Lindbergh Dr., St. Louis, MO 63117, 314-647-1608, <eschmidt1@sbcglobal.net>. Send items for the newsletter to the above address. PLEASE KEEP THE EDITOR INFORMED OF ANY CHANGES IN YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION. It is easier for you to tell me than for me to re-find you!

The TEAA website, <<http://www.tea-a.org>>, is an easy way to keep up with TEAA happenings and news from East Africa. Suggestions and specific contributions of content are strongly encouraged. Send to Henry Hamburger, <henryjh@comcast.net>.

Henry is also our treasurer. 2010 is the second year of our effort to raise \$100,000. Virtually 100 percent of donations go to aid schools in East Africa. Checks made out to TEAA should be sent to: Henry Hamburger, 6400 Wynkoop Blvd, Bethesda, MD, 20817-5934, USA

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, Brooks Goddard
Jambo, warafikis,

I hope that 2010 has started well for you. TEAA is forging ahead and now starts plans for a big gathering in New York City at Teachers College June 16-19, 2011 to mark the 50th anniversary of wave I's arrival in East Africa. We shall then go to East Africa, say, June 20 or 21 for several weeks. Details can now begin with these dates. Please plan to join us for either or both gatherings. Bill Jones is organizing NYC11 and I am organizing EA11. As of June 28, we have 28 definite and probable for NYC and 16 for East Africa. LET ME KNOW IF WE NEED TO ADD YOU TO ONE OR BOTH OF THESE LISTS: <goddard@rcn.com>, 781-444-5988

The NYC reunion will follow our traditional format with arrivals starting at noon on Thursday, June 16, and ending with our group meeting on Sunday morning, June 19. We shall have seminars on Friday and cultural events on Saturday. Reunion headquarters will be at Teachers College. There will be some dormitory rooms available as well as some hotel space. Teachers College is on the upper west side of Manhattan on 120th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam Avenue and is accessible by various modes of transportation. Some of us are graduates of TC.

The EA reunion will begin in Kampala, Uganda, and wind its way down to Arusha in Tanzania. We will visit schools and see the sights. We plan to travel in vans of 7-8 TEAAers plus a driver and we will pack light. A tentative itinerary is printed below.

You can't book air tickets now, but you can get an idea of the going rate by using your favorite website (mine is kayak.com). Transportation plans of getting to and from reunion sites are up to you. Once at the site TEAA takes over; you will know costs before October.

I hope that you are as excited as I am.

In other news we continue our ongoing effort to raise \$30,000 by year's end. All of this money will go towards grants that are inspired by personal visits, such as Bill Jones' and Henry Hamburger's of last

March, and by the excellent communication we have with many of the schools we support. Additionally, having Fawn Cousens in Kampala (Jeanie and I entertained Fawn and John in New Hampshire in June) gives us oversight on the ground. We would also like to use the current year to honor Linda Kunz's commitment to ACCES and TEAA. Linda died last December of complications from her kidney disease. I spoke about her TEA life at her memorial service in May which was also attended by Bruce Franklin, Mary Hines, Bill Jones, and Jim Weikart. As a cautionary note, Linda died without a will which has compromised her wishes. So please ensure that your will is up-to-date and includes a health care proxy. And if you'd like to leave some money to TEAA, so much the better.

The current issue of *Transition* magazine (#102) contains an article on the literature that only trickles out of East Africa. Which brings me to Project Muse. When Ron Stockton prompted me to find that wonderful essay, "Tarzan Was an Expatriate," I went to my Boston University library connection and into Project Muse, an online service that carries *Transition*. If you have a university connection, folks will tell you how to link to Project Muse; perhaps even city libraries have PM (I suspect that it is expensive). Before shifting recently to Indian fiction (great stories and long books, cf. *Sacred Games* by Vikram Chandra), I put 4 titles on my to-read table: (1) *Dreams in a Time of War* by Ngugi, the subtitle is "a childhood memoir," his life up to his enrollment at Alliance High School; *Agaat* by Marlene Van Niekerk, a novel of an aging white woman and her black maidservant in apartheid South Africa; *Harare North* by Brian Chikwaya, immigrant life in the Brixton section of London; *Beneath the Lion's Gaze* by Maaza Mengiste, surviving post-Selassie Ethiopia. In September I start teaching a course in very modern Africa lit: *Baking Cakes in Kigali* by Gaile Parkin, *Aya* by Marguerite Aboutet & Clement Oubrierie, *The Thing Around Your Neck* by Chimamanda Adichie, *Waiting for an Angel* by Helon Habila, *Everything Good Will Come* by Sefi Atta, *Becoming Abigail* by Chris Abani, *What is the What* by David Eggers and Valentino Deng.

For books set in East Africa I recommend two graphic novels, *Unknown Soldier: Haunted House* and *Unknown Soldier: Easy Kill*. Both about the LRA in northern Uganda. Not your typical reading but fodder for the open mind. I just heard from a college friend who took me up on reading the entire *Cairo Trilogy* by Naguib Mahfouz: nothing like the summer to take on a big read

Stay well and stay strong. Asante sana, Brooks Goddard

[Editor's note: If you are getting the snail mail version of the newsletter and there is a possibility that you will attend either or both reunion events, please let me know so I can contact you about any changes or updates in the plans. Otherwise, such notifications may be made solely by email to avoid the expense of snail mailings. My contact information is at the top of page one.]

TEAA 2011 PRELIMINARY ITINERARY FOR EAST AFRICA. On days 3 through 6 the vans will diverge on different routes. In addition to the three conferences, there will be opportunities to visit schools in several places, including Masaka, Lira, Tororo, Butere, and Moshi. As the newsletter goes to the printer, there is some discussion about moving both the New York and East Africa events back about 3 weeks to better coincide with the secondary school schedules in East Africa.

day 1, June 21, Tues	arr Kampala	
day 2, June 22, Wed	Kampala -- conference at Mackay	
day 3, June 23, Thur	Kampala-Lira	Kampala-Masaka
day 4, June 24, Fri	Lira	Masaka-Tororo
day 5, June 26, Sat	Lira to Sipi Falls	Tororo-Kakamega
day 6, June 27, Sun	Butere	Kakamega
day 7, June 28, Mon	to Migori	
day 8, June 29, Tues	Migori -- conference at Migori	
day 9, June 30, Wed	Migori to Serengeti	
day 10, July 1, Thur	Serengeti	
day 11, July 2, Fri	Serengeti to Ngorongoro	
day 12, July 3, Sat	Ngorongoro to Arusha	
day 13, July 4, Sun	Arusha -- TEAA debriefing meeting	

day 14, July 5, Mon Arusha -- conference at Monduli
day 15, July 6, Tue Moshi or Arusha
day 16, July 7, Wed departure

NOT SURE ABOUT COMING TO NEW YORK? Here is a paragraph from Don and Maureen Knies's Christmas letter, which came in February, about last year's gathering in Atlanta.

On to Atlanta Georgia for the Teachers for East Africa reunion, a grand gathering of colleagues a few of whom we hadn't seen since the 1960's. Some had been back to East Africa to visit their old schools, many of us are helping schools today with books, scholarships, science equipment, other kinds of support. We spent one day at the Jimmy Carter Center another day at the Martin Luther King Memorial Park. Mo and I stayed with longtime buddy John in Atlanta, and we enjoyed getting together with some remarkable people – Lee and Leo from Colorado, Jerry and Joan, Jim and Bruce down from the New York area, Ed the newsletter editor and Henry who collects the money, Ron and Keith who opened their home for a smashing party, Emiliee who wrote a book about her Kenya experiences, Shelby the chief organizer of the reunion, Brooks the big bwana of the group. The Ugandan ambassador was guest of honor, and we all shared memories of what had invariably been the best working years of our lives.

And this from Jim Blair. Ed, Would you please mention that I am considering a fiftieth anniversary repeat of climbing Kilimanjaro in conjunction with the East Africa trip in 2010. I would welcome anyone who would like to join me. I am currently five weeks post surgery for a knee replacement on my right leg so have a lot of work to do to get ready but I hope I can find someone else out there as crazy as I am.
Cheers, Jim

KEEPING GIRLS IN SCHOOL -- TEAA'S AFRIPADS PROJECT, by Gene Child

As was mentioned on several occasions at the TEAA reunion in Atlanta last fall, an ongoing problem facing young girls in East Africa is school attendance during their menstrual cycle. Many young ladies simply miss four or five days of school each month while menstruating and as a result fall behind in their school work.

Searching on the internet I found several organizations working to alleviate this problem. There is a group working in the Mukuru slums near Nairobi producing washable sanitary pads. Their web site is <http://www.huruinternational.org/>. Huru in Swahili means freedom.

There is another organization working on the problem in Rwanda. SHE is the acronym for Sustainable Health Enterprises. They are doing training and are working on the production of washable sanitary pads made from banana fibers. Their web site is <http://www.sheinnovates.com/>.

Through Kate Parry at Kitengesa, Uganda I have learned of a project, Afripads, whose web site is at <http://www.afripads.com/>, organized by a Canadian-American couple, Pauls Grinvalds and Sophia Klumpp, for developing reusable sanitary pads. To promote the pads, they organize workshops for girls at which general questions of hygiene and health are discussed. They are now renting and have moved their workshop into the old library building at Kitengesa. They are employing some twenty local girls and producing packages of pads.

Each Menstrual Kit includes 1 snap-on pad, 5 absorbent interchangeable liners, 1 plastic carrying pouch, and directions (written in both English & Luganda, accompanied by illustrations). An Afri-Pads Menstrual Kit costs 6,000 UGShs (approx. \$3 USD). This equates to about 20% of the annual cost of supplying a girl with disposable pads.

I submitted a grant proposal that TEAA institute a pilot program with Gertrude Sekabira at MacKay College to investigate the effect of the distribution of Afri-pads on the attendance rates of young school girls. In my conversation with Gertrude she indicated that they had about 200 girls who might be interested in participating. We also agreed that it might be best for each girl to invest some small amount in the purchase of the kits. Since the kits sell for 6000 UGShs to NGOs my suggestion to Gertrude was that if each girl paid 2000 UGShs (about \$1 US); TEAA would subsidize the other 4000. She also indicated that

even 2000 UGShs might be difficult for some girls to pay so I have suggested a total grant of \$500 to cover unforeseen expenses.

The grant was approved, 200 kits have been delivered to MacKay and distributed to the young ladies. The Afripads organization has developed a rather detailed survey to be filled out by each young lady after a few months of using the product. Sophia has indicated they will assist in a product feedback survey in 3-6 months if we so desire. It will be interesting to find the results of the survey forms when they are returned the end of 2010. If the results are positive perhaps TEAA can sponsor the expansion of the project to other schools where we have ongoing projects.

Editor's note -- In a May 8, 2009 op-ed article in the New York Times, M.I.T. economics professor Esther Duflo wrote: "For millions of girls around the world, motherhood comes too early. Those who bear children as adolescents suffer higher maternal mortality and morbidity rates, and their children are more likely to die in infancy. One reliable way to solve this problem is through education. The more affordable it is, the longer girls will stay in school and delay pregnancy.... In...[a] group of Kenyan girls, 50 percent of those who dropped out after primary school had a child within two years, but only 8 percent who went on to secondary school became pregnant in that same period....[E]ducated girls will become healthy mothers; their decision to hold off on bringing children into the world will benefit generations to come. "

THE TEAA RECREATIONAL READING PROJECT, by Bill Jones

"I think about this business of recreational reading all the time," I wrote in 2008 to a Tanzanian principal I'd met in April of that year. "There is no exaggeration in the statement. As I'm sure I indicated in our conversation ... in my thirty years at Rutgers University, teaching writing, not one course was without daily recreational reading as a prominent element. It was simply clear that the work that students and I did was more efficiently executed if students read. Readers, I came to see, actually make themselves writers. The idea is just to get students to turn pages and to enjoy doing so, just the way readers everywhere do." I stressed that students should read widely and not be confined to so-called great books and classics, but "should read for pleasure, and they certainly shouldn't have to read thinking about being tested."

Now, two years later, nine schools are participating in the Teachers for East Africa Alumni recreational reading project. Of the earliest participants, certainly New Kabaale Busega High School, Kampala and Mackay Memorial College, Nateete in Uganda needed no convincing of its value. And much to my pleasure, the project reports from St. Bernard's College Kiswera, Uganda and St. Joseph Ngarenaro Girls' School in Arusha came with the news that the entire school, administrators and teachers, in addition to the students, were all taking part in the project.

The path has not always been smooth. Discussing the benefits of recreational reading had been my main focus as part of a two-person TEAA school-visiting team and the principal I was writing to had been open and enthusiastic in our conversation and yet here she was (in the email to which I was responding) proposing to get several copies of a drastically reduced number of different titles than what I had proposed. I asked her to consider 70 unique titles, as opposed to say 7 copies of 10 titles - to allow a far wider choice and so that a diligent student would not run out of possibilities and might even read them all. This point has recurred often, and appears to be driven by a model in which there are set books each year, picked by governments, that every student is to read.

Another school waited two years to show interest, preferring in the meantime for us to help with what they considered more pressing needs, even though we had offered to do both. When they finally came up with a list, though, it had nearly one hundred different titles, and, following their own lead, included many titles that appeared on no other school's list. They also worked out their own system for logging what students read: Students check out and return books daily, and in doing so, generate an accurate record of the reading they have done by the end of each term. I count such adaptations positive markers if, in the execution of the project, the adaptations accommodate the particular needs of a school and do not complicate the project for students or teachers.

Teachers, I realize, at work in difficult circumstances are reluctant to take on responsibilities in addition to those they already have. What counts for them in the reality of day-to-day teaching is how students perform on material that is examinable. From that not-unreasonable stance, recreational

reading, for them and, too often, for their upper-form charges, is “a waste of time.” Those four words were what a board member of a school in Uganda used in his reporting on the attitude of teachers whom he described as not having developed the habit of reading themselves. Since I anticipated the need to convince some teachers of the practical value of recreational reading - the reading of un-examinable material - the guide I wrote for initiating the project (See “A Note to Teachers” at www.tea-a.org, in “What’s Hot,” Jan. 2010) includes, as an essential step, a recommendation for a conversation among English teachers and administrators to consider their own experience as readers and as language professionals to remind themselves how reading functions to deepen linguistic competence.

What schools require students to do often reinforces my conclusion that it is difficult indeed for some teachers to think of reading apart from test taking: One school required that students give “a performed reading [of each book they have read, each reading] guided by a teacher.” Another asked that students write summaries of everything they read. Over time, such requirements are likely to become burdensome for everyone concerned. Instead of developing an elaborate monitoring scheme, teachers should simply allow students to read the way ordinary readers do: They read what they want to read. Like their teachers who concern themselves about learning, students themselves will, in time, see that reading increases their vocabulary and sharpens their sense of how English works.

For a principal at one school who had developed a monitoring scheme that teachers found taxing, I offered the following: “The project is [finally] based on trust, students wanting to engage in something that is deeply pleasurable and beneficial but which is in no way burdensome to them or their teachers. Teachers and administrators, perhaps, have to be direct in calling on students to be honest in carrying out the requirements of the project, asking them not to betray the trust that the school community requires. Certainly, responsible students can find a mere twenty minutes each day to read, undertaking an activity that is central to their functioning as serious-minded students.”

For another administrator, in lieu of his complicated monitoring scheme, I suggested that the project be monitored by students themselves: “[T]eachers could help students form small groups of readers, perhaps four students to a group with one of them designated the leader. Together they could sign a contract that commits them to five days of twenty minutes of reading. The groups could be called ‘reading buddies,’ students who support each other, making sure that none of them breaks the contract all of them have signed. Undertaken in this way, the project could essentially be a student-drive, self-sustaining activity.”

What I know, finally, is that schools that participate in the recreational reading project recognize its benefits. They all can testify, as one principal did, to its effects on students’ use and response to English - “It has enhanced ... the reading skills in...students which is advantageous to them” - underscoring the observation that students who read function academically better than those who don’t.

LETTERS FROM OUR EAST AFRICAN CONTACTS

Dear Henry,

How are you doing? Finally we have a roof on the lab and am so excited just like everyone else. We are receiving Form Ones next week and every indication is that they shall be many considering the numbers we have received inquiring about admission and all teachers are upbeat. We are again in the Drama season and we have started training for competitions we shall keep you posted of the developments .

The reading project is going smoothly and Madam Lynnette is in charge. She has recommended that we buy more books because even the teachers are now keen on reading the books. The other day I found one of our school watchmen reading *The River Between*, and though I reprimanded him as was expected, I was happy that the reading project will not just impact the students but the larger school community. Who knows, in future we may as well develop a library that serves the community. Okunya on Jan 30

Dear Ed,

It has been a long time but I do hope everything is OK. and that everyone is doing fine. We are in

the middle of a very cold season here and the rains are doing havoc in these places Everybody is fine at school and we working hard to fulfill our obligations.

The reading project is doing quite fine as well as the story writing activities. Only last week did we write essays to mark the international free press week and the national nutrition week. We were however late to mark the Donkey day yesterday. May be we we shall organize one later.

The rains have not done us very well, the other day the storm fell our kitchen and are now in the process of reconstructing. Our roads are quite eroded and vehicles have raised their fares. We have constituted a new Board for the school and there are quite a number of new faces there. We have also hired two new teachers this term.

So far so good. Thanks and pass regards, Okunya on May 18

[Ed's reply: Dear Okunya,

Great to hear from you as always. And to know the school is doing well under your leadership. I can't think of a better person to be overseeing a reading program. Sometime, at your convenience, let us know how you have organized it. Your thoughts and comments might be useful in other schools, especially schools where the leadership in language arts may not be as strong.

All is well here. We are slowly moving into our summer season. Quite a lot of rain. This is the time of year when we neither heat nor cool our homes. In a few weeks, some people will be using their air conditioners. Those of us who do vegetable gardens are just completed planting, and some cool weather crops like lettuce and spinach are about finished.

My own home is to be on a garden tour in early June, so I am frantically working to get it in shape. I do not have formal gardens, but focus instead on growing locally native plants, mostly prairie plants, to create a bit of habitat, mainly for birds and butterflies. Our natural environment here is degraded enough that many species suffer from lack of habitat. The personal side benefit is the opportunity to observe these creatures.

Best regards to you, your family, and everyone at the school. Ed]

Dear Ed,

Greetings form Bishop Tarantino College and happy new year. Am glad to inform you that your contribution to the school in terms of mathematics text books have been of great help to the students.

The national exams results have been released and math which used to be a great challenge to the students have been done far better than the past years, only two students failed with F.9.

God bless you all. Maxwell

Dear Mr. Henry,

Hope this email finds you and TEAA members all well. We are doing well at Moringe Sokoine Secondary School. I am writing to inform you that the funds (\$2500) for both chemistry and English departments were received in our Monduli local bank school account last week. The school is closed and most of my colleagues and students are on holidays until 12th July. We will let colleagues in these mentioned departments use the funds after 12th July as intended, and as usual you will be informed.

On behalf of the school Board and the whole community of MSSS may I thank you and TEAA for this very important support to uplift the academic status of our school. Thank you so much!!

Many greetings to Bill Jones and all the other TEAA members.

Sincerely, Kwayu, on June 27.

Dear Shelby [Lewis],

Last night I called Ida Tarinyeba, the Headmistress [at Tororo Girls School]. She is disturbed that there is no one to teach her girls the computer skills and that the power difference is also affecting the potential. The Ugandans who have the skills to teach are drawn away by better pay in the private sector or are not suited to the school. One way or another she needs help. When I suggested that she goes ahead and applies for a computer skilled Peace Corps volunteer, she reiterated that last year she applied but they were turned down and the flat or apartment she had set aside is still vacant. Unfortunately they sent

the would-be candidate to Gulu instead. Shelby, does TEAA have any solutions we could tap into, any university volunteers available anywhere? Seth Eggessa, Uganda Civil Alliance Network

[Note from Shelby: Dear All, Do you think that it would be useful to send a notice out to the membership to see if anyone would be interested in teaching computer skills and, more importantly, training someone to teach computer skills at Tororo Girls Schools? Alternatively, are there options for supporting the training of a computer science teacher?]

I WENT BACK 30 YEARS LATER, Allan Marriott

I went back 30 years later to teach at a different school in Kenya. Mawego Girls Secondary School sits on a hilltop overlooking Lake Victoria in South Nyanza Province, 80 km south of Kisumu town, with 200 students, all boarders, mostly from the Luo people, the same as President Obama's family, with surnames like Otieno, Ogutu, and Oburu. The language is Kijaluo: misawa -- good morning, ingima -- are you well, athi maber -- I am fine.

The dirt road which passes the school is busy not with vehicles, of which there are only about three per day, but with pedestrians, cyclists, oxen, donkeys carrying sacks of maize, goats, and the occasional funeral procession. It's very rural.

My accommodation is quite basic, just a concrete shell, four small rooms, a hot tin roof, no wiring or pipes, no cupboards or storage, no electricity or water supply, toilet is a long drop in the yard outside. You wash yourself out of a bucket of water from the well. I've had rats, cats, and bats sneaking in at night in addition to lots of cockroaches, ants, and mosquitoes which carry the dangerous type of malaria, falciparum. One morning I woke up to find a black snake, not very large, in my bedroom. It had just killed a gecko. The yaya, maid, from next door said it was a black mamba, very poisonous.

Transport, although cheap, is a problem for the teachers. The school cannot afford a vehicle, and the nearest bus service begins at Kendu Bay eight km away. Homa Bay is 20 km.

When I arrived I was made very welcome with lots of handshaking and good advice and a few apologies for the shortage of water. The rains were late, and consequently the heat was oppressive. It took me about three weeks to adapt. From then on I loved every minute of the simple life, far removed from multilane freeways and cities. My diary from that time reads, "The students are very curious about their mzungu teacher, 'Sir, where is your country? Is your country like Kenya?" On Saturday evenings there is supposed to be entertainment but nothing seemed to be organised so I set up a car-battery-powered hi-fi system discotheque, and they now enjoy dancing for two hours each weekend. Solar-electric panels are available for charging the batteries.

There are two small dukas in Mawego and more food items than before. Fresh bread comes daily whereas previously I was having to make my own. The tank which collects rainwater has rusted badly and is useless so we all have to spend more time fetching water. It's surprising how much time is used up with domestic chores. The other time consumer is repairing and fixing things, not just my own. The whole community comes to my door for assistance with pumping tyres, repairing balls, charging batteries, borrowing tools, recording music. In fact I get a lot of satisfaction from helping everyone so it's no problem. People sort of take it for granted that a muzungu/muthongo will know about these things.

All this happened in 1993 to 1996 whereas my TEA experience was 1964 to 1967 at Machakos Boys High School.

FEEDBACK FROM NEWSLETTER 22

Roger Austin. I was delighted to see the name Tom Corcoran in your THE SEARCH item. Tom, from Cincinnati I remember, was the American I seemed to have most contact with. His stories of evening jobs to work his way through college, weekends racing cars, and raunchy stories of Fort Lauderdale made him appear very worldly wise compared to the rather sheltered Brits.

Thus it was that I found myself being invited to join Tom and newlyweds Ron and Keith Schuchard in what was the first trip outside the Kampala region. We piled into Ron's beetle and headed westwards to Queen Elizabeth National Park. I remember nothing of any preparations, perhaps there were none and we

trusted that all would fall into place. In any event accommodation was almost nonexistent so we were particularly lucky to be offered the use of a research bungalow and kerosene lamp for 5 shillings a night!

The only item I remember us possessing was a large tin of House of Manji biscuits. These things were cooked from maize flour and were more appropriate to a ship of the line in an 18th century navy than accompaniments to drinks. Keith in particular compared them most unfavorably with cookies from home and then asked rather quizzically, "Are all your cookies in England this bad?" I was cornered and replied, "Yes, we make tons of them and throw them all away!"

The following day we took a boat for a lake trip, and seemingly the only other people in the park were the Princess of Toro and her entourage. We returned to the college that evening; no majestic peaks had been conquered, no mechanical breakdowns had occurred, nobody was rescued from the jaws of a hippo but we had had a thoroughly memorable weekend. Best wishes, Roger Austin

Charles Kozoll. Hi Ed, I was very sorry to learn of Linda Kunz's death. We met in Mombasa and were friendly when she worked in New York. Her spirit and enthusiasm for her work, friends and life were impressive. Best, Charles Kozoll

OBITUARIES -- Michael Aynsley, Joseph Brady, George Edmonds, Lathardus Goggins, Leah (Sharp) Griffin, Martin Kigula

Michael Aynsley. Songea SS, Songea T (3B). Michael passed away on March 11th, 2010, after a very long and protracted struggle with multiple sclerosis. He always talked of his time in both East and West Africa as among the happiest years of his life. Mark W Aynsley (son) can be reached at <mwaynsley@yahoo.com>.

Betty Biersteker, 86, on Nov. 12, 2009. Wife of 66 years of Joe Biersteker (TEEA6).

Joseph Brady, 78, on June 24, 2010, in Hanover, Pa. Mpwapwa SS, Mpwapwa T (1A). After TEA Joe first returned to high school teaching, then after further education on to the collegiate level in Social Science at Marshall University in Huntington, W.Va., and from 1971 until his retirement in 1990 as a Professor of Anthropology at California University of Pennsylvania. From the official obituary: "While in Africa he climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, a feat of which he was quite proud. He was an avid tennis player ... also a golfer and sports fan, word puzzle enthusiast, and Jazz purist who admired Miles Davis greatly. In addition to his wife, Patricia, Joseph leaves behind ... his faithful dog, Sukari." Joe was visited several times during his long illness by TEAAer Bill Jones. Patricia Brady can be reached at 213 Potomac Ave, Hanover, PA 17331, 717-633-7325.

George F. Edmonds, 81, on April 8, 2010. Kagumo College, Kagumo and Curriculum Dev. Ctr., Nairobi K (TEEA2). George later served as a professor of mathematics at Elizabeth State University, Elizabeth City, NC and at Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA. Survivors include his wife Doris and two children, Katree and Kirby.

Lathardus Goggins, on December 4, 2009, of pancreatic cancer. TEA assignment: Tabora SS, Tabora, Tanzania (1A). Ellen Goggins can be reached at 1924 Larchmont Rd, Akron, OH 44313-6020, 330-836-3822.

After TEA, Lathardus earned Ph.D.s from St. John's University (history/African studies) and The University of Akron (education). At U of A he was professor of geography and rose to become associate dean of the graduate school. He developed a minority graduate recruitment initiative and recruited hundreds of students to the university. He retired in 2005 at age 78. In 2008, an endowed scholarship was established in his name.

Leah (Sharp) Griffin passed away on May 18, 2009, in Laramie, Wyoming. She carried into her final hours the dignity, grace, humor and loving nature that characterized her life and, most recently, her three-year

struggle with ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease). Leah and Ken (1C) were married in Kampala on March 2, 1962, and lived in Dodoma, Tanganyika where Ken taught at Alliance School. Leah was an active community volunteer teaching in both the Dodoma Primary School and the Dodoma Town School, as well as leading a Girl Guide troop. In November 1963 she gave birth to their first child, Karol, at the CMS Mvumi Hospital near Dodoma (Karol died March 4, 2010). Leah continued her teaching career in Laramie as a K-6 elementary art teacher and as an adjunct University of Wyoming faculty member. Leah is survived by her husband Ken and second daughter, Shari. Ken Griffin

Martin Kigula, computer teacher at MacKay College. Killed in the July 11, 2010, bombing at the rugby club while watching the final of the World Cup. Martin was described by head teacher Gertrude Ssekabira as "our active, brilliant computer teacher." In a note of condolence to Gertrude, Henry wrote of the bombings, "This is a huge loss to individuals and to the nation, and to see someone I have known be cut down in his early years as he strove to do good things is especially frustrating and saddening, ... and all, apparently, because Uganda is virtuous enough to carry out the mission of a united Africa in dealing with its strife."

WE'VE HEARD FROM YOU

Moses Howard. JAN 27, 2010. Ed and Fellow TEAAers. I have just returned from a trip to Uganda with my wife and son where we visited schools and cities where I taught and helped to train the first medical technologists at Uganda Tech College and Kyambogo. But I also visited my first post which was Ntare School in Mbarara. During this trip I was sent for by the president and had an audience with him at State House in Entebbe where we discussed his life as a student at Ntare in my chemistry class. We really should be proud of His Excellency, President Museveni for he is one of our success stories and has done such a great job for his country and most recently urged members of parliament to withdraw proposed legislation that would have advocated the execution of anyone who was found to be a homosexual in Uganda. Best wishes to everyone, Moses Leon Howard

Ann and Paul Dickinson. Feb 5. Brooks, I did Longonot on this last trip and it was tougher than Kili. The trail is crumbly clay and sand and parts are very steep. It was hand over hand, couldn't use the poles. I would have turned back but going down looked far worse. My guide was Dr. J K Karuna, a Kenyan surgeon. It was his fifth time around the rim.

We spent two weeks at St. Mary's Mission Hospital in Nairobi and a week at St. Mary's at Lake Elmentaita, which is about 30 minutes from Nakuru. I had obtained certification to practice in Kenya so I was able to do many procedures. I presented several papers at the Kenyan Surgical Society Continuing Medical Education courses and was impressed with their level of academic prowess. St. Mary's is staffed entirely with Kenyan physicians. This is a more progressive model than having rotating Western physicians. St. Mary's in Nairobi does 500 major surgical cases a month, sees more than 1000 outpatients a day, and delivers 12,000 babies a year. Half of their patients are HIV positive. I felt as though I fit in and will be going back in the future. - Paul

PS from Ann: Yes, we know Tom Warth, founder of Books for Africa, which has its offices in my art studio building in downtown St. Paul. Another connection is that his daughter is best friends with one of our daughters-in-law so we heard all about his Kili climb when he turned 70.

If Henry and Bill plan to spend any time in Nairobi, I know they would enjoy visiting Kibera Girls' Soccer Academy - Paul and I toured it with Ryan Sarafolean from St. Paul who is helping them with building and funding. Have a look at: <http://www.kiberagirlessocceracademy.org/>

Gordon McGregor. Many thanks for sending me the latest news and congratulations to all supporters on your many useful initiatives and ventures. I would be pleased to be kept in touch by further editions.

Your members may be interested that the Universities Visitation Committee's long and detailed report which, as Chair, I submitted to the President via the Minister of Education, in February 2007 may yet have some effect. After I met with the Ministry's delegation to UK in September 2007 there

were long slow deliberations. Then in 2008 the Report was debated at Cabinet and in Parliament and most of its main recommendations accepted "in principle." Some of them had not been welcomed, particularly at Makerere, which we believed was most in need of reform. I then heard from Mathew Rukikaire (ex-Minister of Finance and one of my star HSC English students at Budo in 1959-60 and a man of integrity) that he was now Chair of Council at Makerere, where some reforms were proceeding, and that a Govt. White Paper had now included many of our proposals - but not the toughest - so there was a good chance that they would eventually be implemented. Mathew graciously suggest that I should go out again to advise on the foundation of a new university in Western Ankole but I shall do that only if I'm convinced I can do something which these experienced and very bright men and women can't do just as well, and that is most unlikely I think.

Warmest good wishes to you, Brooks and any other TEAs who might have survived my TESL courses! Gordon

Jim Blair. Maybe you have advised folks in past newsletters about Google Earth. If not, it is a great way for them to "fly" to their East African villages, communities, and schools to see what they look like today. Many views are excellent, especially in Southern Tanzania. Others are not so good, but all will give a good idea of what the places look like now. The growth of some of these "villages" from the early sixties to today is unbelievable. Cheers, Jim Blair

Manny Flecker. Ed, I have finally retired though not willingly. My contract with the government terminated early, and I am sort of looking for work halfheartedly. Getting up before 4 am and then fighting beltway traffic for an hour and a half coming home has kind of worn me down. I am enjoying the days inside because of the heat. None of my other pertinent information has changed.

With any luck, I may be able to get to NY for the reunion. Regards, Manny Flecker (63 - 65)

Mary Jo McMillin. Hi Ed, Although I've sent out dozens of queries and I know my TEA memoir is a good piece, I've received no takers and have decided to hang it up for a while. It seems as though the market is dry and all tied into publishing celebrities right now. If only I knew a way to network into the agent pool, but I don't have those contacts.

Meanwhile I've started a food blog. It isn't East Africa oriented, but would you be interested in the link and do you think that could go in your newsletter? I'll attach my blog announcement: Mary Jo's Kitchen lived happily in the Public Radio family at WMUB-FM in Oxford, Ohio. Then Miami University slashed the station, Mary Jo moved to Chicagoland and her Kitchen show was orphaned. Now there's a new home for Mary Jo's stories and recipes in a food blog. You'll find a fresh post each week. To reconnect with her, please boot up:< <http://mjcuisine.wordpress.com/>>. All best, Mary Jo

Norrell H. Noble. Dear Ed, I was in the first wave, at Tabora, Tanganyika, which was still a British colony when we got there. I also was awarded the first full tuition scholarship at Columbia TC at the end of my two years. I got my MA there the next year. I am now preparing to go off to Egypt again to head a small secondary school in Cairo. My wife, Françoise, will go with me. She will teach French and I will teach English and be principal. This will be my 14th year in Egypt. I have started four private American schools for Egyptian children there, in Alexandria and Cairo.

We live in Manhattan, just a block from TC. Unfortunately, I will be in Cairo next June when the 50th reunion takes place. That is too bad. Hope all goes well. Happy 4th of July. Best, Norrell

Hank Hector reports that he is retiring from his position as president of the Georgia Foundation for Independent Colleges in August.

Stefan Mason. Ed, I hope to make it to Columbia U next June I was posted to KNCU Secondary School, now called Lyamungu SS in Moshi, Tanzania. In May last year I revisited the school and addressed several of the classes. They have added 5th and 6th forms, with students from all over Tanzania. I've heard there is tribal conflict now among the students. The school is rundown, the swimming pool empty and unused. I

was told they'd been using the pool but not since a drowning incident. When I left in 1964 it had been filled in with dirt, if my recollection is accurate. Be well, Stefan

Ted Essebaggers. Ed, Nothing much new except to say that I am still working at the U of Oslo and have less than a year to go before mandatory retirement at 70 in April. My TEA teaching experience has always stood me in good stead. Getting to know East Africa firsthand provided insights into cultural understanding and lots of hard facts from that period of history. I have been able to use much of this in meeting, living and working with people in various parts of the world including Norway and Sweden, the US, Vietnam, Angola and Namibia. Probably one of the most useful things I learned was the importance of taking time to greet people "properly" at the outset and on a daily basis. I'm sure my parents and teachers taught me these basic social rules, but interaction with Africans had a most profound and meaningful impact in this regard, not least the way of handshaking, showing extra respect for older people, and so on. The East Africa experience gave me so much. Best regards, Ted

Bruce Franklin. Thank you for the heads up on the two events next year. I plan to attend festivities in NYC. East Africa is doubtful. Bruce Franklin IIB. . . Uganda at Makerere (62-3) and Kenya at Pumwani Sec School in Nairobi (63-4) and Narok Sec. School among the Maasai (64-5).

Mabel Lee. I am so glad to hear of the two events scheduled for next year. I will certainly attend the reunion at Teachers College. Love, Mabel Lee

Harry Stein. Ed: Living in Manhattan, I let Bill Jones know that I could assist with arrangements for the TEAA gathering in 2011. I read AP papers in US history the week before. 2011 will be the 6th year. Then in late July/August 2011, I will visit South Africa and Kenya to continue professional development work with local educators. Here, I continue to teach American and African economic history at Manhattan College and the City University of New York. Harry Stein

Emilee Hines Cantieri. My book, *Mysteries and Legends of Virginia*, will be published Aug. 17 by Globe Pequot, and it's already listed at a discount on Amazon. Publication of my book, *Speaking Ill of the Dead; Jerks in Washington D.C. History*, also by Globe Pequot, has been postponed from autumn 2010 to Jan. 11, 2011, to coincide with the new Congress. It covers "jerks" from Thomas Jefferson to Joseph McCarthy. The cutoff point was 1950, which eliminated some of my favorites. It too is already on Amazon.com at a discount. Also, by the end of the summer I should have a historic romance, *The Proposal*, at Amazon available for download to Kindle.

In late June I had a cruise of Tahiti, and at Moorea I went parasailing for the first time. We TEAAers are young in spirit, if not in years.

Looking forward to seeing lots of former colleagues in June 2011, at NY and E. Africa. Emilee

Ann Dickinson. When I was in Kenya and talked about East Africa back in 1961, people looked at me oddly like I was making it up, so it was reassuring when I discovered Old Africa Magazine on display in a Nairobi bookstore. The magazine focuses on Kenya but I was able to buy 5 old copies with articles/photos from Tanzania. I think the editors would like contributions from our TEAAers. To submit an article or letters: <<http://www.oldafricamagazine.com/>>.

Some observations from Nairobi in 2010. It is absolutely booming and has the worst traffic jams possible. Kenyans call them simply "the jam" and you can remain stuck for hours. Everyone says all the new construction is the result of huge amounts of Somali pirate money flowing into town. Another "everyone says" item is that the Kenyan government with two head chiefs just means double the corruption. A sad fact about the new Africa I learned from riding the matatus around Nairobi -- obesity has become a problem among those city dwellers. Three Africans used to fit into seats that two can barely squeeze into these days. But everyone there still has their signature fabulous sense of humor and we enjoyed every moment with them, including the night they took us to a restaurant to hear Country Western music, another symptom of the new Africa. The singer sounded exactly like Willie Nelson, but

was Luo. Ann

Response from Henry Hamburger.: As I was thinking about Africa perceived and remembered by Africans, it occurred to me to google "oral history" together with "Tanzania," an exercise that netted 100,000 hits. If I were going to get involved in this kind of project, I'd certainly think first of heading in that direction.

Cheri Pinner. Hello Ed, Thank you for keeping us in touch with the newsletter.

We have been in the town of Whaley Bridge in Derbyshire since 8th March and are very happy here. The people are particularly friendly and welcoming. We will probably be here about two years. It has been more of a vertical learning line than a curve as I came as priest in charge having never taken a wedding in New Zealand. I've now taken four and there are still several to go before November and a handful booked for next year and a couple already for 2012. Not quite as many baptisms but a goodly number, even so. One of our two readers takes most of the funerals. She has lived in this area for years and has a true compassion for the bereaved.

Last week I attended Diocesan Clergy Conference where one of the main speakers was a Professor Richard Lischer from Duke. He is professor of homiletics and was stunning and inspiring each of the three times he took the podium.

This Sunday, the 4th of July, we are marking as Poverty Sunday and then having a picnic in the park to which members of the congregation will bring various American style dishes that might grace a West Virginia summer picnic. John has a British and an American Flag to grace the proceedings and is thinking up a history quiz. All we need at this point is sunshine.

John was invited back to the 50th anniversary of the founding of Kericho Secondary School which is now called Kericho High School. He had a great time with the old boys who feted him royally and enjoyed showing him several new schools in the area. The hospitality was inspiring and, of course, it was great to see how the lives of those alumni had turned out. I was included in the invitation but really needed to stay here. I must say that such a long air journey no longer fills me with glee.

There is another wedding in about an hour and I must tidy up preparations. Best wishes, Cheri Pinner

George Psychas. Hi Ed, I have been out of the loop for a while. I am retired from running the International Education Office at Westfield State College. I am also past Chairman of the Department of Geography and Regional Planning. For 40 years I taught a Geography course. My son Dr. Paul Psychas lives in Ghana. He is the Director of the Malaria Program for all of Ghana. He is based at the American Embassy. My daughter Ellen Psychas Yee just finished a Ph.D. at Johns Hopkins in D.C. She worked for several years in the UN, basically all over the trouble spots of Asia and Indonesia. Both Paul and Ellen were students at the International School in Moshi for three years. I taught at Butimba TTC in 1964, Marangu TTC, Moshi and years later at the International School, Moshi. My sister-in-law is based in Nairobi. She is a Maryknoll Sister and has been in Tanzania and East Africa since 1957, so I have kept up on East African affairs. When is the next gathering of TEAA? This time I will come before I get too old.

Since retiring I have kept up my backpacking skills. Have crossed China, Mongolia and Siberia and Russia by train. Also have done Tibet, India and Thailand with a side trip to Ankor Wat in Cambodia. Summer before last I did the Philippines and Indonesia. Cheers, George

George Pollock. Some TEAers have asked how to get my novel, *State Kid: Hero of Literacy*. The cheapest way is the e-book, which is available on Google's new e-bookstore, Google Editions. Chapters can be previewed. The link is:

<http://books.google.com/books?printsec=frontcover&id=KTxsTHhj6kEC#v=onepage&q&f=false> We are planning to go to NYC next June and look forward to seeing you and other TEAers. Best, George

From Henry Hamburger. The Swahili Wikipedia is the Swahili language version of Wikipedia. It currently has 15,000+ articles in it. It is the 73rd biggest Wikipedia. It's the largest Wikipedia in Africa, followed by the Amharic Wikipedia. <http://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swahili_Wikipedia>

Barry Sesnan. Highlights in 2009. Last year I was in Chad on two different jobs, with a side visit to Istanbul (for UNHCR and UNESCO) and another to Ghana (for UNICEF). In both places President Obama dropped in while I was there.

In Ghana we were placed in one of the best hotels and people complained that it could be a terrorist target, not because of us but because of Obama. It reminded me of being very worried when the pilot of my KQ flight to Bujumbura announced we had the honour of having the President of Burundi on the plane. Recalling 1994 when two presidents died in the plane shot down over Kigali, I was not the only one to wish he was not there.

This year working with youth in N'djamena [Chad] with my colleague Ciceron produced its usual crop of interesting people – including media specialist Zara, who had made her way up in the media in Chad and wider West Africa and Dj-dj-Djamel, the D.J. and young media entrepreneur. With people like him, I got a totally different view of Chad than I had had in the east under security rules and in refugee camps.

Richard Price. Dear Ed, Many thanks for the latest newsletter. I taught at Chidya Sec School near Masasi, Tanzania, from 1965-70 and am still in touch with one of my former students, a medic, who has himself now retired to Newala. He and his wife came and stayed with us for two weeks about three years ago and I hope to visit him perhaps later this year. He's been asking me to go and stay with him for years. Vanessa won't go -its too hot out there for her! Best, Richard

David Evans. Brooks Goddard sent an article from the Boston Globe about the work TEAAer David Evans is doing in Afghanistan. Evans heads a University of Massachusetts team that designed a master's-level degree program in education in this country which had not seen a master's in education awarded at least since the Taliban takeover in the 1990s. The article noted the awarding of degrees to 41 students from UMass Amherst, Indiana University, and Kabul Education University. Ten of the 22 graduates from Kabul Education University were women. "...[T]he master's in education program will help seed schools of education around the country with trained faculty, who in turn will share their expertise with hundreds of teachers."

David Evans has spent more than 40 years at the Center for International Education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Lucy Larom. [In response to an article I sent her about the discovery of oil in the Lake Albert basin in western Uganda. -Ed] Ed, Thanks so much for the report.

We've been following this one. As usual the oil companies will be the big profiteers. The bonus payoff will go into the pockets of government officials or just Museveni himself, already the 12th richest man in Africa. The people's land and livelihood will be hijacked and they will be screwed! They perhaps become low wage (slave?) workers in the industry. The degradation of the environment will be a consequence. And so it goes.

We're hoping the 2011 elections in Uganda will produce some change but skeptical due to the deep divisions within the opposition. A strong coalition makes sense but not everyone wants to play. I think Museveni has to go in order for Uganda to make any reasonable progress.

With the continued dismantling of the concentration camps and people so scattered it is difficult to follow what is happening on the ground in the north. Land grabs, legal disputes, lack of schools and medical/psychological/legal/security support plague the area and some have said life is more difficult now than it was in the camps. One Acholi friend with connections in the north says that people are living like animals. On the other hand we hear of successful reconstruction projects. What have you heard? What are your favorite news sources for Uganda? Best wishes, Lucy

Edward Hower. My last novels, set in Sri Lanka and Yonkers, NY, were *A Garden of Demons* and *The Storms of May*. My first novel, *The New Life Hotel*, set in East Africa and very loosely based on part of my TEA experiences, has been reissued and, like the other books (see www.edwardhower.com website), is

available from Amazon. A personal essay about a witch temple in India is scheduled soon in The American Scholar. Best regards, Edward

ANY TEACHER LEFT IN YOU OR IN SOMEONE YOU KNOW? by Jim Gilson

Dear Ed, Thank you for your e-mail. I continue as cofounder and president of Quality Schools International (QSI). We are recruiting continually for qualified elementary and secondary teachers for our schools. If any readers know of teachers interested in teaching internationally, I encourage them to apply by visiting our website, <www.QSI.org>, and submitting an application. We are particularly interested in hiring married teaching couples when there are two or more openings in the same school.

I taught with TEA in 1963-65 in Moshi, Tanzania. My wife and I had a great two years there.
Sincerely, Jim Gilson

YOUR STORIES, by Alan Young

I was part of the British section of TEA that went to Makerere in 1963 (3B). I then taught at Kapsabet in Kenya for two years. Those years were a time of intense experiences that have had a lasting effect on my life. Looking back, I often feel regret and some guilt about not being sufficiently mature at the time to fully serve the goals of TEA. Reading through back issues of the TEAA Newsletter, I don't see any discussion of this kind of feeling, but I doubt that I'm alone.

After leaving Kenya in 1966, I planned on teaching school in Britain, but upon completing an M.A. at the University of East Anglia, I found myself teaching English at Simon Fraser University on the west coast of Canada and loving it. Then followed Ph.D. work at the University of Alberta and a new job at Acadia University on the east coast. I worked there for almost thirty years before taking early retirement in 1998 and moving to Halifax. Early retirement has seemed like a permanent sabbatical, allowing me to continue my research and writing on Renaissance literature, and Shakespeare in particular.

I'm delighted to have found TEAA, with some help from Peter Ryall and Facebook, and I hope now to be able to reconnect with some of the very special people I knew in East Africa.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

NEW ENTRIES: **James M. Fleming**, <blue_wave@comcast.net>, son of George (TEAA 4, deceased) and Edythe Mae Fleming. Chadwick College, Butere, Kenya **Alan Young**, 074 Wellington Street, Apt 1104, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3H 2Z8 (tel: 902 423-3904). From early December to early May: 2002 Granada Drive, Apt A3, Coconut Creek, Florida 33066 (tel: 954 971-6051), <alan.alanyoung@gmail.com>, websites: <http://alanyoungresearch.com>, <http://www.opheliapopularculture.com>, Kapsabet School, Kapsabet, K (3B UK)

CHANGES TO EXISTING ENTRIES: **Roger (and Daniela) Austin**. Now have email: <rogaustin@btopenworld.com> **Ronald M. and Iris Berger**. Emails: <Rberger@albany.edu>, <iberger2@verizon.net>, and <lberger@albany.edu> **Rosamunde (Roz) Blanck**. New email: <rblanck75@gmail.com> **Edward (and Verity) Dierauf**. New email: <v.dierauf@att.net> **Elaine E. Durham**. New email: <eedurham1@gmail.com> **Kate Froman**. New email: <katefroman@juno.com> **Henry J. (Hank) Hector**. New data: 1955 Wyndgate Loop, Montgomery, Alabama 36117, 334-279-6575, <hjhector@netzero.com> **Jack (and Robin) Maas**. New email: <jackmaas@verizon.net> **Nancy (Larue) Mahr**. New email: <nlmahr@verizon.net> **Joseph Malloy**. New email: <joem@lmi.net> **Carl J. Manone**. New email: <Manone234@aol.com> **Sue (Curry) Matthew**. New email: <Sue@suemathew.wanadoo.co.uk> **Gordon P McGregor**. New email: <gpmcgregor@btinternet.com> **Sue Nanka-Bruce**. Email: <nankabruce@gmail.com> **Cheri (Tyson) (and John) Pinner**. New data: 5 The Sidings, Whaley Bridge, High Peak, Derbyshire SK23 7HE, UK, Tel: 01663 719 535, <cheri.pinner@mac.com> or <jsanfordk@gmail.co> **George Psychas**. New email: <gpsychas@wsc.ma.edu> **John W. (Jack) Schober**. Revised data: 4533 Cedar Springs Rd, Apt 314, Dallas, TX 75219-1375, home: 214-981-9111, mobile: 214-274-8315, <jackschober@sbcglobal.net> **Richard and Vanessa Price**. Email: <rwph100@hermes.cam.ac.uk> **David and Mo Smith**. Email: <david.as@tiscali.co.uk> **William (Bill) Svoboda**. Current data: 623-869-9970, <wsvoboda@cox.net>

LOST: **Zelda W. Anderson**, Most recent address: 21000 Mission Blvd, Apt 314, Hayward, CA 94541-1868, no email, (Earlier address near Reno, NV], NVGovernment TTC, Dar es Salaam T (TEEA3) (Lost in January 2010.)

