



**JAMBO (Hello)! Happy New Year to all our friends...** Schools in Tanzania have begun the 2016 school season and I enjoy being a part of the excitement; it is busy and fun at the same time. January is also an exciting time of the year because it gives us time to celebrate our successes and to open fresh opportunities. It is the perfect time for me to reflect on past challenges and to thank all those that helped me to achieve them.

This newsletter will bring you up to date on Winds of Africa's programs and those we support. It is a new year with new ideas, new challenges and we are ready. We thank you for standing with us. I can never say it enough that YOU are 'Winds of Africa', it is your support that keeps us going. **'Enjoy our News...'** Audra '

### Maasai Girls' Sponsorship Program



Audra with Ester L, Juliana, Ester N, Susan, and Ester G.

The Maasai girl's sponsorship program at the Suma Engikaret Secondary School ended the 2015 year well. The head of the school, Father Karumuna, announced to us that all the girls will be moving up a grade. In November, Tony, Marc and Valarie Fridlund, friends from San Diego, and myself, were able to visit with the girls during their final exams.

It is always inspiring to visit with Juliana, Rehema, Ester, Maria, Susan and Ester. Their personalities are blossoming and their confidence is building after attending Suma Secondary School. They are learning to challenge new ways to accept honor and equality. It is truly hard to grasp the dynamics that these young girls have experienced since birth. I suppose that their innermost challenge will be realizing the meaning of "freedom of choice"; a concept that we use and one that they are now discovering. We

thank our Sponsors, Father Karumuna and the parents, for offering this opportunity.

The girls have already begun to make a difference in their lives and their journey is yet to come. When I asked, “what is your future plans after finishing secondary school?” They bashfully answered meaningful positions such as doctors, nurses, a teacher and a scientist. It is moving to feel their bravery and belief that they can be a part of the “**pioneers towards the future of young girls.**” Just Imagine if they discover a cure for Malaria, Cholera and the means to stop hunger...!



John Macha (left above) instructs all our learning programs. He has a dynamic personality and a likeable manner in the classroom. He manages various studies and workshops for all ages and levels of education. He also assists in the WoA sponsorship programs, and the schools that we support. He is a remarkable Instructor and person. Thank you John for standing with us and for being a loyal employee.



*(Above) John visits the school often to hold workshops which helps us to keep an assessment on the girl's progress.*



*Valarie, Marc, Audra and Tony with the girls at Suma Engikaret Secondary School at Engikaret Maasai Village.*

### ***Save The Date for our Annual Fundraiser-MAY 1, 2016***

*Our annual fundraiser will be held this year on May 1st 2016. Since our friends are enjoying the event in Mission Bay at Marina Village, we are following your lead. We will keep you up-dated on the name of the room and all the social activities; enjoy fabulous food, music, dancing, silent auction, the Maasai Marker and many more surprises. Please help us increase our guest list by informing or inviting family, friends, associates and of course bring yourselves.*

***Thanks a bunch!***



***Thumbs Up!***

### **WILDLIFE POACHING**

One the most important issues that faces Tanzania, and other African countries, today is animal poaching which has caused a tremendous loss of Rhinos, Elephants, Leopards, Cheetahs, Lions, and Gorillas. These are some of the most admired animals on the continent of Africa and in the world.



Tanzania's numerous loss of these animals, through monstrous acts, has had an enormous adverse effect on conservation, economies, and, in rural areas, health.



Tanzania's Anti-Poaching teams and National Park Rangers fight against hired poachers in National Parks, National Reserves, Game Parks, forests regions and wherever the animals roam. It is a dangerous job.

We are associating with Colleen Hog, a Kenyan photo journalist, to help with combating such poaching. We met in Tanzania while she was working on an important project, she has become a good friend and associate. She has devoted substantial time in supporting the general education of NP Rangers. They primarily are raised in rural outback regions with limited access to a good education. She also has spent significant time photographing their work. Together we would like to support further education for such Rangers. Contact us if you are interested in sponsoring a NP Ranger's education.

## Step by Step Learning Center Learning Center



Audra, Winfrida (sponsored by WoA) and Margaret (Founder/Director of Step by Step).

**Step by Step** is designed for children, teens and young adults with a variety of special needs. The teachers are well trained and they work individually, and in groups, to build-up the student's inner strengths. It is an effective environment for all those with special needs.

I have known Margaret for many years and continue to admire her ambition and determination to keep the school lively and working efficiently.

*Step by Step offers each student time to grow, and to become the person that is hidden within.*

Throughout the year's Winds of Africa has assisted Margaret with her many challenges. Our donors sponsor Winfrida training program and the continuation to help Margaret. Winfrida did very well last year with studies. We were able to offer donations to help repair the school. Winfrida asked me to say Jambo (Hi) and that she is happy to be back at school this year. **Winfrida would like to be a police officer one day. We believe that she can.**

*We begin each year full of good energy. Opportunities continue for persons that we assist and for others that we will meet in the months to come. We will capture all possibilities to make life happy for those that have self-determination. I am proud of the performances of WoA last year and during the past years; we are achieving our purpose, we have witnessed change and our plan is to continue if we see progress which indeed we will...*

### **Highridge School Project**

**Highridge School** is a community school that is owned and run by Mr. Iddy Washokera and his wife. It is full of fine educators with good spirit. It is a Primary school along with preschool and kindergarten students. It is based in Arusha.



*We assisted with donations, from a private donor, to support the building of the new kindergarten classroom (above photo). Our next picture will be with the students enjoying their new space, of course after the painting is completed.*

*The next step is to enlarge the Library/Computer classroom by separating it into two separate rooms. Next will be renovations of the classrooms and educational materials. Iddy has asked if we can find him musical instruments for the music class; they have a music teacher with no instruments to play. If you have small instruments that you would like to donate, please let us know.*



*Thumbs Up To Winds Of Africa!*

*We welcome our friends to join us in Tanzania so that you may personally be a part of our team as a guest or a volunteer.*

*Your memories and stories told will last for a life time. There will never be a moment when your eyes will not be wide, your thoughts be in wonderment and your heart full.*

***Venture into the world of Tanzania and come run wild with the 'Winds of Africa...'***



***KWAHERI (Goodbye), see you all soon!***

***Winds of Africa Foundation***

***Directors- Dr. Ian Mamuya- Tanzanian  
Audra Marie DiMambo- United States  
Instructor- John Macha- Tanzanian  
And all of those that we Support.***