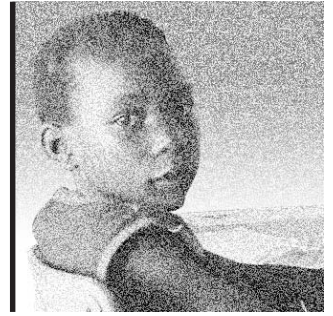


ZAMBIAN CHILDREN'S FUND CHISHAWASHA NEWSLETTER



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Our 4th Container is on it's way....

JIM STRADER

The following comes from a blog written by Jim Strader, an Episcopal Priest who works at the University of Arizona.....

"My friend, Barby Goldschmid, invited me to help pack a container of goods for ZCF. I wasn't "amped" to help quite frankly, I knew it was going to be hot. But I got off my grumbly butt at 7:15 and went to First UCC Church. I got there and about 15 - 20 people were lugging boxes, desks, and yes, even a kitchen sink, to a loading area. The truck and container were supposed to get to the church at 9 am; so volunteers were working like an ant colony to get everything where it needed to be so there wouldn't be any delays in loading the container when it arrived.

Rachel helps in the ZCF office and is engaged to an A-10 fighter pilot training with the 355th Fighter Wing at D M airbase. Her fiance Mike invited 4 or 5 of his classmates to come and help out. I am happy to report that all of the collected goods including a tub, sinks, freezer and hundreds of boxes of goods were in place by 8:45.

The truck didn't show up....9:30 passed, 10:00 passed. Kathe called the dispatching agency and was told not to panic for 2 hours. The A-10 guys, me and a 28 year USAF vet shared stories about flying. Kathe

told stories about the children in the orphanage and life in Zambia. I came back home at 11:30 and gave Barby my cell number.

Barby called at 5:30 p.m. The truck had arrived. I went back to the ZCF office thinking that there would be the faithful few of maybe 5 or 10 people. I was shocked when I pulled up and saw lots of people. We had two hours to get hundreds of boxes into the container.

It was truly astounding. There were teenagers. There were everyday folks. There were guys from the tough side of town. One guy looked like he had as many tattoos as I have freckles on my forearms. That's a lot of tattoos. There was a

guy, Chris, who worked as a mover. He helped us orchestrate how to get almost all of the goods into the container. 50 people made sure that the Zambian children received their school desks and books. The last box went up on the last stack of goods at about 7:45.

These people, the illustrated man, the Air Force Captain, the mover, and the Episcopal priest, didn't (usually) hang out with one another. They kept lifting boxes with the UA students because we were all there for the greater good. You wanna find grace? Seek out compassionate opportunities where social barriers and egotistical paradigms can't hold a candle to helping the poor and the parentless children of our planet. God's grace helped to bring together some of the least expected servants you would ever want to meet."



CCHZ Children Learn Photography

For three weeks during May and June of this year, professional photographer, Klaus Schoenwiese of New York, taught 12 of the Chishawasha children how to take photographs. He gave each of them cameras and film; and after a couple of days of instruction, took them to various sites and turned them loose. What follows are excerpts from Klaus' blog....

"I was impressed to see how pleasantly located and nicely built the general structures are on the Chishawasha campus. If I wasn't here for work, I could easily consider it a simple place to come for mellow weekends in the countryside. The weather at this time of the year is beyond perfection, the sunsets are beautiful and the southern night-sky is brilliant.

I received a warm welcome from the children and the house-mom and had my first dinner of n'shima. After dinner the kids actually drummed, danced and sang on the veranda, making me feel rather like I just stepped into a movie set.

Monday: All the children assemble at the school every Monday morning on a vast school yard and sing the national

anthem, standing on African red dirt under the waving flag of Zambia. My turn came later and my only regret would be that I can only do the full workshop with 12 kids, not the whole sweet bunch of them.

On Tuesday, my first workshop class was scheduled. The students handled the cameras for the first time and even though these are simple cameras, it took a while to explain and practice it all. All the Chishawasha kids were very excited to finally get to photograph. The small kids now come up to me - predictably tugging my sleeve saying "I want a camera."

On Friday we had our first excursion at the hilltop open air market along the highway into Lusaka. When we arrived there we (we being 12 kids with cameras and two white guys in tow), quickly realized that it was very hard to keep our eyes on each other in this maze like market. The major item sold here is charcoal...the grayish-black market on the cusp to urban Lusaka is a culturally challenging place to photograph by all standards, even for a local. Our final destination for the day, tellingly picked

by the kids was "The Arcades" a bland but modern shopping mall.

This weekend I took the students to their childhood homes or that of a remaining relative. One reoccurring challenge is to have my students pay visual respect to the surroundings they live in, not just to record the standard 'poses' everyone throws themselves into as soon as a camera is near. Assignments I have given that aim to making people NOT the central theme have faltered due to the fact that the student's best intention will quickly be co-opted by the preconceived notions of anyone else present.

Highlights from the second week: We visited a small fishing village way down a dirt road along the river. We bought 60 kg of farmed fish, fetched live from the pond by a crew of fisherman who pull a long net in a wide arc through the pond...We rented a longboat with two men paddling us across the vast river along some very idyllic scenes, past a river island village with tall palm trees...kids were waving at us from the distance...We visited a game reserve and took a game drive in an open range rover and saw zebras, gazelles, and an elephant.

The last days running up to our photo show were extremely work intensive, but also extremely rewarding. We mounted over 250 photos. I am proud to report the show looked beautiful and was a big success with everyone who saw it. We were lucky to have a large classroom available that can now seriously compete with any Chelsea gallery in its beautiful simplicity and good natural light. Our audience was even more special: All the children living on campus and the village children attending the school. It's safe to say they never saw anything like it and were accordingly excited. The show will remain installed for at least a couple of months."

For more information as well as photos of the CCHZ photographers, you can visit Klaus' website at:

www.tribeofman.com/zambia



Thanks to Everyone Who Helped...

KATHE PADILLA

Thank you to all of the families, individuals and organizations who helped us succeed in getting out our fourth container to Zambia: To Barby Goldschmid and each of her volunteers who so faithfully come every Wednesday to pack boxes of clothing and household items. To First Congregational Church for not only giving us office space, but also allowing us to use their Fellowship Hall every week to pack in and then letting us fill it up to the rafters for four days in June. To Bookman's Used Bookstore for donating thousands of books and Joel Keller who picks them up every week. He sorted through them all and then packed (almost single-handedly) more than 400 boxes of books. To New Spirit Lutheran Church for the large folding tables, chairs and more space in which we packed those 400 boxes

of books. To Steve Johnston for finding and buying another six treadle sewing machines. To Tucson Unified School District for school desks and blackboards. To everyone who started working at 6:00 a.m. on a Saturday to get the container loaded and then came back at 6:00 p.m. to finish the job. To each of you who in the last two years donated clothes, shoes, school supplies, books, computers, household items and the money to ship it all.

Because each of you were willing to help, our children in Zambia will have

clothes and shoes (sometimes brand new!); they have two more classrooms with school supplies, desks and blackboards; they will have books in their new library; furniture, dishes, pots and pans in their new houses, they will have more sewing machines and a big electric saw for their new skill center. We manage to pull off something close to a miracle every two years by filling up a forty foot container. We couldn't do it without the help and support of hundreds of volunteers and donors from Tucson and all over the U.S. Thank you all.

Kathe



Chishawasha Receives Grant for Skill Center

MARY HOTVEDT

We recently received news that the Zambian Children's Fund is one of four grant recipients from Project Redwood, a foundation for the alleviation of poverty by projects designed to promote self-sufficiency in the Third World. Our proposal is for the establishment of a poultry operation and for a teaching program in several skilled trades at Chishawasha. The grant is a step toward self-sufficiency both for the children in our care and for the organization itself. The grant was written by volunteer Acting Director Mary Hotvedt and CCHZ Manager Phillip Mvula, with input from the staff and the kids in the planning.

This funding over the next two years will allow us to build a chicken run for 100 to 150 laying hens, providing

Chishawasha with a good income flow through the sale of eggs. At the same time, the warehouse will be finished to accommodate a sewing/tailoring classroom, an electronics repair class space, and a carpentry shop. Skilled teachers will train Chishawasha and village students, giving them a potential source of employment and income as they mature and prepare for independent living. Even our top students, those who have college aspirations, will be given training so that they can have a secondary source of income while they complete their educations.

Project Redwood was founded by a consortium of Stanford MBA graduates from the class of 1980. This is their first round of grant competition. Each accepted project will also

receive technical and entrepreneurial assistance from these highly motivated and successful businesspeople. We hope to use their expertise in a number of ways as the skill center comes into being. We are looking at the creation of products in the skill center that will appeal to Zambian and American/ Canadian markets. We also hope to teach our students entrepreneurial skills, very necessary in a society with 70% unemployment. Our students will be able to compete much better in such a tough environment with these opportunities.

We are pleased and grateful for having been chosen. We will give regular updates on the skill center programs in the newsletter. For more information about Project Redwood, please visit: www.projectredwood.org.

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*“Unless someone like you
cares a whole awful lot,
nothing is going to get better,
it's not.”* **THE LORAX, BY DR. SUESS**

Visit our website: www.zambianchildrensfund.org