



KENYAN SCHOOL PROJECT NEWSLETTER

May 2019

News Flash - Get Ready for a HARAMBEE! Saturday June 22nd

The Kenyan School Project will hold a Harambee on **Saturday, June 22** at Vita's beginning at 6 pm. Harambee in Swahili translates as "all pull together," and in Kenya it is a traditional form of fundraising. Communities hold a celebration and party while also raising money for an important event.

Our Harambee will benefit the Olemoncho Primary School in Narok, a village in Kenya's Maasai Mara. With our own Lopez community support, we have previously provided the school with electric fencing around the perimeter of the school to protect the children from elephants. Now we are raising money to build a new classroom there, something the school leaders have identified as an important need. Olemoncho School will also be holding a Harambee in their community to provide desks and materials for the new classroom.

We hope you will **come celebrate the Solstice with African music and dance!** Come to our Harambee party and enjoy the spirit of Kenya with robust music and dancing, good food and good company. **All funds—100%— will go toward construction of a new classroom for the Olemoncho Primary School!** A traditional Kenyan meal will be available for purchase, and Bruce will have wine and beer for sale in the restaurant.

Board member Ann Goss Visits Olemoncho Primary School

KSP board member Ann Goss wrote the following account of her recent visit to the Olemoncho Primary School: Cape buffalo are grazing on the plains of the Maasai Mara as we bump over the murrum roads on our way to Olemoncho Primary School. My daughter-in-law, Madeleine, and I arrive at the school as the students are preparing to plant indigenous trees inside the electric fence line. We are welcomed with a "Jambo!" and many handshakes and join in with the planting of trees. Mr. Kitesho, the Head Teacher, greets us and immediately gets us involved with shoveling dirt and planting grevillea saplings.



After this activity, which involved the whole school, the students move into their classrooms and Mr. Kitesho shares with us how happy everyone is with the electric fencing around the perimeter of the school. The girls and boys feel safer, the parents are especially happy about their children's safety (no more elephants!), and the schoolyard vegetation is beginning to flourish. He expresses his gratitude to the Kenyan School Project and all those who contributed to creating this reality.



Maddie and I are shown the site where the new classroom will be built and the area behind the classroom where the school plans to install a vegetable garden. Mr. Kitesho supervises the planting and care of the garden and has also purchased some cows which will provide food for the school lunch program.



After we toured the school grounds, we were honored with ceremonial song and dance by enthusiastic student dancers who gave us a most heart-warming cultural dance performance. It was very moving to see these young people continuing their Maasai cultural heritage. In fact, they will be competing in a local Maasai dance competition.



Maasai dancers at Olemoncho School (see attached video at end of newsletter)

As we described in our last Kenyan School Project Newsletter, we have agreed to help the school build a new classroom for the early grades. This new project is very much needed as the school is bursting at the seams and currently utilizing the nearby church as a temporary classroom.

The Kenyan School Project board appeal to you to help these students improve their learning environment. We understand how important it is to appreciate and give with a worldwide view: to support not only our local children, but those in other places who are struggling to maintain their education. Please know that each and every donation, no matter how small, is so very precious and goes a VERY long way for the betterment of the lives of these children.

Asante sana – thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

The **Kenyan School Project** is a small non-profit organization working to improve the lives of children in Kenya by promoting better educational opportunities and health. We take on one small project at a time.

<http://kenyanschoolproject.org>

Please consider a tax deductible contribution – [Donate Now.](#)

