

TEAA (Teachers for East Africa Alumni) Newsletter No. 22, January 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>.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, Brooks Goddard
Greetings, friends,

As we enter another decade, we continue to move forward. We have no other choice or wish. Atlanta 09 was a big success because it fostered our community of shared mission, it alerted us to the great work of the Carter Center, and we learned of Atlanta-based organizations which have similar aspirations to ours. We heard from many energetic and dedicated folks. Turns out Bono isn't the only one with big ideas. A second feature of the reunion was going to the King Center and having lunch by the reflecting pool whose very presence reminded us that TEAA and civil rights have been very compatible. We honor our own, like Arlone Child and Linda Kunz, who have contributed mightily.

Our goal for 2010 includes sending off Henry Hamburger and Bill Jones soon to visit schools, check the temperature, and spread good will. This "sending off" is a misnomer since they are paying all their travel costs themselves. This is stalwart participation, and we are most appreciative for it. Another goal is to continue our march towards the three-year challenge of raising \$100,000. We successfully raised the first third in 2009 and are 10% towards reaching the 2010 goal. Your generosity is most appreciated and goes directly to the grants that we support. This support is usually tied directly to personal visits and specific programs. The visits allow us to maintain direct and effective contact with schools and people in those schools; they also allow us to better create meaningful support. Nothing beats face-to-face communication.

We are keeping a firm eye on 2011 to celebrate our 50th anniversary of wave I (those fanatics who keep on telling us that wonderful story of the Constellation plane ride and the burst tire). Our current plans are to meet in both NYC and East Africa. We'd like to have them be somewhat contiguous events in time and are in touch with Teachers College to see if there is a time when we might use their dorms for housing. Bill Jones will head planning for the NYC portion, and I have volunteered to create an East African portion. We both could use support; please volunteer, especially you New Yorkers. In this specific regard I am interested in people's ideas about itinerary: we can create one itinerary for all which is what we did in 2003, OR we can create three itineraries, one for each country, and meet at some end point. Should many seek plan 2, I would need folks to volunteer to lead in Uganda and Tanzania since I would opt for Kenya. Let me

state the outline for this trip: (i) 12-15 days of official trip, pre- and/or post-TEAA itinerary at your discretion; (ii) basically school visitations and conferences the key but with some sightseeing thrown in; (iii) off-and-on the Walimu bus possibilities; end of trip meeting to review findings and consider the future. Let me be upfront about costs: \$1600 for airfare and \$2200 for the ground portion (both figures are ballpark and free-fly miles are a big bonus).

The second focus is more personal. We would like each of you to write the chapter in your lives that takes you from your TEA/TEEA experience to the 2000-2009 years, how years in EA inspired and enabled your activities this last decade. The writing is for ourselves that we may know whom we have become (to go a little Old Testament on you). Or, a statement to your grandchildren to tell them about you. Yes, this is a separate statement from the one you wrote (or meant to write) for our 2001 reunion and which appeared in Judith Lindfors's privately printed book, *The TEA Experience*. As many have said, "You never know your story until you write it." You may send your chapter either to Ed Schmidt or to me; we shall then seek a person or persons to create in 2011 or 2012 a book out of these reflections. We have taken one of our keys from Jimmy Carter himself who is 85 and still travelling.

Thirdly, we must work towards our financial challenges. Our organizational goal is to raise \$30,000 before December 31, 2010. One device occurs to me, and that is to see if your children or grandchildren work for companies which will match their contributions. Then give to the person in your family who will cooperate, have them contribute to TEAA, and have their company match that contribution. We are always keen to hear of foundations to which we can apply for funding.

Great website stuff just keeps popping up in "What's Hot," much of it from our African friends. Some particular items will be mentioned in Henry's webguy report.

Finally, some personal engagement. You can check the website for reading recommendations; increasingly there are some very good DVDs as well. My interests in the Swahili coast have been growing largely out of visiting Kilwa/Quilua in 2005. Which has led me to the early trade patterns in the Indian Ocean (cf., Amitav Ghosh's delightful, *In an Antique Land*) which were of course connected to trade patterns in the Bay of Bengal, the Straits of Malacca, and in the China Sea. Now I'm onto The Silk Route (Caesar loved silks -- where did he get them?), Genghis Khan, Marco Polo, Ibn Battuta. The American Museum of Natural History in NYC has a fabulous exhibit on the Silk Road through August 15, 2010. I'm always interested in fiction from Africa, especially that of Chris Abani, Chimamanda Adichie, and Zakes Mda.

Go well, stay well, be strong, Brooks

THE WEBGUY SPEAKS, Henry Hamburger

Should you get your TEAA news from the Newsletter or the website? Is there a difference? Both, and yes! What is that difference? Try reading both; you'll see. Note that the two share material and support each other. For example, Newsletters 1-5, published in 1999-2001, have recently appeared on the website, where they join all the others, up to the present. You can find them any time in the menu in the upper left corner of the main page (<http://www.tea-a.org>) by rolling your cursor over "Member News" and out onto "Earlier Ones." Try it! Or you can just go directly to <http://www.tea-a.org/news/earlier.html>

Hot news arrives with surprising frequency and goes straight to What's Hot (<http://www.tea-a.org/hot/intro.html>). Often it comes from Africa: the January 2010 section contains generous praise for TEAA from one of our representatives who oversees schools. December featured Mike Rainy's annotated photo-album of a dry year at his and Judy's home in Maasai country. The last three months of 2009 included 5 notes from 4 different principals of schools we assist.

News comes also from the USA and wherever in the world TEAAers have settled. Clive Lovelock wrote from Japan about the pedagogy of reading and his booklist is now posted along with one earlier provided by Kate Parry who divides her living equally between Uganda and the USA. These lists are intended to help schools select books for TEAA's independent recreational reading project, an initiative of Bill Jones that has now reached 6 schools, half of them with funding to us from a student book-selling project at UMass/Amherst. Bill has provided two important documents for this project, described in - and linked to - the current month of What's Hot.

Moving to the future, the February and March sections will provide timely reporting from the trail about the TEAA school-visiting escapade by Bill Jones and me. It will not be up to the minute, but should be up to the week, so to speak, courtesy of Marsh McJunkin. Our focus will be on existing TEAA-assisted

schools where we don't know the current principal and on Kenya and Tanzania where we currently have fewer schools.

Finally, the treasurer in me is delighted to report that a total of 100 TEAA grants and 7 projects by individual TEAAers have together now reached a total of over \$150,000 since inception, all spelled out in detail at <http://www.tea-a.org/actions/grants.html> Two thirds of this money has come from the generosity of all of you and the rest from a grant and fund-raising efforts among friends carried out with notable success by Betty Castor, the late Arlone Child, and Leal Dickson.

THANK YOU AND HAPPY NEW YEAR, from Peter Indalo [Peter is TEAA representative near Migori, Kenya, an ordained Anglican priest, a specialist in rural development, and he holds a master's degree in social work from Washington University in St Louis.]

Dear Henry and All TEAA,

May I, on behalf of all teachers, parents, students and schools you have been supporting, wish you, members of TEAA, a happy and prosperous 2010.

The forming of TEAA was indeed a noble idea. Your solidarity, commitments and efforts in expanding TEAA activities and looking for both financial as well as material resources has benefited many schools in Eastern Africa, a region where many of you served in the early sixties. We want to thank you for caring, supporting and improving our schools for the academic excellence of our children. In doing this you are indeed being in solidarity with us in developing our human resources for the benefit of the entire universe.

If President Kennedy and Tom Mboya of Kenya had not thought of airlifting students from Kenya to USA, indeed Obama would have not been born and Africa would have had up to now no woman Nobel winner in the name of Professor Wangari Mathai, a product of the efforts of President Kennedy and Mboya, the two gentlemen who were both killed. I wish to say that you may doubt the benefit of the dollars you are putting into this work as some of you are retired men and women, but I want to assure you, and God knows, one day it will come to light that you did a great service to all of us.

May God indeed bless your work, support your families and friends working with you, give you good health this year 2010.

HAPPY NEW YEAR, Peter

LETTERS FROM OUR CONTACTS IN EAST AFRICA

Hullo Ed, I am sincerely sorry for my failure to keep you updated on the grant. I am first and foremost very grateful for all that you have done for us in ensuring that we got the grant at the time we needed it badly. Yes, I got it but I am sorry before I came to realise that you had sent it to our school account, I got a sprain in the right ankle and was bed ridden for a month, from end of May throughout June up to early July.

I was put in a plaster and had to remain in a lying position for all that time. Fortunately I got the sprain when I was in Kampala and so I got so confined as I was on treatment. Hence I was rather cut off from all friends on email for a month and a half because I could not move. When I went back to school at the end of June, I had a lot awaiting me at my desk. I eventually plunged myself into financial reports, Board of Governors' meetings, reports to the Ministry of Education, annual budgeting and preparing for regional mock exams. Nevertheless I informed our Board of Governors and the school community about the funds you sent us. They were very grateful to you for your quick response and kind assistance.

Later, I was given a go ahead to utilize them according to what it was planned for. I purchased a few text books and other laboratory requirements and all these held me till early this month. Right now some balance is left to purchase for what will be need for conducting UNEB examinations and after that I will send you a detailed report for all that we purchased.

I am happy that now I can move freely and sit on a computer to communicate after quite a long time. Dear Ed, please I am once again very sorry for keeping you in suspense. However, all the students and staff were quite happy and very grateful for your generosity. Right now I am in Kampala going for a retreat to thank God for all that he has enabled me to do in spite of my ill health and to pray for you and all those who assisted us through you.

We are looking forward to hosting you once again in our school sometime. I have written a whole

bible to you because there is a lot that has been in my heart. Thank you so much for keeping in touch.

Lots of love and prayers. Pass my love and greetings to Henry. God bless you. We love you so much. Sr. Clare Migisha. [head teacher at Iceme Girls School near Lira Uganda]

Dear Ed, Is it Merry Christmas or Happy New Year? Am writing this at that odd time in the year. It is just about the eve and yet I didn't wish well last week. What ever it is, receive my warmest wishes for the season. I have not been able to communicate for some time because of my usual December engagements. I was taking part in the marking of this year's KCSE which ended just last week. Am now home to a very cold time . It is extremely wet and the rains are washing away our roads again. Nevertheless, I am enjoying every moment of it as we await the next week when we go back to school.

I have read the note of the season and would consider an article or so. I have read the story of your Kajiado colleagues [Mike and Judy Rainy] with a lot of interest . The strange thing of nature is that right away that region is actually flooded and animals are being carried away by swollen rivers. The ironies of this country!

I am excited at the titles we purchased with Bill Jones' assistance and looking forward to seeing the [independent reading] program in place from next week. Am sure you have been following the developments in this country, we have so many twists and turns that some times one is never sure of any thing except perhaps oneself. In the recent past it has shifted from The Hague to Mau then to FPE [Free Primary Education] funds and the emerging political alliance. We can only sit back and watch most of the time of course, with a lot of disappointment for junior public officials like us who have to bear the burden of too much politics.

There are some changes in the positions of school principals across the country and I am yet to know if they affect us. I will get you informed of the developments as events here unfold. Pass my regards to all. OKUNYA. [principal at St. Joseph's Gunga Secondary School, Migori, Kenya]

Dear Mr. Henry, Thanks a lot for the \$300 you gave us for the purchase of books [for the independent reading program]. The students are making use of them already for independent reading. Not only the students, but also all the teachers and the supporting staff are reading the books. I see them reading at all spare times. From the oldest, Sr. Mary Neelima, the head of the English department, to the youngest in the school are reading the books. I will get you the photos ready and send them to you as soon as possible. Right now we have only the students of form 2 and form 4 here as they are doing their exams. The others have gone home on a short break. They will be here next week and as soon as they arrive I will get the photos posted to you. I hope I am not too late in responding to you. We are more than happy with the books and we hope we will get more of them in the future. Thanking you once again most gratefully, Sister Mary Shobha [new head teacher at St Joseph Ngarenaro Secondary School, Arusha. The photos are posted on the TEAA website.]

Dear Ed, Thanks for your mail. It has been quite sometime. The school is doing well and the national exams are due in the next few days. As it is always in some of these places no one is ever sure until the results are out. We did hold the harambee last weekend and I hope we shall be able to raise a roof for the science block soon . The BOG will be meeting on the 16th to chart the way forward.

The governance issue in our country is worrying. There is too much blackmail that often causes spinelessness among those charged with execution of policies. Of course, the practice of the public resources becoming private in a society where impunity reigns can be very depressing, though we know of some who are doing their best to "behave well." In this so-called grand coalition government I am not sure whose turn it really is to eat.

It is quite hot here even though our weather people keep on warning us of El Nino "next week." We are waiting for it with apprehension because that road to our school does become impassable during heavy rains. I also hope I will be able to provide a better home for the science equipment soon.

Thanks and be blest. Okunya.

Ed, Am delighted of the [independent reading] project and would be very glad to be included. As a matter of fact, in my school we are of the opinion that our students come to secondary school with very poor background in reading and writing from lower levels that affects them in their secondary school education.

Since this term, we have programmed for each class 40 minutes daily of what we call library hour, during which the students get copies of past editions of newspapers to read for pleasure. I am sure this will go a long way with us. We have also started a monthly essay writing competition where the best essays win small prizes with a plan they will eventually be put on our website.

Thanking you in advance. Okunya.

Hi Henry, Thanks for What's Hot. It is exciting to read from other schools and countries [on the TEAA website]. Gertrude [Gertrude Sekabira is head teacher at MacKay College in Kampala]

Dear Brooks, President of TEAA, "Shikamoo!!!!" Greetings from all of us at Moringe Sokoine Secondary School. Thank you for your recent e-mail regarding dates you plan to visit our schools in East Africa.

May is very wet and muddy. October is dry and the tickets are cheaper on your side. May could be high season for tourists therefore tickets will be expensive for you.

We have discussed with colleagues and agreed that let us have you and your group visit us in October 2010 and 2011. We don't still have specific dates yet but we will know the dates as we continue to keep in touch.

Our form four students have just finished their national exams. They have gone home to wait for their results. We are now busy setting local exams for the remaining students except forms two who are having their national examinations. We are hoping that the students will perform well.

Thank you for the science laboratory equipment and the library books and chairs TEAA has supported Moringe Sokoine Secondary School.

Once again Karibuni sana Moringe Sokoine any time!!! Sincerely, Ndesamburo Kwayu [principal of Moringe Sokoine Secondary School near Arusha]

REPORT ON RECREATIONAL READING PROJECT, compiled by Fred Tukahirwa, [Fred Tukahirwa is on the Board of Governors at New Kabale Busega High School, Kampala, and on the staff at the Aga Khan School.]

Project Description. The recreational reading project was initiated to enable the school to achieve its main objective of "passion to produce students who are educated for life and society, and qualified to meet career aspects." Recreational reading serves the principal purpose of enabling students to acquire the central academic and lifelong learning skill of reading. It is in the school system's thinking that reading, being the gateway to knowledge, should be nurtured to help all students enrolled in the school to acquire reading skills and other requisite literacy skills necessary for continuous learning.

Project Expectations. All classes participate in the reading project. Lower classes (Form 1 and 2) use a more focused approach than upper classes (Form 3–6). Lower classes tend to have more time, as they have fewer subjects and not comprehensive yet compared to upper classes who have several papers in each of their selected subject and have to prepare for the public examinations. The initial TEAA grant was used to purchase novels that include literature in English set books [for the national exams] at ordinary and advanced levels. Thanks to Ed's help the school was able to acquire the Reading for Florida series (and other titles) from Children International. The Reading for Florida series books are mainly used by Form 1 and 2. Each story has picture illustrations to aid understanding of the story, presents reading response activities to test readers' comprehension and prediction skills, writing prompts to enable readers to retell the story in their own words, and language activities that help readers identify and use new vocabulary and parts of speech (e.g., verbs, adjectives, etc.).

Monitoring. Whenever students borrow novels, they are asked to write a summary of the story they read, identify with and advise characters on their behaviour (reading response), and indicate the message/lesson learnt from the story. The aim being to encourage students to develop a love of reading, a log is kept to document the number of stories students read. At a qualitative level, the teacher of English reads and comments on the summaries students write on the stories they read. In future, awards will be given to students who write excellent summaries/reviews as well as those who read the most number of stories in a term/year.

Ten Most Read Books. At the time of initiating the reading project, students were excited to receive the books and not restricted to the type of books they chose to read. The list below indicates books that have been borrowed and read by students in the last 6 months: *Song of Lawino* and *Song of*

Okot -- 25, Pretty Boy Beware --18, My Life as a Criminal -- 15, Son of a Woman -- 13, Weep Not Child -- 9, The Boy Gift -- 8, The Burning Grass -- 7, The River Between --5, I Will Marry When I Want -- 4, House Boy -- 4. As indicated above, Form 1 and 2 students were encouraged to read the Reading for Florida series although a few with good reading skills read the novels.

Evaluation. Students' comments highlight the fact that reading stories enables them to learn new vocabulary through use of dictionaries to find word meaning and their appropriate use in sentences; this will aid development of language skills. The school administration is optimistic that the goal of developing reading skills will be achieved. Students will be encouraged to develop the love of reading through reading and it is hoped that they will later develop interest to choose to read literature at upper class levels, as it helps in developing analytical skills.

Challenges. Not all the teachers value reading as an important learning skill. They tend to be exam-oriented and view students' involvement in recreational reading as time wasting and an infringement on the precious time students should spend preparing for public exams. Obviously, teachers with no developed reading skills cannot encourage their students to become good readers. The titles available are not sufficient. A number of students have now developed the habit of reading, and limitation of a variety of titles may discourage them from reading more and more. The teacher of English does not have the time to read through students' write ups on the books they have read in order to provide timely feedback as it should be. It would be better if the students received immediate comments on their write ups, which would in turn encourage them to read more and improve their language skills. [Bill Jones feels that requiring students to write about what they read is counterproductive to the goal of reading for pleasure and is also burdensome to staff. -- Ed]

Assistance. I would be comfortable recommending participation in recreational reading to other schools, willing to speak or write to administrators and teachers about the benefits of recreational reading and to indicate simple ways to manage the project successfully. We started small but I am sure with time we shall make more meaningful and highly relevant impact to students' learning.

REMEMBER THE GIRLS, Henry Hamburger

As plans develop for a possible 50th anniversary TEAA trip to East Africa with visits to schools, please remember the girls. How? Go visit your old boys' school and then ask around for an up-and-coming nearby girls' school with a great principal. Why? In selecting schools to assist, TEAA has sought and generally achieved balance among the three East African countries once served by TEA and TEEA. But when it comes to balance between the sexes, the combination of historical inequities and the desire of our members to reconnect with schools where they once taught has created pressure toward boys' schools.

Abigail Adams famously counseled her husband John, then in the business of setting up the USA, to "remember the ladies and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors." But remembering the girls and assisting their schools is about more than generosity and fairness, important as those things are. This is also about bang for the buck and building better nations. Nobel peace laureate Muhammad Yunus observed in the context of micro-loans that "money going to women brought much more benefit to the family than money going to the men." Education of young women has a powerful beneficial effect on the workforce, education of the next generation and decision-making in government, business and the family. True in America, more urgent in Africa.

<http://www.thelizlibrary.org/suffrage/abigail.htm>

http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/m/muhammad_yunus.html

A SCHOOLBOY WHO WOULD BE PRESIDENT, Jim Blair

In January of 1964 a very tall, very black boy walked up our lane at Magamba Secondary School. He was obviously not a member of any of the local tribes. He told us that he was from Sudan, that he was a Dinka and that he was looking for a place to go to school. He told an incredible story of his parents being murdered in Southern Sudan and how he escaped by mostly walking for eight months through Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania. He said he was sixteen years old.

Our Headmaster advised him that a boy had died in Form 3 so we did have one opening. John said that would work fine for him. We also advised him that he would have to pass the Cambridge Exams in Swahili. He said that would not be a problem because he already spoke English, Arabic, French, Dinka

and Neur. He was an excellent student and a strong athlete, a real contribution to our track team since he could run faster, throw farther and jump higher than anyone else on the team.

I became very close to this Sudanese boy and paid him one shilling per page to write out his life story up to the age of 16. He wrote me 25 pages which I still have. It is one of my most prized possessions. I took a group of boys on a train trip to a small game park one weekend. While on the trip, the Sudanese boy told me that he was going to return to the Southern Sudan one day and that he would lead his people to freedom. I advised him that this was a very ambitious goal but that he should never tell anyone about his goal. It should be secret. The boy, John Garang, agreed.

In August of 1964 I left East Africa to attend law school at the University of Colorado. Before I left I gave John my parents' address in Colorado. Shortly before Christmas of 1965 I got a letter from John. He advised me that he had passed all of his Cambridge Exams scoring higher than anyone in his class on all subjects, including Swahili. He was attending Grinnell College in Iowa on scholarship. He traveled to Colorado and spent ten days with us.

It was a wonderful visit but the last time I saw John. I went on to graduate from law school and went to Alaska where I practiced law, became the president of the Alaska Bar Association and a Superior Court Judge. Shirley and I had five children. One day in the late seventies I was reading a *Newsweek* magazine and came across an article about the revolution in the Southern Sudan. The leader of the rebels was John Garang. He had done exactly what he said he would do. I followed John's struggles from that time on. I retired in 1995 at the age of 55 while John was nearly twenty years into his revolution and two million people were dead in Southern Sudan.

Oil was discovered in great quantities in the Southern Sudan and the North suddenly needed the South. The Sudanese Compromise was worked out; possible separation was put on a timetable to take place subject to popular vote. Then the world's attention shifted to Darfur. John became a vice-president of Sudan and seemed to be a voice in the wilderness in the Sudanese government. He was killed in a helicopter crash in 2007. The vote on partition is growing near. I have my doubts as to whether it will happen.

So my strongest memory of East Africa is not of a Kenyan or a Ugandan or a Tanganyikan. But just a child who hungered for an education. As are they all. And we can still help some of them.

LETTERS HOME, A MEMOIR, Mary Jo McMillin

I spent two years with TEA in the early 60s. With my then husband, Robert Wendel, I lived and worked at Songea Secondary School in southwestern Tanzania between '63 and '65. Bob was hired into the program and I came to the school staff on local terms a few months later. I have always been one to post detailed accounts of experiences and my mother saved hundreds of my letters during our tour. A few years ago these letters came into my hands again and I knew I had a story to tell.

It took me two years (after I completed the cookbook about my restaurant) to shape the letters into a 60,000 word memoir. I weeded out all the family trivia, focused on the day to day and energized the description by using the present tense. I now have a lively manuscript and would love to find a publisher which in these hard times is exceedingly difficult. This story could also be helpful to your organization and to the understanding of East Africa in general. It is a realistic, positive portrait and it isn't sugar coated. I begin with the Columbia training, follow our travel to Dar, setting up house in Songea and life in the community. We travel at each school break and visit game parks, Kenya's independence, Zanzibar, attempt a Kilimanjaro climb and drive to Capetown.

I am pasting below the Introduction to the book and I'd be most grateful for any suggestions your organization might have. I have the cookbook, *Mary Jo's Cuisine* (Orange Frazer 2007), plus several years of newspaper food writing and two years of writing for NPR as literary credit. Currently I am in the Chicago area. Best wishes, Mary Jo McMillin

Introduction

When my mother cleared out the house to move, she mailed me three folders of my old letters. I counted two hundred faded, all but forgotten aerogrammes filled on both sides, single-spaced, typed on the handbag-sized Olivetti I had carried to East Africa in 1963. As I read through my adventures, I knew I had a story to tell, a slice of history to revive.

Back then in 1997 I faced the stove full time as chef and owner of a small restaurant. I scarcely had time to write menus, but I kept the idea of a memoir on the back burner for ten years. After I sold my business and spent two years writing a cookbook, it was time to go back to the aerogrammes before their faint print vanished.

Before I wrote these letters home, Bob and I were married in our western Colorado hometown in 1962. He'd been teaching history in southern California for two years, and I still had some college courses to finish for my B.A. We spent our first year together in Torrance, California, where I took classes at Long Beach State while he continued at the local high school. We dreamed of traveling abroad and, like thousands, were spellbound by JFK's challenge to "ask not what your country can do for you -- ask what you can do for your country." Fired up with missionary zeal and wanderlust, we applied to teach in a program sponsored by the Agency for International Development.

In May 1963 a telegram arrived announcing our acceptance into Teachers for East Africa. Columbia University Teachers College, in conjunction with the U.S. government and East African countries, trained and placed teachers in Ugandan, Kenyan and Tanganyikan secondary schools. We spent six weeks at Columbia in New York City studying customs, language and history in preparation for our assignment.

At twenty-two, I envisioned the continent of Africa mysteriously locked between the majesty of Tutankhamen's Egypt and the darkness of Vachel Lindsay's then-popular poem, "The Congo." The emerging nations of Uganda, Tanganyika and Kenya were names that sent me to the encyclopedia. I didn't know Nairobi from Timbuktu. Suddenly I was on an adventure halfway around the world; I would be an outsider and for the first time a minority. I would be away for a long time, with no instant communication and sporadic mail. I was aware of the Serengeti, Hemingway's wild-game hunts and the legendary "Dr. Livingstone, I presume." Nonetheless, I had no concept of what it would be to live in the hinterland five hundred miles southwest of Dar es Salaam.

Wedged between Kenya and Mozambique, Tanganyika -- now The United Republic of Tanzania -- is perhaps the least known of the former British East African countries. Tanzania is one of the most poverty-stricken countries in Africa. The world's second largest body of fresh water, Lake Victoria, straddles Tanzania's northwest border. Northern highlands claim Africa's highest peak, Mount Kilimanjaro, and lower mountains in the south fringe Mozambique. Scrubby hills, arid plains and grassy savannas fill the expansive center, while tropical vegetation clings to the coast. Subsistence agriculture has controlled the economy for generations, with scattered larger scale farming of sisal, pyrethrum, copra and coffee.

Tanganyika's political leader in the Sixties, Julius Nyerere, was a progressive intellectual who feared he failed. He rallied his young nation in the spirit of family-hood. He believed hardworking families led to strong communities and strong communities would make up a united, independent country. As years passed, fuel crises, drought, famine, and international struggles left Nyerere's dream in the dust.

Between 1963 and 1965, however, Tanzania's cooperative movement flourished, with divisiveness needling its core. The infrastructure of this former German colony and then British territory relied on European-style administration, yet the struggling young nation couldn't help looking to rising communist powers untainted with colonialism. As the government teetered between East and West, most people in the bush lived an almost primeval life.

This book is no Isak Dinesen *Out of Africa* romance. The highs and lows of life in a foreign country, no matter how fascinating, turn into humdrum routines. We experienced a muddled political scene, not unlike what we see in Africa nowadays. In the early Sixties before the civil rights movement in America, the word Negro was commonly used. It was not a term of derision; it was simply before "Black" or "African-American" came into vogue. Likewise, "Moslem" was the common usage descriptor for a follower of Islam in the decades before Islamic groups favored "Muslim." Bob and I were posted at a government boarding school for boys, and the use of the word boy refers to our students, our household helper and neighboring children, purely and simply as young males, never in a condescending manner. Similarly, we toured South Africa during apartheid. We weren't there to stand in judgment; we traveled as naïve observers. I let the people talk and listened to what they said.

The foods I encountered, as well as the basic meals I needed to produce, challenged my passion for cooking. Ventures into the culinary life of the Indian diaspora saved me from boredom and loneliness. Cooking in Africa kept me busy and set me on the path that became my vocation.

Now, close to five decades from the day I set foot in Africa, I wonder about former students. I

remember Michael, Massudi and Zuberi. Did they become national leaders? I wonder if Joseph and Lucus are still alive. I think of our headmaster, Paul, and hope he has had a good life. I see on the Internet that the Peramiho Mission thrives. Does our yellow house still stand on the Songea Secondary School compound?

When I came to the end of my letters, I realized there was information I did not have. There were missing pages, gaps I couldn't fill from memory. Who became Miss Songea at Saba Saba? Where did Pillay go? Where did we buy feed for the hens? Who became the next postmaster? What about parts of our village we never saw? What about the future plans for Mlale? -- and the list goes on. Like life itself, there's always more than one person's vision can take in. This book presents a view from a single window. I use the present tense to create an illusion that lets the reader observe the action as it unfolds. I've strung together passages from my letters, and I've omitted family chatter.

As diehard teammates Bob and I completed our African adventure. We returned to the U.S. in the summer of 1965 and both went on for graduate degrees at our alma mater, the University of Northern Colorado. We had two children, a son and a daughter. After twenty-four years, we separated. Bob was chair of his university's Department of Teacher Education. I stepped into chef's clogs.

When I was a graduate assistant in Greeley, Colorado, one afternoon as I sat at a study table in the Carter Hall Library, my English professor, George Gates, stopped to chat. He recalled the occasional letters I'd mailed him from Africa. He narrowed his gaze, peering through pale pink plastic framed glasses and grasped the bowl of his corn cob pipe. He challenged me, "You must write, Mary Jo." I hesitated, like Jonah. "What shall I write?" In his Missouri drawl he replied, "You will write about Ton•gahn•yee•ka."

[In 2008 Mary Jo moved with her husband James Reiss to Wilmette, Illinois, to be near her children and grandchildren. She often recalls her life-changing TEA experience and still grinds her curry masala in a lava stone mortar purchased in Dar es Salaam.]

BOOKS, Brooks Goddard

I have just completed reading *The Teeth May Smile but the Heart Does Not Forget: Murder and Memory in Uganda* by Andrew Rice. It is ostensibly the story of Eliphaz Laki's 1972 murder at the hands of two henchman working the will of Yusuf Gowon, an officer in the army of Idi Amin. It is son Duncan Laki who initiates the solving of this crime. The crime is solved; the killers go free. Always in the background is Yoweri Museveni, idealistic rebel turned dictator. The book covers a lot of history starting with the surviving soldiers of Emin Pasha in southern Sudan and concluding with the state of current Uganda politics of indecision. Combined with *It's Our Turn to Eat*, readers get a good view of the current circumstances in Kenya and Uganda, and it's no wonder that many people are mad as hell. Knowing all the good people that TEAA works with in East Africa, I am dismayed at the political framework within which these people must work. Fortunately, our good works run below the radar of the unjust leadership of Mwai Kabaki and Yoweri Museveni.

On a different note, Gaile Parkin's *Baking Cakes in Kigali* is a delight. Very much in the tradition of *No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency*, this novel depicts the exemplary works of Angel Tunganaza, a Tanzanian working in Rwanda. Angel is the cake baker (no, that is not a pun), and each cake order is an opportunity to look at various social dilemmas. The book does start to run to predictability, but Angel, like Precious Ramotswe, has a knack of learning life's truths and putting them in appropriate social context.

Given the drift of these reviews it is easy to assume that Tanzania has produced the heroes of East Africa and Kenya and Tanzania the villains.

On the recommendation of the Schiebers I bought *The Education of a British-Protected Child*, by Chinua Achebe and have read it and can recommend that you do the same, especially the first and last chapters.

FILM, Ed Schmidt

Invictus, Clint Eastwood's film which stars Morgan Freeman as Nelson Mandela. The film covers the period immediately following Mandela's election as president and his efforts to be a president to all South Africans, including the white Afrikaners who so despise and distrust him. In particular, Mandela pursues an alliance with the white South African rugby team captain as the Rugby World Cup comes to

South Africa. The relationship between the two men develops amid the dismay and resistance of many blacks and whites alike. Reviews of the film have been mixed.

OBITUARIES

Diana (Graham) Nyangira, of Wheaton, Illinois. Bwiru Girls' SS, Mwanza T (4)

Linda Ann Kunz, on December 21, 2009, in New York. Murray HS, Wusi (near Voi) K (1C). From Roz Blanck: Linda had had a challenging last few years having been hit by a bicycle and then suffering with a genetic kidney disease.

The news came from an longtime colleague in the New York ESL world who wrote: She carried on up to the end -- dialysis 3 times a week -- with exuberance and energy and her smile and whistle. We all go back a long way and I certainly have strong memories of that larger than life person. I assume there'll be some sort of memorial service/celebration.

Linda was looking forward to her 70th birthday in February. Alas. She died too young.

A friend, Victoria Badalamenti, wrote: I will be working with a friend of Linda's, Janise Cline, to plan a memorial for her in the next few months, so you should be hearing from us soon. Her family (sister-in-law, niece and nephew) will not be holding a funeral at present, but will be participating in the memorial.

Condolences may be sent to her niece: Tracey Femminella, 208 Cambon Avenue, St. James, NY 11780

MEMORIES OF LINDA KUNZ

Thanks for sending me the news of Linda's death. I am saddened but not shocked, as she had some bad signs in Atlanta: her hand and arm were badly swollen, which she said had occurred to her father just before his death. I enjoyed being her roommate in Africa, Seattle and Atlanta, and I'm glad we drove around with the top down in Atlanta and went to expensive restaurants in NY, went to the top of the needle in Seattle and skipped a lecture to dine at Imperial Hotel in Kampala (yes, Brooks, we did) and ride the matatus.

She had used a lot of her nest egg to take care of her mother in a Florida nursing home and worried that her mother might outlive her, but mother died earlier this year. Linda had planned a bequest to TEAA.

She was a lively, upbeat person who kept on teaching and writing textbooks to the last, in spite of the 3x/week dialysis.

I will miss her. Emilee Cantieri

It is with deep sadness I write to inform you that my dear friend Linda Kunz passed away on Monday, Dec. 21, 2009. Linda is best known for her important work on Xword grammar based on the Sector Analysis of Dr. Robert Allen of Columbia University. Her scholarship, her many books and presentations on this subject are known nationally. Just recently, Linda was so glad to learn that a whole new generation of young academics had formed an Xword grammar Wiki--and she became a lively participant. In fact, many of these persons were about to meet Linda in person for the first time on Monday as she had invited them to join her in her home for an Xword Xmas get-together.

Right up until her last moments, Linda lived large, doing what she always loved. She was a great teacher and one of the most alive, interesting, diverse persons anyone could ever hope to meet. It was a privilege to know her. She will be sorely missed by her many dear friends, including me. A Celebration of her Life will take place in the months to come. If you would like to be notified when it is scheduled, please let me know. Sincerely, Janice Cline

Dear Janice, Yes, do keep me on your list for information regarding Linda's memorial service. I can be the conduit for Teachers for East Africa Alumni/TEAA which is the group of folks she taught in East Africa/Kenya with in the 60s. She was a vibrant spirit for all of us, and I was connected to her via a special safari we took together with other TEAAers in 2003. Following that safari we had lunch at the Muthaiga

Club in Nairobi, and because it had been a bastion of settler sentiment and life in colonial times, Linda would not set foot inside and had a sandwich sitting in the car in the parking lot. Nothing swayed her convictions.

I know that many of us in TEAA will want to attend the celebration of her life. It was a life to celebrate. Most sincerely, Brooks Goddard for Teachers for East Africa Alumni/TEAA

Thank you, Brooks, and thank you for that story which, actually, Linda, too, told me. I met Linda in 1969 when I moved to NY from Wisconsin, and taught with her at Chase Manhattan Bank. Her stories of Kenya made that country my dream destination and in 2007, when I had a sabbatical from CUNY where I teach English & Cultural Diversity, I finally had my dream come true. Linda hooked me up with Mike Rainy and for 15 glorious days, I met some of the same things you met there. Heaven.

Linda has been my best friend for many, many years and, as you know, she will be sorely missed. I've heard much about all of you. It was one of the wonderful things in Linda's life. I'll definitely keep you posted on the plans which, right now, could be as early as Jan. 17 [the day before her birthday] but will more likely materialize in the months to come.

Be well and enjoy the holidays that we all know Linda would like us to enjoy to the fullest. Sincerely, Janice [pronounced Ja Neese] Cline

WE'VE HEARD FROM YOU

Jim Brolin. Hi Ed: Talked with Don Knies via telephone yesterday. It was great to talk with him again. After the Zanzibar revolution, he helped me find a job in Kampala, even lent me his Landrover to do a couple safaris. I really appreciate your help in getting us together after all these years.

Stefan Mason. Ed and everyone:

I taught 1962-64 at the KNCU Secondary School in Lyamungu, upmountain from Moshi on Kilimanjaro. I revisited for the first time since my return to the United States April 22-24 this year, stayed at the Kinderoko Hotel in Moshi (read about Harry Hamburger liking it in a TEAA newsletter) and got a tour of my old school by the current headmaster. It's now called simply Lyamungu Secondary School. Very rundown. Now has 900 male students from various tribes in Tanzania. We opened the school in 1962 with maybe about 90 male students from the Wachagga tribe, which grows coffee on the mountain and built the school from coffee profits. The big swimming pool built then is still not being used. Evidently there is student tribal strife at the school, which didn't exist when I was there. In addition to Forms 1-4, they have added 5 and 6 (equivalent to our 2 year junior colleges?).

Kibo peak on the western slope of Kilimanjaro has lost most of its snow, very sad. I summited in December '62, the first seriously spiritual experience in my life.

I feel some "completion" now of my TEA teaching tour and African living experience and am thrilled TEAA is alive and thriving with all your good efforts. I practiced employment law in Los Angeles since graduating UCLA law school in '67 until 2000, became a mediator in '93 (full time since 2000 until recently) and taught mediation at the Pepperdine University Strauss Institute of Alternative Dispute Resolution at its law school in Malibu for a year recently.

My partner, Alexandra Cole, has a son working with "Save the Children" in Uganda, Tom Cole, headquartered till recently in Kampala, and his wife, Linda, who leads an NGO, Community Action Fund for Women in Africa (www.cafwaafrica.org), in Gulu, northern Uganda, working with women abducted by the LRA. We visited them on our trip last April and May. Some TEAA members may know them or of their work.

So we feel very connected to East Africa. Just moved to Santa Barbara permanently last week. Please call if you are visiting here! [New address is in Directory Update]

A healthy, peaceful 2010. Be well, Stefan (known as "Steve" until 1996, and "Labda" by my TEAA friends). :-)

Emilee Hines Cantieri. Mapping the Old Dominion, for which I wrote the history [as Emilee Hines], was published in Oct. by Globe Pequot. That company will publish Mysteries and Legends of Virginia in August 2010, and I have a contract to write "Speaking Ill of the Dead: Jerks in Washington, DC History."

It will be on the 2010 fall list, if I meet my writing deadline.

Harry Stein. Ed: I appreciate the news updates. When TEA plans a NYC event count on me to contribute some time. I could not get to Atlanta. I now teach in colleges following work in public education. This work takes me back to Kenya every two years to transfer what I know to both schools of education and history faculties. I am helping two professors develop research projects in academic literacy and its links to individual subject areas. I can not get over on 2010 and will go in 2011. This will be my 5th. trip since leaving full-time work in October, 02. Bill Jones' project will be well received in the high schools. I also teach a course in African economic history and when combined with the work with schools of education I keep my finger on general events. When over there I am offered positions for a term or two but marriage, kids, and the normal life take precedence. So, I go back for month or so every other year. Best wishes for the new year. Harry Stein

Ann Dickinson. Hello TEAAers, For a fast, exciting read try Jeffrey Tayler's *Facing the Congo*, which is in the adventure travel realm (I anticipate harsh critiques).

Early in 2009, Paul and I just spent 2 weeks on a medical team in Honduras and wonder if any of you have been there. We were surprised that their infrastructure didn't seem as advanced as East Africa's, especially in some rural villages where we set up clinics. Even in Yocon, our home base, we had several days without any water, which can be problematic when running a clinic and a pharmacy (all supplies and medicines brought with us). When we left the area, we had to take treatment for worms, lice and scabies. Yuk! I only had time to visit one school, the Jungle School started by an American. Their website links to a You Tube video made by a Jungle School volunteer:
<http://www.helpinghonduraskids.org/>

Harry "Pat" Patterson. Henry, Thank you for the information you provided.

I just want to tell you that I admire the TEAA school projects. However I don't feel that I can contribute support. I have lived in Thailand for 34 years. I have my own school project here. I help out a Thai govt. elem. school on the edge of Bangkok that serves a community of poor migrant labor families from rural provinces. I buy equipment and books for the school, and support nine students with scholarships (financial aid). I also spend a few afternoons a week at the school, helping with English and math. I have helped this school for three years now, about \$3,000 per year. I also solicit donations from friends and family. I share your commitment to improving education for children, but I have my own little corner of the world to care about.

You understand well what living in a foreign country is like. You feel at home, but it is never quite "home." I have not lived the "foreign enclave" type life here, and have learned to speak Thai pretty well, but continually deal with situations that are surprising and confusing. But Thais, like East Africans, are genuinely warm and friendly people, but never on time.

I have felt blessed and very happy with my life here. The school project is a way to give a little back. Best wishes for continuing success, Harry "Pat" (TEA 1B, Tabora Boys School, Math)

George Pollock describes attending a Christmas party for foster children and reflects on his own childhood in foster care on his blog entry for December 10 at <http://patientsprogress.blogspot.com/>

Jim Gilson reports continued growth in enrollment at Quality Schools International, <<http://www.qsi.org/>>, which now has 35 schools in 25 countries. See the website for job openings and recruiting events.

Henry Hamburger. Having failed to palm off my copy of the ACCES newsletter I gave it a once-over and was interested to see that their Board of Directors had conducted a day-long planning session with two facilitators. They reached three major conclusions, of which #3 was vague and #2 concerned raising money. It was #1 that caught my eye: they are going to back off on building schools and, as they put it, "stick to [their] knitting," that is, education, by which they mean supplying school fees and other school necessities to individual students.

Peter Mook mistakenly copied me on an email mentioning his son Alastair's new album of children's

songs, "on the language of cows and other animals." You can hear clips from the songs and order the album at <<http://www.moockmusic.com/>>.

Lloyd Sherman sent an email asking that we pass along a notice of the 8th Annual Mount Sinai Global Health Conference on Indigenous Health to be held February 26-27 in New York. For more information see the website, <<http://mssm-ghc.org/node/430>>.

Jonne Robinson sent in an article on science fairs for secondary school students in West Africa. The article can be found at: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/2009/aug/19/africa-technology-maker-faire-conference>

Clive Lovelock. An appeal reached me only 2 days before the start of the G20 summit in Pittsburgh (24th Sept. '09), which was supposed to be the target of a campaign to get the delegates to turn their attention to Africa. So it was too late to pass the info on to TEAA people for that purpose. Some of you may already be aware of this organization called ONE, which has news of certain African countries that are beginning to take positive steps to help themselves economically, and which therefore believes that now is a good time to focus the attention of wealthier nations more towards helping them at government level. Despite the missed opportunity of eliciting supporting signatures from among our membership, I thought I'd draw this possible positive trend to everyone's attention by asking Ed to put it in the newsletter. Frankly, in the past, I've been of the opinion that most government level aid for Africa is a waste of money, as most of it goes into the wrong pockets. TEAA has a more sensible approach. But maybe some African countries are really beginning to pull themselves up by their bootstraps at last?

This URL provides some info about those countries and about ONE:
<<http://www.one.org/international/about/>>

Mike Rainy. Henry, You are too kind, but Judy and I are pleased that you have made this amazing 2009 drought year over too many Horn of Africa countries available to our much loved and respected TEA/TEEA colleagues.

I think nearly everyone on the planet except for a few CEOs and Damned bankers has a lot to be thankful for just for getting through it. We think your continued efforts to support secondary school education is by far the best bang for the buck you all could ever have. Thanks, thanks, thanks. Merry Christmas from Mike and Judy in our little patch in the "unmilkable" hills of Kenya.

[From time to time Mike has sent notes concerning attacks on the Samburu people by members of neighboring tribes, and the failure of the government to protect the Samburu people. To learn more, google "Samburu Losesia." --Ed]

Kate Parry. Dear All, Like you, I have not wanted to concentrate on a single school or a single village [Kitengesa in Uganda], even though the village in question is my home (or at least one of my homes). So two or three years ago I got together with Ugandan colleagues to establish the Uganda Community Libraries Association (www.ugcla.org). We were launched in July 2007 with thirteen library members, and now, I'm proud to say, we have no fewer than 42. They represent a wide range, both geographically and in the kind of work they do, but many are associated with secondary schools.

So, as I said in a recent e-mail to Henry, we might like to start talking about ways in which some of our libraries, and librarians, could work with TEAA to support more extensive reading at the secondary level. We already have partners wanting to work with us for children and family literacy projects, but secondary school students and teachers are a different and important target; and at Kitengesa we've developed considerable experience in catering to their needs.

I'm going back to Uganda in the new year and will be spending the whole of the spring and summer there, so now could be the time to get something started. All the best, Kate

YOUR STORIES

W. (Willie) Eva Murray-Scelzo. Dear Ed, Roz [Blanck] is the only person with whom I have remained in contact over the years and with Janice Coughlan through Roz.

After TEA I continued to travel, teach and edit for 13 years or so as this profession appeared to be my "calling." I have also been in touch with a Kenya Operation Crossroads Africa group which began my introduction to East Africa. I would be delighted to share other bio info similar to that of other TEAAers.

I was assigned to Gayaza High School following Makerere 64-66 and lost track with lots of people also. Many Ugandans did not want to be sought out or identified after those years so I have been a little circumspect and private myself following a recent burglary and other apartment building incidents.

Occasionally I have "longings" for the continent but reentry is most difficult as you can imagine. The AIDS epidemic has hit quite hard and I, myself, fell victim to malaria. There are days when I wonder if it recurs when I experience blinding headaches. But, I'm still here :-)

Cheri Pinner nee Tyson.

I went to Kenya in 1963 and was posted to Kericho Secondary School for Boys. At that time John (Pinner) was the Deputy. We were engaged in February 1964 and married in August the same year. Many TEAers attended that wedding, two acting as bridesmaids for me. John then became Headmaster. Our daughter, Holly, was born in 1966 at Kisumu and our first son, Adam, at Kisii in 1968.

We left Kenya in 1969 and John studied theology at Westcott House in Cambridge for the next two years. I did odd jobs when motherhood allowed including selling pots and pans door to door and lingerie at "tupperware style" parties. I don't remember earning a penny.

We were then posted to Great St. Mary's, Dover while John did his curacy. I did a bit of teaching at upper primary level until our third child was expected and tried my hand at various crafts – pottery and brass rubbing among them. Philip was born in January 1973.

Later that year we moved to Felsted in Essex. I did some relief teaching until 1976 when I was appointed Religious Education Adviser for the Diocese of Chelmsford – a big challenge and a job that I loved. It was also an influential job upon my own spirituality and theological understanding.

In 1981 we came to New Zealand to a job for John as chaplain and teacher at Rathkeale College. I did some teaching at primary, secondary and tertiary levels. I set up a section for the college for teaching English to students from overseas. Another job I very much enjoyed. In 1994 I retired from that to become a famous quilt maker. The next year very inexpensive quilts from China flooded the market. I also began to write poetry, fiction and nonfiction. But in 1996 I was appointed to Yew Chung International School in Beijing and taught there for four years.

Back in New Zealand I wrote full time and have some books for children published along with some short stories. I also allowed my spiritual side free reign and became a licensed lay minister. In 2007 I was ordained Deacon in the Anglican church and was made priest in 2008. For these past six years I have been very involved in church life.

Now at 73 I've been invited to become priest in charge of a parish in Chester Diocese in the UK where two of our three children live. This is yet another "last stage" of life. Hopefully that work will begin early in 2010 and will occupy John and me for two years.

Jim Blair. [I found Jim Blair on the evening of December 23. My call generated a flurry of emails from Jim, some of which are copied below. -- Ed]

Dec. 24, 9:17 a.m. to Stefan Mason. Ed Schmidt called last night from TEAA. Seems he has been looking for me for years. I guess I have been missing for 45 years and didn't even know it. I have fond memories of climbing Kilimanjaro wearing your boots while my wife and babies stayed with you and Billie (Belle). And your visit to our place in Lushoto. Lots of bridge I recall. So I guess we both ended up lawyers. I graduated from U. of Colorado in 1967, proceeded immediately to Alaska and eventually became the president of the Alaska Bar Association and a Superior Court Judge. Shirley and I will celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary in August. 5 kids, 11 grandchildren. Let me hear from you. Cheers, Jim

11:30 a.m. to Ed Schmidt. Thanks so much for all of the information. I have worked my way through newsletters 21,20,19, 6,7, and 8 [on the website] and will finish the rest of them today. Lots of great memories. What remarkable lives we ex-TEA folks have led. On one of our trips, my wife and I stayed overnight with Fawn Cousens at her farm outside Nyere. I went out with her husband to hunt for a lion that had been killing livestock. Lots of heavy brush and me without a gun. I was just like the cowboy

who checks his boots every morning for scorpions --looking for something I didn't really want to find. Fortunately, we did not find the lion (or maybe it was a leopard, who knows?). I definitely want to send you a check to support the newsletter. Also, a contribution to the program treasury. Will one check do or would two be better? Tell me who to make them (it) out to and the letter will go out today. Merry Christmas. Jim

4:15 p.m. In the spring of 1962 I was nearing graduation from The Colorado College with a degree in history, minors in English and Geology and a teaching certificate. I was 23, married and had a one year old son. I had attended college on an athletic scholarship (football & track). I had been an indifferent student, working just hard enough to stay eligible for football. A flyer from TEA showed up on a bulletin board and I immediately applied. My wife, Shirley, and I were invited to take a battery of psychological tests. Then, we waited. To my very great surprise, I was accepted into the program in group 2C.

We were assigned to Moshi but were transferred to Lindi. Shirley was pregnant and the only physician at the Lindi hospital recommended that we transfer because he said the hospital was inadequate. I wrote letters to TEA and efforts were made to effectuate a transfer but the Ministry of Education ignored all letters. The week of independence, we drove to Dar es Salaam and I spent four days in a row bothering the Minister of Education. I thought I was unsuccessful but two weeks after our return to Lindi, I got a letter from the Headmaster at Magamba Secondary School near Lushoto advising that I had been transferred there. I never got a formal notice of transfer from the Ministry. In talking with my new headmaster we determined what had happened. He had been bothering the Minister of Education about needing another teacher the same time I was there. On the final day he was there he came in to the Minister's office the same time I was leaving. The Minister just handed him my request for transfer and told him that I was his new teacher.

At Magamba I taught history and geography to all four forms. The school was brand new with the formal opening taking place one week after my arrival. I was the librarian with nothing but a big room with a few books lying on the floor. I was designated as the sports master and set out building a basketball court, setting out a soccer pitch and a track with jumping pits.

After six months at Magamba, Shirley had twin boys at a mission hospital at Mombo, 40 miles of dirt and mud road from Magamba. The delivery doctor was a stern German lady who figured my wife didn't need any sort of anesthetic. The smallest twin weighed 4 pounds. In lieu of an incubator, he was placed in a cardboard box with a small lightbulb. It worked fine.

We had many wonderful experiences in East Africa. I climbed Kilimanjaro, we went on safari to Kenya for independence and on to Kampala, we went to Ngorongoro Crater and across the Serengeti Plains. Once we saw eleven lions in the same tree at Lake Manyara. I went to Zanzibar and even visited my Columbia roommate, Jim Brolin, at Chake Chake, Pemba, Zanzibar. As with every other TEAA person, I look back on my two years in East Africa with great fondness. I responded to a TEA flyer once many years ago by stating that I got much more than I gave from the experience but I sincerely hope that what I gave did some good. I think it did.

10:04 p.m. to Stefan Mason. Ed Schmidt's call has brought back lots of great memories. My trip up Kilimanjaro happened by accident. I was probably the most unprepared climber ever to reach the top. I had traveled to Dar to participate in the Tanganyikan National Track meet. After the meet, I retired to one of the TEA bars and ran into a group of TEA guys who were headed for Kilimanjaro. There were six of them.

I needed a ride back to Lushoto so suggested that they take me home and spend the night and then travel on to Moshi the next day. They did but suggested that I join them on their trip. So Shirley and I loaded our 1-1/2 year old son, 5 month old twins into our Peugeot and headed for Moshi figuring we could stay with Jack Schober. When we got there, he was traveling but we somehow hooked up with you and Billie [Belle]. You had just come down from the mountain a few days earlier. You helped me put together climbing gear from guys you had climbed with, pack, sleeping bag, coat, water bottles, gloves, etc. You were the only guy with big enough feet to fit my size 12s so I used your boots. We did all of this the afternoon I arrived and I headed up the mountain the next morning and left the wife and kids with you. I don't doubt that you have no recollection of what must have been a horrible week for you.

One of our group had climbed Kibo before so he was our guide and leader. We had no guides or porters. Carried everything ourselves. It was a great trip. All seven of us (Jerry Schieber, Miles Paul, Gary James, Bill Sensiba and from Uganda, Group A, John Birely and Dave Maudsley) got to

Gillman's Point and four of us got all the way around to Uhuru Point, formerly Kaiser Wilhelm Spitz. So I owe it all to you that I have this great memory. After returning we stayed with you a couple more days while I recovered and wrote up a long journal entry describing the whole trip. I still have it. I am sure I thanked you many times for your help (and the Tusker beer you provided afterwards) but in case I didn't, Thanks Again. Great to make contact again after all these years. Cheers, Jim

THE SEARCH, Ed Schmidt

Wow, six people are listed for the first time in the directory update that follows. Jim Brolin found us through Facebook and has been in contact with Don Knies after Don asked about him following the Atlanta reunion. Mary Jo McMillin (formerly Wendel) found us through the website and asked about Jim Blair, whom I found after Mary Jo supplied the information that Jim's wife was Shirley and they had lived in Alaska. Tom Corcoran ask me about Sam Fine, and I found him on the first call in New York. Roz Blanck knew W. (Willie) Eva Murray-Scelzo and invited her to contact me.

Linda Lenhardt Donaldson was motivated after the Atlanta reunion to look for her long-lost friend, Cheri (Tyson) Pinner. In an email, Linda wrote, "On another high note, I have finally located Cheri Tyson Pinner! After talking with you and others at the conference, I realized I had had the wrong last name for Cheri and again searched via google for Tysons in West Virginia and this time found an obit for a woman whose survivors included a step daughter, Cheri Pinner, who lived in New Zealand. So, from that point on it was (fairly) easy! I googled Cheri in NZ and among results found an Anglican church newsletter with her name. She was listed as a priest's assistant and her husband John had contributed an essay. As great luck would have it she was one of only two, or a few, people whose email addresses at the newsletter were listed. And as they say, the rest is ... for our TEAA history!" And in a followup email, "So exciting to get back in contact. I'm glad she will reconnect with TEA through you and TEAA. By this time in our lives, most of us are ready to do so, I think."