

TEAA (Teachers for East Africa Alumni) Newsletter No. 24, February 2011. Published and edited by: Ed Schmidt, 7307 Lindbergh Dr., St. Louis, MO 63117, 314-647-1608, <eschmidt1@sbcglobal.net>. Send items for the newsletter to the above address. PLEASE KEEP THE EDITOR INFORMED OF ANY CHANGES IN YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION. It is easier for you to tell me than for me to re-find you!

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

Henry is also our treasurer. Checks made out to TEAA should be sent to: Henry Hamburger, 6400 Wynkoop Blvd., Bethesda, MD, 20817-5934, USA.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, by Brooks Goddard

Greetings to you all,

We now have details for both NYC11 and EA11. NYC11 will commence Thursday afternoon, June 16, and conclude Sunday noon. EA11 begins in Kampala, Uganda, on June 21 and will conclude in Arusha, Tanzania, on July 5. These details are now on the website at <www.tea-a.org>. We really want to see you at one of the events. As the replaying of JFK's inaugural address reminds us, it has been 50 years since our view of international circumstances changed. Teachers for East Africa and Teachers College, Columbia University had already anticipated that change, and our meeting in New York City will validate that commitment. Our hats off to Wave I which has always been vital to TEAA. Let's relive some of that excitement in the wonderful program which Bill Jones and his committee have planned for us.

Jim Weikart has made it very easy to participate: just follow the registration directions. Housing in New York is always difficult, but again the committee has been working with Teachers College, and housing suggestions are referenced below. Please act quickly, and, of course, you can make your own accommodation plans. Please note that our activities will all be at TC and other sites uptown.

NYC11 will be a grand occasion; please make every effort to be there.
Salaamu, Brooks Goddard, <goddard@rcn.com>, 781-444-5988

TEAA 2011 REUNIONS IN NEW YORK AND EAST AFRICA, Bill Jones, Jim Weikart, Mary Hines, Lloyd Sherman, and Harry Stein; Brooks Goddard [All of the following information is also on the TEAA website.]

THEN & NOW TEAA REUNION

50 YEARS – 1961 FIRST TEA GROUP TO 2011 TEAA REUNION

JUNE 16TH TO JUNE 19TH
TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

PROGRAM INFORMATION

JUNE 16TH

- 1:00 – **Arrival & Registration** : Teachers College Main Building, 120th St.
- 3:00 – **Opening Session : Brooks Goddard, Presiding, “Where we were then; where we are now.”** Main session room.
- 7:00 – 10:00 **Dinner & reception** – Alumni & guests, African music. Teachers College, Russell Court.

JUNE 17TH

- 7:30 – 9:00 – **Breakfast.** Teachers College
- 9:30 – **Seminar: “Current Teacher Training in East Africa.”** Main room.
- 11:00 – **Seminar: “Sustainable Development.”** Main room.
- 12:30 – **Lunch.** Teachers College.
- 2:00 – **Seminar: “The Arts in East Africa.”** Main room.
- 4:00 – **Free time for NYC. East African films shown in film room,** Teachers College.
Times & program to be announced.

JUNE 18TH

- 7:30 – 9:00 – **Breakfast.** Teachers College.
- 9:30 – **Seminar: “Active Programs NYC/East Africa.”** Main room.
- 11:00 – **TEAA Report “What’s Happening with TEAA Projects.”** Main room.
- 1:00 – **Lunch.** African Restaurant in Harlem.
Guided Tour: Studio Museum of Harlem.
- 3:00 – **Bus tour of Harlem (or other activity) being arranged.**
- 6:00 – **Free evening for NYC & East African films shown in film room,** TC.

JUNE 19TH

- 8:00 – 9:15 – **Breakfast.** Teachers College
- 9:30 – **Closing Session: “What’s Next?”** Main room.

How to Register for the New York 50th Year Reunion of TEAA:

NO FORM NEEDED. Just 3 easy steps.

I. Send in the **registration fee** of \$155 for the TEAA person, plus \$95 per person for guests (or an equivalent amount in Pounds Sterling or Euros). You're a TEAAer if you taught in East Africa as either TEA or TEEA. No form needed, just the check, made payable to TEAA. Send it to the Treasurer: Henry Hamburger, 6400 Wynkoop Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817, USA

II. Make **reservations.** Teachers College has produced a 3 page document on places to stay on

campus and in the area. This document is on the TEAA website, <tea-a.org>. Just click on “NY Lodging and Note” under the reunion icon. For email recipients, the document is attached along with the newsletter. If you have no way to access the document electronically, contact me, newsletter editor Ed Schmidt, and I will mail you a paper copy.

III. About **you**: New address? email? phone? Please notify Ed Schmidt:
<eschmidt1@sbcglobal.net>

That's it. Just 3 steps, as promised. Do it soon. See you there!

Who's coming? Don and Maureen Knies are planning to come from England. Ted and Maja Essebaggers are coming from Norway. Don't be shy! This is the big one! Sign up today.

EA11. If you are planning to attend the East Africa reunion, it is expected that you would have already sent in a down payment of \$400 to treasurer Henry Hamburger. If you haven't done so and are planning to go on this trip, please contact Brooks immediately as planning is well underway. Brooks Goddard, <goddard@rcn.com>, 781-444-5988.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS FROM EAST AFRICA, Peter Indalo

Dear Ed, This is to wish you and all members of TEAA a Merry Christmas. May God grant you blessing.

I wish also to thank you all most sincerely for all efforts and sacrifice you have put in promotion of Education for young people in East Africa. It is indeed very encouraging to see most of you use your retirement resources to help the generation that is up coming. We also realize that inflation is high and many families are faced with many life hardships. It is indeed most encouraging and worthy of praise as well as honour.

Your efforts have indeed improved performance of our young people in area of Maths, Science, and Language, not forgetting Information Technology. Some of the schools which have benefited are showing signs of improvement in the National Examination. I am indeed very appreciative for a thought well timed. Although the results will not be seen very clearly in the present time, it will indeed show in future and benefit many generations to come.

2010 was a good year specifically for Kenya. We had good rainfall, well distributed throughout the year resulting into high yield even in places like eastern Kenya where we have not had rain for many years. Inflation dropped considerably since we are a farming country with very little mineral resources. We moved from an economic growth of 2.7% to 5.8% recently. It would have been even better had it not been for high cost of fuel products. Generally, many Kenyans were happy.

The enactment of a new constitution was indeed a revolution in this country. The new constitution was promulgated on 28/8/10 bringing many favorable changes to this country in the management of human as well as material resources. We have indeed started to see the fruit of the new constitution. We are indeed most grateful to President Obama for pushing Kibaki and Raila to bring about these changes.

These changes are very rare in Africa, where people ascend to power and only come out through the power of the bullet and natural death. We are happy that these changes can come peacefully. The American embassy made a great contribution in realization of the constitution. We owe a lot to Obama. Have a happy Christmas, Peter

LETTERS FROM OUR EAST AFRICAN CONTACTS

From: St Joseph Ngarenaro Secondary School, Arusha. Hello Henry, Thanks a million for the 10 P4 computers. They have reached us safely although Mr. Bernard had to spent a whole week at Dar to get them out. They are in good condition except for one which needed a replacement for the power line. Luckily we got a spare part here. So we have fixed the big room and the

students are already using the room and the computers. Thank you ever so much for making it possible. The textbooks too are in use now and we all appreciate the help you have given us. Sorry that I could not reply to you earlier due to the difficulty with the internet.

This is the first time I have access to the internet after a very long time. Thanks again. All the best. With much appreciation and prayers, Sr. Shobha.

Sent: Tuesday, November 23, 2010

Subject: Re: Ngarenaro and TEAA/Thanks

Hi Mr. Henry, It was great hearing from you. Thank you for keeping in touch with us with your generous help. I am delighted to note that you can give us \$1500/ towards some more development in the school. I would like to spend it on lab equipment and some more science books. The country also is geared to encouraging girls to be interested in Maths and science subjects. I would very much like to go along with that and see that our girls shed the fear of Maths and Physics, Chemistry, etc.

The other day our girl students were the invited guests to the graduation of the nearby technical school. The very idea was to encourage the girls to be interested in technical studies which would involve the knowledge of Maths, Physics, Chemistry. I would like to work on that spark of interest which some of the students who went to the technical school showed. They were even shown on the national TV as well which they themselves watched and were very pleased with themselves. Thank you for being instrumental in helping our young girls to be interested in Maths and science. May be you can come and teach them some Maths as well. Right? Now all the students have gone home for their long holidays. The school is almost silent as I send this message to you. I am looking forward to some relaxed time as well. With kind regards, hoping to hear from you again, Sr. Mary Shobha

Henry, I have spent the last two days at home doing nothing but reading. I feel nice though I find Rubashov's Darkness at Noon rather maverick and a poor apology of diehard communist while the runaway priest in The Power and the Glory, despite being of no use to Christians, does not want to surrender and face death. Perhaps he doesn't believe in the heaven he preaches. But I wonder how many in our times would gladly want to go there. It makes me feel at times that heaven is actually here. What say you? Yours, Okunya

REPORT ON VILLAGE LIBRARIES. Information supplied by Kate Parry

The September newsletter of Friends of African Village Libraries (FAVL) featured the Kitengesa Community Library near Masaka, Uganda, founded by British TEAAer Kate Parry. The article notes that the library has become a model and inspiration for libraries throughout Uganda.

Founded in 1999 as a box of books distributed weekly from a classroom, within three years the library had grown to fill a one-room building. Now in its 11th year, the Kitengesa Community Library has moved into a new three-room complex to house not only its growing collection of more than 3,000 books, but also a computer center and community hall. Demonstrating that a library can be so much more than a building with books, it continues to flourish by developing innovative programs in response to the needs of its community. The Library Scholarship program, begun in 2004, pays the school fees of seven secondary school students, who in return work for the library while acquiring valuable skills. The library also hosts volunteers who teach computer skills to adults and English to children in the neighboring primary school. Students from more distant primary schools are invited to the regular Children's Days to read, write, listen to stories, and play games. The new Family Literacy Project is teaching local women how to help their children do well in school. These programs have inspired change: a forestry project modeled on the Library Scholarships; a women's micro-finance group whose initial capital was supplied by one of the library's visiting researchers; and Afri-Pads, an organization that employs 20 local girls to sew affordable sanitary towels, using the library's former space as its workshop. In 2007 Kate also founded the Uganda Community Libraries Association (UgCLA) to support other libraries with literacy program development,

staff training, and financial grants. UgCLA has grown rapidly into a vibrant, nationwide movement, with 64 member libraries today. <http://www.favl.org/> This and other issues of the newsletter can be downloaded from <http://www.favl.org/links.html#favlnewsletters>

UgCLA held its first conference in January. The theme of the conference was "Libraries for Health." Participants heard talks by two outside speakers: Ssale Livingston of TASO (The AIDS Support Organization) about the range of the organization's work and the possibilities of partnership with libraries, and Sophia Klumps of Afri-Pads, about the particular problems that girls have with personal hygiene and the potential for libraries to become distributors of the pads that the company produces. Representatives of three of UgCLA's own member libraries also presented the work that they are doing for health: Enoch Magala of the Mpolyabigere Foundation told of the free testing for HIV that they organize from their library in Namutumba District; Willy Ngaka of URLCODA (the Uganda Rural Literacy and Community Development Association) described the Positive [HIV-AIDS] Group that the Association sponsors in the West Nile region of Uganda and the neighboring area of northeastern Congo; and Prince Mawanda from the Blessed Foster Family Foundation, described a community-based Health Insurance Scheme that it has organized in partnership with Kitovu Hospital, near Masaka. The participants also worked in groups to discuss a draft curriculum that Gillian Kasirye and Kate Parry had developed for Health Reading Camps that are planned for the August; and a World Café activity was organized to allow everyone to see a collection of health books of the kind that would be used for the camps (in this activity there were eight focal points with a set of books and one of the Canadian volunteers presiding; the other participants formed eight groups which moved round from one focal point to another).

UPCOMING WORKS ON RWANDA AND CONGO, David Newbury [from a personal note. -- ed.]

This February should see the publication of my second book in two years. A year ago I published a book on the pre-colonial history of Rwanda and eastern Congo, entitled "The Land Beyond the Mists." The title comes both from the physical characteristics of the area around Lake Kivu (the boundary between Rwanda and Congo), and because the "mists" serve as a useful metaphor for the ways we see history for the pre-colonial period in this area: sometimes the mists obscure the valleys and reveal the ridges; but sometimes they hide the hills and open the valleys. And always they are changing, dynamic and capricious. These are the same characteristics to the ways we see history through oral sources: sometimes they emphasize the political elites, sometimes the sources focus on the conditions of the disenfranchised. The set of essays that comprise this book show examples of all those elements of how we construct, and come to understand the multiple visions of the past--visions which together add up to a composite picture of the history of the region.

This February will also see the publication of a different type of work I've been working on-- focusing this time on the royal court of Rwanda during the reign of Musinga (1896-1931), a momentous time in Rwanda. Following directly on the reign of one of Rwanda's greatest "warrior kings," the youthful Musinga acceded to power by a coup d'etat engineered by his maternal uncles just on the eve of the advent of colonial rule. "Defeat is the Only Bad News"--the title of this book--covers the reign of Musinga (until his deposition by the colonial powers).

But it is not my book: instead it is the unpublished dissertation of Alison Des Forges, a close friend of mine, who perished in the Buffalo plane crash of February 2009. Alison was best known for her human rights work during the genocide in Rwanda and in the years after during the Rwandan intervention in Congo--work for which she received a MacArthur "genius" award in 1999. Because of her work on the genocide--including the authoritative history of that terrible cataclysm, a massive work entitled "Leave None to Tell the Story"--she is better known for her extraordinary work on human rights than for her equally notable scholarship. Having been drawn in other directions, she never published her dissertation, which drew on oral sources, missionary documents and government archives to detail the machinations of the royal court at the time of European arrival. It's an epic story, detailing in dramatic terms the intrigue, the scheming, the strategies, and the competition (and sometimes outright murder) that marked court politics during these momentous years that saw the imposition of colonial rule in

Rwanda. There is no other work quite like it in African history. [Following Alison's death I gave a paper on the relation of her scholarly work to her human rights work; her husband, who was at the conference, asked if I would be interested in editing her dissertation for publication; this book is the result of that conversation. It's not my own work, but I'm happy to have brought Alison's work to fruition. It will be published in February by the University of Wisconsin Press.]

In addition, I've been working on various other projects: one, for example was the occasion of rethinking Congo history in connection with the fiftieth anniversary of its independence last June 30 (and the fiftieth commemoration of the assassination of Lumumba--a turning point in Congolese history--which will occur this coming January 17). In this project I try to place the current violence in Congo in historical perspective, referring to the horrendous mortality rate in the Congo over the past 15 years "the deferred violence of an unresolved decolonization": over five million people have perished since the Rwandan invasion of 1996.

TEAAer SHELBY LEWIS TO SERVE ON FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP BOARD.

In November, President Obama made four appointments to the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, among them, our own Shelby Lewis. Shelby is well-known to us as the organizer of the 2009 reunion in Atlanta. She did her TEA teaching at Tororo Girls' School and played an important role in the selection of that school for TEAA support. A friend responded to her appointment as follows:

"Dr. Shelby, it is in the wake of much travel, including, believe it or not, forays into the Sovereign State of Georgia, and also Louisiana, that I am making contact with the great and good news regarding your appointment.

Going back to the beginning of things, I think it entirely appropriate, if I am reading things aright, that the announcement came while you were in our old stomping grounds, Uganda, where it all began. Who would have predicted that the young lady from Plain Dealing [Louisiana], demonstrating even then her capacity for mastering the intricacies of international affairs, would stay the course and contribute at the highest levels in any number of careers and capacities?

Well I, for one, and Lula also. Both of us were privileged to watch the steady progression of a splendid career in which contributions were made in education, in scholarship, in economic development, and especially in the mentoring of others for service in the generations to come.

Fulbright will be enriched by your presence, and it was an outstanding move on the part of the Administration to assure it. Congratulations and very, very best wishes."

TEAA adds its congratulations to the many received. Way to go, Shelby!

The biography contained in the White House press release states:

Shelby F. Lewis is Professor Emeritus at Clark Atlanta University, Executive Director of The Lewis Foundation, and an international development consultant. As a Senior Fulbright Lecturer at the National University of Lesotho from 1982 to 1983, she helped establish the Women's Research Collective; and, as an international consultant in Zimbabwe from 1985 until 1987 she helped found Network: A Pan-African Women's Forum and Development Consultants Network, a development company. Ms. Lewis served on the Board of the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) for two terms and established a teaming relationship between CIES and the United Negro College Fund Special Programs, Inc. (UNCF/SP) during her tenure as Vice President for International Development and director of university-to-university linkage programs at UNCF/SP. She earned her undergraduate degree from Southern University, Baton Rouge, a Master's Degree from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and a PhD from the University of New

Orleans, all in Political Science.

KILIMANJARO DIARY, Jim Blair. [You may recall that Jim asked if anyone would like to join him on a Kilimanjaro attempt as part of EA11. Thus far there have been no takers. Jim says if no one wants to do it this year he may try it in 2013, the 50th anniversary of the climb described here. Not sure the following diary is good advertising, Jim! -- ed.]

August 10, 1963 - At the track meet I won the pole-vault, broad-jump, discus and was second in the high jump. I was fairly unimpressed with the competition and not real proud of my distances but I did get some nice medals and am now a national champion. After the meet I met Bill Sensiba and we went to the New Africa for a beer. We met with two of Bill's friends from Morogoro. They are planning a trip to climb Kilimanjaro. Bill was planning to drive to Moshi on the 13th but I convinced him to leave on the 12th so he could take me to Lushoto, save me a long bus trip, and break up the long trip to Moshi.

August 12. We spent the morning getting Bill's car packed and left for Lushoto at about 1:00. The drive is long and dreary but certainly better by car than bus. I also invited two of Bill's friends from Morogoro to stay with us since they are all going up the mountain together. We got to Magamba Secondary School about 7:30 and the others arrived about 9:30. Shirley cooked us a nice steak supper and I was invited to go along on the Kilimanjaro climb. I am really unprepared for such a trip but I am in good shape since we are at 5000' here in the Usumbaras and I have been playing a lot of soccer.

August 13. I borrowed a heavy parka from one of the teachers here and rounded up whatever cold weather gear I had available and we set out for Moshi with the three kids. (Shirley had given birth to twins in a mission hospital two months earlier. That is another story.) The trip took four hours over good dirt roads. Shirley and the kids will stay with Steve and Billie Mason while I go up the mountain. I borrowed a pair of climbing boots from Steve, a pack and knapsack from Dan Taylor who had just come down the mountain, a sleeping bag from someone named Peter Rogers whom I had never seen before and other less important items from elsewhere. I am now well outfitted and we leave tomorrow on our five day trip.

August 14. Today is our 4th wedding anniversary and we already have three kids. Wow. There are seven of us going up the mountain. From Morogoro, Bill Sensiba, Jerry Schieber, Gary James and Miles Paul. Miles has been up before and will serve as our leader and guide. From Uganda, there are two fellows from the first Group A - John Beyerle and Dave Mawdsley. We are climbing without porters and guides. Nobody wants to pay the \$50 for a full expedition. None of us can afford that. Anyway, Miles says we just have to "follow the trail." The only down side is we will have to carry our own gear. We took the Land Rover to Marangu Hotel and we all unloaded except Miles who took our gear up to Bismarck Hut in the Land Rover. The twelve mile walk was rather enjoyable but even without packs twelve miles uphill is a long hike. We had a good meal of steak soup, rice, and fresh fruit. There are mattresses here so we are looking forward to a good nice night's rest.

August 15. The journey from Bismarck Hut to Peter's Hut is 11 miles and for the most part, it is just plain dreary. The first mile or so passes through a giant heath forest and the rest of it is probably pleasant enough but I did not notice much except the pack on my back. I never carried a pack before and if I survive this trip, I may not ever do so again. My shoulders are sore and my back is tired, but today should be the hardest day. Tomorrow a lot of the weight will be gone in eaten food and food we store at Peter's Hut, but a lot of this will be compensated for by the water we have to carry up to Kibo Hut. There are no mattresses here at Peter's so we are not looking forward to a lot of sleep. None of us have air mattresses or pads. We are slowly acclimating to the elevation, but at 12,500, we certainly notice it. There is a beautiful view of Mawenzi and Kibo this evening. Kilimanjaro consists of three peaks, Kibo at 19,340 which is recognizable everywhere, Mawenzi which is 17,000' plus consisting of very eroded, rough, steep lava rock and Shira which is a completely eroded portion of the volcano. Tonight is the first time on the trip that we could see either of the peaks.

August 16. After a terrible night of tossing and turning we set off for Kibo Hut. The first three miles are right up the valley back of Peter's. The country is quite pleasant with rock cliffs,

grassland and everlasting flowers. The snow and ice on the summit of Kibo is gleaming in the sun on our right and the giant bulk of Mawenzi appears dark and foreboding on our right. As we reach the top of the valley at about 14,500' we turn left toward Kibo and start across a rain shadow area known as The Saddle. The walk across the saddle is about 5 1/2 miles and is easy as we descend into the valley. With little water, the area looks like what I suspect the Gobi Desert looks like. Dry, desolate, rocky, no vegetation at this elevation. The howling wind makes it quite unpleasant but the view of Kibo makes it all worthwhile. The final mile and a half to Kibo Hut is very steeply uphill to 15,500. With packs and the altitude, it is a very difficult stretch. There are no mattresses at Kibo Hut. It doesn't matter to me because there is no room for me in the hut anyway so I spent the short night in the porters shack. At least I had straw to lie down on. Most people at Kibo have no appetite but I was very hungry and ate everything available. We depart for the summit at 2:00 a.m. This is because the scree up which we climb is frozen and easier to climb. Looking up the scree is like looking up a nearly vertical cliff.

August 17. After a terrible, short, seemingly long night we arose and got ready to go at 1:00 a.m. Nobody had actually slept much if at all. We dressed very warmly in parkas, sweat pants and Levis, two or four pairs of socks, gloves, hats with earmuffs, etc. It was well below freezing and seemed very cold. The trip to the crater edge, Gilman's Point, is about two miles. The trail seems to be straight up. Altitude increases from 15,500 to 18,500'. The climb up the scree consists of one or two steps up and ahead, rest, another step or two, rest. and so on. Except that the steps keep getting shorter and the rests keep getting longer. I got to Gilman's Point in two hours, well ahead of the rest of the party. This is the crater rim but is about a mile and a half from the actual top of Kibo. This area serves as the stopping point for most climbers because most people are satisfied with reaching the crater rim and looking inside at the snow and ice. Most are too worn out from the climb with little rest and the altitude to go on. Three of our group decided Gilman's Point was far enough. Bill, Jerry, Gary and I decided to continue on. The mile and a half around the crater rim starts at 18,500 and finishes at Kaiser Wilhelm Spitz, now Uhuru Peak, at 19,340. The trail passes around the rim of the crater over a vast snow field past gigantic ice pitches and sprawling glaciers. I reached the top about 45 minutes before Bill and Jerry. I had been seated on the top, enjoying the view of Africa below and Mawenzi across the saddle. When I jumped up to greet them, it was as if I had been hit in the head with a hammer. I developed a terrible oxygen deficiency headache. After throwing a frisbee once that one of the fellows had brought along and determining that they were both able to proceed even though they both felt sickly, I started down the mountain. I ran around the crater, stopping only to talk with Gary who was still slowly working his way to the top. He advised he was ok but feeling poorly. My headache was worse and I was desperate to get to a lower altitude so I ran the rest of the way around the crater and down the scree to Kibo. I was nearly exhausted and my headache was diminishing so I spent two hours at Kibo resting and then joined up with two of the fellows who had come down earlier from Gillman's point and we put on our packs and walked down, through the scree, up to the base of Mawenzi and turned down the valley finally reaching Peter's Hut. In one day I had traveled seventeen miles, three miles above 19,000', two miles nearly straight up and fourteen miles between 13,000' and 18,000', all without oxygen. Needless to say, I was very proud and very gratified.

August 18. After an excellent night's sleep (who needs mattresses when you are exhausted) we hung around Peter's Hut waiting for Bill and Jerry who were too sick to come down to Peter's the day before. They showed up about ten and we all set off for Bismarck and the Land Rover. The downhill pace was easy walking but conducive to blister formation and we all had very sore feet. We took the Land Rover from Bismarck and stopped for a very welcome beer at the hotel. Gary took me to Lyamungu where I was reunited with my family. I was dirty, sore, weary, tired and smelly but I had been on top of Kilimanjaro. I am sure it is an accomplishment of which I will always be proud.

2010: NOTES FROM THE FIELD. Barry Sesnan. [Barry works as an education consultant in Africa and elsewhere.]

So, at the end of 2010 I thought I would throw together some nice quotations and a

couple of thoughts. They are not in any very logical order, unlike Wikileaks, but I hope they'll give you an idea of my year. A year in which I had varied experience, perhaps more varied than ever before, with UNICEF, UNHCR, International NGOs and for the first time the Red Cross. A year with too many planes. A year to discover how huge Indonesia is.

Let's start with flying experiences. On Egyptair I was a bit surprised to hear the automated announcement, "When you see the No Smoking sign come on please be ready to extinguish your cigarettes." It illustrated just how new the planes are that they use on their middle of the night flights to smaller countries in Africa. Talking of which the UN flight to Abeché [Chad] had to turn back when one of its two engines started sounding like a bent bicycle wheel and was clearly not giving any power. That plane had also seen the world, many times.

My Jargon Watch antenna were as lively as ever. I saw that the "girl child" may at last be dead. I spotted only one example this year, in Sudan. And for the referendum in Sudan: "Don't register if you are not going to vote." This is because separation will be approved with 50% + 1 of the registered voters, but there must be a 60% turnout. Not often do we hear people being advised tactically not to vote.

"Les enfants vont pisser sur les examens." [The children will urinate on the exams.] Trying to get exams out to the refugee camps my man told me we could not put the exams in the public lorries which all carry mountains of passengers including children on top of the freight.

I did a lot of training workshops this year. In a workshop I co-facilitated in Accra [Ghana] there was a session on "Women and Disabled."

"We provided the sand." Beninois cynical comment on local participation in a large Benin-Chinese construction project when asked what Benin had contributed.

"Les Dernieres Heures" [The final hours], name of a coffin and flower shop in Benin

"La porte de non-retour" [The door of no-return], a gate-like monument leading to the beach where the slaves were put on ships in Ouidah, Benin. They mainly went to Brazil and Haiti. Nearby there is a village founded by some who came back from Brazil. This is the home of voodoo and at least one Grand Maitre has started advertising on the internet.

"We would like people to come to see the truth about our country." Said in a country which makes it almost impossible for you to get a visa, won't allow internal travel without additional permits, makes you check in to the internet using your hotel room number, doesn't allow visitors to get SIM cards and whose youth are fleeing extremely hard and long military service in very large numbers.

"Abeché is in the past; forget Abeché" told by my superiors when UNHCR left its intermediate base at Abeché where I had been based for over a year. Poignant for me as I had done 14 months of my best professional and practical work in a great team. A shock to discover it all regarded as some sort of aberration; a double shock to find myself a sort of clerk in Ndjamena endlessly rewriting the same document for the remaining part of the contract and regarded with suspicion if I wanted to go to the field.

In one country while training government officers and teachers on what to do to save education in the face of a disaster: "I will do nothing until my superior tells me what to do," (- even if the school and the kids are being washed away before my eyes). (my additional words)

In Entebbe, my near neighbours, the Pentecostal church, still noisily do the whole gamut of healing, talking in tongues, holy rolling etc., three nights a week and all Sunday! You need earplugs.

I added two African countries to my list: Gambia and Eritrea. Indonesia too. And following a trend started when Obama and I were in Accra and Istanbul at the same time I jetted in to Jakarta just after he left.

Nostalgia. In Togo from the period they were under the Germans, a few buildings and apparently some very old people who speak some German. In Eritrea I was often spoken to in Italian and the architecture of Asmara (a most attractive city) shows Mediterranean influence. A young shopkeeper cum student greeted a very old lady in Italian, and cheerfully saluted his age-mate with "Ciao, Bella!"

The odd senior moment as I turned 63. [Remember that British TEA continued until 1969. Thus the presence of this young whippersnapper! – ed.] For the first time in my life I went to the airport with the wrong passport. Luckily I live so near the airport here in Entebbe that I could get the right one in time. I also managed to miss a flight to London because it was scheduled near midnight. I was a whole day late.

Some new words. What in Eastern Africa we call boda-boda (motor bike taxis, from the fact they used to be used at the border between Kenya and Uganda). In Lomé [Togo] and Cotonou [Benin] are called “zemijan.” The Chadian word is “clandoman.” Clando is from “clandestin,” though they are found absolutely openly and everywhere. In Cotonou there seems to be no alternative form of transport and they swarm like bees. Boys taking drugs in Chad are called Colombiens, much to the fury of one of my colleagues from Colombia.

And 2011? I end 2010, one of my busiest years on an ironical note – I have absolutely no work at all lined up for 2011. But that’s how consultancy turns out to be.

FEEDBACK FROM NEWSLETTER 23

Dave Mawdsley. Hi Ed, Great newsletter. I enjoyed reading about Moses Leon Howard. I'm pretty sure I taught with him (maths) back in 1961–2 at Ntare SS. I don't think I had President Museveni as a student though I might have. Best regards, Dave

Betty Castor. Hi Ed, Thanks for the Newsletter. I know it's not easy to keep all the information and encourage our members to communicate. However, I want you to know how much I appreciate reading the articles and news of note. Many, many thanks. Betty

Bella Feldman. Dear Ed, I am the widow of Dr. Leonard Feldman who was in TEEA at Makerere upgrading teacher training in math 1968–71. I also taught in the Art School at Makerere but not thru TEEA. I returned to teach a 6 wk workshop at the art school in 1990 courtesy of USAID. I hoped to return to East Africa again. Like so many write, the time spent there was very important to me. However I turned down a trip this past summer. An old friend, Sylvia Stirling, who was secretary for TEEA at Makerere, invited me. At the last moment I reneged for fear the trip might be too strenuous for 80 yr old me. Sylvia returned to tell me indeed it would have been.

I understand from your newsletter that many taking the trip in 2011 might be even older than I. Have you given any thought as to how traveling might deal with us frailer older folks. I would like to come along. Sincerely, Bella Feldman

Kirstin Moritz. Hi, I am the wife of Rod Hinkle and read your newsletter with interest. Do you read Nicholas Kristof, the NY Times op ed page writer? If so, you know that he writes often on women's issues in the developing world. I wonder if you might want to send him the section of your newsletter on the groups trying to help young women stay in school while menstruating? Since the newsletter is pdf, I could not copy that section to send it to him myself. But I think he might like to write about that issue and thus give you needed publicity. I enjoyed the newsletter a lot. Best, Kirstin Moritz

Ron Stockton. Ed, Thanks for putting this together. Could you give me the contact information for Allan Marriot? He and I served at Machakos School in the 1960s. He and my wife and another friend drove down to Cape Town and back one winter vacation. What crazy things you do when you are young, but we could never give up those memories. Ron

Jonne Robinson. Ed, I really enjoy getting the TEAA newsletter and want to thank you for all the work you put into it. It is always interesting even when I don't know the people mentioned or contributing – what they are talking about was the experience which was shared by us all. Cheers, Jonne

Ted Hoss. Ed, Great job as always with the newsletter. I always look forward to reading it. Ted Hoss (Kagumo Teacher Training College, Nyeri, Kenya, East Africa 1968–70)

Wayne Silver. Thanks, Ed. Especially interested in the Recreational Reading project. We're pushing the same idea! Wayne, American Friends of Kenya, www.afkinc.org

Dr Roger Polhill. Dear Mr. Schmidt, In the TEAA Newsletter for 23 July 2010, you have a note from Richard Price that he taught at Chidya Secondary School from 1965 to 1970. We are compiling a biography of people who collected plants in East Africa as a supplement to the Flora of Tropical East Africa for Kew Gardens in London. We have a record that J.A.H. Leonhardt (possibly John Anthony) sent in some specimens to the East African Herbarium in 1968 from St Joseph's College, Chidya, in 1968, but do not have any further details. We wonder if you could please put us in touch with Richard Price.

With best wishes, Dr Roger Polhill, Research Associate, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Richard Price. Dear Ed, Thanks for this. I know John Leonhardt well and will put him in touch with Roger Polhill by copy of this email. John and I are biologists and I particularly remember one specimen that he collected and sent for identification to the E. African herbarium and which they then sent to Kew because they could not identify it. It was a shrub, *Monodora minor*, with rather beautiful flowers.

John will I am sure be delighted (as I am for him) that his botanical specimens have caught up with him!

And, of course, this provides a nice example of the great value of the TEAA Newsletter that you compile and distribute. Many thanks and best wishes, Richard

Roger Polhill. Dear Mr Schmidt, Thank you so much for passing on the message to Richard Price. You are doing a most valued service with the newsletter. Best wishes, Roger Polhill

THE MAILBAG

Arthur French. I was interested to find the TEAA Newsletter. I was on the staff at Makerere College Faculty of Education from 1955 to 1969, so I was there when TEA started. I was seconded to Teachers College Columbia U for the academic year 1962–3, to work with Karl Bigelow, so I met some people in USA who were joining TEA at that time. I went to Washington to urge "Soapy" Williams not to take TEA out of the hands of the universities. There was a proposal to merge it with wider aid projects. I think that did happen later, but perhaps we postponed it for a year or so!

There were British students involved in TEA (as I'm sure you know). Two of them, Sandy Tringham and Susan Groom, got married. I went to their wedding in UK, and I am still in touch with them. I was delighted to see your photo with Gordon Macgregor and Senteza Kajubi. I knew them well. I heard, only last Friday, from a Ugandan woman, Vivian Kityo, that Senteza is still alive.

I lost some of my Ugandan contacts during the Amin regime (it wasn't good for them to have "European" friends), but I still have a few.

I retired in 1983, and I am now almost 90, so I may not be around much longer! If anyone remembers me, I am accessible at a.french@eclipse.co.uk I live in Devon, UK. Last year I joined the "governors" of our local primary school (ages 5 – 11). I was horrified by the increase in bureaucracy in education since the 1970s, and I hope that it has not happened in Africa or USA! Best wishes to you all, Arthur French

[Editor's note: if you google Arthur's name, you will get a reference to, "The Mushroom Growing Termites of Uganda." I asked Arthur about this. Here is his reply.]

I'm not a biologist! I have a degree in maths, but I specialised in methods and materials

of education. The termites and mushrooms were a bit of a hobby. I had been keen on edible fungi in UK, and when I came to Uganda I found that the locals ate termite mushrooms, but the botanists knew nothing about termites, and the zoologists knew nothing about fungi. I learned about the relationships by talking to African grandmas in their own language! Since I retired, my hobby has become family and local history. More soon. Greetings, Arthur

Don Knies Christmas letter excerpts. Hello There Everybody, This year's letter (2010) is a landmark because I'm using our very own computer. After years of fiddling with a library computer to do our emails, and having daughters Holly and Tara type and send mass emailings, I can now try to do it myself. We bought a laptop with all the trimmings, and presto! a whole new world opens up. For example, we can skype our grandchildren in Belgium and Senegal. Now if I can only get the bloody machine to work properly. Alas, I still haven't mastered the multiple mailings so faithful Holly is once more helping her poor old dad.

So what have we been doing this past year? In January Mo Mo had her third and hopefully final knee replacement. No, she doesn't have 3 knees. The left one had to be done a second time after the first replacement joint disintegrated, after lasting about 18 years. And this time she had it done by an orthopaedic surgeon in whom she has great faith. So the Knies knee saga seems to have come to a happy conclusion. Don, meanwhile, putters along with his heart condition pretty much under control.

In May Holly came over to Fontmell for 5 days to help her Mum clean out our cottage. With the best of intentions all around, a mighty effort by M and H, and after several carloads of stuff were taken to the dump, we had still barely made a dent in the clutter. Someday M plans to have a big fat garage-type sale, but until then in the battle between order and chaos, chaos is clearly the winner. But I mustn't complain since I'm of little or no help in dealing with the household muddle.

We had not planned to return to CA last summer but the expiration of our driving licenses gave us just the excuse we needed. Also Holly and family were coming over for their long-anticipated Sierra Nevada mountain camping trip, and we overlapped for a few days in Modesto. D and M's camping days may be over, but seeing Christophe and Holly setting off for the high country in Lloyd's jeep, loaded with children and camping gear, brought back happy memories of our days in a tent with sleeping bags, a log fire and a little stove. Lots of friends on our CA visit and after busy days in Modesto when we flew home Vicky came to the airport from Oakland for a nice little picnic in the departure hall.

As a good pseudo Englishman, I must mention a bit about the weather. After several mild winters 2010 came on like gangbusters with more snowfall since the big freeze of 1962-63. With us it hasn't been so much the snow as the ice and the unpleasant fact that village streets are neither scraped nor salted. In the countryside you make your own way was best you can to the main roads. So for one week in February we were pretty much icebound, staying in, keeping warm and letting the rest of the world go by. And at the end of this year November and December are proving to be the coldest and snowiest for many years. Global warming seems a bit behind schedule in dear old Blighty.

Next year we hope to go to NY in June for the 50th anniversary of the Teachers for East Africa program, and maybe on to CA. Cheers -- Don and Mo Mo

Malcolm Maries. Hello Ed, It looks a really interesting visit [to East Africa in 2011]. I'd love to be part of it, particularly the Uganda leg, but it's just not possible. Please pass my very best wishes on to Olive [at St. Bernard's]. I assume the Masaka trip will consist in large part of a visit to St. Bernard's. Incidentally, does the school still have its own website? I couldn't locate it when I last looked.

My last day of work in Saudi is 29 June, after which we're flying to the States for a family reunion at my son's place in New Jersey. Then we'll start making our way back to the Philippines. No more Middle East for me, thank goodness!

I heard from Harry (Pat) Patterson recently. He still enjoys living in Thailand and helps

out at a local primary school. I get the impression that he doesn't travel outside the country much.

I hope this brief e-mail finds you and yours well. Have a great Christmas, and all the best for 2011. Regards, Malcolm

Tim Evers. Hi Ed, I'll be returning to Kenya for 2 weeks in July '11 for the first time in 45 years. I'm joining medical and library personnel and other educators (many retired like myself) on a service mission trip with American Friends of Kenya, a nonprofit group based in Norwich, CT. We'll be assisting at a conference in Nairobi and then conducting workshops at health clinics, libraries, and schools around the country. I plan to visit a friend in Kisumu and then travel to Homa Bay Secondary School, where my wife and I taught, 1963-65. Best regards, Tim Evers

Manny Flecker. Dear Ed, I am now retired as my contract with the government expired and I had to have a hip replacement from which I am still recovering. I am not sure that I will stay retired yet it is nice not to try to run into DC daily and fight traffic so I am looking for some part-time work which my wife objects to (though not too strenuously). I am still limping around with my cane and that should stop soon and my search should become more intense.

Otherwise, all is the same, I am enjoying my son and his two lovely kids who now live about 45 minutes from Penny and me. Life is good with the usual caveats (just had a good friend die unexpectedly) and I finally got my chipper/shredder working again!

Take care and keep up the good work. Manny Flecker - TEA, '63-65

Kay Borkowski. In her Christmas letter, Kay describes an October trip with husband Danny to Eastern Europe, primarily Poland. Kay writes, "Perhaps the most meaningful visits we made were to the Jewish Monument in what was East Berlin and also to the concentration camps of Auschwitz and Birkenau in Poland.

Emilee Cantieri. I have published 4 books this year [2010], including the latest, "Speaking Ill of the Dead: Jerks in Washington, DC, History." Took a cruise in Tahiti. Went parasailing. All is well here. Emilee

Hal Sondrol. I've been listening to all of the hype about "democracy" in Southern Sudan and Juba. It reminds me that I met a Dinka kid named Andrew when I was at Makerere in 1963-64, before moving out to Kakamega in April 1964. I wonder, without much more than tribal traditions and decades of war and slaughter, even with the influence of John Garang (who attended Iowa State College, I think), What's there to build upon? Fresh ground for more political corruption, when a few noxious political leaders steal the country blind. It's probably already happening.

Jim Blair. Ed, I was surprised that Southern Sudan actually got to vote on independence but I still fear that there are lots of problems to overcome before separation actually takes place and many more after. It is quite remarkable that John Garang actually did lead "his people" to freedom just as he told me he would in 1964. I recently discovered that the Magamba Secondary School where I taught in Tanzania has been transformed into a university which graduated its first class in December of 2010. Cheers, Jim Blair

Ed and Ruth Balsdon. We visited the area where we met in 1965 while teaching on the slopes of Mt. Kilimanjaro. Our granddaughter and son-in-law accompanied us much to the pleasure of the Africans, who are very family oriented.

We contacted Adopt a School, an Australian NGO in the region, which provided us with accommodations in Arusha and the opportunity to visit elementary schools in villages nearby. We chose to work with them because of their efforts to educate young people regardless of their gender or religion. Our donations are being used for textbooks and infrastructure at Mikuuni Primary School. You can read more about these projects at adoptaschool.info/. Love,

Ed and Ruth Balsdon

Susan Hice. The East African trip sounds lovely; however, I am always in Russia at this time of year. Neale and I will therefore be unable to attend. In Russia, I do workshops for teachers and English Camps and Leadership Development Camps for students. We also do some work in prisons and orphanages. We are a nondenominational Christian ministry.
Blessings, Susan M. Hice

Harry (Pat) Patterson. Henry, Thanks much for the info you provided. Recently I was working on my Will and Last Testament. I included a bequest to TEAA. We are all getting up in years. Who will carry on all the good works you guys have started when we all get too old and feeble and start dying out? Were there later groups of American teachers in East Africa under other sponsoring organizations? Perhaps they could be invited to join TEAA, and get an infusion of younger blood. Just a thought. Warm regards, Pat

Henry Hamburger, in his role as webmaster, was contacted by a PhD student in Harvard's History of Science Department who is studying the 1962 laughter epidemic in Bukoba District. Although the phenomenon took place in a middle school, the student inquired if TEA folks who were around at the time may know something about it and be willing to provide some information, impressions or insight. David Imig responded:

Henry, we had arrived in Bukoba the previous December on Independence Day and were still trying to learn about our school and "boys" when we first heard about the "laughter epidemic." Bill Streets was a seasoned Group A veteran by the time we arrived at Nyakato and may have a better memory of the so-called epidemic. But we haven't been in touch with Bill for a long time. I don't recall that it was ever discussed in the teacher room, but our headmaster didn't communicate well what was happening with changes in school governance or messages from Dar or even local happenings. I think I remember the school messenger coming back from town and talking about it to some of us, but I cannot recall that we had any hysterics at Nyakato that Spring or sent any of the boys home. I wonder whatever happened to the old records because when we did send a student to the doctor they rode with the messenger into Bukoba to the government hospital and we had to record it in an old fashioned ledger. The records at the hospital, if they have survived, might tell more. I am trying to get time to read our letters from Spring 1962 and will respond to the student when I do. One clear memory is receiving a clipping sent to us by our parents from the *Chicago Tribune* describing the epidemic. They were very concerned but we all thought the story was "laughable." David [You can google "Bukoba laughter epidemic" to learn more. The website <http://www.suite101.com/content/the-laughter-epidemic-a46227> seemed informative. - ed.]

BOOKS

The Map of Love, by Ahdaf Soueif. Reviewed by Henry Hamburger. I found this book profoundly moving, filled with keen insight and directly relevant to our experience in a(n) (ex-)colony and to being a citizen of today's superpower. If you google the title and look at the first half-dozen hits, you'll learn that it's "a massive family saga, a story that draws its readers into two moments in the complex, troubled history of modern Egypt," one that "weaves an account of the consequences of British imperialism and the fierce political battles of the Egyptian Nationalists." At the same time it "tells the story of an artistic and articulate Englishwoman" through the eyes of a family member piecing together letters and diary entries some 90 years later. This "transcendent history" thereby "offers the reader a unique perspective seldom available to Westerners." And there is this from a review quoted on the author's home page: "It has the weight of a Victorian novel without trading in nostalgia. Filled with subtlety, grace and beauty, it will make the reader cry."

Lucy Larom sent in a note about a new book on the Museveni regime in Uganda, *Museveni's*

Uganda: Paradoxes of Power in a Hybrid Regime, by Aili Mari Tripp. The online description states: Aili Mari Tripp takes a close, clear-sighted look at Ugandan politics since 1986, when Yoweri Museveni became the country's president.

Museveni's exercise of power has been replete with contradictions: steps toward political liberalization have been controlled in ways that, in fact, further centralize authority; and despite claims of relative peace and stability, Uganda has been plagued by two decades of brutal civil conflict. Exploring these paradoxes, Tripp focuses on the complex connections among Museveni's economic and political reforms, his wars in the north and in Congo, the key roles of international donors and the military, and the institutional changes that have defined his presidency. She highlights, as well, efforts by the judiciary, the legislature, the media, and civil society to check executive power.

This is also a book about the semi authoritarian regimes, like Uganda's, that characterize so many political systems in Africa. Tripp reflects analytically on the distinctiveness of this type of system -- and on its implications for civil society, institutional growth, and real economic development.

Dreams in a Time of War, by Ngugi wa Thiong'o. Recommended by Brooks Goddard. I write with great enthusiasm for this memoir by Ngugi wa Thiong'o which I have just finished. The author's "voice" is just right as he puts himself back in time to recapture his feelings of trying to understand his world then and just the right amount of history to help us understand that time now. I was disappointed with Achebe's similar volume, *The Education of a British-Protected Child*. Read the Ngugi book; you will not be disappointed.

Also from Brooks. I can heartily recommend *Feeling the Spirit* by Chester Higgins, Jr. The subtitle tells all: "searching the world for the People of Africa." It is a wonderful coffee table-sized book of photographs which brings many parts of the diaspora together. Higgins is a great soul and a fine photographer. You can check him out at his website, <www.chestershiggins.com/>. *Mama Miti* by Kadir Nelson, a children's book about Wangari Maathai of Kenya, does the same thing: strong characters in bold definition.

Not reviewed: *Airlift to America: How Barack Obama, Sr., John F. Kennedy, Tom Mboya, and 800 East African Students Changed Their World and Ours*, by Tom Shachtman, St. Martin's Press, NY, 2009

ON THE WEB

For an excellent blog detailing the situation in East Congo, please refer to: <<http://thekingeffect.blogspot.com/>>. This young girl is working as a rape counselor. Very detailed and well written. Hundreds of pictures as well. One of her entries was in the New York Times via Kristof. Cheers, Jim Blair

Computers for Africa, a nonprofit based in Omaha, has, until recently, been engaged in sending used computers to northern Uganda. C4A has assisted TEAA in locating schools that we might assist in both Kampala and the Lira area. However, the Ugandan government has recently banned the importation of used computers in an effort to reduce the flood of e-trash entering the country. An article in the Huffington Post by C4A's Herbert Busiku and Ruth Leacock points out that not all computers are created equal, noting that some new computers will be ready for the landfill sooner than quality refurbished machines. C4A has since moved operations to western Kenya. On the June trip some TEAA members will visit schools C4A has identified as good candidates for TEAA assistance of books and science equipment. Read the article in the Huffington Post at:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/herbert-busiku/techno-trash-floods-ugand_b_553817.html

Kay Borkowski sent in the link for an article on the potholes in Kampala streets:

<http://www.aolnews.com/world/article/are-potholes-in-ugandas-capital-of-kampala-really-big-enough-to-fish-in/19591392>

AMERICAN TAXPAYERS: NEW IRA ROLLOVER PROVISION FOR 2011, Ed Schmidt

You may have received notification from charities that you support about recent legislation regarding rollover provisions from IRAs to charities. Here is an abridged version of one such notice I received.

The Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization and Job Creation Act of 2010 has extended the IRA Charitable Rollover for 2011. Originally passed in 2006 as part of the Pension Protection Act, the IRA Charitable Rollover allows individuals age 70 ½ and older to make direct transfers totaling up to \$100,000 per year to 501(c)(3) charities, without having to count the transfers as income for federal income tax purposes. TEAA is a 501(c)(3) charity.

* Who qualifies? Individuals who are age 70 ½ or older at the time of the contribution (you have to wait until your actual birthday to make the transfer).

* How much can I transfer? \$100,000 for 2011.

* From what accounts can I make transfers? Transfers must come from your IRAs directly to the 501(c)(3) charity. If you have retirement assets in a 401(k), 403(b) etc., you must first roll those funds into an IRA, and then you can direct the IRA provider to transfer the funds from the IRA directly to charity.

* To what charities can I make gifts? Tax exempt organizations that are classified as 501(c)(3) charities to which deductible contributions can be made.

* Can I use the rollover to fund life-income gifts (charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, or pooled income funds)? No, these are not eligible.

* Can I use the rollover to fund donor advised funds or supporting organizations? No, these are not eligible.

* What are the tax implications to me?

o Federal - You do not recognize the transfer to the charity as income, provided it goes directly from the IRA provider to the charity. However, you are not entitled to an income tax charitable deduction for your gift.

o State - Each state has different laws, so you will need to consult with your own advisors. Some states have a state income tax and will include this transfer as income. Within those states, some will allow for a state income tax charitable deduction and others will not. Other states base their state income tax on the federal income or federal tax paid. Still other states have no income tax at all.

* Does this transfer qualify as my minimum required distribution? Once you reach age 70 ½, you are required to take minimum distributions from your retirement plans each year, according to a federal formula. IRA charitable rollovers count towards your minimum required distributions for the year.

* How do I know if an IRA charitable rollover is right for me? You are at least age 70 ½ and
o You do not need the additional income necessitated by the minimum required distribution, OR

o Your charitable gifts already equal 50% of your adjusted gross income, so you do not benefit from an income tax charitable deduction for additional gifts, OR

o You are subject to the 2% rule that reduces your itemized deductions, OR

o You do not itemize deductions.

* What is the procedure to execute an IRA charitable rollover? Contact your plan provider to learn their procedures. Also, make sure that you contact the charity when you direct the rollover so it can look for the check from your plan provider. For TEAA, this would be Henry Hamburger, our treasurer.