



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

19001 Huebner Road #2 • San Antonio TX 78258-4038 • 210-244-2600 • www.rafiki-foundation.org

May 2004

*"I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord,
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you a hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11).*

"Your arm is going to rot off"!

Recently one of the Rafiki children needed to wear an arm splint. On a trip to recheck it at the doctor's office, our young three-year-old boy was very quiet and somber (very unlike Samuel's normal outgoing self). After the exam, on the trip home, he started talking and was very joyful. When his Rafiki Mom asked why he had been so quiet before the visit, he said his new five-year-old Rafiki sister had told him, if he played with his arm splint his arm would rot and the doctor would have to cut it off! Now that brings back childhood memories of things brothers & sisters say.

How's Texas?

Are the bluebonnets still in bloom along the highways? We've had a second spate of rains for about two solid weeks, but it looks like it's about over now. Today we had sun, and three of the mamas and all twenty-one Rafiki children were at one of the gazebos. They were singing together as one mama played along on a keyboard. All the kids were clapping and dancing as children do. Doug took a break from his work for a few minutes to join in. We've had two separate episodes of long rains hit in the past month, and everyone is glad to see sunshine again. Even the Ibises and Egyptian Geese are making as much noise as possible (singing?).

Rafiki Coffee Schedule—July 2004:

Thank you for your steadfast prayers and support. We will be home in July to see you and share pictures and stories about Rafiki Village in Kenya. There are several coffees scheduled while we are stateside. Thank you to everyone who has expressed interest in having us. We will bring our children along to the coffees if your host requests. They will enjoy coming along or staying in Abilene to visit with friends and family.

Abilene Area Coffee:

Sunday July 11, 2:00 P.M.
Nancy Hildebrand
2118 Gathright, Abilene TX
Phones: Home 325-437-0815
Cell 817-707-1004
E-mail: Hilly73@nts-online.net

Dallas Ft. Worth Area Coffees:

Saturday July 24, 7:00 P.M.
Jim & Diane Lee
1808 Avalon Drive, Colleyville
Contact Phone: 817-571-6563
E-mail: jdlee@sbcglobal.net;
diane.lee@sabre.com

Sunday July 25, 2 P.M.
Charlotte Shivers
E-mail: Portland at txrafikirep@comcast.net

Sunday July 25, late afternoon
Mike and Meg Wiersema
E-mail: megfw@juno.com

El Paso Area Coffee (dates to be determined):

July 27, 28, or 29? (Tues/Wed/Thurs.)

—or perhaps:

July 21 or 22? (Wed. Thurs)

E-mail: Portland at

txrafikirep@comcast.net

South Dakota Area coffees:

Sunday July 18, 9:00 A.M. service

Spring Valley Lutheran Church

Pastor Steven Unzicker

E-mail: unzicker@byelectric.com

Sunday July 18, 10:30 A.M. service

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Pastor Steven Unzicker

E-mail: unzicker@byelectric.com

Praises:

- Thankfulness for our prayer partners who faithfully lift us up in prayer
- A total of twenty-five girls at Rafiki Girls' Center in Nairobi
- A total of twenty-one children and five mamas at Rafiki Children's Center
- Only one cottage from phase-one of construction to be completed
- Well functioning generator, water well pump, and water storage tanks
- Thanks for the MiniMissionaries, Art and Karen, who have been with us the past two weeks

Prayer Requests:

- God to give us stamina, wisdom, and determination
- God to add ROS (Rafiki Overseas Staff) and MiniMissionaries to share in this joyful work
- God to keep our family and team in the basics of Bible study, prayer, unity and service
- Rebecca to maintain her grades
- Sarah to maintain her tender spirit.
- Full health for Carol Kranz (Steve is at now at the Home Office in San Antonio)
- God's saving knowledge will be revealed to the children, mamas, girls, and workers at Rafiki.

Serving God with you in Nairobi,

*Doug, Carolyn
Rebecca, Sarah*

Doug & Carolyn, Rebecca, Sarah Koepke

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EAST AFRICA

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To request prayer E-mail updates,
e-mail John Paul: j.pb@nts-online.net