



The Rafiki Foundation, Inc.

19001 Huebner Road #2 • San Antonio TX 78258 • 210-244-2600 • FAX 210-244-2605

May 2006



*“Zebulun will live by the seashore and become a haven for ships;
his border will extend toward Sidon” (Genesis 49:13).*

God has extended our borders at Rafiki Village in Kenya. It is truly a haven; not for ships, but for children, the children God has given to us.

Rafiki Children’s Center:

Help us pray for another sixteen children to join the fifty-two children already making their home with us. Construction of our two newest cottages will soon be finished, and we are already training Rafiki Mothers Roseline and Faith. *Pray for joy, strength, wisdom, and commitment for these two wonderful ladies as they begin new families here at Rafiki.*

We have had some changes at Rafiki. Becky and George Karschney are returning home to take care of family obligations. We will miss them dearly. Carolyn has been asked to be the children’s center director. *Pray for smooth transition and open ears for Carolyn as she learns this new role. Pray that God will provide a new assistant center director. Also, pray that our national workers, Grace our social worker and Mary our kitchen coordinator, will learn what is needed to expand their roles and fill in the gaps.*

Rafiki Boys’ and Girls’ Centers:

Construction began on the Rafiki Boys’ Center. It is similar in course content to the girls’ center, but will teach carpentry and auto mechanics instead of the painting. Doug is overseeing construction of classroom buildings for both the girls’ and boys’ centers. Doug has been asked to be the boys’ center director. *Pray for strength and quick learning in his new roles.*

I Can Hear!!

We want to tell you the story of four-year-old Elijah. When he came to us he seemed like an ordinary child. We did not know what a special gift he would become to us. Over the past year we noticed that Elijah wasn’t progressing in speech and English. He often times looked distracted and didn’t look when his name was called. Teacher Rose considered the possibility of hearing loss. Over the course of the last month he has had three hearing tests. It was discovered that Elijah had hearing loss and he was fitted with hearing aids. When he returned to Rafiki, with his new hearing aids, teacher Rose called his name. He looked at her and said “hello.” Then she asked him to repeat a word and he repeated it! When Dr. Dan Pope tried to take his hearing aids off to demonstrate how to care for them, Elijah started crying. He wasn’t crying because he was missing playtime. He was crying because he wanted to hear! *Please pray that Elijah will continue to appreciate and protect his hearing aids.* When one lives in a house with nine other children it’s hard to keep everything in one piece. *Please pray his speech will quickly improve.* There are many tribal beliefs about deafness. One of them is that the person is possessed, cursed, or perhaps has sin in the family. We were able to teach from John chapter nine that it did not happen because of a curse or sin, but so that the work of God might be displayed in his life. We praise God for the life of Elijah and the blessing he is to us.

Rafiki Quiz:

- 1) What is Rafiki's aim?
- 2) What is Rafiki's vision?
- 3) How will Rafiki accomplish its vision?
- 4) Rafiki has accepted the invitation to establish Villages in which ten African countries?
- 5) What can you do to help?

Answers:

- 1) Rafiki's aim is to: glorify God by turning helpless children in Africa into godly contributors in their counties. This is done by helping one child at a time.
- 2) Rafiki's vision is to: operate model training Villages in ten African countries where orphans and teenagers come to know the Lord Jesus Christ, receive education, and are prepared to serve their nations.
- 3) Rafiki's plan is to: send out professionals, who work together with nationals, to establish Villages to provide for the physical, spiritual, educational, and social needs of orphaned and vulnerable children.
- 4) Rafiki is establishing Villages in: Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia.
- 5) You can help by: praying for Rafiki yourself or by being a part of a Rafiki Prayer Group. You can also help by prayerfully considering going on a MiniMission trip to one of the Rafiki countries. You can support an orphan, support a Rafiki family like ours, or pray about becoming a Rafiki Overseas Staff yourself!!

Please visit Rafiki's website:
www.rafiki-foundation.org

Koepkes on Furlough:

We will be coming your way very soon and would like to share with you about what God is doing in Kenya.

June 4 Arrive San Antonio

June 5-12 Abilene, Texas

June 13-19 Viborg, South Dakota
June 20-29 Abilene, Texas
June 23-24 Rebecca and Mom, Moody
June 29-July 1 Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas
July 3-7 San Antonio (Enrichment)
July 8 Leave for Nairobi

Coffees scheduled as of April, 2006:

Thursday, June 29, 2006
Arlington Texas, Area Coffee
Contact for directions:
Martha and Bob Gamblin: 817-451-1212
Sue Kennedy: 817-861-0032

Friday, June 30, 7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.
Rafiki Missionary Banquet
The Heights Baptist Church
201 West Renner Road
Richardson, TX 75080

For additional information contact:
Mrs. Cheryl Dunn at 972-727-5903
or e-mail tomcheryl@sbcglobal.net

We are completing our sixth year with Rafiki and are eligible for a one-year sabbatical. In lieu of this, we are opting to take four months (May-August) during the summers of 2007 and 2008. If you are unable to have/attend a coffee for us this summer, will you prayerfully consider one in 2007 and/or 2008?

Serving Him together,

*Doug, Carolyn,
Rebecca, Sarah*

Doug, Carolyn, Rebecca, and Sarah Koepke

P.O. Box 25372
Nairobi Kenya 00603

E-mail: koepkes@swiftkenya.com

Unit # 102

Prayer captain's new e-mail address:
j.pb@clearwire.net