

KENYA TRIP 2007

Our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for your contributions and donations to our trip:

- Mom, Beth, Graham, Janice, George, Annika anonymous, Lacombe Composite High School, Lacombe Catholic school, Peter, Lydia, Kim, Glenn, Kim S.



Lipton Tea Field. Thousands of workers in the fields picking leaves. Very hard work.



More classrooms equal less crowding. Learning is hard under these conditions.

Pearls of Wisdom!

“ Words are like toothpaste” Ron S.

Squeeze all the toothpaste out of a tube... now try to put the toothpaste back in the tube. **Words are like toothpaste.** Once said they cannot be put back very easily.

House 4 Sale—Immediate Possession

1 bedroom 300 sqft Masai Hut built entirely of cow dung & branches with small window for privacy. Kitchen features open fire for cooking small sleeping space for the lady of the house and small children. Master bedroom is cozy & situated close to indoor pen for baby goats & calves during the night. Environmentally friendly with layout and design proving itself over the last 100 + years.. Picture doesn't do it justice, must be seen to be appreciated.



What an amazing journey Sandi & I along with our 4 girls were blessed to take part in. For 16 days in March we traveled throughout Kenya with a humanitarian foundation called “A Better World”. Their mandate is to make life better in third world countries. I cannot stress enough the extreme blessing our family received by being part of this mission / adventure. I also cannot help but to be amazed and overwhelmed by the good work Eric Rajah and “A Better World” is accomplishing. Eric is the co-founder and for lack of a better word leader, although there are a great many people with huge hearts and drive that put in monumental volunteer efforts to make the work of “A Better World” possible.

We, along with 30 other members from across Canada went and monitored, assessed, evaluated and put in some elbow grease into the many projects spearheaded by “A Better World”. Fortunately we were on hand for the opening of a dining hall in an orphanage, two nursery schools in the Muslim communities of Lamu and a school classroom in the Masai Mara.

We put a lot of miles in and I think my count was that we visited 8 schools, held 4 medical clinics, and 4 eye glass clinics. Work is underway for a new dining hall in a physically handicapped-capped school, a new girls dorm in a deaf school, 2 new classrooms for a Masai village, and several micro credit programs for small businesses and much much more.

We also went on 8 safaris, stayed in some unbelievable places and learned a great deal about the culture. I estimate Sandi snapped over 4000 pictures. We would love the opportunity to share these and our experiences with you. It truly was the most extraordinary experience we have had. Give Sandi or myself a call to share our experience or to find out how you can take part in the “A Better World” program.



An 8 hour layover in London gave us time to go into the town of Windsor and tour Windsor Castle.



Each member of the group brought a hockey bag or suitcase full of school supplies, medical supplies, toys, dolls and other items we take for granted but meant the world to the people we visited.



I guess we better stop there's a rhino crossing the road!

WATCH OUT FOR THIEVES

Look closely and you can see this cute baboon has just broke into the girls room, rifled



through their suitcases and stole a bag of trail mix, scampered up onto the roof and ate the whole bag of nuts. After 24 hours of travel we needed to take a day, catch some much needed sleep and get ready for



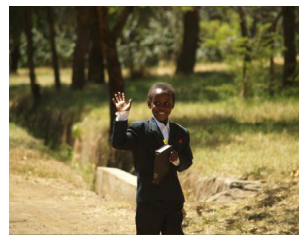
the next day. This first stop was in a resort called Lions Hill. It was in the Lake Nakura National Park. A couple of hours



from Nairobi. It was a great place to get our feet back under us, have a great meal and also a couple of Safaris. The resort was beautiful. Hard to say we were roughing it though.



EAST AFRICA MISSION ORPHANAGE



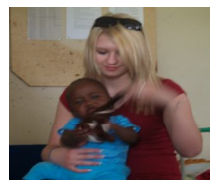
This orphanage has turned from the dream of two Australians and their desire to adopt one or two children into a 115 child or-



phanage with 6 staff. They have 50 acres and are working towards getting 500 acres at which point they feel they will be self sufficient. They currently rely heavily on donations



from around the world and from organizations such as "A Better World". This was an absolutely inspirational and at the same time heart-breaking place. The children are being loved and cared for



but the need of the community is huge. Each child has a story. As in most of the places we vis-



ited, need is great and resources are small or non-exis-



tent. There are 6 staff to love and care for 115 children and 10 newborns. Our oldest daughter Danielle has decided to return to this orphanage and plans to stay and help for up to 6 months. Our



whole family fell in love with the kids and we all would have brought home as many as possible if we could have.

www.eastafricanmission.org



The Masai people were very warm and friendly towards us. They are living in a transition between a cultural way of life that has been going on for hundreds of years and a slowly encroaching world full of new technologies and traditions. The Masai that we came into contact with were very grateful for the help in regards to education, medicine and clean water supplies. Many of the elders see

MASAI MARA



that education is something that is necessary for their children. The help with technology is important to them as well. Things like solar lighting, water catchment systems to collect clean water, classrooms for their children, text books & medical centers are

all services that "A Better World" has made possible for their villages and the people are eager to improve their standards of living. We were able to tour a village, see how they live and learn a bit about their cultural way of life. The Masai love to wear color and enjoy nothing better than to spend time singing and dancing. They are a very family oriented culture and welcomed us with open arms.



Masai Warriors having fun



3 Cheetahs having lunch



Hippos are responsible for more deaths to humans than any other animals



Presenting the Ringa School with school supplies donated by the kids of the Lacombe Catholic & Composite High



From teaching 35 kids underneath a tree to 170 kids in four classrooms. A great example of hope and making a difference.

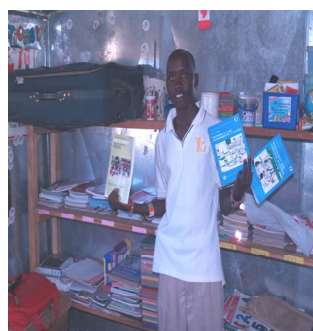


A simple cheap pair of sunglasses to us but very valuable to the Masai. They have a lot of eye problems related to the sun.

LITTLE THINGS CAN GO A LONG WAY



20 mattresses were bought for a handicap school for



\$200 dollars. Above the school principal shows the



154 textbooks and 1000 scribblers that were bought for his school for around \$600 dollars. Above a new medical clinic for the village. Very inexpensive but now is clean and a source of pride for the community.



16 Giraffe's on a march. A surreal feeling.



A Hyena having lunch with a Topi

Want to be happy for an hour?

Watch TV

Want to be happy for a day?

Go to an amusement park.

Want to be happy for life?

Spend your time serving others.

anonymous



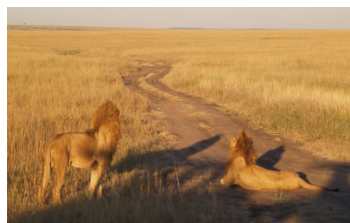
Female lion decided to get out of the shade by lying against our van. Glad she wasn't hungry as that is my elbow about 2 feet away from her. She could have stood up and jumped in the van in about 2 seconds.



Zebra's grazing , a rhino in the background



The guide laughed when we asked why the lake was pink. It was the Flamingos.



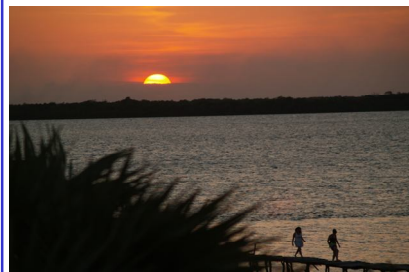
It was amazing for us to be this close to these beautiful lions, they however, did not seem to be as impressed with us.



We finished off our trip at Lamu Island. It is mostly a Muslim community. It is a fishing village that is living as



their ancestors did hundreds of years ago. The architecture in the towns has a middle eastern origin. The buildings are very old, streets are narrow, no indoor plumbing and sporadic electricity. Donkeys on land and boats on the water are the main sources of transportation. The Island of Lamu is listed as one of the top 100 islands of the world to visit. The above pictures are of the cabañas our family stayed in. The pic-



ture to the left is the view from Sandi and my bedroom looking over the Indian Ocean. We didn't just lay around in the 43C heat though. We also



opened two nurseries, assessed a handicapped school for a new dining hall and held several meetings for micro credit loans, and made plans to build more classrooms and a playground for one of the grade schools.

OH YEAH THIS IS A REAL ESTATE NEWSLETTER!
LOOK AT THE PRICE INCREASES SEEN THIS YEAR.

The Lacombe market has had

both an increase in price and in number of units sold compared to the same time period from January to May of 2006 to 2007. Notice this year there have been 11 sales over the \$400,000 dollar mark and last year there were none. (January to May) Also note there has been a dramatic increase in house sales over the \$250,000 price range this year.

Red = 2006.

Blue = 2007

Sale Prices From January to May

