

PO Box 23325,
Oysterbay
Dar es Salaam

ads4dsg@gmail.com

VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

www.dsgdar.org

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Note the next DSG meeting on your calendar now - FEBRUARY 8th**
- **Executive Board meets February 1st at the Swedish Residence**

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FEBRUARY 2012

December DSG Meeting

Thank you to Mrs. Gunilla Hjelmaker for hosting the last coffee morning meeting of 2011!

Attendees met in the garden to hear the good news about the outcome of our most recent Bazaar (details pg 2). In addition, Anne and Julie held an auction to raffle off unclaimed door prizes. What fun



it was for the members as well as bringing in additional funds for our projects.

The DSG would also like to

thank the speaker, Mr. Mubarak Manam, Zanzibar Director of Save the Children. Did you know that 50% of the Tanzanian population is under 18 years old? With some very



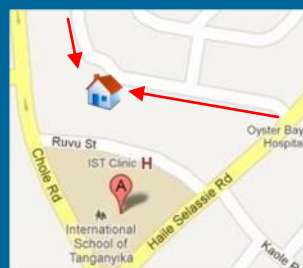
serious social issues facing this group of young people, Mr. Manam showed a video, outlined some of the most prevalent issues and talked about a few of the solutions. On Zanzibar, his office has dealt with child marriage, child labor, HIV/AIDS, juvenile delinquency and corporal punish-

ment in the schools. While he highlighted the importance of receiving grants to establish programs and work with the government, he also emphasized the importance of having dedicated and committed people in the community who can lend their support. Insightful questions were raised and discussed.

Following, was a presentation by the Bethsaida Girls of excerpts for their newly published book, "Their Voices, Their Stories".



February DSG Coffee Morning



You are cordially invited to the February Coffee Morning:

Hostess: Mrs. Naveeda Tajammul

Location: Pakistani Residence

Date: February 8th

Please join us at 9:30am to:

Be entertained by a Pakistani dress show.

Learn about sugar crafts by watching the demonstration.

See Judy give an overview of our Mwanza projects and current applications.

From the DSG Chair..... Gunilla Hjelmaker

2012 is here – Let´s make it special!

The Diplomatic Spouses Group had a great year in 2011 !

The monthly meetings attracted many members, the Karibu Dance Party was fun and successful and the November Bazaar turned out to be our best fund - raising event ever! It brought people together and we raised 73.2 million Tanzanian Shillings.

We all have the right to be proud of what we have accomplished. But we also have an obligation to continue to put heart and effort into the DSG and its future activities. Because throughout the years, the DSG has become a well known and trusted partner for development to small NGOs in Tanzania.

The year 2011 was great – let´s make 2012 even better! We are all in this together and – we can do it! However, it must be noted that at the end of the year, Dar es Salaam experienced the worst rains since 1956. The consequences of the rains were severe, marked by the tragedy of some deaths as well as belongings being washed away. There were even some families in our diplomatic community who were affected. This is just to say that our thoughts go out to you and we hope that the DSG can be a positive network of friends in difficult times.

Our first meeting of the year is on Wednesday, February 8th, at the Pakistani High Commissioner´s residence. Hope to see you all there. Do bring the newly arrived colleagues that you are in contact with! Several members have left but we also know that there are those who have just arrived. The DSG offers a great opportunity to meet people and to get to know what diplomatic life in Dar es Salaam is all about.

Right now we are in the middle of the DSG working year. But it is already time to start thinking forward of whom to nominate as chair and co-chair for the organization from mid-May and into the year ahead. Elections will be held at our AGM, May 9th. You can nominate your candidate by contacting me or any member of the executive committee (you will find executive committee members on our website www.dsgdar.org) from now until April 6th.

The DSG charter states:

“The Chairperson shall be elected from the membership of the DSG and shall, wherever possible, be the partner of a Head of Mission. The Co-chairperson shall be elected from the membership of the DSG and there shall be no other specific requirement or qualification in this appointment.”

2012 is still a fairly new year. We are here in Dar and we can make it special, for each other and for others!



Projects Committee

By Judy Wiesinger



Grateful children display their new and colorful shoes!



Thumbs up from the Busega Children's and Services Development Assistance.

Please check out the updated Projects section on the DSG website (thanks to Lisa) and note that the Projects Committee has a new email address, projectsdsg@gmail.com. The old address will soon cease to exist.

I start this message with a big "Thank you" to all who gave so generously in the weeks leading up to Christmas. In November, we were able to hand over a sum of money to Susie and Andy Hart, founders and coordinators of Neema Crafts Centre for People with Disabilities, an NGO that has been supported by the DSG several times in the past (www.neemacrafts.com). This time, however, your money, collected at the November meeting, was for Susie and Andy to start to rebuild their lives after their house was burned down just weeks before they were to leave Iringa. They were very touched by your thoughtfulness and asked me to convey their thanks. Then, in mid-December, Gunilla and I visited Sister Josefata, an elderly sister who has worked with the very poor and destitute in Oysterbay for more than forty years. She provides them with medication and food – two types of funding that are desperately needed but which do not fall under our regular criteria for DSG support. She was thrilled and immensely grateful for the money and food we gave her, later writing to ask me to convey to you that "it's a great help for our sick, poor people. God bless all of you for your great heart and your good will in helping the poor!" Finally, many bags of children's clothing, shoes and some toys were given to the Children's Cancer Ward at Muhimbili, another one of our past projects. Thank you all for your generosity.

In the last newsletter, I mentioned that I was going to Mwanza and hoped to visit two of our projects in that region. Unfortunately, I was unable to make the trip to Ukerewe Island to visit Lake Victoria Children's Organisation due to a severe bout of stomach troubles, but I was brought up-to-date on the work of the organisation in a long chat to the chairman, Alex Magaga, on the phone, and I was able to send over two large boxes of Crocs (shoes), kindly donated by a DSG member, for the children. The Crocs found a perfect home as you see in the photograph (above)!

One morning, I was able to meet Mathew Shadrack, the managing director of Busega Children's and Services Development Assistance (BCDSA). It was interesting to meet one of the people with whom the DSG has corresponded regularly but whom we've rarely met. His exciting news was that the orphaned children were about to move into a brand-new home and that the cows, which the DSG had funded, would soon be joining them (in the shamba!).

We shall be featuring our Mwanza projects as "Projects of the Month" at our monthly meeting on February 8th. That will give you a chance to learn more about the exciting work that YOU support!

Finally, at the time of writing, the Projects Committee has received 30 applications for funding in 2012. This number may still increase as we head towards midnight on the last day that applications can be received if they are to qualify for consideration. All I can tell you at this stage is that we have received applications for support of a wide range of projects. Stay tuned!

DSG HAS A NEW WEBMASTER!

It has happened once again; just when the DSG Executive Board was beginning to despair, a new member stepped up and offered a desperately needed skill set!

As an all volunteer organization, the DSG depends on members and the skills they bring with them. Maintaining a current website is essential as it is often the first encounter that new

members have with the group, where current members look for all the news and where our adopted community goes to download the Projects Application Form or contact information.

Thank you to Lisa Rosenfield-Pazienza who had undertaken the task as webmaster while simultaneously heading up the Newcomer's Committee for the past year.

Our new webmaster is Molly Henderson and we thank her for taking on this new role.



Newcomer's Committee

By Lisa Rosenfield-Pazienza

Are you new to Dar? Just arrived in the past couple of months and still getting oriented? If so, please join me and other DSG members on Thursday, February 16th at Epi d'Or Cafe. We will meet at 9:30am for coffee, an orientation seminar, social time and questions. Please join us!

In the past, the Newcomer's Committee has organized a bus tour of Dar es Salaam to acquaint members to various parts of the city. We are looking into collaborating with the Social Committee to bring our members another bus tour for both newcomers as well as people who may just enjoy the accessibility in addition to the advantages of going with a guide who is very familiar to downtown. Please watch this section for more information in the upcoming months!



Opportunities to Join a Committee!!

MEMBERS... there are currently several openings within the DSG. Please read the descriptions and if you may be interested, feel free to talk to a current committee member at the next Coffee Morning. No arm twisting—we promise!

1. Newsletter Editor

- Call for article submissions the last week of each month
- Compile articles, photos, community flyers, etc. in newsletter format
- Distribute Newsletter to all DSG members through website and membership secretary
- Attend monthly DSG morning coffees to report and photograph monthly events
- Collaborate with other community groups such as UNSG, Corona, etc. to distribute public DSG activities and to receive others that benefit DSG members
- Attend monthly board meetings to be aware of and have the ability to report on actions taken

2. Secretary

- Put out a call for agenda items during the last week of the month
- Prepare the agenda for Executive Committee meetings and distribute to those attending in advance of the meeting
- Take minutes of Executive Committee meetings
- Distribute minutes to all Executive Committee members on a monthly basis and provide copies of minutes to general membership on request
- Keep records of all of the above in electronic format, and provide copies to webmaster for inclusion on DSG website on request.
- Organize the annual elections for Chair and Co-Chair.

3. Newcomer's Committee

The role of the Newcomers Committee is to welcome newcomers from the diplomatic community to Dar es Salaam, encouraging them to become DSG members and supporting them as they settle in to life in Tanzania. The Committee should obtain

information from the various Diplomatic Missions and Organizations regarding new arrivals and a committee member should contact newcomers individually, welcoming them and inviting them to the next DSG morning as well as to specific coffee mornings at a local café. At each DSG Morning a Newcomers Committee member will be present to welcome and register newcomers and introduce them to other members.


4. Social Committee

- Secure a venue and host for each DSG Morning
- Assist the host in planning and arranging the program, if needed
- Arrive at the DSG Morning venue early to ensure that signing-in procedures are organized in good time and that name badges are available
- Greet members and guests at the Coffee Morning venue and directing them to the Newcomer's table.
- Make announcements at the Coffee morning
- Focal point for interest groups
- Arrange Karibu Dance & events

Community Events and Notices

Activity	Day and Time		Contact Person and Number	
6 km Walking Group	Mon., Wed., and Fri.	7:30am at	Tracy Moreno	0757 165 280
Bridge (beginners & intermediate)	various		Indira	0754 604 661
English Book Club	Monthly / Evenings		Oluseyi Onabanjo	0765 751 744
French Book Club	Monthly on a Friday	4pm	Elena Conti	0782 144 137
Tennis Group			Open for a member to organize	

COMMUNITY






**Introducing
Wine Down
Wednesday**

with Wakwetu Jazz Band

*Come and wind down with us
- have a drink with friends
and enjoy some jazz...*

6pm - 9pm
at The Black Tomato Cafe
and A Novel Idea Bookshop
Oyster Bay Shopping Centre
starting this Wednesday
1st Feb


FORCE ONE SPORTS
@ the
**International
School of
Tanganyika**
SATURDAYS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
SKILLS & GAMES BASKETBALL
with **FREE SWIM**
Jan. 21 to Mar. 31
For 10 WEEKS
9:00 AM to 12:30 PM

SECONDARY SCHOOL
SKILLS & GAMES BASKETBALL
Feb. 4 to Mar. 31
For 9 WEEKS
2:30 PM to 5:00 PM

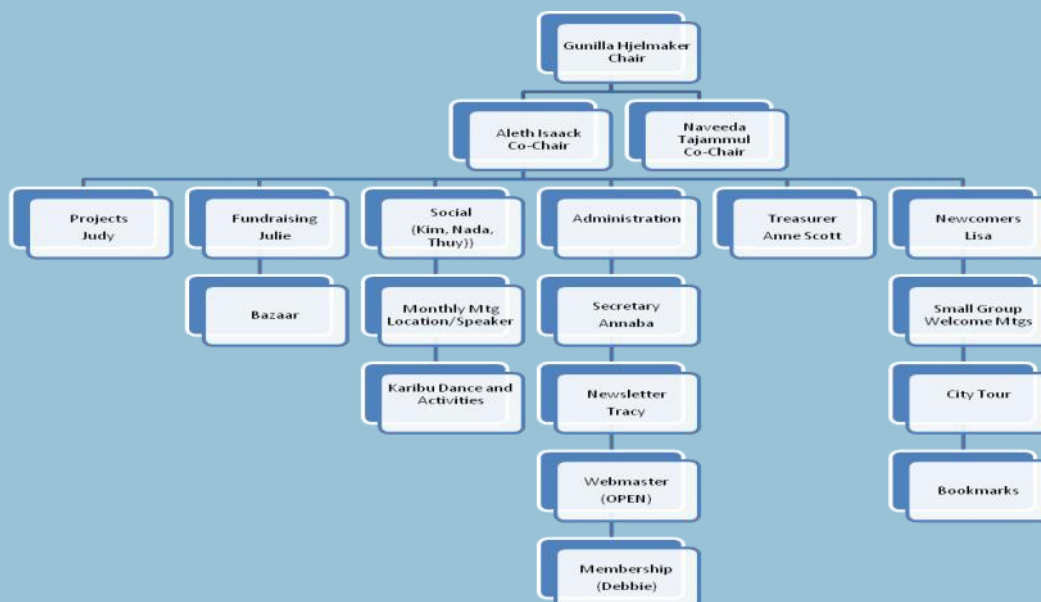
Enroll "NOW" at www.forceonesportstz.com

Force One Sports Basketball Skills & Games is a program created and run by Cray Bony, who has more than 14 years playing and training high school, college and professional basketball in Africa, the United States and Europe. The program provides basketball instruction complemented with life-skill lessons suitable to children of all ages and ability levels. The program teaches our young athletes new skills, develops existing skills and reiterates the importance of basketball fundamentals. Individual participants will learn and develop key basketball skills and techniques such as shooting, dribbling, passing as well as defense and offense techniques. In addition, small groups and team activities allow participants to practice team work and enhance competitive skills. We provide a fun, educational and safe environment by using sports as one of the best platforms for life's greatest lessons such as sportsmanship, leadership, teamwork and self-confidence.

To view age categories, pricing and to enroll, please visit our website www.forceonesportstz.com/enroll-now

DSG

We are a non profit organization comprised of persons with diplomatic status in Tanzania. Our mandate is to be a social and charitable organization which is non-political, non-governmental, and non-profit. Our primary fundraising activity is an annual charity bazaar held in November. The funds raised by our organization are distributed between different charity projects around Tanzania.



Chairperson:

Hjelmaker, Gunilla

Co-Chairpersons:

Isaack, Aleth

Tajammul, Naveeda

Treasurer:

Scott, Anne

Administration:

Kilfeather, Annaba (secretary)

Arnold, Debbie (members' list)

Henderson, Molly (webmaster)

Moreno, Tracy (newsletter)

Social Committee:

El Ghaffar, Nada

Mike, Kimberley

Pham, Thuy

Fundraising Committee:

Bhakta, Jagu

Conti, Elena

Hjelmaker, Gunilla

Isaack, Aleth

Koekkoek, Berna

Moreno, Tracy

Son, Eun-Mi

Tajammul, Naveeda

Wakeman-Linn, Julie

Wiesinger, Judy

Newcomers' Committee:

Pazienza Rosenfield, Lisa

OPEN POSITION

Projects Committee:

Collins, Sara

Hjelmaker, Gunilla

Hying, Kristin

Mekkonen, Endanchi

Podgurschi, Lilia

Todevska, Daniela

Vercruysse, Veronique

Wakemann-Linn, Julie

Wiesinger, Judy