

Hello!

The building of the S:t Christine school in Kabondo began 12 years ago. The society started with 41 deeply engaged members in 2002 and has since through membership fees, various activities and engaged sponsors funded the development of the school and its operation. Today most of the building work is completed and the main costs consist of maintenance and operation. In spite of this the financing of the school activities has not become any easier. This year the school has 350 students and the Society's monthly contribution is SEK 50 000. The exchange rate has dropped by 10 – 15 % which means that our membership fees are now insufficient to cover all costs, and we are working in different ways to increase our revenues. Today the total monthly cost for a pupil is about SEK 200. In an attempt to secure the funding for the school the board has decided to set up an application for a so called 90-account at Svensk Insamlingskontroll, a body which surveys not-profit organisations' fund raising. It will also perform annual checks to allow the Society to retain this type of account. The board has together with the Foundation arrived at the conclusion that we need to make certain adjustments to our organisation and accounting in order to make the transactions between the Society and the school easier to check and follow up. If the application is approved, the Society has to pay an initial fee and then annual fees. We assess that we will be ready to make a formal application after the turn of the year. Then we have to wait and see how long it will take and if there is some form of test period before we can have our 90-account. The costs for such an account are deemed to be reasonable in relation to the possible benefits in collecting funds for the operation of the school. If we are approved for having a 90-account we will continuously follow up and evaluate costs and results. We will provide further information later.

Crafts sessions in the fall.

We will manufacture gems and other items, which we can sell to the benefit of S: t Christine Education Center . If you wish to participate, you are welcome to contact Bitte Brask telephone 070-757 68 77 or via mail to ordf@kisumu.se For dates, please visit the Society' web page or contact Bitte Brask.

Culture Night in Norrköping on Sept 27th.

The Culture Night in Norrköping is an annual event, where we have participated earlier. This year Julia had talked with Café Jolla, which lent us a table and provided space outside the café. Through sales of African gems, various crafts, fabrics etc. we managed to raise about SEK 6 000. The interest for the school was great and we hope to have convinced a few to become members of the Society. This kind of events have turned out well and often given the Society a much needed addition to the school's operation. We welcome tips och suggestions of more places, where culture nights are arranged and where we can participate, inform about the school and the Society and sell African gems and crafts.

Upcoming activities

Christmas bazar on November 29th in Tyresö. Reserve November 29th in your calendars. We have had the opportunity to rent a facility at a very low cost at Sikvägen 12, Tyresö, only 5 minutes walk from Tyresö center. The cost for the space at Östermalm was far too high, which affected the net result in a negative way. We also hope that, by holding the bazar in a place, where we haven't been before, we will reach people we haven't reached before. If you don't go to Tyresö by car, there are two buslines, nr 875 and 873 going to Tyresö center. Of course we hope that our "old" members will come to the bazar and get the latest news from the school. Additional information will come in the next Newsletter and in the web page www.kisumu.se

New concert for the benefit of S:t Christine School in the spring of 2015. We have been in contact with Årsta Church, which bids us welcome to arrange another concert in cooperation with the church. The actual day and time are not determined and we will return with that information in a future Newsletter. If you yourself or any person or group you know would be willing to

contribute with music or singing, please contact Bitte Brask 070-757 68 77 or send a mail to ordf@kisumu.se

Being an official – a nice task, which brings money to the school. We have earlier worked as track officials at the running competition Tjejmilen (10 km for women only) in 2013. The organiser, Stockholm Marathon, arranges not only Tjejmilen but also Vår-Ruset, Stockholm Marathon, Bellmanstafetten and other competitions. Every year they are looking for officials, and societies, which participate with people are paid about SEK 300 per person plus a one-time fee of SEK 500. All officials receive a lunch salad, beverage, fruit etc. Working as an official is usually very nice and the atmosphere around the races is always positive. We, who take part in this, normally get a pleasant day together at the same time as we make a contribution for the children at S:t Christine School. Some dates for 2015: Vår-Ruset May 25 – 26th, Stockholm Marathon May 30th, Tjejmilen September 5th, Stockholm Half-Marathon September 12th and Tjurruset (Bulls Race) October 3rd – 4th. Should you have any questions about this or be interested in participating as an official at any of the races and in doing so give the Society a contribution, which will go in extensio to the school's operation, please contact Bitte Brask, telephone 070-757 68 77 or via mail to ordf@kisumu.se

I will announce our interest, when I know the number of participants and which race/date suits us best.

Finally a short summary/excerpt from Head Master David's latest report from the second semester, from May 5th to August 8th.

Greetings to you all. All the students in the school have cooperated well with the teachers, which means that the work has progressed and the students have reached very good results, above the average for corresponding schools. This indicates that all the pupils will pass the exams at the end of the year. This semester has included lots of sports and drama, where the children have been very successful and won several rewards. The sickness cases among the children were few and they were mainly at good health. Those who needed medical care were sent to the nearby health care center, where they received treatment. All the teachers have worked well and are at good health. They have put in their best efforts for the children, and we can look back at a good cooperation among the teachers, which also contributed to the school's good result. The staff meet regularly and discuss the challenges we meet in the education and the best ways to work with and develop the teaching. The kitchen staff has done a fantastic job. The housekeeping works well and the cleaning staff makes sure every day that the children have a clean environment. Evans and I myself participated in a two days' visit to Mumias east of Kisumu. We brought back our experience and knowledge from the visit and have shared the content and experience from the two days with the teachers.