

## END OF YEAR REPORT 2007

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The year 2007 has been a great year for the Lewa Education Trust with improved standards of education in the schools as well as the supported children. Wildlife Conservation from within Lewa Wildlife Conservancy has been a great vehicle to accessing resources to all that we were able to achieve in our schools and programme generally.

### BURSARIES

Below is the distribution of the bursaries in the year 2007

University	7
College	31
Form 4	19
Form 3	29
Form 2	34
Form 1	20
Primary	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>168</b>

The form fours just sat for the end of secondary school exam and will be getting the results in February. The results will determine the courses they will pursue to build on their careers.

We held an end of year meeting with the high school students and parents in Lewa Wildlife Conservancy just after the students had closed. It was a very fruitful meeting as the children expressed their issues to the parents and LET on a common forum and we agreed amicably on a couple of issues the main one being improved performance.



Students being advised by a former sponsored student

We held a Christmas party for the young children in the primary school most of them being orphans. The party was sponsored by Peter and Kathy Linneman together with Lewa Wildlife Conservancy staff who contributed both in cash and in kind. The children were picked from their home, brought to Lewa, treated to a lovely lunch, a game drive in the new bus and lastly Santa Claus gave them gifts to take home. They took home new clothes, story books, toys, and cooking stuff to take home to the guardians to cook for them over Christmas time.

The children said that this is their best Christmas ever because they received gifts that they did not expect at all. Also they had an opportunity to go for a game drive in Lewa of which most of them had not had the opportunity. They got to appreciate that it's through wildlife conservation that they are lucky to have an opportunity to access to quality education.



Santa Claus giving Roline Christmas gifts Happy Children

### **SCHOOLS REPORT**

Schools have closed till January for December holidays. We are expecting to have the Kenya Certificate Of Primary Education end of December and Kenya Certificate Of Secondary Education results end of February.

The education standards have improved in the schools with the mean scores ranging over the average. Gradually, the teachers are being accountable for all the resources being put in the school by having children performing better. We hope to continue with the same trend.

All the schools had a feeding programme which has greatly contributed to the high retention rate in the schools as well as the ever increasing enrolment. The children are very healthy as they had a constant balanced hot meal at lunch time and ten o'clock porridge.

### **CONSERVATION EDUCATION**

Through the initiative of Thalia Dergham, a conservation bus was bought to be used by children to come to visit Lewa Wildlife Conservancy. The children will be coming to Matunda gate, take the bus, go for a game drive at no cost and taken back to the gate. The bus is green thus within the Lewa Standards and very comfortable. Initially children

were coming to Lewa using different buses that did not fall within the Lewa Standards and not comfortable for game viewing.



### **ADULT LITERACY**

The adult Literacy Programme has been a great success in the year. The learners have had various experiences that have been a great eye opener. There are seven centers with about 250 learners. Classes are attended Monday through Saturday.

Other than learning how to read and write, the learners have gone for two exposure tours that have made them realize how they can fully utilize the readily available natural resources. They were taught on energy saving stoves, making fresh juice from pawpaw, medicinal value of different crops, generating energy from manure, making flour from different crops like sweet potatoes, cassava, arrow roots and many others to make maize meal or chapatti. They have been taught how to make soap from avocado, which they are already doing for retail purposes.

The learners too were involved in income generating projects where they contributed funds and bought different items. Matunda and Subuiga class decided to buy tanks to harvest rain water and use them for storage. This has made them very happy as they have water tanks and with the rains that we have had, they have water in the tanks and do not have to go buying or fetching kilometers away. Manyangalo and Kanyunga centers agreed to buy paraffin to sell to the community and iron sheets for roofing their houses. They appreciate the programme as it is economically empowering and their standards of living in their homes are improving.

The Lewa Adult Literacy centres have again been given a trophy for being the best centre in Isiolo District. Our learners too got certificates for the basic literacy and post literacy exams.



Basic Literacy Certificate



Post Literacy Certificate



Learner getting a shirt



Learner getting a kanga

At the end of year closing ceremony, the learners were given a kanga for the ladies and the men were given shirts. They have been requesting for uniform so that they can be identified as the Lewa Adult Literacy Learners by the community and are very glad to have one.

We are grateful for the support by Susan Lyall for starting the programme and funding it. Jackie and Pete Thomas have also supported activities in the programme as well as the training of the adult literacy teachers so as to improve curriculum implementation. The learners have promised to keep up the spirit and continue working hard so that they can be empowered to make informed decisions, become self reliant and improve their livelihoods.