

The Kellermann Foundation Newsletter

Annual Letter From our President

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Dear Reader,

Sometimes the voice of the Holy Spirit comes to us through the invitation of an encouraging friend who proceeds to lead us out of our comfort zones. When we listen to the Spirit and make this "leap of faith," good things almost inevitably happen.

About ten years ago, a good friend told my husband and me that we needed to go to Uganda with him, to visit the then-emerging Bwindi Healthcare Center, founded by our family physician Dr. Scott Kellermann and his wife Carol. At the time, my only knowledge of Uganda was vague, negative recollections of Idi Amin's brutal dictatorship and a hostage crisis. Africa was the last place I wanted to visit, with its reputation for unsolvable problems and poisonous snakes. But this friend was persistent and persuasive as he told the story of the Batwa pygmies and their plight as conservation refugees. His enthusiasm was contagious, and his faith in the project and commitment to the cause made me pause and question my own reticence. After much soul searching, Craig and I took the "leap of faith," signing on for the first of many journeys to Bwindi and what has become some of the most rewarding work of my life.

It was Don Fultz (see article on page 2) who initially encouraged that "leap of faith." Don is a longtime friend of the Kellermanns and a co-founder of the Kellermann Foundation. He has been a source of great inspiration to all of us, and though he recently retired from our Board of Directors after many years of devoted service, his legacy remains. He exemplified the importance of building relationships, generous giving, and expressing gratitude. I will be forever grateful to Don for his mentoring and leading the way in my own "leap of faith."

When we listen to the whisperings of the Holy Spirit, the outcome may surprise us. We can only imagine the uncertainty Scott and Carol Kellermann must have felt as they closed their medical practice here in the States and set up that first medical clinic in Bwindi, relying on God each step of the way. The results are nothing short of miraculous, and good things continue to happen as a result each and every day. The continued success of this work depends directly on each of us, through our own "leaps in faith" as we decide to share our time, talent, and treasure in whatever ways the Spirit calls us to. My prayer is that you continue to "leap" for the Kellermann Foundation and support our work generously, with a confidence inspired by our record of successful stewardship. Take a look at our [annual report](#) to see exactly how our funding was used.

Here are a few of our successes over the last year:

- Opened the Batwa Women's Center, providing vocational training and adult education.
- Began construction on Uganda Nursing School, Bwindi, to provide the only RN-level nursing education in the district.
- Improved the Batwa Experience living history cultural site. Batwa children learn about their heritage and visitors experience the Batwa's former life in the forest.
- Supported 247 Batwa children in education, at every level from nursery to university.
- Decreased under-age-five mortality among Batwa children to 6% (from 38% in 2001).
- 91% of children born to HIV-positive mothers were HIV-free at discharge.
- Safely delivered more than 100 babies per month.
- Reduced pediatric mortality among admitted children to under 1.3%
- Strengthened partnerships with Colgate University, the University of Scranton, Tulane University, and Mayo Medical School in support of the programs in Uganda

Please join with us in supporting this miraculous work. You can give by clicking the Donate button, or visit our website at kellermannfoundation.org.

With warm regards,



Jean L. Creasey, DDS
President of the Board of Directors



Jean Creasey in Uganda

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How gifts help:

Sponsor education for a year:

\$125 - Local primary school
\$750 - Primary boarding
\$900 - Secondary school
\$3,000 - University
\$4,000 - Nursing school

Provide medical services:

\$10 - Bed net
\$50 - Immunizations for a child
\$165 - Safe in-hospital delivery
\$170 - Treat malnutrition

Sponsor staff for a year:

\$2,500 - School teacher
\$3,800 - BDP staff member
\$4,800 - Nurse
\$21,500 - Medical officer

Support special projects:

\$50 - Agriculture supplies
\$500 - Women's Ctr. supplies
\$1,000 - Build Batwa home
\$18,000 - Medical incinerator
\$30,000 - Staff housing unit

Donate



P.S. See the sidebar for ways your unrestricted donation may help. Every donation changes lives!

Contributed by Jean Creasey

Volunteer Corner: Don Fultz

Occasionally you will meet a person who doesn't seem to understand the meaning of words like "inconvenient, difficult, or impractical." They are the kind of folks who forge ahead, cheerfully undaunted by challenges that others see as impossible. Don Fultz is one such person, and his lifelong mission to deliver medical and dental relief to some of the most remote parts of the globe, including Bwindi, bears testimony to this.



Don Fultz in Uganda

An active Rotarian since 1964, Don's actions clearly reflect the Rotary motto of "service above self." After a major earthquake hit Mexico in 1984, he stepped up to organize a major Rotary relief project, raising over \$138,000 and recruiting the service of a Mercy Ship to help with medical needs. From 1985-96, Don made over 13 trips to various and remote parts of Mexico, many times

landing his small plane on barely navigable dirt runways as he safely delivered teams of dentists, physicians, and volunteers to places that would otherwise never get care. In addition to his Rotary work, he also volunteered his considerable skills as a fundraiser for Youth with a Mission, United Way, and Mercy Ships.

In 2004, inspired by the work that his friend and fellow Rotarian Dr. Scott Kellermann was doing in Uganda, Don began to spread the word and enthusiasm for the cause of the Batwa pygmies among Rotary clubs. He connected various Rotarians from far-reaching places like North Carolina and Kabale, Uganda, all working together for the greater good of their fellow man. He oversaw the packing, transport, and delivery of a shipping container filled with medical and school supplies for Bwindi—no small feat, given the vagaries of getting containers through port authorities in Mombasa. Sensitive to keeping Don's blood pressure under control, Don's wife GeorgeAnn would appreciate it if you didn't ask him to retell this story any time soon! By procuring major matching grants and organizing trips to deliver critically needed medical equipment, Don helped ensure the establishment of what has become the top-rated hospital in all of Uganda, [Bwindi Hospital](#). Seeing Don in action has certainly had its own ripple effect, inspiring many to go above and beyond what they thought

themselves capable of doing. (See below.) In the words of Jerry Hall, past Vice President of Rotary International, "Don sees people in need and cares little of where they are, how difficult it might be to provide assistance or who might get the credit for the good deeds that are needed."



Scott Kellermann (back left), Don Fultz (right), and BCH staff visit a Batwa family

His good work continues today with various worthy causes, especially through Rotary. As Don retires from our own Board of Directors, I can't help but reflect that one of his best legacies is as the co-founder of The Kellermann Foundation, an organization that grew from a simple "kitchen table operation" to the amazing and impactful organization that it is today. Saint Francis of Assisi asserted that "**The deeds you do** may be the only sermon some persons will hear today." On behalf of the entire Kellermann Foundation family: **Thank you, Don**, for the beautiful sermon. It is truly lovely.

The Ripple Effect

One person can make a tremendous difference by spreading the word. Here are just a few of the Kellermann Foundation friends recruited by and inspired by Don Fultz:



Blackie Gonsalves (ctr) with Batwa elders & BDP staff

Continuation of Volunteer Corner

Blackie Gonsalves, a professional photographer, who spent the last 5 years of his life working in Uganda with the [Batwa Development Program](#), and who was initially recruited by Don. Blackie married Dorothy Nakaweesi, a Ugandan, who continues to support the organization in Blackie's memory.

Jerry Hall, past International Vice President of Rotary International, who helped in procuring grants, served as an encourager for Scott, and continues to assist with Rotary grant submission and other Rotary support of Kellermann Foundation projects.

Harry Auld and **Jim Phillips**, both Kellermann Foundation Board members, volunteers to Bwindi, and long-time supporters.



Jean Creasey's 2012 team in Uganda

Jean Creasey, DDS, current Kellermann Foundation Board President, friend to Scott and Carol, and 3-time volunteer to Bwindi.

All of these individuals have recruited many more friends, donors, and volunteers to help with our work. Many thanks to Don for starting the ripple!

WASH Campaign Project at Bwindi

Contributed by Nicole Simmons

As in many other villages in rural Africa, poor sanitation is a major challenge to the Bwindi population. At Bwindi Community Hospital, more than 50% of the diseases seen in the outpatient department may be attributed to poor sanitation. The prevalence of disease such as cholera, typhoid, and hepatitis can be reduced greatly when people improve their home sanitation standards, especially hand washing. The WASH Campaign Project was designed to address the local sanitation and hygiene problem, mainly through outreach to school children, who we believe can be the greatest agents of sustainable change.



Students participate in community clean-up

The Bwindi Community Hospital WASH Campaign, generously sponsored by the **Volcanoes Safaris Partnership Trust**, began in 2012 and has reached more than 20,000 children with their sanitation message. Every Wednesday, the field and outreach team at BCH visits schools, communities, and homesteads with their sanitation message. The team shares ongoing education about standard sanitation, water handling, and hand-washing practices.

Some of the 2012 WASH project accomplishments include:

- 100 community cleaning days were held, during which pupils and students cleaned water sources and participated in the general community sanitation of 100 trading centers.

- Buhoma trading center and market are demonstratively cleaned every first Wednesday of the month. Buhoma village has been selected as a WASH Model Village.
- Fully functional hand-washing facilities were installed in all the schools in the BCH catchment area. The children excitedly and happily participate in WASH campaign activities.
- Students were taught how to make “tippy taps,” which has had an impact on improving hand washing in schools and homes. The “tippy tap” is a hands-free way to wash hands that is especially appropriate for rural areas where there is no running water. The tap is usually made from a recycled water can, bottle, or

other container and is operated by a foot lever, thus reducing the chance for bacteria transmission, as the user touches only the soap.

The WASH project will continue to be supported by Volcanoes Safaris Partnership Trust through 2013. Visitors to the Buhoma area are welcome to join the BCH field team on Wednesdays, to participate in the village clean-up and hand washing message.

The WASH program is making a difference with a simple, consistent message that can save lives.



Learning to make a tippy-tap

Buying Happiness: A Spirit of Philanthropy

By Matt Wood,
Development Director

Money can't buy happiness. Or can it? Maybe the old adage just serves as a reminder that having more possessions doesn't always translate into being happy. Giving part of what we have, on the other hand, has the power to build up another person. Money, when handled properly, can provide for the world's most pressing needs.

Warren Buffett recently committed to give away 99% of his wealth to charity, and he said he “couldn't be happier.” His pledge, he says, is only the beginning in a course to influence the way Americans live with and spend money.

Andrew Carnegie modeled that spirit as well. Carnegie's portrait by an anonymous artist, circa 1905, hangs in the National Portrait

Gallery in Washington, D.C., and alongside it are these words:

“‘The individual who amasses great wealth,’ declared Pittsburgh steelmaker Andrew Carnegie in his 1889 essay *Gospel of Wealth*, ‘must in the end apply his fortune for the benefit of all.’ Having built one of the world's largest fortunes, Carnegie took his mandate seriously. During his lifetime, he turned over a staggering \$350 million, or nine-tenths of his total wealth, for benevolent purposes.”

Carnegie's generosity was broad and deep. He promoted the arts (Carnegie Hall) and higher education (Carnegie-Mellon University), which elevated the elite. But he cared about raising the bottom as much as creaming the top. His

gifts strengthened teachers, created libraries and funded other social ventures that increased opportunity for people to climb the ladder of achievement.

Our world needs more philanthropy that enhances the lives of the disadvantaged, especially when it comes to solving problems of poverty, hunger, homelessness, health care, and education.

Whether we have a lot of money or a little, we can follow the lead of Warren Buffet and Andrew Carnegie. Generous giving is born out of a love for humankind, not just the love of those we deem winners. Our giving should model that love. Jesus said, “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much.” It's time to start now.



Providing hope and health in Uganda

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Volunteer dental team at Bwindi, 2012

Staff

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Sally Stillings

Development Director
Matt Wood

Volunteer Coordinator
Rachel Medina

Executive Assistant
Janet Soo Maxwell

Donations Associate
Katherine Campbell



The Kellermanns with Batwa friends, 2002

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Tidbits

Staff changes

In May, the Kellermann Foundation was pleased to welcome **Matt Wood** as our new full-time Development Director. Matt comes to us with a broad background in organizational, nonprofit, and church work, and we are glad to add his expertise to our team.

In June we said farewell to **Kim Uhlmann**, former Donations Coordinator, who is now concentrating on her licensed massage therapist business. We also welcomed our newest employee, **Katherine Campbell**, who will serve as our part-time Donations Associate. Good luck, Kim, and welcome aboard, Matt and Katherine!

Save the Date

To all our Texas readers: Mark your calendars for Thursday, November 14, for the Kellermann Foundation's **Hope and Health 2013** fundraising event. Plan to join us for an evening with **Dr. Scott Kellermann** at the Church of the Incarnation in Dallas.

Stay tuned for more details!

Batwa Challenge Race

Don't miss the **Batwa Challenge** 5K and 10K run and 5K walk to be held in Nevada City, California, on Saturday, August 17th. Proceeds benefit the Kellermann Foundation's work in Uganda. The Batwa Challenge is part of the Gold Country Grand Prix Event in Nevada County. For more information, visit batwachallenge.com.

Thank you!

Dr. and Mrs. Richard Burgess of Aubrey, Texas, recently donated Dr. Burgess' entire library of medical books to the Kellermann Foundation for use at Bwindi Community Hospital and the new Uganda Nursing School, Bwindi. Dr. Burgess, who is a retired pathologist, personally delivered the 30 boxes of books to the Kellermann Foundation office with his wife and daughter. Under normal circumstances, our foundation cannot accept gifts of books or other bulky items, because it is difficult and costly to get them to Uganda. However, the timing for this gift was serendipitous, as Uganda Christian University Partners generously offered to share space on a sea container being shipped to the university. The books will be delivered to the hospital and nursing school later this year. Many thanks to Dr. and Mrs. Burgess for this generous gift!