

**A little
help—a big
difference**

Support for Kids Organization, Inc

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Special points of interest:

- Shipment arrived
- Books on sale
- Inauguration Ceremony
- Future plans
- Legends and facts about Georgia

Letter from the founder

Dear readers and supporters,

We are continuing our promise to deliver to you all the news, even if it is not so significant, but still concerns our organization's activities.

I would like to thank each and every one of you who joined us at Brigantine last week. Even though it was not a full blown fundraiser, we appreciated the time it takes to go out to a midweek lunch or dinner especially for those of you that had to drive some distance. Maybe it was not as fun and exciting as the October event at Tom Ham's Lighthouse, still, it was a good way to be in touch with our friends and supporters, to get our charity exposed in San Diego and get known outside our circle of friends.

Our special thanks also to those who could not come to Brigantine, but instead made generous donations.

Also, we realize that we are living in tough economic times and charity may not be a priority at this moment. Regardless, you have supported us in many other ways.

Not everything is measured by money. Your moral support and encouragement are extremely important. That is why I would like to thank those of you are continuing your interest and wishing us success with emails and getting the word out about our charity.

Thanks as always,

Ani Mdivani-Morrow



The Status on the Shipment

You probably are curious but don't even want to ask me and touch this painful subject—what has happened with our shipment of shoes. Well, I know it is hard to believe but the container has finally arrived in Georgian port of Poti. It is the same port where Jason and the Argonauts had anchored in the 3rd century BC in the search of the Golden Fleece. I don't think their voyage was as traumatic as our experience with this shipment. Other good news concerning the same issue is that all the customs fees have been waived, since the goods qualify as a humanitarian aid. This is partly a result of my January trip to Georgia when I battled to register our Support for Kids Organization Inc with the Georgian government for this very reason (it was another painful experience) and also, mainly, of incredible help from Natia Pirashvili from the Child Protection Agency.

After the clearing customs, the container will be shipped to Tbilisi. Most of the goods, especially winter boots, shoes, hats and gloves will be stored away till the beginning of September, when I arrive to Georgia and personally want to deliver them to the kids. The rest of the goods (jeans and joggers) will be distributed to the orphanages around the country with a help of our Georgian representative Manana Sikharulidze and again, Natia from the agency.

The Future Projects

We have been asked to help with various needs for the kids. Unfortunately, we can not help with everything and that is why we are trying to select the projects of most importance. One of them is to supply 3 orphanages with freezer chests and cooking ranges. Most of you have seen and probably remember the pictures of the stoves I was showing during my presentation at our first fundraising. Even though they might not be as exciting for the kids to receive as new beds, shoes or clothes, still, they have to have the stoves in order to eat and they have to have an ability to store already limited amount of food. What we are looking for is a big freezer chest and minimum 6 range stoves. We found some good sources, but unfortunately they all are here and we will face the same shipping problems (Oh no, not again!). So we will continue our search and hopefully will find something for the kids.

Another high importance project is to help one particular orphanage in Svaneti region of Georgia - Mestia. It is located in the highest mountains of Great Caucasus at the elevation of 16000 feet. There are 40 kids in this orphanage and they are in desperate need of almost everything because of its isolated location. I agreed to help them even though I have no idea how I will get there — the roads are mostly nonexistent by our standards and very dangerous even in summer with constant rock slides. More info about this orphanage will be in my next issue of our newsletter.

Right now, we are helping one kid who wants to continue education in one of the toughest and one of the most prestige colleges in the country. I heard from his teachers that he is absolutely brilliant. He is doing his job—preparing for the entry exams. We hope everything goes well and we wish him all the best. He needs some place to stay even if accepted. We want to support him, support his motivation and his enormous desire to succeed in the future. Unfortunately this project requires significant funds of about \$1500 a year.

We are working on selecting something that we will be able to accomplish and as before, we will select one or 2 projects and will concentrate our efforts to make them happen.

WWW.FLUTOBOOK.COM

Don't be surprised. I wrote 2 children's books. One is the mystical story of a young orphan boy called Fluto and includes 5 short stories about his adventures. He has adventures with warring armies. More adventures with a princess, her father the King, and finally how he meets a special donkey. It is called "Fluto's Adventures" and it is a great reading learning book for kids.



The second one, "Fluto and the Artist" is the continuation of Fluto's mystical adventures. This is a special draw your own pictures book that encourages young readers to express themselves with drawing the images of the story events and characters.

Publishing these books became possible by Mike's enormous effort, hard work and motivation. The first book was published previously by Xlibris and was priced unrealistically high. We redesigned the layout and cover and now both books are available at Amazon.com and also directly from us at www.flutobook.com (at lower price). Thank you Mike for the great job.

"Fluto's Adventure" is priced at \$15 and "Fluto and the Artist" at \$5.50. I

hope you will buy a few copies for your kids, grandkids or as a presents since a part of the proceeds (\$5 and \$1 respectively) from the sale of these books from our site www.flutobook.com will go to Support For Kids Organization Inc.

We Are Lions

The main purpose of our activity is to support kids regardless of their origin. Even though, our primary focus is on Georgia, we don't want to be isolated from other kids in need.

Last year we joined San Diego Children's Coalition and at one of their mixers I met a wonderful person—Mr. Julio DeGuzman who invited us to join the Lions Club. It is not only an honor, but also it helps and promotes our charity.

The very first big event—Inauguration Ceremony followed by dinner is scheduled for May 21st 2010 at International Restaurant on 4344 Convoy St. in San Diego. Part of the proceeds go to our humanitarian mission to Georgia. Tickets at the door are \$35 per person, tickets purchased by May 15—\$30 per person.

For more information please contact Mr. DeGuzman by e-mail: Julio.deguzman@gmail.com or by phone at (858) 354-5055.

Now Mike and I are proud members of Presidents Lions Club and we are looking forward to being involved with the Lions in serving the community.





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Your tax-deductable financial gift is the most important action you can take to help this great cause. Please visit our site www.supportforkids.org donation page

Please help

Georgia up close - Georgian Language

Georgia is the home of an ancient Christian kingdom and of a people speaking a very unique, non-Indo-European language.



It is also one of the oldest living languages in the world.

It's roots date back to 4 or 5th century BC and according to one theory it might be the closest to **Aramaic** language, language of Christ.

On the other hand, Georgian is an "ergative" language, like **Basque**, the surviving non-Indo-European language of Western Europe, which could well have been related to the known ancient non-Indo-European language, **Etruscan**. In ergative languages, the *subject* of *intransitive* verbs is marked in the same case ("absolutive") as the *objects* of *transitive* verbs.

The Georgian alphabet was created in the 3rd century BC and it is just one of the 14 existing alphabets throughout the world.

The earliest attestation of the language is an inscription of AD 430 in a church in Palestine, in a script ancestral to that used for Old Georgian (5th – 11th centuries). The civil script used to write Modern Georgian, with 33 characters and no distinction between upper- and lowercase, was an offshoot of a script that first appeared in the 10th century. The origins of Georgian writing are uncertain, though it was presumably a free adaptation of the Greek alphabet, with new characters invented for the sounds peculiar to Georgian.

Georgian has a rich literary tradition. The oldest surviving literary work in Georgian is the "[Martyrdom of the Holy Queen Shushanik](#)" from the 5th century AD. The Georgian national epic, "[The Knight in the Panther's Skin](#)" by [Shota Rustaveli](#), dates from the 12th century.



I hope this explains why Georgian are getting upset when someone calls their language a Russian dialect. The fact that the Georgian language has endured throughout this country's turbulent history is perhaps one of the most important factors in the survival of Georgians and Georgia as a nation.

There is a very interesting short video about Georgian language on the CNN website:

<http://edition.cnn.com/video/#/video/world/2010/04/23/ilist.clancy.georgia.language.cnn>

