One of the best Rotary Club Presidents I have worked with is my friend Woody Fridae who I sponsored into the Winters Club in 2005.Woody has served in many capacities including Mayor/City Councilmember, 5<sup>th</sup> grade Teacher, labor representative and golf course hustler. He brought an amazing can-do spirit and was a key to taking us "international" in the projects we do.

Tim and Monique were UC Davis Professors who spent 3-5 months each year in a remote village in Tanzania. Tim was a "cheetah" guy and Monique was an anthropologist. Usevia was a small town with many needs but mostly for better sources for water versus lugging it in buckets from the river, streams and holes. The key issue was basic sanitation! The first ask of our Club was to help drill basic "pump" wells in the village.

This gave rise to my "Water for Water" campaign where we sold bottles of water at Winters street fairs and events. In total, we fund raised and received grant funds to install almost 60 wells in the greater Usevia area. Success!!!!

Our relationship with the folks in Usevia and Tanzania was tremendous. Their next and much larger ask was help in the construction of a building to host a "girls school" and youth center. In recent years, Chinese business interests had built a great highway which went by the village and the fear of being a truck stop and experiencing human trafficking was issue one. Can we help them!

Woody convened a strategic planning session for our Club and on the international side, the girls school became our quest. Our team eventually included the Rotary Clubs of Sumbawanga, Tanzania and Edinburough, Scotland, a local NGO and a Scottish Foundation.

The project eventually included a solar array for power, computers and a full compliment of educational materials. An example of taking vision to reality!

### Katavi Youth Center- Usevia, Tanzania

## Getting it done

• Beginning in 2006, the Rotary Club of Winters began a relationship with the small community of Usevia, Tanzania. The town is located about 100 miles east of the Congo in the Ruchwa Valley. The projects in this area included the installation of water wells and the construction of a 1,500 sf girls school.

• <u>Water for Water</u>: The Club sold water at the Earthquake Festival which helped match other Club funds and Rotary International funds toward the construction of 60 hand pump wells. Before, residents were required to walk literally miles to find streams and water holes to fill buckets which were then carried the miles back to Usevia. The wells improved water quality and convenience.

• <u>**Girls School:**</u> In 2009, Chinese business interests funded the construction of an infamous highway which stretched from the Congo to the capitol port city of Dar es Salaam. Usevia is located along the highway and fear of prostitution, kidnap and disease for the young women was a concern. The Rotary Club of Winters in conjunction with the Rotary Clubs of Sumbawanga, Edinburough Scotland, the World Bank, Beasom Foundation, Rotary International and the Non governmental organization of the Ruchwa Valley. The project included the construction of a two room school, purchase of furniture and the installation of solar power.



# Under construction



# Larger than it looks



#### Katavi: Usevya Youth Centre

A collaboration with the Rotary Club of Sumbawanga, the Rotary Club of Winters, UDESO and the Nomad Trust

In total \$10,000 has been raised for the building of the Youth Centre in Usevya.

Usevya is a small town located in Western Tanzania, of about 10,000 people, with no running water or electricity. Usevya has one primary and one secondary school with basic class rooms but no books, projectors or computers.

The youth centre, a local grassroots initiative, will provide a safe space for afterschool activities.

Seminars on HIV prevention, cultural traditions and environmental education will also be carried out.

The Nomad Trust is funding the conservation education room in which the local people can learn about Katavi National Park, the wildlife and the local ecosystem. We are working on getting a dvd player, projector, wildlife DVD's and setting up a small library of environmental/wildlife books. Partnered with Katavi National Park (KNP) TANAPA, and Professors from University California Davies-Monique Borgerhoff Mulder and Tim Carowe have funding for our first coaster bus for our "Safari Kids: A day in the Park" program in KNP. We believe that bringing children into the park, allows them to experience the wildlife and wonder of the parkthis has a massive impact on changing attitudes in the local communities.



