

Group of nine returns to Burkina



The Friends of Burkina group celebrate their first night in Ouaga at the Hotel Zamdogo. Left to right: Denny FitzPatrick, René Gouin, Ellen Gouin, Karen Updegraff, William White, Gary White, Katrina White, David Marcham, Bob Osborne.

Back to Burkina by Bob Osborne

OK, we're back, we've washed the red dust out of our clothes, had our pictures developed, and arranged the *pagnes* and gifts we brought back. Now let us tell you about it. What an unforgettable trip.

As anyone who has been there knows, facing the barrage of taxi drivers and baggage handlers at Ouagadougou International Airport can be a bit disconcerting, so it was with considerable gratitude that we were met there by **Nelson Cronyn**, Peace Corps Director in Burkina Faso, who welcomed us and arranged for us to be taken to our hotel, the Zamdogo, on the far eastern outskirts of Ouaga. There were nine of us: **Denny FitzPatrick** and **Ellen Ammerman Gouin**, colleagues of mine from the late '60s; Ellen's husband **René**, whom she married in Upper Volta; **David Marcham**, **Karen Updegraff**, and **Gary** and **Katrina White**, all from the early '80s; and the Whites' intrepid and precocious 11-year-old son, **William**, who is a great traveler, especially considering his age.

We were busy right from our first full

day, February 15, as we accompanied Ambassador **Jimmy Kolker** to **Kourian** to dedicate a *maternité* which was financed by the Ambassador's self-help discretionary fund. Kourian is also the home of the **Larle Naaba Tigre**, the second most important Naaba in Burkina after the Moro Naaba. The dedication was

fun and interesting, highlighted by much music, singing and dancing, followed by speeches, which included a poignant reminder from our Ambassador that he hoped the men in the audience would help, not hinder, the education of their daughters.

The next day, we had two official meetings with Burkina government officials. In the morning, we had an audience with the **Secretary-General of Foreign Affairs** and two of his staffers. He expressed his hope that FBF could become more active in development projects in his country, and we promised to try. We were able to present all three of them with our vaunted tee-shirts. And in the afternoon we met with the top two officers of the "**Friends of America Caucus**" in the National Assembly. We promised to explore the possibility of financing a trip for these two Delegates to the NPCA Conference in D.C. in September. Generally, we all agreed that we would work to further better relations between our two nations.

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The President's *Yiri* by Bob Osborne

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I want to devote this issue's *Yiri* to some recent important policy decisions by your Board of Directors.

NEW FISCAL POLICIES:

In early May, I submitted two

proposals to the FBF Board which will go far to determine our future course as an organization. The first action mandates that Friends of Burkina Faso adopt a policy that normal operating expenses be paid for out of **normal and predictable revenues**. This means that such things as officers' expenses, administrative costs such as telephone calls and postage, newsletter expenses including production and mailing, and other normal and ongoing common expenses be paid for annually out of revenues derived from member dues and profits from merchandise sales. The intent is to conserve our current surplus, now being eaten up at a rate of about \$500 a year, and allow donations to be used exclusively for special projects and programs.

The key element in this whole plan comes from the second action taken, namely to eventually limit mailing most issues of "The Burkina Connection" to **members whose dues are paid**, and certain other non-dues-payers such as recently returned Burkina PCVs (for up to two years after separation), Burkina nationals living in the US, the embassies in Washington and Ouagadougou, Peace Corps offices in Washington and Ouaga, the NPCA, other Country-of-Service

groups from West Africa, and other groups or individuals as deemed appropriate by the Board or President. However, once a year, a special edition of the "Connection" will be sent to the entire mailing list.

This latter proposal generated the most heat, for obvious reasons. However, under current circumstances, we cannot introduce fiscal discipline without controlling the costs of the newsletter, far and away our largest annual operating expense. I will not enforce this provision just yet, as we want to reach as many potential attendees at the September conference as possible, but the policy will be implemented within the year. Most likely, next January's issue

will be the special edition, and then the next three will be sent only to currently paid-up members. In addition to the fiscal necessities, there is the simple fairness that our **first** obligation is to those who send in their share of the funds needed to keep

"Please send in your \$15 dues to help put us on a sounder financial footing."

the organization going. Our **second** obligation is to those "honorary" mentioned above, such as the Embassies and returned Volunteers, who add richness to our group. All else comes third, I believe, and right now, and for the foreseeable future, we do not have the money to cover all three.

I would add that we will be actively trying to increase the variety and the volume of **merchandise** for sale, and we will also be actively trying to increase our **membership** roles, with the goal of increasing our operating revenues. If you haven't been sending in your \$15 dues, please start doing so and help put us on a sounder financial footing.



("Back to Burkina" continued from page 1)

Saturday, we had yet another event, this time at the Larle Naaba's annual *fête* in Ouaga. This was truly a grand celebration, several hours of continuous music, singing and dancing. The place was very crowded, but we managed to get escorted to decent seats.

The following several days were devoted to traveling out-country. Most of us headed back to our home villages, which is always a thrill.

The Whites traveled home to **Didyr** and **Reo** after an absence of 16 years. Their biggest impression was one of hope and improvement, with the addition of pumped wells, a pharmacy and *maternité*.



Katrina and Wiliam with neighbors in Reo.

William had no problem with French or *Mooré* when it came to playing games with new pen pals, and he really liked the



Gary and Obo in Didyr behind a *diguette*.

frites. Gary reported he was excited to see "that not only had some of the trees that we planted survived, but that the **IDEA** of planting trees has survived".

Karen headed northeast to **Kaya** and her village **Barsalogo**, where she recon-



Karen and her camel near Gorom-Gorom

nected with her old friends, house and tree nursery. She continued on with Denny to **Dori** and **Gorom-Gorom** where they rode camels to a sand dune and camped under the desert stars. Along the way, they stayed with PCVs **Mike Marshak**, **Collaine Faddis**, **Elynn Parent**, **John Romweber**, **Pat Maxwell** and **Mark Acton**.

David danced to traditional *balafons*



David and Tuandaba reunite in Hounde.

and drums in **Hounde**. He was surprised by the changes in his village: "Finding banco houses festooned with TV antennae was surreal; they've had electricity for two years now."

Ellen and René went back to **Koudougou**, where they celebrated with a host of former friends and colleagues, the current PCV **Angela**, and the *Commandant de Cercle*, **Victor Thiombiano**, who actually married them back in 1969. As Ellen said, "We came back with a 'present' in Burkina, not just a 'past'."

("Back to Burkina" continued on page 4)





("Back to Burkina" continued from page 3)

Finally, for my part I made my third return trip to **Komtoega** and **Garango**, and was saddened to hear of the death of the *chef* of Komtoega just a few months earlier. On a positive note, the new *Chef* in Garango, who happens to be the cousin-in-law of Board Member Marianne Bailey, is doing quite well despite the fact that he is in a very difficult political situation.

On the social side, we got a chance at long last to sample the delights of the **FESPACO** film festival, the premier event of its kind in all of Africa. We had a mandatory nostalgic dinner at **Eau Vive**, and we met several times with members of **ABASUS**, the "Friends of the U.S." in Burkina. We had a terrific reception at Peace Corps headquarters, complete with



Paul Sawadogo and Adama Balima

veterans such as **Adama Balima** and **Paul Sawadogo**. Then we traveled with current PCV **Claudia Diaz** to her village of **Nagreongo** where we donated a pile of supplies to the local school. We also did



Donating school supplies at *Nagreongo* .

some great shopping, and the Ambassador made sure we felt welcome at the weekly Friday night "Happy Hour" at the Embassy pool. And yes, we managed to make

at least one trip to the pool at the Hotel Independance.

Finally, our last two days were spent as guests of Ambassador Kolker in the **Embassy Residence**. He is a wonderful host, and gave us a reception attended by many Americans, including PCVs, Embassy personnel and other Americans who



Reception at the Ambassador's residence

happened to be around. We had many interesting and informative conversations with Mr. Kolker, and we are all proud that he is our country's representative in Burkina Faso.

On February 25, we all departed on the same Air France flight to Paris, and said our last good-byes at Charles deGaulle Airport.



One last toast *à la prochaine*

Once again, Burkina Faso has captured our hearts, dreams came true, and we look forward to our next trip back. I hope **YOU** are next.

—Bob Osborne—



Come celebrate FBF reunion in DC

Now is the time to plan for the big **FBF reunion** and the **40th Anniversary** celebration of the Peace Corps at the National Conference of the National Peace Corps Association in Washington DC, **September 20-23**. Coincidentally, the timing comes almost exactly 34 years after "Upper Volta 1" arrived in Ouagadougou. Registration is easy, on-line at www.rpcv.org or toll-free telephone at 1-866-324-7103.

The schedule is filling in, and FBF is setting up several events to augment the NPCA schedule for the benefit of our members. So far, here's what's happening:

- **Thursday, Sept. 20**

NPCA: Advocacy on Capitol Hill

FBF: Afternoon—Reunions/Business Meeting;

Evening—Reception/Dinner

- **Friday, Sept. 21**

NPCA: Career Fair, Keynote Meeting, RPCV Readings and Recognition, Awards (another one for our newsletter, we hope), World Music.

FBF: Informal Receptions, Dinner, Dancing

- **Saturday, Sept. 22**

NPCA: Community Service Project, Workshops, Country Updates, World Music.

FBF: Meet with Ambassador Zidouembe, Reception-Dinner-Party with Embassy staff, Burkina nationals in DC area, real Burkina-style cooking.

- **Sunday, Sept. 23**

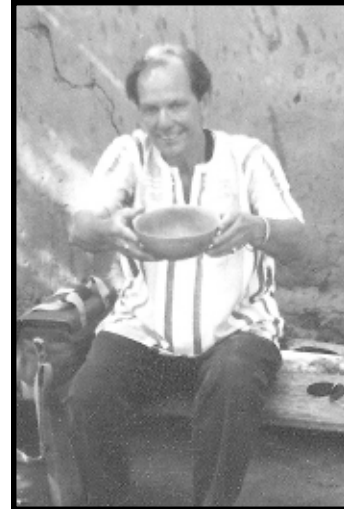
NPCA: Flag Procession, Memorial Service at Arlington, Gatherings on the Mall, Gala at Kennedy Center.

FBF: We'll participate as a group in the Flag Procession and Memorial Service, then play it by ear for the rest of the day.

You can get updates at www.rpcv.org, and we hope at our web site www.friendsofburkinafaso.org. If you still have questions, contact me, or probably better, our Conference-Activities Naaba and Board Member Marianne Bailey.

Hotels—this is important! Discounted rooms are running out. The best way is to reserve while you're registering, or go back to the same site if you've registered already but did not get a room then. The Conference hotel, the Washington, may be full, so you might have to slide to another one. If so, try One Washington Circle Hotel, near the Blue/Orange Line Foggy Bottom/GWU Metro station, about a 20-minute walk or 5-minute subway ride from the Conference center, which is near the White House. There is also space available near DuPont Circle, about the same distance away. Contact them asap, as the rooms may be taken soon. They're fairly expensive, but this is Washington and it's still tourist season. Double or triple up, and cost drops dramatically. Try and contact colleagues to share costs. Check our web site to see if we have people signing up to share. Last resort, call or e-mail me and I'll try to set you up with someone. LAST last resort, show up and we'll find you a bed; you can leave a note at a Bulletin Board at the Washington Hotel, and we'll find you.

Whatever you do, try hard to come. If you're short of money, come anyway to see your friends. We'll get you in. Finally, please let me know if you're coming, so we can do a little advance planning. Thanks, and we'll see you there.



REUNION...





The best dolo in Koudougou

from René and Ellen Guoin



Editor's note: On the recent FBF trip to Burkina, René and Ellen Guoin had some delicious dolo at the family compound of **Laurent Kagembega**. Pictured is Laurent's family and grandchildren. The dolo was made by Laurent's wife, **Madeline**, and the following recipe was transcribed by his daughter **Philomene**. It looks like making dolo is lots of work.

La préparation de la bière de mil (dolo)

Les étapes sont les suivantes:

- 1) Mouiller le mil rouge pendant trois jours.*
- 2) Le retirer et l'étaler pendant trois jours pour germination. Après quoi il faut séparer les grains et les laisser sécher au soleil.*
- 3) Après séchage il faut écraser au moulin mais pas finement comme de la farine de têt.*
- 4) Il faut délayer cette farine dans de l'eau. Y ajouter quelque chose de gluant comme des feuilles de kapok pilées et laisser au repos quelque temps. Retirer l'eau et mettre le résidu dans la marmite contenant de l'eau déjà au feu, préparer pendant 1h30mn. Retirer cette préparation, mettre dans un récipient et y ajouter l'eau retirée ayant servi à délayer la farine. Couvrir jusqu'au lendemain. Remettre le gluant (feuilles de kapok pilées) et attendre quelques instants avant de retirer une nouvelle fois l'eau et la remettre au feu jusqu'au soir pour obtenir la bière forte appelée tossé. Au cas où vous voudriez de la bière moins forte il faut arrêter la cuisson vers midi et remettre une nouvelle fois l'eau. Après les différentes cuissons, retirer et laisser refroidir dans des récipients. Après refroidissement il faut laisser 3 jours. Le 3ème jour, c'est pour la consommation. Pour une quantité de 3 tines de mil, il faut 100 litres d'eau pour délayer la farine et 3 seaux dans chaque marmite pour la cuisson (4 marmites en tout).*

Je vous souhaite beaucoup de courage pour cette expérience sur notre bière de mil.

*Madame Drabo Philomène
Koudougou – Burkina Faso*

1 Cv Ça va aller	2 Sa Salutations	3 Su The Sun	4 C Le Chaleur	5 Pu Poussiere	6 F Fou	7 Cf Chef	8 Ha La vache qui rit	9 D Dieu	10 Fr France
11 Rx Vaccine	12 M Maggi	13 Tt Tappettes	14 Gs Gas stove	15 L Latrine	16 ? Quoi?	17 Ou Ou bien?	18 Lc Lycee	19 Ms Mossi	20 J Dioula
19 P Pueh	21 2 Tubaboo	22 Fi Water Filter	23 G Giardia	24 A Amoebas	25 Mf Mefloquin	26 V Village	27 Mc Marché	28 Ca Camion	29 Tb Taxi-brousse
33 Em Etude de milieu	34 Bb Bbobob	35 Sk Sankara	36 Bi Blaise	37 P Pueh	38 Ar Peanut	39 Dr PCMO	40 OW Diarrhea	41 Pr Protein	42 K Kool-Aid
43 Os Orasel	44 Or Fanta	45 Mb Mobylette	46 H Helmet	47 PI Rainy Season	48 Ma Malaria	49 Pa Pagre	50 Ds Discuter	51 Et MS 284	52 N Nasaara
53 B So.B.Bra	54 Jm Djembé	55 Ve Mountain Bike	56 Lv Love	57 S SIDA	58 Na Naaba	59 FC Franc CFA	60 Cl Colonialism	61 Lb Là-Bas	62 De Sahara
63 Em Elude de milieu	64 Ji Ambassador	65 Ps La Poste	66 X Malnutrition	67 Cb Car Battery	68 Fi Mouche	69 H Hope	70 Ta Tabaski	71 Cz Chez Nous	72 Ac Climatisation
73 Mr Bob Marley	74 Mt Brochette	75 If Il faut	76 Bf Bouffer	77 I Independence	78 Dm The Future	79 T T-Shirt	80 Mo Mosquito	81 Nt Mosulito Net	82 Pf Professeur
83 Bv Bouvelte	84 Wf Chien	85 Sh Shortwave	86 1 Allah is Unique	87 O Ouaga	88 Bo Bobo	89 R Riz Gras	90 Fsh Fish Heads	91 Cu Conjugate	92 Ch Dolo
93 Fa Host Family	94 Pc Piscine	95 Ce Coup d'Etat	96 E Embassy	97 \$ SPA Proposal	98 W Windy Season	99 Gb Gumbo	100 Ft Faux Tip	101 Ai Friend	102 Zz Fatigué
103 He Henna	104 Tô Tô	105 R Riz Gras	106 Fsh Fish Heads	107 He Henna	108 He Henna	109 He Henna	110 He Henna	111 He Henna	112 He Henna

The Elements of Peace Corps Burkina Faso



ELEMENTS...

by Jonathon D. Colman

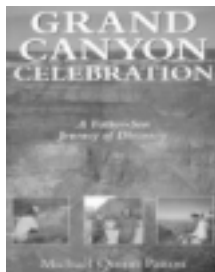


T-Shirts & Tote Bags

Our most popular way to finance FBF projects in Burkina. The short-sleeved t-shirts are 100% cotton, pre-shrunk beefy-T, natural muslin-colored fabric. The tote bags are also cotton, natural, roomy and hefty. Our famous design (left) is four-color: brown, black, rust and green. Note that a handy proximity map is found in the Baobab tree! T-shirt sizes are M, L, XL. In L & XL, specify if you want the words "Peace Corps" under the design.

SALE: 2001 Calendars

We still have a few calendars left. OK, we know, 2001 is well along, so we'll give these away to our FBF members at a special sale price of \$5 apiece. They're worth it just for the spectacular photos. Each month features a Peace Corps country of service. And you'll sleep well at night knowing that FBF will get the proceeds to support Burkina projects.



Michael Patton's Book

Michael Patton, '67-69, is still donating \$5 for every one of his books sold. The Burkina-inspired book, *Grand Canyon Celebration: A Father-Son Journey of Discovery*, is Michael's humanistic tale of a coming-of-age initiation rite with his 18-year old son Brandon. The book is just \$19, it's a wonderful story worth reading, and you'll help out FBF at the same time.

Please complete the form below and send to our *Kwasa Naaba*, Dianne Fergusson ➔

**FBF C/O DIANNE FERGUSSON
430 EAST PARK DRIVE
SPARTANBURG SC 29302**



Please make checks payable to: FRIENDS OF BURKINA FASO

NAME:	PHONE:	
ADDRESS:	ZIP:	
<i>(NOTE FOR SHIRTS: in L & XL sizes, please specify if you want the words "Peace Corps" under the design)</i>		
HOW MANY:	T-SHIRTS: M _____	PRICE PER SHIRT: \$16
	T-SHIRTS: L _____	PRICE PER TOTE: \$20
	T-SHIRTS: XL _____	PRICE PER BOOK: \$19
	TOTE BAGS: _____	PRICE PER CALENDAR: \$5
	BOOKS: _____	(PLEASE ADD \$2 TO YOUR ORDER TO HELP WITH POSTAGE COSTS)
	CALENDARS: _____	

Dr. Carolyn R. Payton

Dr. Carolyn R. Payton, the first female and first African-American Director of the Peace Corps from 1977-78, passed away at her home on April 11. She was 75. The text below is a message from **Charles Baquet**, Acting Peace Corps Director, upon the event of her death. The Friends of Burkina Faso join Mr. Baquet in expressing our regret and send our condolences to her family and friends:

"It is with deep regret that I inform you of the recent death of Dr. Carolyn R. Payton, who served as the Peace Corps' eighth Director from 1977-78. Dr. Payton died at her home in Washington, D.C., on April 11 after a heart attack at the age of 75.

Dr. Payton was the first female Director of the Peace Corps, and the first African American. As the Director, she believed strongly in reflecting America's diversity in the corps of Volunteers and worked tirelessly to convince young people that Peace Corps service would enrich their lives."



RPCV Fellows Program

Notice sent to us from Illinois State University:

"Our **Peace Corps Fellows Program** at Illinois State University is now in its 7th year, training and placing RPCVs in community and economic development internships around the nation. Students who successfully complete our program receive graduate degrees in economics, political science or sociology.

We're proud to help RPCVs continue their service at home, and we ask that you help us send our message along to new and old (but active!) RPCVs who may be interested in our program. We ask that you please post this letter in your newsletter.

We are now considering Fall 2001 (August) and Spring 2002 (January) admissions and would appreciate your help in notifying your members about our program. Our e-mail address is: UCEDInfo@ilstu.edu. Our web page is at: <http://lilt.ilstu.edu/uced>.

We appreciate your help in reaching these talented people who want to continue their life of service while earning a graduate degree. If you have any questions please feel free to call us at (309) 438-8685.

Mike Kelleher, Director, RPCV Sierra Leone '85-'88."



Your e-mail addresses

Friends of Burkina Faso keeps a database of **FBF e-mail addresses** that you've given us. If you need to find another Friend of Burkina on-line, we just might be able to help. But we wanted to let you know by this "**notice of intent**" that we'd like to share these addresses when requested by another Friend of Burkina. If anyone objects, we'll honor your privacy, just let us know. In the same vein, we highly encourage others to send their e-mail address in to **Dick Dietz**, weedugs@aol.com, so that he can keep the list coordinated, centralized and up-to-date.

NEWS INFO...





Traveling with Ambassador Kolker



As the name implies, "**Burkina Connection**" is a great vehicle for rediscovering friends with a common experience. My recollection of the 1971 community Thanksgiving in Ouagadougou described in the last issue contained one

glaring error: I misidentified the hosts! The people I should have thanked for that first vivid memory of Burkina Faso were Amb. & Mrs. **Richard Matheron!** Dick was DCM and Chargé d'Affaires at the Embassy at the time.

Years later, I crossed Dick's path in the State Department and in southern Africa, never knowing that his was the gate I crashed during my only trip to Ouagadougou prior to coming back as Ambassador. He reminded me that we shared the evening with Amb. **David Newsom**, then head of the Africa Bureau at State, and with **Dave Fields**, later Ambassador to Central African Republic. So, thanks to this Burkina RE-Connection, I can finally recognize the Matherons for their hospitality!

The half of Burkina north of Ouaga is suffering localized food shortages due to poor rains, and in March and April, a (preventable) meningitis outbreak killed over 1600. So Burkina has its share of challenges this year. But the warmth and energy with which villages welcome American

visitors to Self-Help projects is as impressive as ever. The most remarkable was in **Kokoï**, far off the beaten track between Bagassi and Safané. I was greeted by dancers in "Leaf Masks," covered head to toe in fresh foliage. The masks were also out in **Tissé**, (30 km south of Tchériaba) where the Embassy sponsored a dispensary and coincidentally, RPCV **Christopher Roy** did his doctoral research. Chris and Nora Roy stayed with me in May, introducing me to wonderful contacts in Burkina's rich world of arts and culture.

Among the other spots I discovered

on my weekly trips were: **Touroum** (5 km from Pissila, east of Kaya), where PCV **Erikalynn Parent** and her now-husband **John Romweber**



Dedication of maternité at Kourian

helped organize the *fête*; **Pilimpikou** (25 km sw of Yako), and **Kourian** (with the Friends of Burkina group). In **Kienfangue** (just 20 km south of Ouaga) we supplied a grinding mill to a cooperative of widows, which already sells delicious goat cheese to the Lebanese supermarkets in Ouaga and used the profits to build a literacy center.

Farther afield, huge crowds gathered to introduce me to northern Kenedougou Province. The hundred-year-old palace of the Senoufo chief in **Kourouma** is badly in need of restoration. I am trying through a new U.S. Government cultural preservation fund to help preserve this architectural

masterpiece. The villagers in **Kodona** (Silorola) spent three days grading and gravelling the road by hand so that my vehicle could get over a steep hill to the village! We are helping them build the area's first primary classrooms. I also visited the clinic at **Koflandé**, 2 hours southwest of Banfora.

PCV **Molly Chambers** organized a Lobiri youth theater group to spread the message about the importance of sending kids to school. I got to see them perform in her village, **Tienkoura** (between Diebougou and Gaoua). On the other side of the country, the same message

was brought home in **Namtenga** through the efforts of RPCV **Mike Lavoie**. I delivered 38 boxes of school supplies from Mike's daughters' schools. While the dropouts and non-attenders looked on with envy, kids enrolled at the primary school got colorful t-shirts individually designed by Michigan 10-year-olds. Each of the 300 people present for the "remise" got a terrycloth washcloth or other gift.

A major Embassy effort was to organize "*La Semaine Américaine à Bobo Dioulasso*" in March. I was able to visit institutions and meet notables from Western Burkina. Programs such as "How to do Business with the United States," "How to Study in the

U.S." and a Democracy Forum attracted overflow crowds. We showed American feature films every night, sponsored free English classes, in-service training for English teachers and brought shelves full of reference materials and videos for students and teachers. The American Flag flew over the Chamber of Commerce for the week, as Embassy consular and commercial services set

up shop there. The mayor, high commissioner and members of Parliament from the region joined businesspeople and ordinary citizens to see exhibits about the U.S. in the garden of the chamber. **Nanette Alvey** was our Bobo coordina-

tor. **Rick Johannsen**, **Chris Palmer** and **Terry Wong** were the Embassy's American advance team, coordinating the week with Burkinabe counterparts.

All Ambassadors serve "at the pleasure of the President", so I submitted the required letter of resignation after the election. Fortunately for me, career Foreign Service officers serving as Ambassadors are largely being left in place, so there's a good probability that it will not be accepted, and I hope to be able to welcome visitors until well into 2002. I enjoyed participating in the FBF Burkina visit in February. Please let me know how the Embassy can help you: kolkerjj@state.gov or ambres@liptinfor.bf.



At the U.S. Embassy with Friends of Burkina





Nelson Cronyn, Director



Peace Corps Burkina news

Nelson Cronyn is working with Friends of Burkina to compile a **database and map** of returned volunteers' years of service, sites, and sectors. Please send **photographs** (ideally 8x10) of volunteers "in action", taken during your service in Burkina.

Send your photos to:

Nelson Cronyn, Country Director/Burkina Faso
1111 20th Street NW
Washington D.C. 20526.



Please include your name, names of others in the photograph (if available), dates of service, a brief description of what you were doing in the photograph, and where you served.

Some examples below – February, 2001 (clockwise): FESPACO party at the Ambassador's residence, Claudia Diaz at home in Nagreongo, Pat Maxwell rushing breakfast before school in Dori, Mark Acton handing out graded papers to his students in Gorom-Gorom, Collaine Faddis, Elynn Parent and Mike Marshak unwrapping Jonathon Colman's care package at the Kaya PCV House.



The Top Ten Ways to Recognize an RPCV **From the Peace Corps Close-of-Service Book**

1. Shows confusion between "immediately" and "by next week".
2. Gives greeting exceeding three sentences or eight seconds.
3. Makes deprecating comments about American Beer.
4. Subscribes to magazines normally found only in libraries.
5. Owns a CD collection of mostly polyrhythmic music
6. Decorates more than two rooms of the house with host country memorabilia.
7. Experiences insomnia from lack of mosquito net in bedroom.
8. Frequents primarily ethnic restaurants.
9. Gets nostalgic when the local bus is filled to over capacity.
10. Feels better informed about host country than State Department officials.

From the Upper Volta 1 archives. . .



The first U.S. Peace Corps volunteers arrive at Ouaga airport 1967.



*The first Peace Corps health workers weigh babies at Ouaga dispensary 1967.
Left to right: Barb, Wendy, Leigh, Karen, Downey, Helen, Jennifer, Ellen.*

Editor's note: Come to the 40th Anniversary celebration in Washington, DC, September 20-23 to reunite with folks from every year of Peace Corps Burkina. Bring your photos and slides!



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FBF group of nine return to Burkina – See highlights inside




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Burkina Connection

 OUR MISSION:

Friends of Burkina Faso, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was established to:

- **Maintain a network of returned Peace Corps Volunteers and friends of Burkina Faso**
- **Provide funding and assistance to support projects in Burkina Faso**
- **Improve social interaction, communication and information exchange**
- **Educate others about the country and culture of Burkina Faso**