# BURKINA CONNECTION



JOURNAL OF THE FRIENDS OF BURKINA FASO

SPRING 2002

# Project Work Ahead . . .



# FBF is organizing to fund projects

Have you not, from time to time since returning from your Peace Corps service, wondered how you might return to support the people of Burkina Faso? Or won-

dered how you might stay connected and involved? We served at the grassroots and know that friendship, personal initiative, and small steps create a lever that can move mountains.

At our reunion in 2001, there was a ground swell of support for development projects. The FBF leadership challenged its members to find ways to commit resources to worthy development efforts in Burkina Faso. Some friends in the Washington D.C. area have been meeting to discuss the objectives, organization, and selection criteria for FBF projects. Presently "The Projects Committee" is chaired by Tom Vollrath, RPCV '67-'69.

See our committee's charter on page 6. The primary guideline is to work closely with people and organizations in Burkina Faso, encouraging local initiative. To assure that our efforts are hitting the intended target, the committee is seeking ways to get accountability and feedback from the beneficiaries. We're exploring a number of project ideas, including those

related to scholarships, computer use in schools, solar energy, distribution of bicycles, school electrification, and provision of pharmaceuticals. Some of these ideas have been initiated by Burkinabé and FBF members. Others are based on programs that have an established track record and are being managed by development organizations, including Save the Children, Crosslink International, and the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy.

The committee seeks input and contributions from the FBF community. If you have exciting project ideas or would like to participate in any way, contact our Communication Coordinator, **Anastasia Hopkinson**, ahopkinson@comcast.net. We are in particular need of project leaders who are willing to write proposals and/or who are able to oversee project developments.

The FBF Projects Committee would like to create opportunities. We believe that our small community can make a difference by extending a hand that helps bridge the economic and cultural gap that divides humanity.

One way to begin is to help us build a capital base by making a tax-deductible financial contribution. You may send your check, labeled "FBF Projects" to treasurer **Holland McKenna** who has opened a special projects account.





**Bob Osborne** 

My big personal news is that as of Friday, March 1, I'm officially part of the diplomatic corps. I was sworn in by no less than Secretary of State Colin Powell, along with 96 other new Foreign Service Officers. For the record. I'm the oldest member of my

class; the youngest was a fresh-faced 22. It was quite a day for me, as it marked the culmination of a long process that started back in October 2001, when I took the written Foreign Service exam.

Friends and colleagues joining me in my celebrations were Tom Vollrath and Anastasia Hopkinson, from Upper

Volta I, and FBF Treasurer Holland McKenna. who served in the early '70s. The biggest honor during the day was the presence of Secretary Powell, who has done so much already in his short tenure to boost the Department of State as an institu-

tion, including getting large increases in budget and staff, mandating more training for officers and generally increasing morale.

My own part of this ceremony was to be assigned to Lagos as a consular officer for a two-year tour beginning in early May of this year. I had preferred a French-speaking area, but there were only a few of these available, and the various permutations that go into the selection process gave them to others. But at least I'll be in West Africa, and since I've never been to Nigeria, I'm

very pleased to be heading for a new adventure. This is especially exciting because Nigeria, along with South Africa, represents the key to sub-Saharan Africa in the foreseeable future, and I'll be happy to play my little part here.

#### NPCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Annual conference of the National Peace Corps Association, originally set for last September, has now been rescheduled as the 40th+1 National Conference, set for June 20-23, in Washington, DC.

I hope that many of you will take the opportunity to attend this conference, as it will give you the opportunity to reconnect with UV/BF colleagues, meet new RPCVs from all over the Peace Corps world, see what other groups are

> doing and how they do it, and find out what is happening in light of the Administration's promise to expand Peace Corps dramatically.

The Friends of Burkina group dinner is scheduled for Friday

night, June 21. We will make reservations at a West African restaurant to accommodate a gathering and reunion for all Friends of Burkina Faso.

Conference activities will be centered at the Omni Shoreham, 2500 Calvert Street, Woodley Park, near the National Zoo, one block from the Woodley Park metro station on the Metro's Red Line. To register for the conference, go to fortyinfo@rpcv.org, or call 202-293-7728, ext 24. You can get updated information on the various events and seminars at www.rpcv.org.





Click **Honor the 40th** and then click **2002 Conference**. Please contact me via e-mail if you plan to attend. Also, let me know if you need financial help to attend, as we have at least one prepaid registration that can be awarded to some deserving soul.

#### FBF PROJECTS COMMITTEE

After the September FBF meeting, I appointed **Tom Vollrath** as Chairperson of a new **Projects Committee**, whose charge was to develop a framework with which possible programs and projects could be researched, evaluated and ultimately recommended for funding and development. The Committee would also oversee the operation of the projects, and make regular reports on their progress.

The complete proposal has not yet been finally approved by the Board, but we anticipate that we will be underway with more actual projects soon. You'll find a request for the project donation fund on the membership form.

#### Y'ALL COME SEE ME, YA HEAR?

Once I get settled in Lagos, I hope that a few of you will consider a visit. I will be living in quite comfortable quarters, with lots of extra room, and zero housing costs will be my contribution to your vacation budget.

It's my understanding that Lagos has plenty of fine beaches, since it's spread over four islands and a strip along the Atlantic coast, and I will do my best to convince you that it's a large and exciting and thriving metropolis, with much to offer to offset its reputation. Besides, you're all old Africa hands, so you'll be able to easily appreciate the beauty and the adventure.



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# FRIENDS OF BURKINA FASO



# **Annual Report 2001**

by Bob Osborne

The past year of 2001 was marked by three major events. First, in February and March, Friends of Burkina Faso conducted a group return trip; second, in September, we gathered en masse in Washington despite the cancellation of the National Peace Corps Association conference; and third, we initiated a formal project development committee.

#### **RETURN TRIP**

In late February, a group of nine FBF members gathered in Paris, and then headed off together for Burkina Faso. The group consisted of **Bob Os**borne, Denny FitzPatrick and Ellen (Ammerman) Gouin and husband René, all '67-69, and David Marcham, Gary and Katrina White and son William, and Karen Updegraff, all from the early '80s. Most made visits into the countryside to return to their old villages and renew friendships with Burkinabé colleagues from the past, and all had the opportunity to get informed about the current status of the very lively Peace Corps program under the stewardship of Director **Nelson Cronyn**. In addition, the delegation met with two groups of officials from the Burkina government, namely the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and some of his staff, and with several Delegates of the National Assembly. On the U.S. side, Ambassador **Jimmy Kolker** held a reception for the group at his residence, and opened his home for us to stay there for the last two days of the stay. The crowning achievement was the chance to view several films during **FESPACO**, the premier event of its kind in all of Africa. This was the first group return since 1994, and it should help stimulate more frequent ones in the future.

## MEETING IN WASHINGTON

In September, in response to the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, the **NPCA** was compelled to cancel the 40th Anniversary National Conference. Friends of Burkina Faso, however, felt that it was a better message for peace to continue with our portion of the Conference. There



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was surely a great confusion of emotions: joy over meeting old friends after as long as 32 years, mixed with despair over the tragedies of just a few days earlier; happiness over the sounds of animated conversations, contrasted by the dark sounds of military helicopters flying at low altitudes; pride in participating in a vigil at the Lincoln Memorial, mixed with concern bordering on fear of the heavy presence of police and military personnel.



Nonetheless, it was a wonderful experi-

ence, as two groups, the original Upper Volta I veterans and a second from the early 1980s, held reunions. On Saturday afternoon of the conference, a large number of attendees met for a membership meeting, and the finale was a wonderful reception at the home of **Thomas Fox**, the first Peace Corps Director in Ouagadougou.

#### **PROJECTS COMMITTEE**

One of the significant accomplishments of the September meeting was a widespread desire of many FBF members to get more actively involved in the organization, particularly in the area of projects that could be undertaken in Burkina. President Bob Osborne appointed a Projects Committee, chaired by **Tom Vollrath**, '67-69. The Committee was charged with developing a formal framework with which to receive and research proposals, and make specific proposals to the FBF Board. Once approved, the Committee would be charged with implementing and operating the project, and reporting to the Board and membership on the ongoing status of each project. The policy is projected to be underway in early 2002.

## **O**THER

On the plus side, the organization continued to expand participation by members during the course of the year; most of this was a direct result of the enthusiasm generated by the September meeting. On the negative side, there has still not been a full implementation of the Website, www.friendsofburkinafaso, but Web Naaba Jonathon Colman promises to have it all up and running in the near future, so stay tuned.



# FRIENDS OF BURKINA FASO

# **Charter of the Projects Committee**

#### **Objectives:**

The primary objectives of projects of the Friends of Burkina Faso are the generation of good will between the United States and Burkina Faso and the enrichment in the lives of citizens in both countries, irrespective of shifting political winds. To this end, the Board of Directors of the Friends of Burkina Faso appoints "The Projects Committee" to evaluate and recommend worthy endeavors.

#### **Organizational Structure:**

The President of the FBF appoints the Chairperson of the Projects Committee. The President and the Committee Chairperson select "friends" to be Committee members. Members serve in various capacities, e.g., Communication Coordinator, Project Accountant, Public Relations and Marketing, Foundation Solicitor, etc. The Committee seeks Project Leaders whose responsibilities are to develop project proposals and plans for evaluation by the FBF Project Committee. Proposals must include a budget and identify individuals who will monitor and manage project developments. Project leadership is open to all FBF members.

#### **Project Committee Roles:**

- Evaluate project proposals;
- Recommend approval of projects and project budgets from the FBF Board;
- Monitor the status of on-going activities;
- Solicit funds from FBF membership,

charitable foundations, and other sources.

#### **Project Selection Criteria:**

The Committee will give priority to projects that:

- Promote sustainable economic development and/or advance social wellbeing;
- Transfer knowledge and/or enhance cross-cultural understanding and communication;
- Are community-based and address locally-identified needs;
- Are initiated and/or well managed by Burkinabé. Well-managed means overhead costs are low and project activities are efficiently directed towards intended purposes.

#### **Operational Guidelines:**

The Committee will conduct its activities within the following guidelines:

- Establish working relations with key individuals, organizations, and institutions in Burkina Faso.
- Encourage local initiative, accountability, and feedback.
- Limit FBF financial input into any single project so as not to exceed its absorptive capacity.
- Conduct fundraising and promotional activities via e-mail, the Burkina Connection newsletter, direct solicitation and other modes of communication.
- Avoid raising expectations beyond what we can effectively undertake and support.



# Have I got a recipe! by David Marcham, '83-'85

Friends of Burkina et tout le monde entier -

Strap yourself in and let's go for another culinary ride! Every recipe I have attempted from the Africa News Cookbook has been magnifique and very tasty.

OK, you may have noted this is the second dish I've given you featuring peanut butter. It seems like I lived on the peanut butter in Burkina Faso. I always bought it from my favorite vendor in the *marché* (I looked her up when I was back in **Hounde** and we had a great conversation!). The next recipe may be a dish without PB for you anciens volontaires who are not totally enamored of it. And to make a vegetarian meal, just substitute a good tofu or seitan (mock duck) option.

Happy cooking et bon appetit!!!



**David Marcham** 



#### **CHICKENNAT**

1 2-3 lb. chicken, cut into pieces

1 tsp. salt

1/2 tsp. ground black pepper

1/2 cup butter

1/2 cup onions, chopped

1 pint chicken stock

3/4 cup pure peanut butter,

or 1 lb. roasted peanuts, ground to a paste

1-2 egg yolks

Several sprigs of parsley, coarsely chopped



Voilà!

Rub the chicken pieces with salt and pepper. Melt butter in a large, iron skillet or stew pot (Dutch ovens,too!), and add the chicken and onions. Cover and simmer over lowest heat, gradually adding stock until you have used it all. (Without stock, add tap water or bouillon). After 15 minutes, remove half a cup of the cooking liquid to thin the peanut butter or paste. Add to the pot and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and then whisk some of the hot stew liquid into the egg yolks. Add to the pot and stir to incorporate the egg mixture into the stew. Simmer gently until chicken is done. Be careful not to heat the stew above a simmer from this point. Garnish with parsley leaves and serve with rice or a stiff corn porridge (comme tô!).





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# Traveling with the Ambassador



Jimmy Kolker

As everywhere in Africa, AIDS in Burkina Faso demands the attention of both the government and foreign partners these days. The Embassy and Peace Corps have both been active in the fight against AIDS. USAID has financed some regional programs

through non-government organizations. Discussion of AIDS is still taboo among many Burkinabe, but billboards featuring President Blaise Compaore and an HIV-positive woman, Christine Kafando tried to break down barriers with the slogan "ça me concerne...et toi?"

"The Embassy and Peace Corps have both been active in the fight against AIDS."

Among those showing their concern were Vermont Governor Howard Dean, who was in Ouagadougou for the International Conference on AIDS and Sexually-Transmitted Diseases in Africa (ICASA) in December and a group of nine Congressional staff members, who spent five days here in January looking at health issues. In many ways, AIDS in Burkina Faso today parallels the situation I saw in Botswana ten years ago. Both the international community and Burkina society itself must pay more attention to preventing the spread of AIDS and addressing its consequences before the statistics – UNAIDS uses the figure 7.1% for incidence in Burkina — reach the horrific levels of Botswana and its

Health and AIDS have also been the focus

neighbors.

of some of my travels this winter. In December, I helped launch an anti-Trachoma campaign in Fada N'Gourma with the US NGO Helen Keller International and supported by free medication from Pfizer. And the Centers for Disease Control and US Red Cross were patrons of a very successful nationwide measles vaccination campaign. I joined President Compaore to kick off the effort in Ouargaye. It was my first visit to that remote center, and the President admitted it was his, too!

The Embassy gave a small "human

rights" grant to

Association des Jeunes pour les Orphelins (an organization founded by university students) to publicize the rights of people living with AIDS (and their widows and orphans) among law enforcement and other authorities. I joined them

for a seminar reaching about 40 local officials in **Pô** in January.

Village self-help projects kept me moving around Burkina. In the north, I visited grain mills we financed at Bissighin (15 km from **Ouahigouya**) and **Wanobe** (near Titao, where third-year PCV teacher **Anne Knight** joined the group). I dedicated schools in **Kabo** (25 km from Yako), **Nabiraotenga** (south of **Zorgho**) and Kalao (90 km north of Léo). The masks were out in force at Kalao, and PCV David Fitter, who teaches 26 km away in **Fara**, accompanied me for the festivity. I visited a self-help gardening project in Kolinka (near Ouessa) and a new women's center in Noona. PCVs **Damon Roberts** and Kara Garbe provided a tour of the Noona area!



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The Diamitani family in Sayaga with Ambassador Kolker, Nora Roy, and visiting dignitaries.

Three extraordinary trips reminded me what a pleasure and privilege it is to serve in Burkina Faso:

- **❖** With RPCVs **Christopher** and **Nora Roy**, I traveled to **Sayaga**, 10km from Koloko at the far southwestern edge of the country, to attend the funeral rites for the father of our friend Boureima Diamitani, who got his PhD with Dr. Roy in Iowa. PCV Laura Grant, based nearby in **Sokoroni**, biked over for the two-day event, which gave us all a full dose of Burkina music and animist tradition, as only funerals can. The Roys took the opportunity to learn more about Senoufo arts and culture, including visits to women potters in **Pelignan** and blacksmiths in **Sifarasso**. Chris and Nora made a generous contribution through the Friends of Burkina Faso to purchase a generatoroperated mill for Sayaga. The mill will help generate income to pay for the completion of a maternity clinic and other projects there. They also brought soccer shirts and second-hand soccer shoes for the men's soccer team in Sayaga, as well as school supplies and pen-pal letters from kids in **Iowa City** schools for the children in Sayaga's elementary school. Bougoutio is Nora's new *Tagwara* name, and Chris is known as **Konomba**.
- ❖ With our visiting State Department inspector, 10 of us from the Embassy visited the first Mouhoun/Balé mask festival in Tcheriba. 20 villages worth of dancing masks! We were leading customers of the exhibition/sale of the remarkable women potters of Tcheriba, organized by Peace Corps teacher Rosalind Newton. She also helped them open a boutique and publish a catalog. (To order, contact Ros directly c/o P C Burkina).
- ❖ Most encouraging of all was a trip to farms in the Boussé, Gourcy and **Ouahigouya** areas to look at restoration of degraded land – a project supported by the US Geological Survey Eros Data **Center** in South Dakota. Most of us assumed that after the drought of the 1970's, deforestation and desertification were inevitable. What we saw, however, was that self-taught farmer-innovators were reclaiming the land, with amazing results in crops, useful trees and water conservation. It was one of the most inspiring experiences of my tour. Anyone wanting to meet these farmers in print should read chapter 4 of Farmer Innovation in Africa, by Chris Reij and Ann Waters-Bayer (Earthscan Publications, London and Sterling, VA).



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# **Notes from Peace Corps Burkina**



Nelson Cronyn, PCD

Greetings from
Ouagadougou. In my
last piece, I mentioned that it was
starting to cool off.
Well, what a difference a few months
makes – here comes
the hot season and
those famous Burkina
mangoes.

My last trip of any length was a family vacation right after

Christmas. We traveled to Gorom-Gorom, then on to Gandafabou, a small Tuareg and Fulani village with a "campement touristique" run by Tuareg guide Rissa Ag Agali. We were treated to interesting markets (Deou and Oursi) and spectacular views, particularly at night camping out

under the full moon. I highly recommend this trip for anyone interested in gaining a better appreciation for the pastoral zone of Burkina. From northeastern Burkina, we took a faint sand track (missed the main piste somehow) to **Tera**, Niger, then down to **Niamey** for New Years Eve with Burkina **RPCV John U. Davis** and his extended



Minister of Health seeing off Volunteers in Fada at the National AIDS Ride

There has been quite a bit of staff turnover in the past few months. Administrative Officer **Bill Salisbury** left for medical reasons at the end of December, which means I have not been out seeing Volunteers nearly as much as I would like. We expect a new Administrative Officer, **Molly Glenn Mbengue** (RPCV/Mali) to be on board by mid-April. PCMO **Daynese Santos** joined

us in December, replacing **Molly Leitnaker**, who moved with her new husband to **Nairobi**. Daynese has many years of experience working with HIV/ AIDS patients in Atlanta, Georgia, as well as overseas experience in Brazil and Africa.

The usual day-to-day good work of Volunteers aside, here are four program highlights from the past few months:

❖ The "Caravane Cycliste Contre le SIDA" began on International AIDS Day, December 1. Three groups of 10 − 15 Volunteers, accompanied by animators from the NGO Promaco, bicycled three routes - Fada to Ouaga, Ouahigouya to Ouaga, and Gaoua to Bobo − as part of a nation-wide HIV/AIDS awareness-raising campaign. The groups stopped in a total of 65 villages, reaching over 30,000 people (far more if one includes the national television audience). The ride was featured on the

national evening news three times, and was the central feature of Burkina's observation of **International AIDS** Day. On the last day of the ride Volunteers and staff were joined by U.S. Ambassador Jimmy Kolker and Vermont Governor **Howard Dean** as they rode in a parade composed of community-based

organizations (women's and youth groups working on HIV/AIDS awareness, support groups for people living with AIDS). The parade ended at the international conference facility hosting **ICASA** (International Conference on AIDS and STDs in Africa), with a ceremony presided over by the Minister of Health and the President of ICASA. As representative of the Peace





AIDS Ride: Start of the "Caravane Cycliste" in Fada. December 1, 2002

Corps, I was a co-signee with representatives of other organizations in the parade on a declaration stating our intention to remain engaged in all aspects of HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness. This project was made possible with generous financial support from the President and CEO of American Medical Laboratories, **Timothy Brodnik**,

based in Chantilly, Virginia.

❖ Rebecca
Archer,
Education
Volunteer in
Diebougou,
received
funding from
America OnLine, as part of
the Peace
Pack program,
to start a
computer lab

access at her Lycée.

with internet

❖ Volunteers have been busy setting up a series of Guinea Worm Weeks in Guinea Worm endemic areas (Gorgare, Soubeira, Ziniare, Loropeni). Worm Week, an idea conceived by Niger Volunteer Michael Kinzer in the mid-90s, aims at raising the level of awareness regarding Guinea Worm by conducting health extension campaigns

in villages hardest hit by "The Worm". Volunteers work with counterparts doing everything from door-to-door education to isolation and treatment of cases. This activity has received a big injection of energy (and resources) since the arrival of Global 2000 Director, and Burkina RPCV, **Raymond Stewart**.

d Stewart.

Volunteers Claudia Diaz and Jennifer Wilen during an animation session in Diapangou

and cur will focus on HIV/AIDS awareness.

RPCVs, please send us your 8x10 glossy photos of your Volunteer days, noting who is doing what, where, and when on the back. We still have plenty of wall space to cover...

Thanks to all of you for your continuing interest in the Peace Corps program in Burkina Faso. Enjoy the spring.

❖ Volunteers Hope Hempstone and Kristen **Guskovict** are working with other Volunteers and counterparts to develop a Health Activity Manual and curriculum for school children. The activity manual and curriculum



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# The following two pages were submitted by Taale Laafi Rosellini (Returned Peace Corps Volunteer Burkina Faso 1967-75), Founder/Director of African Family Film Foundation.

# **African Family Film Foundation**

"African Family Film Foundation is a nonprofit educational organization committed to bringing inspiring images of African peoples to schools, community groups and the media. Our film projects aim to provide the public with engaging, enlightening, and uplifting portraits of Africans and their cultures. We are dedicated to raising people's consciousness and appreciation of African culture worldwide. We attract and receive support as a result of screenings and exhibitions in public venues, through outreach and by direct appeals to individuals and publicly supported institutions. Our award-winning films are now in libraries, schools, colleges, universities, archives, museums and community centers in 33 states and 11 countries."

#### Scenes from the film *Great Great Grandparents' Music*



Dugutigi Kone teaches his son Dramane to play the bala xylophone. At age 4 Dramane speaks 3 languages.



Kalifa and Kiemogo play jembe drums, brother Bureima claps as Zalisa dances the Fiyen ka bo ("Air must exit!").

# **African Family Children's Fund**

"African Family Film Foundation assists children in Africa through the **African Family Children's Fund**, presently focusing on children at risk in Burkina Faso. We actively support projects and schools in Africa that teach children ecologically sound skills: sustainable organic farming, reforestation and solar energy production."

#### LEARNING RE-FORESTATION...





Paul Zombre and Alfred Kiba water seedlings at the Loumbila village cooperative nursery, Ziniare region.



Raogo and Sambo Kabore learn reforestation from their elder at the Loumbila village nursery.

"African Family provides nutrition (millet, sorghum or corn organically grown in Africa) and cotton blankets (hand-woven by Burkinabé artisans) to children at risk and their families. We engage in the redistribution of wealth while encouraging local organic farming and the ancient art of weaving cloth."

#### REDISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH







#### LEARNING SOLAR ENERGY PRODUCTION...

Pierre Yamleogo Balma, Assistant Director of African Family Children's Fund, explains solar energy to students at Bowenwaogre school, Nagbangre village, Bazeega region.





Teacher Samuel Sakana takes his students to visit an African home powered by solar energy.

## ...AND SUSTAINABLE ORGANIC FARMING

During the dry season, youth of Malgsomde village, Oubritenga region, dig holes in the millet fields, filling them with organic material (grasses, animal dung and decayed millet stalks). Burkinabé youth are learning this technique called "zai". It provides the soil with nutrients, retains humidity, resists drought, allows seeds to grow more readily and helps produce a better crop, year after year.



"We are seeking funds to continue the work of the Foundation and to support the grass-roots projects illustrated in these photos. Please help us help African children and their families. Even a small contribution can make a difference. Large contributions can make a BIG difference. Imagine how much you can help African children. Act now! Send your contribution."

# AFRICAN FAMILY FILM FOUNDATION PO BOX 630, SANTA CRUZ CA 95061-0630

www.africanfamily.org • friends@africanfamily.org • 831-724-3212

African Family Film Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization; your contributions are tax-deductible.

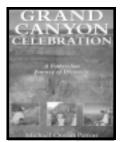




# On Sale: 2002 Calendars

The famous RPCV 2002 International Calendar. Each month features a Peace Corps country of service. FBF will receive the proceeds to support Burkina projects. Makes a great holiday gift!





A Journey of Discovery

Michael Patton, '67-69, is donating ALL proceeds to Friends of Burkina Faso! 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. Only \$15, postage included.

# 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.



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 m	nake checks pa	yable to: FRIEI	NDS OF BURKINA FASO	
NAME:			PHONE:	
ADDRESS:			ZIP:	
(NOTE FOR SHIR)	TS: in L & XL sizes, p	lease specify if you wa	nt the words "Peace Corps " under the d	esign)
HOW MANY:	T-SHIRTS: L	 KL 	PRICE PER SHIRT: \$16 PRICE PER TOTE: \$20 PRICE PER BOOK: \$15 PRICE PER CALENDAR: \$8 (PLEASE ADD \$3 IF YOU WANT TO HELP WITH POSTAGE COSTS)	

# **Meet Armande Coulidiaty**

Hello Friends of Burkina! Laafi beme?

I am the new IRC manager here at **Peace Corps Ouaga**, replacing **Mercy Desouza**. Mercy's husband was called to new duties in Ghana. She is now the new IRC manager of PC Ghana.

Can you believe this: My first math teacher in secondary school was a PCV from 1985 to 1986. **Gregory Kahoe** was his name, and he came from Kentucky. I hope to get in touch with him again. Warm regards, Armande acoulidiaty@bf.peacecorps.gov

**Armande Coulidiaty** 



# Sites to visit

http://PeaceCorpsOnline.org

www.AllAfrica.com

http://africafocus.library.wisc.edu/



# Renew Now

**Look for your membership expiration date** after your name on the mailing label. If there isn't one, your \$15 membership is due. Thanks for your support.

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# **BURKINA CONNECTION**

**JOURNAL OF THE FRIENDS OF BURKINA FASO** 

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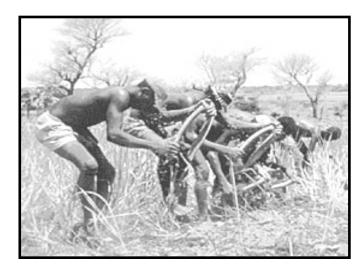
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Friends of Burkina Faso, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable NPCA-affiliated organization

- Maintains a network of returned Peace Corps Volunteers and friends of Burkina Faso
- Provides funding and assistance to support projects in Burkina Faso
- Improves social interaction, communication and information exchange
- Educates others about the country and culture of Burkina Faso

