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BIG STRIDES IN GIRLS' EDUCATION

by Suzanne Plopper '67 - '69, Treasurer

As the school year gets underway, we are thrilled that Friends of Burkina Faso is able to support post secondary education/training scholarships for 21 young women, twice as many scholarships, on average, as we have been able to offer in each of the previous three years of this program. This includes a scholarship to a young woman who just received her license (B.A.) in law at the top of her class and whose FBF partner has offered to support her in her Masters studies. The remaining 20 scholarships will support studies for one university student; and support training for five young women in midwifery, four in nursing, and ten in primary school teaching.

Since 2010, FBF has supported post secondary education/training scholarships for 54 girls. Of these girls, 18 have successfully completed their post secondary training and 36 are progressing satisfactorily in their

training. The girls have been well selected and have taken their studies seriously.

Although we are extremely pleased to be able to 21 scholarships for the 2013-14 academic year, we are also mindful that over 200 qualified girls apply for NEEDED's scholarships each year. We continue to seek funding to enable us to increase the number of scholarships we can offer.

It is thanks to the very generous donations of FBF's partners (the Milton and Beatrice Wind Foundation, the FAWCO Foundation, GlobalGiving donors and FBF members) that we are able to offer scholarships to these young women, giving them the opportunity to develop skills which will enable them to contribute to the health of their communities and the education of future generations of children, and to serve as role models and leaders

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PRESIDENT'S YIRI

by Mike Lavoie, '75-'77



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To contact a member of the
leadership team, please visit
<http://fbf.tamu.edu>.



“Wennam Yaa Kassenga” “God Is Great”

Recently, I received an email from Kevin Sweeney, one of our newsletter editors, asking how my letter was going for this issue. I had no immediate ideas about a topic. But a few hours later, I received a startling email from my friend Christophe in Burkina. That email gave me the insights for this letter.

Christophe had been in a terrible car accident. He was driving a small, aging car to my old village of Namtenga to work on some educational projects, including handing out school supplies and scholarships. These were projects funded through Cranbrook Schools, a local school here in Michigan. He did not get to Namtenga. Instead, his brother-in-law Simeon went there by himself as Christophe was rushed from the scene.

Christophe eventually made it to a hospital in Ouagadougou, where he spent about two weeks. He was just released and is recovering at his brother's home in Ouagadougou. He sent me pictures of the car—it was destroyed and it is a miracle he is alive. He sent me pictures of his injuries too. They were severe, including a fractured knee and multiple lacerations over his body.

Christophe and I exchanged emails and telephone calls about the accident. Nowhere was there a complaint, a lament, or a hint of self-pity. He just expressed a sturdy, yet humble, determination to recover. He is just now on crutches and returning to good health.

I tell you this story because it reminds me of some essential things I learned in Burkina Faso—things you may have learned, too. We



 FBF President Mike Lavoie, '75 - '77

remember how courageous and tough the Burkina people are in the face of trouble. We remember how uncomplaining they are about adversity. We remember the wide array of hardships that confront them, not now and then, but all too regularly week in and week out—illness, hunger, water problems, economic difficulties, and the endless dilemmas of day-to-day living. We remember their courage in response to tragic events like this car accident.

We remember, too, another aspect of the Burkina character: humility. Pervading all the rigors of their lives is a sense of modesty, a clear-eyed lack of pretention. There is no boasting of immunity from such things, nor do they brag of their strength in overcoming calamity. Instead, you see most often what Christophe told me in closing his note

of October 20: Wennam yaa kassenga. As most of us know, that means “God is great.”

Now, Christophe would never say what I am going to say, nor would the Burkina people ever say it. But I believe that these attributes—this courage and humility—make the Burkina people great.



GIRLS' EDUCATION (CONT)

within their immediate and larger communities.

FBF has again this year funded the enrollment of 300 girls entering village primary schools through the Lambs Support Girls' Education Project in northern Burkina Faso. This is the 12th year of our support for this program. In national exams at the end of primary school, "our" girls have consistently scored substantially higher than their classmates every year. This year, 86.4% of Lambs Support Girls' Education girls passed these exams compared with 62.4% of students throughout the northern region. NEEED has indicated that they will be able to cover the remaining villages in the region who are interested in this project within the next two years.

Photos: *Haoua Savadogo (right) is beginning her university studies in law. Korotim Ouedraogo (cover) is a second year university student studying English. Both young women have benefited from earlier support from Association NEEED and Friends of Burkina Faso, having entered primary school thanks to the Lambs Support Girls' Education Project and having graduated from the Lycee Modern de l'Amitie (NEEED's middle/secondary school for girls).*



 Haoua Savadogo

LET'S STAY CONNECTED!

'LIKE' US ON FACEBOOK

Check out our Facebook page for updates on FBF activities, projects, and events. "Like" us and join in on conversation, information and photo sharing, and keep up-to-date on Burkina news.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-Burkina-Faso/244815659456>

EMAIL LISTSERV

Receive the latest news and RPCV updates, and take part in conversation on the FBF email listserv. This forum is a great place to look for travel partners and information for planning return trips to Burkina, sharing interesting articles about Burkina, and engaging in discussion with other FBF members.

<http://fbf.tamu.edu/listserv.php>



GIRLS' EDUCATION



Burkina
Connection
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UPDATES: PROJECT COLLABORATION BETWEEN PEACE CORPS AND THE FRIENDS OF BURKINA FASO

by Tom Vollrath, '67-'70


Also reported in the previous issue of our newsletter, FBF elected to support PCV Beth Hauth's ideas for promoting "literacy through the arts." FBF purchased books for the three primary schools in the village and provided funding for a teacher's workshop focused on ways to capture students' interests in and ability to read. In August, Beth informed us that the goals of the project had been achieved.

Age- and culturally-appropriate books were purchased and distributed to the three schools. The teacher-training workshop was held on June 20th. All 19 local-area teachers and the three school administrators actively participated in the program. A reading camp followed the teacher-training workshop and provided opportunities for teachers to assist and try out new pedagogical techniques.




 *A gathering of students before class begins at day camp*



 *Instructors Beth Hauth, Zephirin Gouabe, and Molly Morrison in the village of Lanfiera*



 *A lesson on HIV-AIDS included reading about Bouba and Zaza's experience with HIV-AIDS*


YELBOUGA PHARMACY

by Tom Vollrath, '67-'70


As was reported in the last issue of The Burkina Connection, health volunteer Amy Hart submitted a proposal to FBF on behalf of prominent leaders in Yelbouga to finance the construction of a pharmacy adjacent to the local CSPS health clinic. Funds were wired to Nebie Abdou's (the president of the Comité Villageois

de Développement (CVD) bank account in April. In July, Amy reported that the pharmacy has been completed and the keys have been handed over to the community/pharmacist! The construction went surprisingly quickly and the builders did a great job. Take a look at the accompany pictures. They are very impressive!




 *Hardworking villagers mixing concrete for the building bricks*



 *Completed concrete bricks for the building, over 1200 in total*




 *Yelbouga Pharmacy, mid-construction*




 *Yelbouga Pharmacy, completed*



 *Nebie Abdou, the president of the CVD, handing the keys over to the village chief*



 *Project leaders at the opening ceremony*

PEACE CORPS & FRIENDS OF BURKINA




GOLD, ELEPHANTS, CHICKENS, & FAMILY:

WHAT WE DID ON OUR SUMMER VACATION

by Marianne Bailey, Mali, '87-'89

This past August, our family made a long-awaited trip to Burkina to see my husband's family. Alex grew up in Bobo-Dioulasso, and his mother, who by all accounts is at least 98 but possibly over 100, is still living in the family concession. Being the youngest of the ten Bambara kids, Alex has seven living siblings and plenty of nieces and nephews, and it had been way too long -- over eight years -- since our last visit. We swallowed hard, bought the still-outrageously-overpriced air tickets for us and our two teenage kids, and arrived in Ouaga in the midst of the rainy season.



 Bambara family with Alex's mother


Ouagadougou pulsed with the vibrant energy of a growing middle class. Small businesses and the impressive growth of higher end housing, both in Ouaga and Bobo, provide clues to an economy that seems to be quite healthy. Part of this may be due to gold. As in much of the world, gold fever has taken hold of Burkina. And this may not be all good news.

We got an up-close look at this Burkina gold fever. I had been the U.S. negotiator for provisions in the new Minamata Convention on Mercury that address the use of mercury in artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM), or *l'orpaillage* as it is referred to in West Africa. In my work at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, global use and emissions of mercury had become a top priority, and we had been working for years to identify key emitting sectors and to work with other countries to deploy on-the-ground programs and multilateral approaches to address them. Artisanal and

small-scale gold mining had emerged as the world's largest use of mercury and largest source of emissions. Because mercury travels globally, this impacts all of us -- but the extent of the impacts upon miners and their communities is just now becoming better understood. Fortunately, key governments, including Burkina Faso's, have recognized this issue and are in the forefront of developing action plans and programs to protect miners, their communities, and the beautiful, vast countrysides which hold the precious metal.

It was an eye-opener for the whole family to visit one of the larger *orpaillage* sites, outside of Gombedougou, east of Bobo. Accompanied by Mr. Roger Baro, the smiling yet determined local staff person for the Artisanal Gold Council, we talked with the village leaders and leaders in the local miners' association. Roger had been working hard with them in recent weeks to gain governmental recognition for the association. The Artisanal Gold Council and others working globally on mercury use in ASGM believe that formalization is a key initial step in promoting widespread use of safer and more effective mining practices. At the mining camp, we got a close look at the how the gold ore is processed:



 Gombedougou leaders with Marianne Bailey and Roger Baro

milling that produces more noise and dust than a construction site, amalgamating the ore, and burning the amalgam to release the mercury from the gold, turning the mercury to a vapor that is inhaled, deposited locally on soil, crops,

continued on next page


GOLD, ELEPHANTS, CHICKENS, & FAMILY (CONT)

and in waterways, and delivered to the global atmosphere. We were not able to see miners at work in the deep shafts* – orpaillage is prohibited in the rainy season, in part for safety reasons but also because there is a real concern in the country that agriculture will suffer in the face of this gold fever, when word on the street is that 80% of the country's land carries gold.

The miners are clearly extremely hard working individuals making livelihoods for themselves and their families, eager for better methods. Other meetings and site visits impressed us with the work of all the players in the gold supply chain, but also made us realize what a challenging task lies ahead for the country and its partners to reduce the many risks of ASGM – and made us wish there were a lot more Rogers!

In between family visits, we also waded through the seasonal streams at the small family farm outside of Bobo to see the chicks and chickens. The family recently embarked on



 *Marianne, James, and Olivia with mining camp leader and his child*

an effort to produce eggs and chickens that are more affordable for the population. In the future, they hope to do their part to lessen the country's dependence on imported chicks by producing them locally.

Just before the kids and I headed back home for college, high school, and work obligations, we had our biggest adventure yet in Burkina -- an up-close encounter with a herd of elephants in the *Forêt Classée et Ranch de Gibier de Nazinga*, on the border with Ghana. Next time you are in Burkina, try to visit Nazinga, it is wonderful! But be sure to have lots of time, a brave driver, and your own truck which can take many hours of really bad roads!

And through our whole summer vacation, the lovely Burkinabe outlook shone through the rains. Alex and I would be happy to discuss any of our summer vacation topics with you in more detail: mbbambara@gmail.com

*See PBS Newshour piece on ASGM in Burkina Faso:



 *Marianne Bailey and Roger Baro meeting with Gombeledougou leaders*

VISITING BURKINA FASO



"Designer wanted."

Did the font in the above header upset - or even *offend* - you? Do unnecessary quotation marks drive you nuts?

Friends of Burkina Faso is looking for help from someone like you.



If you are familiar with Adobe InDesign, and would like to contribute your talents to Burkina Connection, please contact Kevin Sweeney by emailing: kevinsweeney23@gmail.com

Help us fight against Comic Sans.

TWO SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS PROMOTE A SOLUTION TO WATER SCARCITY IN BURKINA FASO

by Tom Vollrath, '67-'70

"Water is life's mater and matrix, mother and medium. There is no life without water"

—Albert Szent-Gyorgyi, Hungarian winner of the 1937 Nobel prize for medicine

Kathleen McDonald and Solange Kaboré, the Peace Corps secretary in Ouagadougou, forged enduring bonds while "Kati" was serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in the early 1970s. Years later, Solange established Association Zod Noogo (AZN), a Burkinabé NGO, whose mission is to promote sustainable community development in rural villages using rainwater catchment basins. She worked with local leaders in her home village of Sissené (located 10 km from Koudougou) to determine how to organize, develop, and build a rainwater catchment basin.

Solange contacted her friend Kati about ways to obtain financial assistance, knowing that Kathleen had experience raising funds to build homes for disadvantaged folks in the United States. Kati mobilized resources within the Community Building Group (CBG), a non-profit organization in the States. CBG marshaled a campaign among its members that enabled it to pay for the engineer, design, testing, construction equipment and materials needed to build the rainwater catchment basin in Sissené.

The government of Burkina Faso approved the Sisené project. Then local villagers contributed their labor and managed construction. The rainwater catchment basin, with a capacity to hold 1.5 million gallons of water, was completed in 2008. The payoffs to this project have been life changing for the residents of Sissené. It has generated a reliable source of water throughout the year, enabled farmers to irrigate gardens, created markets for produce (which has attracted wholesalers from neighboring Koudougou), increased employment, curtailed out-migration of the male labor force, and increased villagers' income.

A couple of years ago, AZN submitted a proposal to FBF in an effort to build upon its success in Sissené. FBF member, Drew Gower, who has a M.S. degree in hydrogeology, headed up our internal evaluation. FBF Project Committee members were favorably impressed

with the AZN request. But, we recognized that FBF was unable to endorse the project for lack of financial resources. We did, however, note the possibility that we could promote this initiative by reaching out to the wider world of donors by putting it on the GlobalGiving website at some point in the future.

An opportunity to do so arose this September as Kati McDonald and Seydou Traoré, both of whom are affiliated with AZN as advisors, were in D.C. (Seydou is a Fulbright scholar currently working with FBF Technical Officer, Guy Fipps at Texas A&M). The three of us met with the folks at GlobalGiving headquarters on 9/12 to explore the prospects of mounting AZN's Rainwater-Catchment-Basin proposal for the village of Ramongo on their website. The Director of Programs, Britt Lake, was so impressed with our presentation that she expressed willingness to feature the Ramongo project in GG's Fall promotional campaigns.

A Projects Committee meeting was held two days later at Mead Over's home. The nine persons in attendance had lively and informative discussions. Committee members voted unanimously to recommend that our Board of Directors endorse posting the AZN project on the GG website, with Kati McDonald assuming primary management responsibilities. On October 8th, the Board formally approved this initiative. The next day, the project was posted on GG's website!

The rainwater catchment initiative launched by friends McDonald and Kaboré, now called Give Water Give Life, is directed by the Burkinabé. The Ramongo basin is designed to use locally available materials and personnel. It will be locally owned and managed, making the beneficiaries responsible for maintenance. We hope that funding, needed to cover non-labor costs, will be obtained to build the catchment basin in Ramongo, improving the life of its inhabitants!

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS



FBF's RAINWATER CATCHMENT PROJECT ON GLOBALGIVING

<http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/rainwater-catchments-a-solution-to-water-scarcity/>



 Rainwater catchment basin and the surrounding fields of rice in Sisené

Project Summary

Small rainwater catchment basins provide an innovative solution to water scarcity in rural Burkina Faso. Properly constructed, catchment basins assure that water is available throughout the year, providing opportunities to increase agricultural production, improve villagers' health, and create local employment.

What is the Problem?

The village of Ramongo has a population of 2,500 that is almost entirely dependent upon agriculture. Subsistence production takes place during the 6-month rainy season and is constrained by water shortages. Precipitation is highly variable from year to year, averaging less than 28 inches annually. Even during years of abundant rainfall, wells eventually dry up. Without water, there is little or no work. Young girls trek up to 3 hours each day to fetch water. They have no time to go to school.

How Will this Project Solve the Problem?

The Give Water, Give Life initiative was recently launched to animate the local population. This initiative is directed by village leaders and is supported by Association Zodia Noogo, a local NGO that supervised building a basin in Sisené. Student engineers and a cadre of external volunteers are committed to sharing their knowledge and expertise throughout the life of the GWGL project. Satellite imagery technology will be harnessed to pinpoint the optimal location for the catchment basin.

Potential Long-Term Impact

The basin will enable villagers to gain access to a ready-supply of water, both at the catchment area and in local wells because the basin raises the water table. The agricultural growing season will be lengthened and production diversified as more water becomes available and opportunities to irrigate arise. Locally grown produce and the emergence of fishing and livestock industries promise to improve nutritional intake of village residents, increase income, and open up export opportunities.



FBF AND GLOBAL GIVING



"FBF is really making a positive contribution"
- Mead Over, economist from the Global Center for Development



 *Desiré's meeting with IT instructors Ethan & Ziba*

Desiré Bansé, FBF's point-of-contact person for the computer expansion project, debriefed Committee members about the progress being made at LPK upon his return from having visited the Provincial High School in Kougougou. Mead Over (GCD economist, PCV in Upper Volta in the late 1960s, and new FBF-Project-Committee member) wrote Desi, expressing appreciation and admiration for the accomplishments being made:

"Thanks so much for your visit and for doing your thorough report. Indeed the energy and excitement of the school to be able to benefit from this computer training facility are infectious. The fact that the students began almost immediately to be useful to their acquaintances around Koudougou for small help with computers shows what a transformative set of tools this skill set can provide. Your story makes me wonder what interesting personal stories the graduates of that LPK computer training program will be able to tell in a few years.

One of the most fascinating things about your report was a clever local technological adaptation that none of us anticipated: that so many students would have phones or cameras with SIM cards large enough to hold the data files they are producing in their computer class. This shows how the spread of telecom technology, which we all know is transforming Koudougou and all of Africa, establishes a new

foundation on which the PC training can build.

As an economist, I was also fascinated by the way that everyone connected with the LPK computer training seems to be looking for ways to turn those skills to immediate commercial advantage. In a rich country like the US, students typically learn basic computer skills with the idea that someday years later those skills might come in handy. But a few, who later become the technology entrepreneurs of the rich world, almost immediately see commercial possibilities. From your report, one gets the impression that almost all the students want to immediately be able to turn their new skills to commercial advantage. This is a sign that FBF is really making a positive contribution.

For me, the interest expressed in providing the students some training in the use of a basic open source accounting software is a healthy manifestation of this urge. According to your report, many students would be able to help some of their family or friends almost immediately if they learned such a skill. The complementarity between instruction in computer skills and instruction in basic business accounting seems like something we should strongly encourage any way we can."

Here are some specifics drawn from Desiré's report about achievements being made since FBF's Bony Porrogho visited to the school last February:

1. 109 students took IT computer classes this academic year and 90 ended up getting a certification. This is an impressive ratio of 82.6%. Next year, enrollment is to double, increasing to 240 students. Moreover, classes will be held in the morning to better accommodate students, rather in the evening as was the case last year. This change will enable more boys and girls to sign up for classes.
2. Former LPK professor Allain Gnabahou,

continued on next page



LPK COMPUTER UPDATE

by Tom Vollrath, '67-'70

now teaching at a local university, remains committed to helping out at the high school. Currently, he is assisting with the development of a computer training course in finance management. This course would benefit both LPK students and faculty.

3. Computer instructor, Ziba Mahamadou has assumed responsibility for LPK contract with internet service provider, ONATEL. Currently, the school is awaiting ADSL installation, likely to take place in November.
4. Raogo Zongo, the LPK principal has developed an action plan for communications with local authorities, management of the computer lab, and the financing of connectivity. The LPK budget contain provisions to assume 30 percent of the monthly charges while the Parent Teacher's Association is committed to paying for the remaining costs.
5. To the delight of everyone on the team, PCV Ethan Heppner has agreed to extend his stay with the Peace Corps Burkina another year. He was motivated to do so because of excitement about the computer project. Ethan's contributions are much appreciated by all concerned.
6. Allain Gnabahou compares Ethan with the innovative Lebanese because of



 LPK Computer Lab

“his great ideas about how to make the project sustainable”. One of Ethan's ideas has already begun to bear fruit. He developed a hands-on, after school, apprenticeship program that trains interested students on how to repair computers (e.g., removing viruses and downloading software updates). This summer, a total of 26 computers were fixed and/or sold to teachers and others in the community. These repairs and sales have provided much needed sources of revenue that have defrayed maintenance costs associated with the LPK computer lab and helped make the program sustainable.

To show the “incredible impact” that FBF's support of the computer program has had at LPK, students have made--using the computers of course—thank-you notes addressed to FBF donors. The next pages show some of the letters.



SHARE YOUR STORY

The *Burkina Connection* is a biannual newsletter and a great way for members to share information and stay up to date on all things Faso. One way you can contribute is to write an article about your experience as a



Volunteer in Upper Volta/Burkina Faso for an upcoming issue of the *Burkina Connection*. If you are interested in sharing a story, a memory, or some photos, please contact fbfnewsletter@gmail.com.

LYCEE PROVINCIAL DE KOUDOUGOU

BURKINA FASO

DICIPLINE-SOLIDARITE-TRAVAIL

UNETE-PROGRES-JUSTICE

BP : 39

CARTE DE REMERCIEMENT



*LES ELEVES DU LYCEE PROVINCIAL DE KOUDOUGOU
VOUS ADRESSE SES SICERES REMERCIMENTS. GRACE A VOUS
ON A PU ACQUERIR LE SAVOIR DE L'INFORMATIQUE ,
COMMENT MANIER L'OUTIL INFORMEL. NOUS REMERCIONS
L'ASSOCIATION FRIENDS OF BURKINA FASO DE
L'AMERIQUE POUR CE MERVEILLEUX DON. AU DEPART
NOUS ETIONS AU NOMBRE DE 119 MAIS IL Y A QUE 82 QUI
AURONS LES ATTESTATIONS. Mr ETHAN A ETE UN
PROFESSEUR DE TAILLE, IL NOUS A MONTRE TOUT CE QU'IL
Y A COMME LOGICIEL A L'INFORMATIQUE.*

THANK YOU !!!

OUEDRAGO franclín



BURKINA FASO

Unité-Progrès-Justice

LYCÉE PROVINCIAL DE KOUDOUGOU

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CARTE DE REMERCIEMENT

Je me nomme YAMÉOGO Rasmané en classe de 2nde c. J'ai 18 ans et je tiens à communiquer avec vous. Je remercie beaucoup l'association Friends of Burkina Faso pour leur promotion car j'ai tiré profit la dessus. Je remercie également Mr ETHAN informaticien Américain qui nous a aidés d'acquérir des connaissances sur la manipulation de l'ordinateur. J'ai eu des notions sur Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Power Point.



BURKINA FASO

MERCI



Lycée Provincial de Koudougou

BP : 39

Burkina Faso

Unité-Progrès- Justice

CARTE DE REMERCIMENT

TOUT D'ABORD JE REMERCIE D'UNE PART MR ETHAN HEPPNER D'AVOIR
ACCEPTÉ DE NOUS PROCURÉ SES CONNAISSANCES EN MATIÈRE D'INFORMATIQUE
ET NOUS ETIONT TRÈS RAVI D'ACQUÉRIR CES CONNAISSANCES ET NOUS SAVONS
CE QUE C'EST QUE L'INFORMATIQUE NOUS SAVONS NAVIGUER FAIRE DES
RECHERCHES, SAISIR DES TEXTES, FAIRE DES EXPOSÉ AVEC L'ORDINATEUR CE
QUI ÉTAIT UN SOUHAIT POUR NOUS AVANT LE DÉBUT DES COURS
D'INFORMATIQUES DONC ONT LE REMERCIE BEAUCOUP.

D'AUTRES PART, ASSOCIATION FRIENDS OF BURKINA FASO D'AVOIR
PENSÉE À NOUS DE PENSÉ QUE L'INFORMATIQUE DE NOS JOURS EST LE PLUS
GRAND MOYEN D'ACQUÉRIR DES CONNAISSANCES ET LE PLUS RAPIDE, DONC JE
REMERCIER CETTE ASSOCIATION D'AVOIR CES ORDINATEURS POUR QUE NOUS
TRAVAILLONS ET C'EST UNE JOIE POUR NOUS DONC ON VOUS REMERCIE DE VOTRE
BONNE VOLONTÉ, MERCI, MERCI BEAUCOUP !!!

NOM : NÉBIÉ

PRÉNOM : PIBIÉ WILLIAM



A RETURN TO WEST AFRICA

by Jim Wake, RPCV

Editors at Burkina Connection received an email from RPCV, Jim Wake, in September. Jim had the fortune of traveling back to West Africa, 33 years after he had left at the end of two years of service in Ouagadougou. His website shares photos and stories of this return trip.

Take a moment or two and return to West Africa with Jim through this well written and illustrated website.

<http://home.tiscali.nl/t755047/Africa/InAccra.html>

