# Friends of Niger Donations Hit the Mark

## **FON Supports Grassroots Projects That Improve People's Lives**

FON board members, in consultation with Peace Corps staff, current PCVs and RPCV contacts in Niamey, continually evaluate small projects throughout Niger and make FON contributions to those with low overhead and high impact and sustainability. This issue of the Camel Express gives a glimpse into several of those projects. The longstanding Young Girls' Scholarship Program (YGSP), which has the most PCV involvement, and which provides Nigerien adolescents with the academic and financial support to continue their education, has a new PCV coordinator. Boston's Northeastern University RPCV Professor Miles continues to promote the third goal by teaching his students about Niger and funding small projects. AAWEL Second Chance Schools' dedicated staff members help impoverished children in Niamey to continue their education and provides vocational and leadership skills.

Rencontre et Action is a local microcredit non-governmental organization (NGO) founded by a Nigerien teacher in 2004, lends money to women in poor neighborhoods around the ever-growing metropolis of Niamey. Mollie Zapata, a Boston University student reports on this NGO.

In addition, Niger RPCVs independently fund projects they have identified, such as ABC Schools and the PlumpyNut Project. The daughter of a Niger RPCV, and current board member, has started a new project, ABC Schools, to provide quality education in privately-financed schools open to all Niger's children, regardless of socioeconomic status, gender, or religion. RPCVs have also united to fund distribution of Plumpy'Nut to regions of Niger where drought-induced famine has increased the number of malnourished children.

These are all worthy projects lending a hand to those in need who also have the motivation to help themselves. Please consider sending a donation, which you can designate to a specific project, or contribute to the general fund. All donations to FON are tax deductible.





Left: Mrs. Baraze Salamatou Katambe, President of AAWEL/Niger (left) and Mrs. Oumarou Aminatou, Secretary & Treasurer of AAWEL/Niger (right). Right: The Minister of Education presides over the donation ceremony.



# Letter from the Peace Corps/ Niger Director

6 December 2009

Dear Friends of Niger:

I know many of you have heard of the recent security problems we have been having here in Niger and are all concerned about what that means for the Peace Corps program. As a result we've all been quite busy for the past 3 weeks and I apologize if you've had to rely on rumors during that time. Our highest priority has been and continues to be assuring the safety and security of the Peace Corps Volunteers on the ground so other communications have fallen off a bit.

The security of westerners, including unfortunately Americans, has been threatened throughout the sub-region (Mauritania, Mali, and Niger) over the past year by a series of either successful or failed kidnappings associated with the Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM). Within the past 3 weeks there have been an unsuccessful kidnapping attempt in Tahoua, Niger; a rumored but unsubstantiated attempt near Gao, Mali; a successful kidnapping of a French NGO worker in Menaka, Mali (just on the other side of the Niger/Mali border); and the successful kidnapping of 3 Spaniards along the coastal road in Mauritania. The attempt in Tahoua was particularly troubling because it appeared to target some US Embassy staff staying in a hotel and we had several PCVs sited within about a 50 Km radius (one actually in Tahoua) at the time of the kidnapping.

In response to these security events, Peace Corps felt it prudent to consolidate all PCVs and then assess the situation. The good news was that we were able to consolidate 95% of our PCVs within about 8 hours and all of them within 24 hours. This very rapid response, even with Niger's infrastructure challenges, is a great credit to our PCVs and our staff, particularly our regional staff. The result was that on 14 November (just prior to the incident in Tahoua) we had 118 Volunteers and 37 Trainees in Niger and on 16 Nov (the day after the event) we had all of them accounted for and safe.

Peace Corps continues to monitor the situation but our preliminary assessment led to the decision to reduce the number of PCVs/Trainees in Niger to allow us to better assure the safety of those remaining in country. We reduced our footprint primarily with three actions:

PCVs scheduled to complete their service in December 2009 were allowed and encouraged to leave a few weeks early, all but 5 of them chose to do so - 2 will be extending.

All other PCVs were encouraged to seriously consider the change in security and decide whether they were willing to continue their service under increased notification and travel

Continued on page 3

# **Board of Directors Friends of Niger**

John W. Soloninka, President

Gabriella Maertens, VICE-PRESIDENT

Penni St. Hilaire, Recording Secretary

Larry Koff, TREASURER

Steve Bushell, Member-at-large Webmaster

Pat Alio, Member-at-large Niger Liaison

Jude Andreasen, Member-at-large CAMEL EXPRESS EDITOR

John Baird, MEMBERSHIP

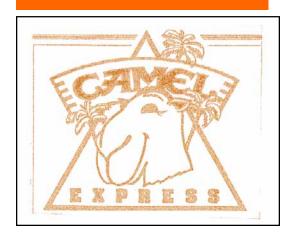
The Camel Express is the periodical newsletter of Friends of Niger (FON). FON can be contacted via the post at P.O. Box 5823

Washington, D. C. 20016–9998

Or by e-mail at j.soloninka@sbcglobal.net and you will find FON on the web and this newsletter in FULL COLOR at:

**Editor: Jude Andreasen** 

www.friendsofniger.org.



# Update on Niger from the PCD (continued from page 2)

restrictions. Those who did not feel safe continuing their service in Niger were given the option of returning to the US with the possibility of re-enrolling in another program. We anticipate about 10-15 PCVs will choose to leave due to the security situation.

The Trainees will all transfer as a group to PC/Madagascar with one exception who will go to another program. We were most concerned about this group because, as brand new PCVs not yet integrated and with minimal language skills, they would be the least able to respond appropriately to any security challenges. They are a fabulous training group so it was very difficult to make this decision and we will miss them but know they'll do very well in their service.

In addition to reducing the numbers of PCVs, Peace Corps has decided it is best to remove PCVs from the areas most geographically exposed to the Niger/Mali border. This has meant the (at least temporary) closure of the entire Tahoua Region (Team Konni) and the closure of the northern parts of the Tilliberi (including the Gotheye Cluster) and Maradi Regions. This also was a difficult decision since these are all areas where PCVs have served needy and receptive communities for many years.

All the PCVs who have been serving in these areas are being offered the choice of relocating within Niger for the remainder of their service or of returning to the US. About a quarter have chosen to return to the US and the rest will finish their service here in Niger. In total we will have about 12 - 15 PCVs who choose to return to the US due to the security situation.

It is a hard thing to see so many PCVs finish their service - most more or less on their original schedule but some earlier than anticipated - so we are busy supporting both staff and the remaining PCVs. We ask that you all remember that Peace Corps and Niger have had an outstanding partnership since 1962 and we hope to continue that partnership. During those 47 plus years more than 3000 Volunteers have served in Niger some during times as challenging from a security standpoint as our current situation. We anticipate having many more PCVs share the great opportunity to live and work with Nigeriens over the coming

Mary Abrams PCD, Niger

FON's new Board Member for Membership, John Baird, was a Niger vol-

FON's new Board Member for Membership, John Baird, was a Niger volunteer for 3 years in the early 1970's, and was featured in the April 2009 CEX for his sponsorship of a Nigerien student. He sent the following message:

Greetings FON members. I am honored to come on the Board with the assignment to increase FON membership. I see this job as larger in scope than just working to increase our numbers – it is an opportunity to tap into the special relationship that we Niger RPCVs have with the people of Niger, and to make a difference. Like many countries around the world, Niger is a troubled place, but with FON, we have unique connections for helping out. Read this Camel Express to see what FON is doing, and with relatively small numbers! We are about 200 out of some 3000 who have served in Niger since 1962. Could we double our membership and our service to Niger? That prospect inspires me! Let's get going! Please send names and addresses of all Niger RPCVs you know. Don't worry if they're already FON members – we'll cross check. Despite the serious concerns expressed in her riveting report from Niamey (in this issue), Mary Abrams also remains optimistic. Let's feed that hope! John

# Friends of Niger at Northeastern University

**Pop Quiz**: What's the first goal of the Peace Corps? (Answer: assisting other countries in their development.) What's the third goal? (Answer: educating Americans about these other countries.) How do you combine goals one and three? (Answer: read on).

At Northeastern University (NU) in Boston, students of Professor William F.S. Miles (better known as RPCV Bill Miles, TEFL, Magaria, 1977-9) have teamed up with Friends of Niger to launch the first FON-U.S. University collaboration. Thanks to a \$500.00 grant by FON, matched by Bill's department at NU, students in the seminar on Development Administration and Planning have designed and funded a real-life development project for a village in Niger. The students -with no previous connections to Niger - are now strongly connected to a community in that otherwise "off-the-American-radar" country.

This FON-sponsored project was an integral part of the course. Students spent the first weeks of the semester reading about successful projects throughout the developing world and about rural life and development activities in Niger. (In addition to *Reasons for Hope* by Krishna, Uphoff and Esman, assigned readings included such classic texts as the *Camel Express* and the FON Website.) The students then proposed, in writing, individual project ideas that their fellows took a week to critique. Then came the toughest part: hammering out a collective proposal that the students were to deliver, as a role-playing simulation, at a meeting of Friends of Niger.

Only this was no simulation: unbeknownst to the students, Bill had arranged for FON treasurer Larry Koff to make a jaw-dropping appearance in class. The connection between Boston-based students and far-off Niger was greatly intensified by the encounter, as Larry followed the students' presentation with accounts of his own Peace Corps experience. At the next class, one student said she regretted not having asked Larry, "What is it about Niger, or about your experience there, that keeps you connected after so many years?" Larry's response to the students could probably speak for many FON member, regarding the "attraction of living outside one's bubble and connecting to some very special people, relationships, and experiences." Quite relevant, too, is that as "the world continues to shrink, the absolute necessity of making these connections into more sustainable relationships grows in importance."

The students' final project has three components: microcredit financing (2/3 of which is dedicated to the neediest women in the community); supplies and furniture for the village schools; and market hangars (for the farmers and women's associations.) The funds will be made available after the mayor of the community receives the proposal, consults with the concerned village associations, and conveys their approval. On November 26, 2009 Professor Bill publicly presented the new FON-NU collaboration in New Orleans at the annual meeting of the African Studies Association. His hope is that FON becomes a model for other RPCV groups looking for ways to merge those first and third goals of Peace Corps.



Professor Miles and students at Northeastern University, and photos of villagers in one site where the project will be implemented.

#### NU Students as Friends of Niger (continued)

#### Student Reactions to the FON-NU Collaboration

"The experience was far more educational than any depiction of a case study in a textbook or classroom lecture." - Anna Weber

"To come up with developmental ideas for a geographically distant community, which I had never known about, was nerve racking." – Maysa de Oliveira

"Being a part of the improvement of the village made us feel like a part of the community." - Thomas Morgan

"I became quite passionate to ensuring that the quality of this project was something worthwhile." - Roselys Esteve

"The opportunity to design a development project in Niger has been very educational...." - Arleaya Martin

Best, Bill (Niger, 1977-9) Prof. William F.S. Miles, Department of Political Science Northeastern University, Boston

# Young Girls Scholarship Program Update

Dear Friends of Niger,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new GAD/SIDA/YGSP representative. I have just finished serving a year as a health volunteer in the Maradi region. I am very excited to be starting this exciting and challenging new position.

I come to Peace Corps from Mount Holyoke College where I studied a lot of gender and women's studies, so I am very excited about focusing my energies on something I am so passionate about.

This semester we have 12 girls enrolled in middle school with a YGSP scholarship, and we hope to bring two more girls next semester. There are a lot of different girls from last year and they come from every region of the country. We were very lucky to have four girls from last years scholarship successfully complete all their classes and get their Brevet, which means they can move on to high school and that they have a huge advantage if they chose to seek work outside of women's traditional roles. We had some excellent

applications this year, and the selected scholars have aspirations to be doctors, midwives, judges and lawyers. The incredible opportunity this scholarship affords young girls in Niger is only possible through your generous and continued support.

Peace Corps volunteers and school officials and teachers will work closely with the young girl scholars, to ensure that they have the most successful and advantageous school year possible. Volunteers regularly meet with school staff, families, and scholars to monitor the young girls' progress.

Please don't forget to check out the Youtube channel, sidagadniger! There are a variety of videos updated regularly!

Sincerely, Lisa Spencer

### **AAWEL Second Chance Schools**

The Second Chance Schools are located in three of the poorest neighborhood of Niamey: Tallaje, Kouara Tagui, Zarmaganday. They are government schools managed by a local NGO called ONEN. The responsibilities of ONEN is to develop and promote curricular innovations which contribute to improving the quality of basic education by ensuring access to out–of–school boys and girls. With the financial support from Friends of Niger and other sponsors, Alliance for African Women Education and Leadership (AAWEL) developed a partnership with ONEN in order to build the capacity of ONEN members and the Second Chance School teachers. They have 2 programs: The Out–of–School Leadership Academy and the School–based Academic and Life Skills Enhancement Program. Both programs focus on academic literacy and problem solving, including numeracy and mathematics as well as life skills. In the summer of 2009, 5 teachers and 76 students from 5 Second Chance Schools participated in the Out–of School Leadership training implemented by AAWEL and ONEN.

AAWEL and ONEN provide further support to fifth grade Second Chance School learners who are taking for the first time the end of primary school examination. Students from the Second Chance Schools are not obliged to take this examination, but those who pass can be mainstreamed into formal secondary school, and even if they do not go to secondary school, the Certificate can provide them better employment opportunities. To donate, see the membership and order form on page 11.



AAWEL staff present donated material purchased with FON funds to the Second Chance Schools of Niamey.





Left: Pedagogy specialist Brigitte, ABC founder Amina and ABC Niamey staff Maliki, Rahila, Chitu, Biba and Mariama meet to prepare for > the 2009-2010 school year. Right: Amina with Azize & Tasala.

# **Project ABC Schools**

Board member and RPCV Pat Alio's daughter founded ABC Schools in 2009 to help meet the need for quality education. The first school opened in Niamey with preschool and kindergarten classes. The school will eventually include classes from preschool through high school. ABC-schools provides bilingual instruction and exposure to technology. Classes are taught in French and English, because of the need for English in the world today and the fact that languages are best learned at an early age. Computers are used as learning tools to help children discover technology at an early age. ABC – Niger works in partnership with CORNER–STONE in Niamey, Niger and the First Baptist Church of Temple Terrace, Florida More information may be found online at <a href="https://www.ABCschools.org">www.ABCschools.org</a>.

#### About the founder, Dr. Amina Alio:

Amina Alio was among the fortunate 4% of Nigerien students to receive a university level education. Born to a former American Peace Corps volunteer from the United States and a Nigerien father, Amina attended public school in Niger but was able to come to US to complete her last 2 years of high school. This transition from public Nigerien schools to schools in the United States was an illuminating experience that created in her a desire to help improve access to and quality of education for children and youth in Niger. She believes that education is the foundation for economic development, improved health, and enlightenment. Since completion of a BA from Liberty University (VA), a Masters and a PhD from the University of South Florida, Amina worked conducting research in education, health and community development. Her dissertation research in Applied Anthropology focused on examining the education system in Niger, identifying the cultural and pedagogical gaps. While doing the research in Niger, after having lived in the US for close to a decade, Amina realized the great need that existed in just about every area of human development. The primary problems are not only poverty, but lack of proper knowledge and information on basic science and technology. Only education can reverse these trends: quality, well-rounded education. Amina's dream has been to build schools that will provide quality education to all children in Niger, regardless of their socio-economic class, ethnicity, gender or religion. Many children in rural areas have no access to schools, or the few schools around are overcrowded. Because the government sees the need for additional schools in Niger, it has been very supportive of Dr. Alio's initiative.

"I truly believe with all my heart that education is the only way to improve quality of life and tol aid in development of the country." Amina is not only creating schools, but has been conducting research in other areas of health and women's issues. Her work has been published in several professional journals and attests to her dedication to making a difference in her countryof birth. Amina's mother, Pat (Johnson) Alio, (Peace Corps 1964–1966) taught in Niger from 1964 until 2005 when she returned to the US. She has returned to Niger to help with the school. She will use her experience to train teachers and help develop and implement the curriculum.

## **Plumpy Nut**

#### **GET A MAN TO FISH**

The philosophy of the Peace Corps has always favored teaching for self-reliance and sustainability. We took to heart that old saw: Give a man a fish and he eats for a day, Teach a man to fish and he can eat for life.

When Sandy Leeder, Jack Saunders and I worked in agricultural cooperatives in Guecheme and Lido (1966–1969), we worked with farmers to use affordable animal–drawn agricultural equipment (rather than hand powered) to increase the land they could cultivate. We supplied loans to allow for the purchase of fertilizer and insecticide; we taught basic democratic practices and literacy so that farmers could run their own coops and insure they got a fair deal on the sale of their crops (peanuts at that time). In the 1960s, the peanuts were sold in the shell and sent to France where they were made into oil. Niger lost the mulch/fertilizer value of the peanut shells and most of the profit on the sale of the product. Our green revolution was a mixed blessing. When the Middle East oil squeeze hit in the 1970s, Niger's farmers found they could not afford the petroleum based agricultural chemicals we had convinced them they should use. They had, over a thirty year period, to cultivate more land to feed a growing population (public health programs were succeeding in keeping children alive who once died before the age of five).

When we returned to Niger in 2006, we had an interesting conversation with the chief of the village of Lido (the same man who was chief when Jack arrived in 1966) and his advisors. They explained that the millet yield per acre was one fifth of what it was when we worked there. In what was surely part Nigerien politeness, they asked us to come back or send new Peace Corps Volunteers.

In 2007, Peace Corps Volunteer Chris Stillion organized an acacia tree planting project in the area (we RPCVs funded it). Eventually the trees will yield nutritious seeds to feed animals and people, and the trees will help in soil development and resist desertification. There are better wells in the area than there were in 1967. Some people can grow vegetables, but

millet cannot be grown in Southern Niger without adequate rainfall, and there must be some steps taken to improve soil fertility over the long term to sustain even the present population. There will be years when the rain is late or light, and during those years, some people (often young children) will go hungry for some time. This is one of those years. Plumpy'nut is a highly nutritious product made from peanut butter and sweet milk made and sold in Niger. A box of 150 child portions is sold for \$70. We are asking for contributions to pay for the food supplies that will be provided in Niger for Nigerien children. The estimate of the local dispensaire is 1500 children will be malnourished this year. We are using any money raised (\$2000 in the past three days) to pay for Plumpy'nut.

I have been taking checks made out to me:

Joel Neuberg

555 DuFranc Avenue

Sebastopol, CA 95472

but if you need to take a tax deduction, you should make checks out to Friends of Niger, and I will get the check to them and the receipt to you. When times are better, when rain is adequate, the people we feed this year, will feed themselves and others.

Thank you,

Joel Neuberg (Niger 1967–1969)









### Rencontre en Action By Mollie Zapata

Two years ago I participated in the Boston University Study Abroad program in Niamey, not knowing fully what to expect, but eager to discover a world beyond my own. The experience tapped into so many emotions —it was challenging and fascinating, yet heart breaking and scary. Though the classes I took taught the textbook knowledge and the trips we went

on were entertaining, I am most grateful for the opportunity I had to work with Rencontre et Action, an upcoming microfinance NGO. Rencontre et Action defines the "grass roots organization". Staffed entirely by volunteers, this NGO works daily to promote economic growth in the community, assisting marginalized women living on the outskirts of Niamey by providing no-interest loans and savings bank services. For a mere \$50 (about 25 CFA), Rencontre et Action provides a woman with worth – the means to feed her family and gain financial independence from her husband.

Nouba, a teacher by profession and volunteer by passion, founded REN after he became disenchanted with the bureaucratic workings of other aid organizations. "Why do you need fancy pens and folders? That money could enroll two more women!" He explained. In 2004, Rencontre et Action began helping the women of Niamey start businesses and save money. Like the Grameen Bank in Asia, R&A has succeeded in creating a form of sustainable economic development on the smallest level. Without the help of R&A, poor women often spend their daily earnings on the next day's materials or on the immediate needs of their families, ensuring that they remain entrapped in the cycle of extreme poverty – nothing saved, and no hope for a better future. The agents of R&A serves as teachers, informing women how to save money and budget their spending; emotionally, the agents function as friends, acting as a benevolent savings bank and lending organization to give these women a shoulder to lean on.

While I lived in Niger, I became well acquainted with Nouba and his staff. These dedicated volunteers work with women in Kouara Tegue and Goudel-Tchangarey on the outskirts of Niamey. When I asked about his motivation for starting R&A, Nouba explained that women are the backbone of the family, yet receive no help, guidance or motivation to save themselves from their impoverished situations. While there are various ways for men to receive loans, there are very few options for marginalized women. For a woman to sign up for Rencontre et Action's program, she must first determine what type of business she wants to start. Most women make fari masa, sell rice and sauce, or embroider. The agent then works with the woman to determine what materials she needs to start her business and her repayment and savings deposit plans. R&A initially buys materials for her, but at the end of the 3-month period, the woman will have paid back her loan and saved enough to finance her business needs herself. This form of sustainable development ensures that the woman does not go into debt, and that she learns how to run her own business.

(Continued on page 10)

#### **Rencontre et Action** (continued from page 9)

Since I left Niger, Nouba and his associates have worked tirelessly to maintain Rencontre et Action. There are currently about 100 women participating in the program, but hundreds more have felt the helpful hand of R&A since its inception In Kouara Tegue, for example, a woman started a successful milk business that now employs five other local women.R&A knows sustainability is key: hundreds, if not thousands, more women want to enroll.

During my time with R&A, we registered over 50 women from Goudel in one day. Women literally lined up to talk to the agents. In one day, 50 women saw their futures at the front of a line. Unfortunately, all those applications had to be filed away due to lack of resources. Each applicant was genuinely grateful for the opportunity and all were willing to wait patiently for their loans to come through. Less than 50 U.S. dollars could make the difference for each woman. As current clients repay their loans, that money is used to expand services to more and more women.

The ultimate goal, however, is more than simply financing small businesses. Rencontre et Action's purpose is to teach poor marginalized women the inherent meaning of saving, and how it can change their lives. "Family" is a universal language, and when money is put in terms of family health, the message is easier to convey. With R&A, the women always have access to their savings if need be, but independent sustainability takes ultimate precedence. As a former volunteer and "Honorary Agent" of R&A, I can attest to Nouba's sincerity and honesty. He works tirelessly to assist women in the community: "When you see a need, and you are able to help, it is your responsibility to fulfill that need." This year, R & A made loans to women in three neighborhoods of Niamey: Lazaret (72 women), Koira Tégui (83 women), and Goudel (137 women).

# 2011 is the 50th Anniversary of Peace Corps! 2012 will be the 50th Anniversary of Peace Corp Niger!

Niger RPCVs visited Niger as a group for the 35th Anniversary in 1997, and FON organized another trip in 2002. Now is the time to start planning a trip in 2012. Anyone who would like to volunteer to be the organizer will be given assistance, address lists, and access to the Web site and Camel Express for contacting interested parties. If you think you would like to organize the trip, contact the President, John Soloninka, at the postal or e-mail addresses on page 2.



# There is still time to get your new Friends of Niger T-Shirt or get one for a friend as a holiday gift.

This first run is being offered at \$15 including postage. They are available in beige, which would have the design as 3-colors, or brown which would mean the 2-color design would be on a brown shirt background. To order yours, send your size (S, M, L, XL) and specify brown or beige. Send \$15 to FON at the address on the ORDER FORM (p. 11).

# FRIENDS OF NIGER 2009 - 2010 MEMBERSHIP & ORDER FORM

Name(s)	
Address	
City/ State	
Zip	
Dates in Niger	Location in Niger
Program or Involvement in Niger	
**************	*****************
the FON website, the FON The Friends of Niger is a Membership and contrib	Is Help Fund FON Activities - including The Camel Express, I Archives, and Projects such as Those Listed Below. Is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3). Is butions to Friends of Niger are fully tax deductible.
Please Check Appropriate Boxes [] Enclosed is \$20 for an Individual Membership in b [] \$55 to cover Individual Membership in b [] Enclosed is \$35 for a FON Family Mem [] I am a current Niger PCV, entitled to Fre [] I am a New RPCV, entitled to a 1-Year	both FON & NPCA abership (2 Members at One Address) ee Membership
New and renewing members are entitled to Format Choice: DVD VHS	to one FREE copy of <i>Brother from Niger</i> No Thanks
with a Contribution of	cholarship Program (YGSP) activities with  Niger activities with  on activities through a NEW PARTNER, AAWEL  itamin Campaign  om Niger/DVD  T-Shirts
T-Shirt Sizes: S M L	XL brown beige
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED	
Make Check or Money Order Payable to F P. O. Box 5823, Washington, D. C. 20016	



# **FON Participaction Menu**

Indicate your interest with a check mark. Or add something new at the bottom. Tell us how to reach you on Page 11.

- \_\_\_ Will help set up local FON group
- Would participate in local FON group
- Will be local FON contact person

Other	



Friends of Niger P.O. Box 5823 Washington, D.C. 20016-9998 20033-0164

**Address Correction Requested** 

## Inside THE CAMEL...

Page 1 - FON- & RPCV-funded projects

Page 2 - Letter from the PCD

Page 3 - Letter from the PCD cont'd

Page 3 - New Board Member

Page 4 - Northeastern University

Page 5 - YGSP

Page 6 - AAWEL Second Chance

Page 7 - ABC Schools
Page 8 - PlumpvNut

Page 9 - Rencontre et Action
Page 10 - T-Shirts & Trip to Niger
Page 11 - Membership Form

**Editor: Jude Andreasen** 

An electronic full-color version of this newsletter and previous editions can be accessed @

http://www.friendsofniger.org