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Ambassador Maman Sidikou Accepts New Assignment with the African Union

By Peter Easton



Ambassador Sidikou with President Barack Obama in January 2012.

Dr. Maman Sambo Sidikou, a long-time friend of FON, will shortly be leaving his position as Niger's Ambassador to the United States after nearly three years of fruitful and whirlwind work raising his country's profile here in America and uniting the Nigerien diaspora. He faces a new challenge: serving as Chief of Mission to war-torn Somalia for the African Union.

Dr. Sidikou is a native of Sabongari, Niger, fluent in Zarma, Hausa, French, English and Spanish. After completing his secondary schooling in Niamey, he undertook higher education study in political science at the University of Madrid in Spain, completing two years of the full five-year "licenciatura" program, or the equivalent of an AA degree. The next stop was at the University of Dakar, where he earned the diplôme supérieur en journalisme ("D.S." degree) in 1975. Sidikou began his professional life as a

journalist for the *Office de Radiodiffusion et Télévision du Niger* (ORTN) the following year and moved up to the position of Director of Television in 1979.

In 1983, he shifted to the political sphere, taking on the function of Director of the Prime Minister's Cabinet in the government of President Seyni Kountché, chief of the Supreme Military Council that had replaced Niger's first President Diori Hamani after the military takeover of 1974.

Continued on page 6

Update on Expanding Lives

(www.expandinglives.org) from John Baird

You may recall that the front page story of The Camel Express in January 2013 (http://www.friendsofniger.org/pdf/CEX_Jan_2013.pdf) was an introduction to Expanding Lives (EL), written by the founder, Leslie Natzke. As a Peace Corps volunteer in Niger in the late '80s, Leslie noticed that there were very few young women and girls going to school. Since then, she's launched a non-profit aimed at developing leadership skills in young women in West Africa to empower them to become pillars in their communities.

Continued on page 10

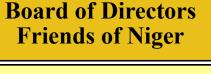
Page 2 The Camel Express



Update on the Bien-Étre de la Femme Rurale (BFR) Project

Madame Alhassane Nafissatou, founder and coordinator of the NGO Bien-Étre de la femme Rurale (BFR), thanked FON for their assistance and reported the status of her project. She was able to train 30 women, instead of the 20 originally proposed, such was the interest of the women in the region of Say. After the original training in the transformation of peanuts, the women began producing peanut oil, peanut butter and the residue, which is highly nutritive, is sold for mixture with cattle feed. There has been an important change in the life of the women. Now they are engaged and earning money and are learning ways of using this money for small business activities to benefit themselves and their families. This project has given the women hope and increased their confidence that they can be leaders in their village. The women have made a great start and Madame Alhassane Nafissatou hopes to expand her project to more women in the village and even to other villages in the region of Say. She is preparing a proposal for more funding for this expansion. If you would like to support her project, please send your donation to FON and indicate the NGO BFR.

Submitted by Gabriella Maertens, VP of FON and Projects Coordinator



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www. friends of niger. org.

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Please send address changes and corrections, as well as any queries to **The Camel Express** at the address above.





FON Breaking the Pattern of Gender Discrimination By Supporting Hambaté Bâ School

From Gabriella Maertens

Friends of Niger has supported Homa Kombo's project to <u>empower girls in Niger for</u> <u>change via education</u> using the Global Giving website. The project has just posted another update from the field on the impact donations to this wonderful cause have made:

Breaking the Pattern of Gender Discrimination By Homa Kombo and Sher Betz-Cooper - Field Coordinator and Treasurer

Quality education is not just about pedagogy in the classroom but about the whole school environment. It is about the way a school is managed, the way the classroom process takes place, the way children are treated and the way gender issues are tackled. As many of you know, in Niger, the 4th poorest country in the world, 93% of the girls lack an education in Middle school.

The Hampaté Bâ Middle School promotes quality education by being sensitive to gender issues. There's an awareness of the extra burden on girls in Niger and therefore a special attention is given to respond to their special needs. The promotion of a gender-sensitive and girl-friendly school environment is a central feature of Hampaté Bâ.

Zeinabou's mother has this to say about the equal treatment girls get at Hampaté Bâ: "Teachers do not discriminate, but treat all pupils equally. My daughter is given equal opportunities in the classroom and in all school activities. Everything in this school tells Zeinabou that she is NOT second-rate. I am really happy about this."

You can help us pull down the barriers and begin to bring change for women in Niger. By granting scholarships to girl students, we can ease the financial need that forces families to take girls out of school. We can educate and empower girls through our special education program for them at Hampaté Bâ School and by doing so we can give whole families resources to create healthier and more stable lives.

You can be certain that your donations to this wonderful cause are making a difference, by teaching a girl to read, reason and unleash her potential. It will help her learn to be proud of being a woman and have bright prospects years from now. The link to this project is:

http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/secondary-education-for-200-adolescent-girls-in-niger/

They also have a video on YouTube that I would like to encourage you to view. Families with children will especially enjoy it: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HgT8cAYaP2o

Page 4 The Camel Express

What We Know About the Multi-functional Platform

from John Hutchison & Joel Neuberg



According to Brenda McSweeney and Scolastique Kompaoré, this recently produced apparatus, known as the Multi-functional Platform reached West Africa in recent years. It consists of a simple diesel engine made in India with units that villagers select, like a shea and peanut butter press, grain huller or flour mill. The Platform is only the physical part of a development package. Essential components are a system of pre-project village consultations, the naming of a women's management committee by the women themselves, and follow-up visits by nongovernmental technicians. Recently through board member John Hutchison, the FON has begun collaboration with a newly-formed women's NGO in Niger known as Fille Femme et Développement or FIFED. FIFED has initiated projects already with girls and women in the

town of Diribangou in Téra district, Tilabéri Region. FON Board Members Hutchison and also Joel Neuberg have begun discussing the possibility of marshaling resources that would enable us to be able to help FIFED and the women of Diribangou to possibly acquire one of these machines for use in their daily lives and to possibly free women from the weight of their traditional daily tasks and make possible time for change, and for them to be able to pursue education and training that will facilitate this. In another article which appeared in Energy Access, the following overview evaluating the nuts and bolts surrounding this apparatus is presented:

Began: The MFP program began in 1996 as the result of a collaboration between the Government of Mali and the UNDP. Highly successful, the program then expanded to Senegal (2001), Burkina (2004), Ghana (2005), and Guinea (2007).

What: The Multi-functional Platform is composed of a diesel engine mounted on a steel chassis with interchangeable attachments that can be used for a variety of tasks: milling, grinding, water pumping, electricity generation and battery charging, running power tools, etc.

The Energy Need: Each is located in a rural, marginalized community where the MFP is capable of replacing large amounts of human labor (particularly women's in the area of agro-processing) and spurring economic and social development.

Investment: Close to 90% of the total costs of the MFP (most of the capital and all of the programmatic costs) have mostly been subsidized by the UNDP, host country governments and donor organizations. The communities must provide the shed to house the MFP as well as pay for all the operating costs.

Capacity building: The UNDP and its partners provide capacity building by training artisans who can install and maintain the machines, as well as the group members who are responsible for operating the MFP and keeping track of the accounting.

Now (2008): The MFP program is enormously popular, currently in five African countries and poised to expand with more than US \$10 M pledged by national governments. Research is underway to evaluate the potential of biofuels and test whether MFPs can be commercially viable.

Outcomes/Impacts: 800 MFPs are operational; over 1 M people currently benefit from the program; 4,000 people are directly employed; 1,500 women participate in the managing committees.

Clearly, the MFP constitutes a development project which raises many issues and questions, and makes us want to do more research before taking on this project as a non-profit donor organization. The Friends of Niger have begun considering the possibility of lending a portion of the funds and fundraising for a portion of the rather high price of the MFP, so that FIFED can help the women of Diribangou to benefit from the process that is entailed by owning an MFP.

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 5

The Multi-Functional Platform

Hutchison and Neuberg are pursuing various avenues for making the financing of the project, which costs around \$9,000, possible. Having investigated using Kiva and also FINCA, they have discovered that those credit/fundraising programs do not operate in the Republic of Niger. We have already identified a number of potential donors to contribute and we are investigating the possibility of opening a bank account in Niger for the purpose of receiving payments from FIFED and the women of Diribangou. The majority of the Board of the FON

recommends that the FON should facilitate this project but not fund it, so that we hope to be able to possibly use the payback from the funds borrowed to then finance the same process for another women's organization in the Republic of Niger. So this is a work in progress whose outcome we will hope to publish in the next Camel Express.

References:

Photograph from an Energy Access article that appeared at the following url: http://energyaccess.wikispaces.com/Multi-function+Platform+-+Case+Study.

McSweeney, Brenda Gael and Scholastique Kompaoré. 2008. "Burkina's Women Shape Progress." Document shared by the authors.

Nygaard, Ivan Institutional options for rural energy access: Exploring the concept of the multifunctional platform in West Africa. Source: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/ article/pii/S0301421509008374

CONUSA Elects New Executive Committee

From Rabiou Yari

At the annual general meeting of 30 representatives to the General Assembly from eight states and the District of Columbia, held in Frederick, Maryland on April 26, 2014, the Council of Nigeriens in the United States elected the following members of the CONUSA National Executive Committee to serve for two years:

- President: Mr. Saley Tahirou called "Pele";
- Secretary General: Mr. Abdourahamane Dandi Abarchi;
- Deputy Secretary General: Mr. Bashir Hamza;
- General Treasurer: Mr. Abdul Aziz Alkassoum;
- Deputy General Treasurer: Kadijo Boureima;
- Business Secretary Social, Sports and Cultural: Mr. Abdul Aziz Moussa;
- Deputy Secretary Social, Sports, and Cultural: Mr. Abdourahamane Attaher;
- Secretary Academics, Research Projects and Investments. : Mr. Yari Rabiou;
- Deputy Secretary Academics, Research Projects and Investments: Mr. Brah Mahamane;
- Secretary Communication and Technology: Mr. Abdoulage Youssoufa;
- Secretary Promotion of Women and Children: Ms. Haoua Sidibe;
- Deputy Secretary Promotion of Women and Children: Ms. Salifou Fatima;
- Secretary for External Relations: Mr. Abdoul Moumouni Djibo;
- ♦ Deputy External Relations Secretary: Mr. Inoussa Moussa.

The members of the Commission of Legal Affairs and Control, which assists the Executive Committee in its work and deliberations were also elected at this meeting:

- President: Mr. Abdourahamane Issifi;
- Administrative Secretary: Mr. Abdul Wahab Mahamane;
- ♦ Financial Controller: Mr. Oumar Toure.

The treasurer's report was read and approved, with a balance of \$2,378 turned over to the new Executive Committee.

After several recommendations for work for CONUSA's executive, the General Assembly addressed a special vote of thanks to their Excellencies Mr. Mamane Sambo Sidikou Ambassador of Niger to the United States and Mr. Boubacar Boureima Permanent Representative of Niger to the United Nations for their strong and unequivocal commitment from Nigerians living in the USA. Also a special vote of thanks was addressed by participants at the location of the Local Executive Office Washington DC area for the comfortable stay of the delegates.

page 6 The Camel Express

Continued from page 1

Ambassador Sidikou Accepts New Post

He soon ran into trouble, however, as he was implicated in an attempted *coup d'état* staged by some of his friends among the Army's young officer corps. As one consequence, he was summarily imprisoned and remained incarcerated without trial for five years, part of the time in solitary confinement; and he was only released upon the accession of a new government to power after the death of Seyni Kountché in late 1987.

The new President, General Ali Saibou, then offered Maman Sidikou a full scholarship – underwritten by USAID -- for graduate study in the United States at the institution of his choice. Sidikou went initially to the University of Texas in Austin to do his Master's degree in Development Communication, then transferred to Florida State University in Tallahassee to undertake the PhD in adult and non-formal education, graduating with the doctoral degree in 1994. While at Florida State, he worked as a Research Associate at the University's Learning Systems Institute on a variety of international education projects.

Practical employment in development resumed for Sidikou shortly after his graduation. In November 1994 he assumed the role of Human Capacity Development Manager at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) mission in Niamey, Niger, a position that he held until October of the following year. He then accepted the post of Education Officer for UNICEF at their Lagos, Nigeria office and, over the next sixteen years, served in a variety of educational, consultative and ministerial roles for UNICEF, the Government of Niger, the World Bank and Save the Children, often in difficult and crises environments. Examples include his work as --

- Coordinator of the UNICEF Iraq Support Office in Amman, Jordan;
- Minister of Foreign Affairs in Niger;
- UNICEF's Team Leader for the Back-To-School Campaign in post-war Afghanistan;
- Senior Education Specialist in the World Bank's Human Development Network; and
- ♦ Program County Director for Save the Children (UK).in Rwanda and then Democratic Republic of the Congo.

It was on the heels of that last assignment that Dr. Maman Sidikou was asked to take the post of Niger's Ambassador to the United States, a role that he assumed in January 2012, beginning with an audience with President Obama. He has been a very active ambassador and has placed a particular emphasis on raising the profile of Niger in the United States, developing bilateral trade and cooperation between the two countries, contributing to the resolution of security problems in the Sahel and helping to unite the Nigerien diaspora in the United States in support of their own country. Signal accomplishments have been many. He has proved an indefatigable traveler within this country, meeting with business, community and non-profit groups from one coast to the other in order to better acquaint them with Niger – and being awarded along the way a Distinguished Alumnus award from his doctoral institution, Florida State University.

Progress on the diplomatic front has likewise been substantial. In the years immediately preceding Maman's tenure, both USAID and the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) – the two principal conduits of American public aid to developing countries – were contemplating suspension of activities in the country for a variety of reasons related to efficiency and governance. Thanks to the return of rule of law in Niger, Maman Sidikou's efforts and the support of legislative allies in Congress, the Agency is back in Niger and planning to appoint a Nigerien director of operations for the first time, while the MCC is moving steadily towards approval of a compact with the country. FON itself actively advocated for MCC approval of Niger's compact.

Sidikou has undertaken repeated and critical dialogue as well with the Department of Defense about securing Niger's borders from the multiple threats afoot around the desert's edge and with the American business community about assisting Niger in judicious use of its considerable mineral resources. Early accomplishments in this vein include commencement of construction of a coal-based electrical generation plant for the city of Tahoua in Salkadamna, Niger – carried out by a California-based company -- and a prospection tour of future Niger energetic resources by a U.S. business delegation.

Closer still to Maman's heart has been the fruition of efforts to help bring unity to the previously divided Nigerien diaspora community in the United States, resulting in the reconciliation of all factions and renewed participation within the "Conseil des Nigériens aux Etats-Unis" (CONUSA). FON itself is a member of the organization.

Niger's first family in the United States - Maman, wife Fatima Djibo (a career diplomat herself who has been serving the last two years as *Madame l'Ambassadrice*), daughter Maya now in training in southern France and son Ahmed, married and working in Niamey - will be sorely missed by FON, by American legislators, diplomats and business contacts and by a whole roster of community groups in the months and years to come. We can only wish them safe landings and many blessings: *Alla ya kiyaye rabommu, ya sake had'a mu lahiya!*

page 7 The Camel Express

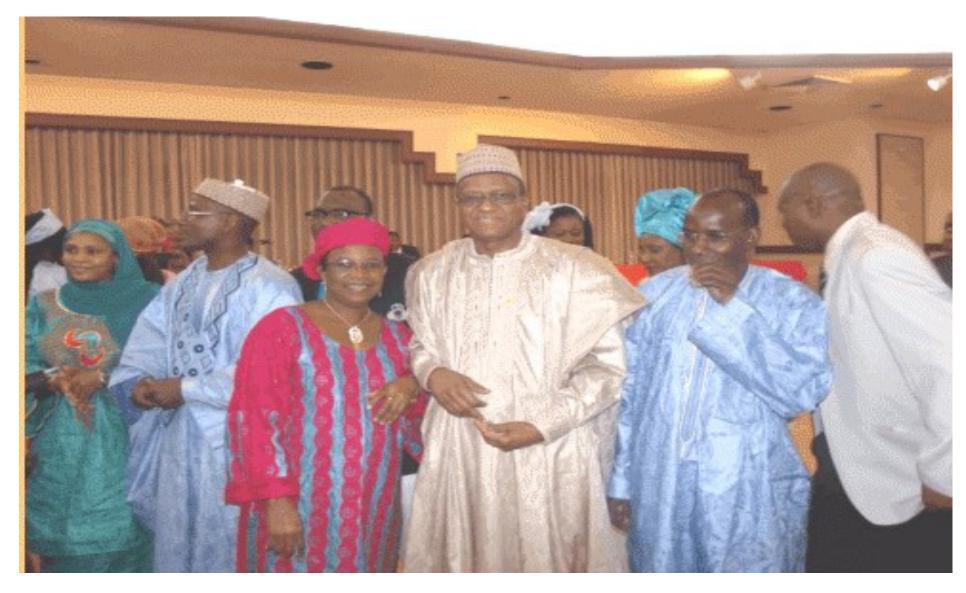
MAMAN SIDIKOU AT TELE-SAHEL IN NIAMEY, NIGER

from Ann Sulkovsky

My first meeting with Maman Sidikou was in 1981, during my service as a Peace Corps volunteer. I worked for Tele Sahel in Niamey under the Office of Radio and Television of Niger (ORTN). Maman Sidikou was the Director of Tele Sahel at the time.

The French originally set up Tele Sahel as a means to transmit school lessons to remote regions of the country via microwave and satellite transmission. Tele Sahel was recognized as very successful in West Africa. Two other Peace Corps volunteers also served with me at Tele Sahel during that time. We, as Peace Corps volunteers, were there temporarily to transition the former teachers/educators, who initially developed lesson plans, into becoming educational program film producers and directors. My assignment was in the Office of Action and Development with two Nigerien educators. A video of a film we produced during that time, "Projet Ronnier", is now posted on the FON website.

What a great surprise, after over 30 years, to meet with Ambassador Maman Sidikou here in Washington, DC, in his new role of Ambassador of Niger. I appreciate his joining us in a Friends of Niger November 2013 teleconference, to discuss how to mitigate extremist group penetration from Mali. He stressed education as an important factor. I'll miss knowing he is in Washington, DC, my hometown, but am sure he will have much to contribute in his new position.



Ambassador Maman Sambo Sidikou and Family next to Boubacar Boureima, Niger's Permanent Representative to the U.N., taken from Embassy of Niger website.

Niger III and Niger IV Plan Reunions

from Gabriella Maertens

Niger III (1964-66) celebrates 50 years since the beginning of their service in Niger with a reunion scheduled for September 29th to October 2nd at the Estes Park YMCA. They will be joined by fellow trainees for Senegal IV for a joint reunion. Forty-five RPCVs and guests have already registered but there is still time and space for more. Niger IV and Senegal V will meet during the same time and a joint social activity has been planned. There will be plenty of time for social interaction but a panel of speakers from the Niger III group, including Jamie Thomson, Tom Hale, Peter Easton and the PCV doctor, David Nicholas, is planned for Tuesday. The Reunion Committee is researching a project for the group to fund in honor of the 50th year celebration. The Nigerien Ambassador, Maman Sidikou, plans to attend. This is the first reunion the Niger III group has planned but hopefully not the last.

page 8 The Camel Express

Funding Needed to Assist in Organization and Distribution of 10,400 Indestructible Soccer Balls in Niger for Local Schools

from Mike Mitchell and Larry Koff



Mike Mitchell, a former Peace Corps volunteer, has devoted his career to introducing and organizing soccer programs in Niger since 1985. Funding now (\$10,000 to \$20,000) is needed to deliver 10,400 soccer balls now in a warehouse in Niamey, the capital of Niger, to 1400 schools (almost 100,000 children) and to provide staff support for organizing soccer leagues in communities all over this 5th world country for both boys and girls, ages 7 to 22.

In 1984 Mike played for (Equipe Espoir-Team Hope) the local team of Zinder, which won the 1984 national championship! At that time Mike brought 15 balls in his suitcase which were used to practice as they did not even have one decent ball!

In the community of Libore, Niger, in 2008, Mike and Project Play partnered with Canadian Program Pencils for Kids to assist in organizing a soccer program, donating soccer balls. Pencils for Kids was funding the construction of three schools, an agricultural project, tree planting project, sowing, theater, (http://www.pencilsforkids.com/our-projects/ programs). But the project the kids like best is the soccer project. Friends of Niger made several donations to Mike's program, Project Play.

In 2010 with the assistance of his friends, Tim Jahnigen, an inventor, the financial support of the world renowned entertainer Sting, and the Chevrolet Company, a nearly indestructible soccer ball was developed. The idea of making soccer nets made from trash plastic bags was conceived in 2008 to accompany the distribution of balls during the initial Project Play trip thanks to former Niger Peace Corps volunteer James Mas (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTUczvqxUFU).

The One World Futbol is a virtually-indestructible ball that never needs a pump and never goes flat, even when punctured multiple times. Whether for beach soccer, street soccer, play in your own backyard or for use on the roughest terrain anywhere in the world, the One World Futbol will last for years. A single One World Futbol can outlast hundreds of regular balls, sustaining play in any environment. Project Play, Chevrolet and One World Futbol Project share the belief that football (soccer) not only brings people together through the excitement of the game, but also helps heal and rebuild communities impacted by war, disasters and poverty. Through this partnership, we can influence millions of lives with the simple power of a durable ball—the One World Futbol.

Mike will be in the States for the month of September, to raise awareness and funds because it will take \$10,000 to \$20,000 to get the balls to schools throughout Niger, plus



hire for at least a year a coordinator of Project Play Africa in Niger. This article is in response to Mike's request to spread the word via Friends of Niger and raise funds for this initiative. FON is considering donating \$1,000 but if this is matched by another \$1,000 we would encourage Mike to locate programs in other communities, such as Maradi and Zinder.

Above: soccer ball delivery in Niger.

KAMRA ON THE FRONTLINE, WORKING TO HELP NIGERIAN REFUGEES!

from Abdou Gagara Katiella

The crisis in Northern Nigeria continues to force more refugees each week into the impoverished southeastern region of Diffa in Niger. The regional population, which was estimated at 591,788, has now risen up to more than 650,000; with an average of 700 - 1000 new refugees crossing the border each week.

According to the Mayor of the city of Maine Soroa, Mr. Koukouma Gasso, the situation is very critical and refugees are in need of medical care and educational support. Many of them with sick children have not seen a doctor in several weeks.

The story from each refugee is unique, and heartbreaking: Mrs. Fadji, aged 33 is originally from Maine-Soroa. A few months back, she was still calling the town of Maiduguri hometown, and Nigeria her country. She has been married to Mallam Madu, a Nigerian citizen for more than 15 years until the extremist group Boko Haram hit their town five months ago. During that attack, her husband was killed, brutally slaughtered along with dozens of other residents. She is now back in Maine Soroa with her six children, living with extended family. Having left everything behind them, Fadji and her children ran for their lives to seek shelter in Maine Soroa, re-starting life from scratch, this time with children to care for, and no income or husband to support and provide for them.

Asked about the type of support she has been receiving since they arrived, Fadji said she only got a one time financial aid of about \$65 upon their arrival four months ago. Her children need medical attention, but cannot afford to buy prescription medicines. Thanks to a sponsorship from International Relief Teams, and contributions from people who received the Camel Express and donated, as well as other donors, KAMRA delivered a full container of medicines donated by MAP International. The shipment arrived at Kirker Hospital on Wednesday, August 27. This shipment made up of antibiotics, pain relievers, vitamins and various supplies will surely help in providing medical care to many of these women and children in need of immediate medical attention.

However, compared to actual needs on the ground, more shipments are needed to adequately care for the increasing number of refugees crossing the border each week. This is why, for the past two months the Kirker African Medical Relief Association has been working on the frontline to mobilize more resources. On July 7, 2014, KAMRA launched the shipment of hope campaign (https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/shipment-of-hope) to raise funds and send more medicines and supplies to care for the displaced. Funds raised will also be used to provide educational opportunity to children among the refugee population. To donate online and help Fadji, as well as thousands of other women and children in need please visit: http://www.kirkerassociation.org/#!donate/c1ghi.

KAMRA hereby thanks all the donors for their support in funding the transport of the recent MAP shipment, and looks forward to your continued support.



Page 10 The Camel Express

Continued from page 1

Update on Expanding Lives

Just this past July 27, 2014, Friends of Niger board member, John Baird (Niger 68-71) participated in the annual EL 5K Run/Walk fundraiser, and met Leslie Natzke and other staff members.

This year, instead of bringing the young women to Chicago for six weeks of workshops, Expanding Lives went to West Africa. One of the reasons for the change was the timing of Ramadan this year – fasting would have made the workshops more difficult for the girls. Eight staff members made the trip to conduct the workshops, and while there they got to meet up with past alums of the program, and to marvel at how they have grown and changed. Each staff person raised their own funds for the trip -- everyone at EL is a volunteer; no one gets paid.

Expanding Lives is all about empowering young women. The workshops range all the way from learning fundraising and grant writing skills, to yoga and bicycle repair. Leslie Natzke says, "Our self-



Lesley Natzke and John Baird

confident girls return home and become leaders." EL has offices in Chicago, Illinois and Maradi, Niger (partnering with Micro-Credit in Africa).

Only 6% of girls in Niger attend secondary school. The three main barriers to raising this percentage are economics, social and labor concerns. Why these barriers?

- School fees and loss of income from a girl's petty commerce are more immediate hardships for families. In addition, because school girls put off marriage, their dowries come later. Some girls who do go to school soon drop out to get married.
- Students often have to leave home to live in larger towns for secondary school and are put in the hands of strangers. There is a shortage of female classmates, female teachers and female role-models. Many schools even lack washrooms for girls. Because girls are less likely to attend school and more likely to drop out, some believe they lack intelligence.
- In addition to selling small goods and food supplies for extra income, girls often work long hours for the family. They carry water, gather wood, care for younger children, pound grain, cook and clean. Many girls who begin primary school do not continue because they cannot balance work and school.



BUT WHEN A GIRL GOES TO SCHOOL ...

SHE'LL BE LESS LIKELY TO BE A VICTIM OF CHILD TRAFFICKING

SHE'LL BE LESS LIKELY TO DIE DURING CHILDBIRTH
HER PERSONAL HEALTH IMPROVES
HER CHILDREN ARE MORE LIKELY TO ATTEND SCHOOL
SHE'LL WAIT LONGER TO HAVE HER FIRST CHILD
HER CHILDREN WILL BE MORE LIKELY TO SURVIVE
INFANCY

SHE'LL HAVE FEWER CHILDREN
AND THE CYCLE EXPANDS TO THE NEXT GENERATION

2014 FRIENDS OF NIGER MEMBERSHIP FORM

FON Dues are payable in January but if you missed that date, please pay anytime during 2014. Name(s)______Date ______ Address ______ City/ State ______Phone (h) _____ Phone (w) _____ Zip ______ E-Mail Address Connection to Niger (RPCV, etc.) ______ Dates in Niger _____ Location in Niger _____ Program or Involvement in Niger ______ ********************************* Membership Dues & Contributions Help Fund **FON** Activities including The Camel Express, the FON website, the FON Archives, and local Nigerien Projects. The Friends of Niger is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3). Membership and contributions to Friends of Niger are fully tax deductible. ******************* Please Check Appropriate Boxes [] Enclosed is \$20 for an Individual Membership in FON [] \$55 to cover Individual Membership in both FON & NPCA [] Enclosed is \$35 for a FON Family Membership (2 Members at One Address) [] I am a new RPCV or new to FON, entitled to a one-year free membership [] 2 members at 1 address [] In Addition to my Membership, I have enclosed a General Contribution of _____ [] Instead of Joining FON at this time, I have enclosed a General Contribution of_____ [] Instead—Project Funding / Donations [] I would like to support [] education; [] wells; [] health; [] agricultural; [] microcredit projects in Niger (check all that apply._____ [] Please send paper copies of the Camel Express by U.S. Mail [] Please send links to PDF version of the Camel Express by e-mail. Merchandise [] Please send ____ Friends of Niger T-Shirts at \$15 each (Shipping Included) _____ T-Shirt Sizes: S ____ M ___ L ___ XL ___ T-Shirt Color: ____brown ____ beige TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____ Make Check or Money Order Payable to Friends of Niger and mail with this form to: P. O. Box 5823, Washington, D. C. 20016-9998 PRIVACY POLICY Your contact information is requested and maintained by FON so that we can contact you in the future. FON does not share your contact information with any third party other than with the National Peace Corps Association with whom we have a reciprocity agreement.



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Address Correction Requested

Inside THE CAMEL...

- Page 1 Ambassador Sidikou Reassigned
- Page 1 Expanding Lives
- Pagr 2 Bien-Etre de la Femme Rurale
- Page 3 Hampate Ba School
- Page 4 Multifunction Platform
- Page 5 CONUSA
- Page 6 Ambassador Sidikou
- Page 7 Ambassador Sidikou at Tele-Sahel
- Page 7 Niger Reunions
- Page 8 Soccer Balls
- Page 9 KAMRA
- Page 10 Expanding Lives
- Page 11 Membership Form

An electronic FULL COLOR version of this newsletter and previous editions can be accessed at http://www.friendsofniger.org

There is no way to peace. Peace is the way.

